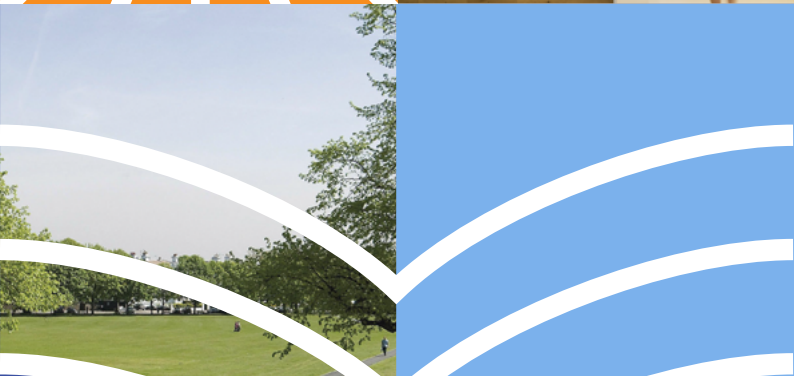




# CULTURE RICHMOND

2021 – 2031

SUMMARY OF WORKSHOPS



# RICHMOND CULTURE REVIEW – SUMMARY OF WORKSHOPS

## INTRODUCTION

Following the [Richmond Culture Review online survey](#), 80 members of the public and representatives from 400+ local organisations were invited to take part in online sessions designed to understand experiences and ideas around culture and the cultural sector in Richmond in more detail.

## SESSIONS

- 5 x focus groups with representatives from 45 local organisations, businesses & charities. Led by Arts Manager & Cultural Facilitator Anna Gregg
- 1 x focus group with young people with SEND
- 3 x workshops with 56 members of the public. Led by [64 million artists](#)

## AIMS

**To bring people together to start a conversation, share experiences and collaboratively explore:**

- how people currently use arts, libraries, parks and sport & fitness services in Richmond
- what 'culture' means to individuals & communities
- what barriers prevent people from accessing 'culture' & what Richmond has to offer
- new ideas for improving access & participation
- priorities & challenges for the local cultural sector currently
- how local people & organisations and local authority services can empower one another to thrive

## SUMMARY

### Focus Groups for organisations, businesses & charities in Richmond and the surrounding area:

- There is an over-riding need in Richmond's current cultural sector for capacity building, signposting & facilitation, particularly the voluntary sector who are looking for opportunities to network, work across sectors and navigate Council information, priorities & resources.
- Many local organisations want to contribute to Richmond's cultural offer and add value but look to the Council to provide the over-arching view, signposting & access to other services
- The current local cultural sector do not have capacity to meet demand and access to spaces is a key challenge for many
- The voluntary cultural sector in particular need access to skills & knowledge in specific areas, particularly operational
- The local cultural sector are very aware that they lack diversity (particularly around age, ethnicity and sometimes socio-economic) and many see this as a key challenge
- The local cultural sector would like to see the Council better share and provide more clarity & transparency on strategies / policies so that they can understand priorities and see how they might be able to respond / contribute
- Richmond's heritage and green & leafy identity should be celebrated and used to attract people to the borough, however there was an acknowledgement that the current cultural offers are too safe & limited and more challenging work should be supported to attract younger, more diverse people to engage with culture
- Public information on Richmond's cultural offer is limited and difficult to find

### Workshop for individual members of the public from Richmond & the surrounding area:

- There is a need to change perceptions about Richmond and challenge the middle class, privileged stereotypes
- There is not enough of a cultural offer for children and young people
- There needs to be a single place to go to find out about all activities in Richmond
- Sport is a key asset for the borough and should be celebrated & accessible to all
- There is more that can be done to champion Richmond's music culture & venues
- Can there be more opportunities to support local artists?
- There should be better use of public spaces - make them more welcoming & accessible