



**THE CULTURE
NETWORK** LCR

Impact and
Achievements
2025

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Audio version of this document is available here

Plus other alternative formats are available for this document, please get in contact via admin@culturenetwork.co.uk to request.

THE ART OF VALUE CREATION

Sowing collaboration, cultivating impact

The Culture Network LCR (The Network) is proud to present this report on our 2025 Community Interest Company (CIC) impact. Launched in 2024, as an independent CIC, we continue to grow alongside our members during a time of both challenge and opportunity for our communities, our sector, and the Liverpool City Region (LCR).

Across Halton, Knowsley, Liverpool, Sefton, St Helens and Wirral, arts and culture connect people and places, from city centres to towns and coast. We are already playing an active role in bringing organisations together across the region, creating space for collaboration, shared learning, and collective advocacy. Our work is rooted in the simple truth: **we are stronger when we grow together.**

As a growing organisation, our impact comes from convening others. We know that collaboration is not optional; it is a strategic necessity. By sharing insight, advocating collectively, pooling resources, and amplifying our members' voices, we help strengthen resilience and protect the cultural ecology that defines our region.

We are all facing political upheaval, economic uncertainty and shifting public priorities, alongside a growing climate of division that challenges the values of inclusion and solidarity underpinning our cultural ecosystem. In this context, culture is too often framed as a luxury. But we know it is essential for community cohesion, civic identity, wellbeing, opportunity and our economy.

At this critical moment, mutual support matters more than ever. By working together through The Network, we can respond to funding pressures, policy change and social division with openness and ambition, creating opportunities to innovate, reach new audiences, support freelancers and grassroots organisations, and ensure culture remains accessible, relevant and influential.

We reaffirm our shared responsibility to champion an inclusive cultural landscape by challenging exclusion, removing barriers to participation, supporting diverse leadership and reflecting the full breadth of lived experience across our communities. Inclusion is not a strand of our work. It is its foundation.

This report reflects on our second year in operation. It also serves as a call to action as we move into our third year, inviting members and our new partners to think beyond organisational boundaries and towards shared purpose. By strengthening connections and speaking with a collective voice, we can help build a more cohesive, confident and equitable future for culture and our communities.

Thank you to all our members for your continued commitment during our early years of growth. The challenges are real, but so too is our shared capacity to meet them together.

A thriving cultural sector functions much like a living ecosystem, sustained through interconnected layers of growth, exchange and renewal. The sections of this report reflect those same forces at work across our network.

The Culture Network LCR Board of Directors:

Emma Smith Liverpool Irish Festival: Advisor on the Irish Government's Emigrant Support Advisory Committee | Chair of Cultural Connectedness Exchange Network | Member city convener for the Global Irish Famine Trail | Co-Chair Culture Network's Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Access (EDIA) Working Group | Race Equality Action Group (REAG) Member

Gillian Miller Liverpool's Royal Court Theatre: Chair of St Georges Hall Quarter CIC

Jay Farley First Take: Shift Working Group Member | Co-Chair Equity, Diversity, Inclusion & Access (EDIA) Working Group

Laura Pye National Museums Liverpool: Rocket 200 Steering Group | Chair of National Museums Director Council | Chair of Strategy Working Group

Lucy Byrne dot-art: Shift Working Group Member | Chair of Joint Promotion Working Group

Madeline Heneghan Writing on the Wall: Liverpool City Region Visitor Economy Partnership (LVEP) | Race Equality Action Group (REAG) Member | Strategy Working Group Member

Nicola Triscott FACT: Liverpool City Region Creative Industries Cluster Board | Strategy Working Group Member | Liverpool City Region Social Economy Advocate (Creative Industries)

Patrick Fox Heart of Glass: St Helens Cultural Strategy Group | Knowsley Place Based Partnership Group | National Creative People and Places Programme

Rob Sanderson-Thomas Norton Priory Museum & Gardens: Treasurer Cultivate | Chair of Marketing Halton | Chair of Halton Heritage Partnership

OUR 5 YEAR PLAN

Year 4

Flourish

2027/2028

- Expand impact and partnerships
- Strengthen identity
- Amplify member voices
- Influence policy and investment

Year 5

Transform

2028/2029

- Drive lasting cultural and regional change
- Deepen member value and retention
- Lead sustained cultural advocacy

Year 3

Sustain

2026/2027

- Optimise and sustain systems
- Increase efficiency
- Expand further without proportional increases

Year 1

Establish

2024/2025

- Build foundations
- Define business model
- Confirm member benefits
- Launch

Year 2

Grow

2025/2026

- Expand membership
- Increase income
- Refine operations
- Grow the team



OUR 5 CORE AIMS:

ONE
ADVOCATING
VOICE

NETWORKING

JOINT
PROMOTION

SHARED
LEARNING

JOINT
PROGRAMMING

OUR 5 CORE VALUES:

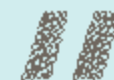
COLLABORATION

INCLUSIVITY

SUSTAINABILITY

CREATIVITY

COMMUNITY



When we supported the set up of The Culture Network LCR, it was about something simple: backing the people who make this city region what it is. Two years on, it's clear just how powerful that idea has been.

Our creative sector is one of our greatest strengths, but it works best when it's connected, when big institutions and brilliant grassroots organisations are pulling in the same direction. The network has created that space: to share ideas, back each other, and make sure culture isn't an afterthought, but right at the heart of how we grow and thrive.

As we all know, culture shapes our identity, supports jobs and opportunities, and brings communities together. The Culture Network LCR is helping us protect that ecology and build on it, so that every part of our region can benefit from the talent and creativity we've got in such abundance."

Steve Rotheram, Mayor of the Liverpool City Region

WHO WE ARE AND HOW WE COME TOGETHER

Rooted in collaboration, growing as one

Culture Network LCR is a growing, influential force within the living ecosystem of the region's cultural landscape. Launched in 2024, we work to strengthen the foundations of the cultural sector and the organisations within it.

By nurturing connection and shared purpose, we help ensure that culture is visible, valued and recognised as vital to civic, social and economic infrastructure.

We create the conditions in which collaboration can take root. By supporting shared learning and bringing a collective voice into conversations with policymakers, funders and strategic partners, we help the sector engage with greater clarity, confidence and influence. In doing so, we strengthen the shared foundations that allow the wider cultural sector to flourish, increasing the influence and confidence of the sector as a whole.

A collective investment in the shared soil of the region's cultural ecosystem, nurturing the conditions for future growth

Our network supports the sector in practical and meaningful ways. For our members, we provide connection in an ever-changing environment, clarity in a fast-moving policy landscape, and a communal platform from which to act. We strengthen resilience by providing space for collective problem-solving and strategic thinking. We open pathways for new growth, connecting organisations with one another, and with new audiences, partners, and ideas, enabling organisations of all sizes to work beyond their individual boundaries and contribute to something greater.

Our Membership Model: Sector Supporting Sector

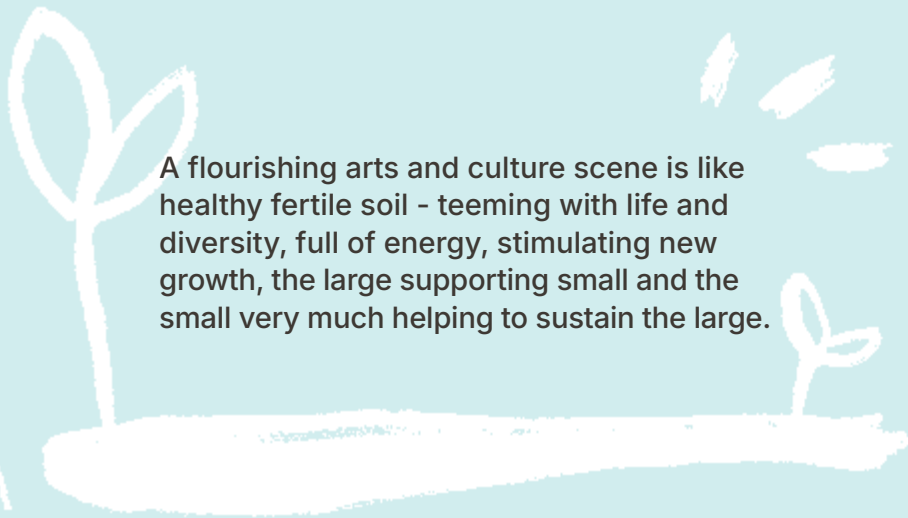
The Culture Network LCR is built on a simple principle: the strength of the sector grows from the commitment of those within it.

As a Community Interest Company (CIC), all income generated is reinvested directly into activity that strengthens the cultural ecosystem across the city region. In doing so, The Network turns member fees and contributions into collective impact. Our members are not just participants, they are investors in the cultural ecosystem of our city region.

This investment supports a shared infrastructure that enables advocacy, connection, promotion and learning, creating value that extends beyond what any single organisation could achieve alone.

This model reflects a culture of mutual support across the sector. Organisations of all sizes contribute to the shared ground from which The Network takes shape, recognising that when the ecosystem is healthy, every organisation can thrive. Leadership from the city region's larger organisations plays an important role in sustaining this shared foundation. Their commitment helps create the conditions in which smaller organisations, freelancers, and emerging talent can develop, strengthening the diversity and resilience of the sector.

It reflects a deep understanding that a vibrant, diverse sector supports the long-term success of every organisation within it.



A flourishing arts and culture scene is like healthy fertile soil - teeming with life and diversity, full of energy, stimulating new growth, the large supporting small and the small very much helping to sustain the large.



The Culture Network LCR demonstrates the power of collective action. By bringing organisations together across the Liverpool City Region, it strengthens cultural leadership and amplifies local voices. Networks like this are essential to building resilient, inclusive, and place-based cultural ecosystems."

Baroness Margaret Hodge



Together, organisations within our city region – of all scales – make up a living ecology that can thrive through mutual support and collective agency. We are far better, and stronger, at what we do because of this, and we have a responsibility to maintain that ecology!"

Dr Sam Lackey, Director Liverpool Biennial & Strategy Working Group Member



Photo: Large group of Culture Network members speed dating at an in person event.
Photo by **Mark McNulty**



STRENGTHENING THE ECOSYSTEM

Nurturing resilience across the cultural landscape

Through shared investment and collective effort, we help renew the conditions that sustain the cultural environment

78

members as of 2026, and growing...

73%

membership growth since launching

*started with 45 organisations, the combination of LARC & COoL

23%

Our membership spans the city region, 23% are borough based organisations

31%

of members are ACE National Portfolio Organisations showing a growth in income strategies

£1=£24

£1 invested by members = £24 in value over the next 3 years

£1.6m

in value over the next 3 years

Our members are part of an ecosystem, where no organisation operates in isolation and the strength of each organisation is connected to the health of the whole.

When the environment is strong, new ideas take root, artists develop their practice, audiences grow, and creativity flourishes. From major institutions to grassroots initiatives, each organisation plays a role in sustaining the wider cultural landscape. The role of The Culture Network LCR is to nurture the conditions that allow this ecosystem to thrive, not merely survive. We do this by investing membership income to strengthen the sector as a whole.

We have used a 'Theory of Change' approach to calculate the value of our work in this report. A Theory of Change sets out a chain of events, a ripple effect, from activities to outcomes and impact. Simple examples of this are:

- The Culture Network LCR hosts themed Round Tables. Members attend, engage in debate, learn something they can apply in their organisations and make new connections, improving practice, knowledge and skills, alongside strengthening business output.
- The Culture Network LCR provides UncoverLiverpool.com. Members are supported to reach more people, grow their audience, drive new partnerships, showcase their talent and skills, uncover new ways forward and swap skills.
- The Culture Network LCR hosts networking events. Members develop relationships that lead to new collaboration opportunities, spark ideas, joint funding and programming, strengthening collaborations.

By measuring our actions, like those above, in 2025 we created **£310,000 of value** for our sector.

When we consider the future impact of this, the collaborations formed, audiences reached, funding unlocked and opportunities created, we estimate the total value to be at least **£1.6 million over the next three years.**

This means that in 2025, for every £1 invested by our members, we created £4.60 of value for the sector through a multiplier effect.

For every £1 invested in 2025, £24 of value will be created in the next three years.

A multiplier is simply the idea that when people invest together, the value created can grow far beyond their original investment. In our case, we call this the Ecosystem Multiplier. It reflects the collective power of The Network: **organisations sharing knowledge and supporting one another to sustain the ecology.**

This ecosystem multiplier effect is not confined to individual organisations. It strengthens the environment in which all members operate, supporting talent development, partnership opportunities, audience growth and a more compelling case for culture in regional and national decision-making.

As this shared foundation strengthens, the sector is better able to stand visibly and confidently together.

3. REGENERATION

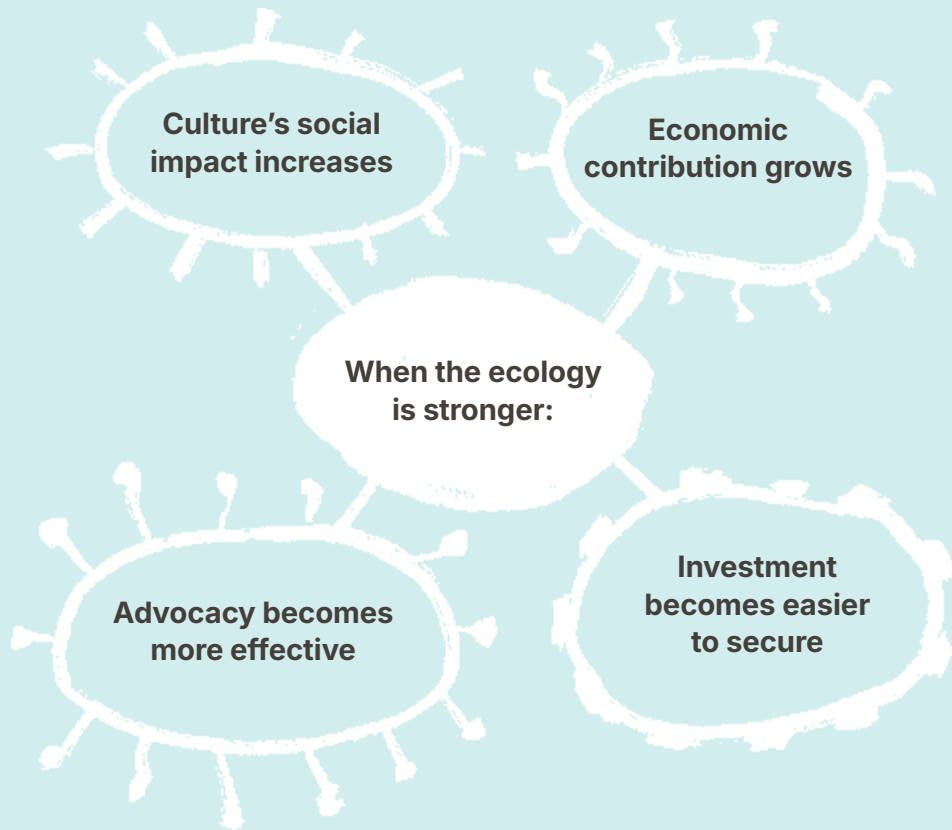
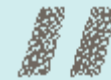


Photo: Culture Network members engaging in a presentation at an in person member event. Photo by **Mark McNulty**



Photo: Seated Culture Network members getting to know each other during speed dating at an in person event. Photo by **Mark McNulty**



Being part of The Culture Network LCR not only gives National Museums Liverpool (NML) colleagues an opportunity to learn from other colleagues and develop new events, but it's also a way of supporting the whole cultural ecology.

NML venues provide a much stronger offer because of the brilliant work and projects network members deliver in our museums and galleries. We don't have the capacity to programme everything our museums host but with the wider cultural ecology we can provide a more varied programme and represent more of our communities.

I believe the larger organisations have a responsibility to support the smaller ones, as this feeds an ecosystem which benefits organisations of every size and more importantly benefits our audiences."

Laura Pye, Director National Museums Liverpool, Culture Network Board of Directors & Strategy Working Group Chair



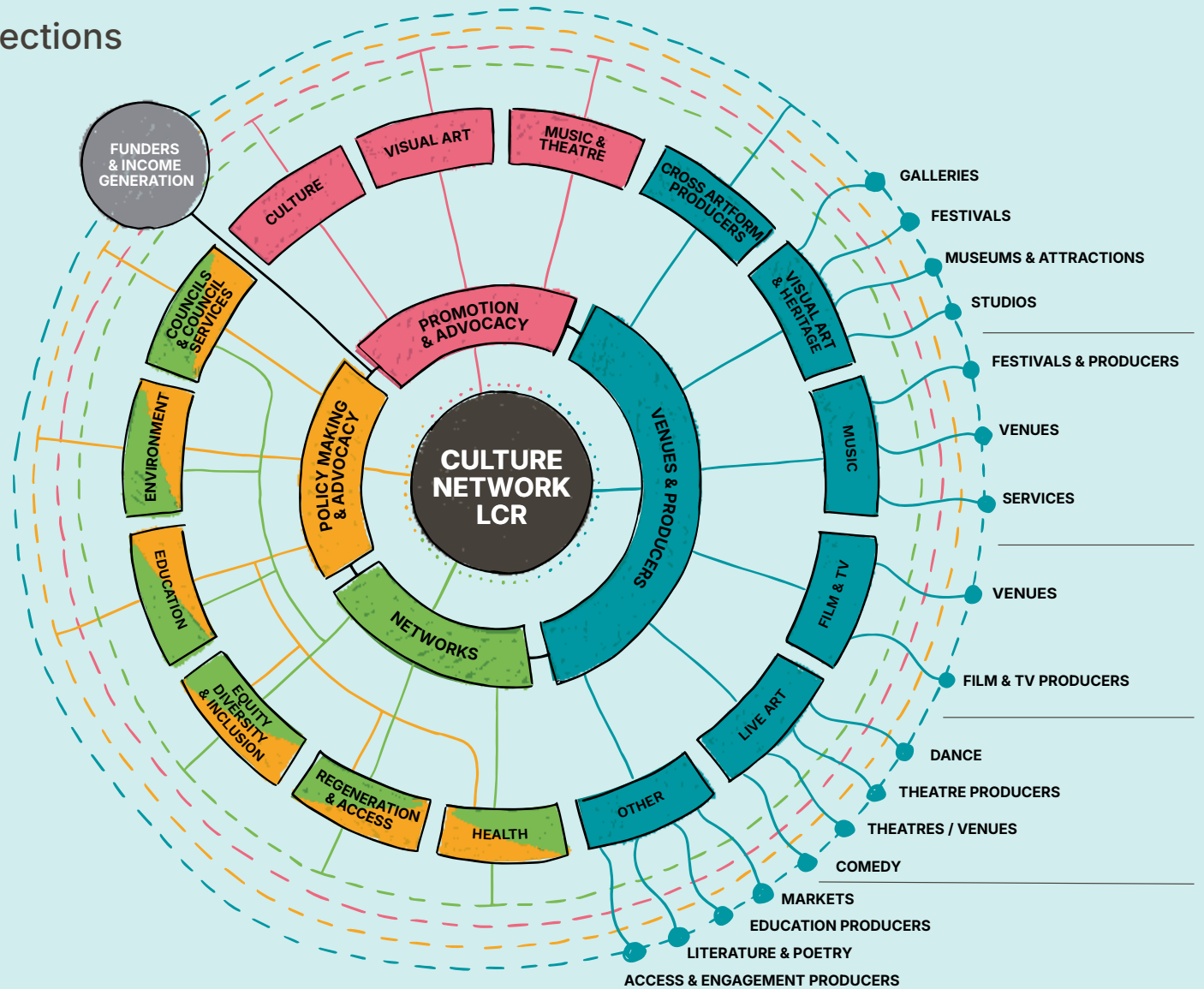
THE NETWORK

Mapping LCR cultural connections

We wanted to display as simply as possible, despite how complex the network and our cultural connections are, the scale of what is being produced, at all scales, across the region.

Behind this infographic sit 400+ art organisations, all potential network members. It's our first version of mapping the creative networks of LCR.

It shows how we're all interconnected, and how The Culture Network LCR sits at the heart of it all and with no hierarchy.



ONE ADVOCATING VOICE

Standing together, the sector forms a shared canopy where visibility, protection and opportunity expand

A collective beneath a common canopy

When the cultural sector stands together, our voices carry further.

We all benefit from being part of a single, coordinated voice that represents our interests and priorities. Acting together gives our organisations greater influence, credibility and confidence, while reducing the time and resources needed to do this work alone.

Our advocacy work in 2025 has an estimated future value of **£956,000**.

Here's some of our 2025 achievements:

60+

advocacy and support activities

delivered from consultation responses to monitoring the implications of policy for members

144

meetings attended

with strategic partners to advocate for our members

1200+

hours of professional support

provided for members across 6 working groups

10

round tables hosted

focusing on advocacy; from the impact of Governments spending review and devolution to keeping staff and audiences safe

What this means for you


A strong independent voice: The Network provides a collective voice and reduces the risk of acting in isolation, allowing members to advocate as part of a wider, unified position.

Strategic support: Through the professional input of working groups, you benefit from experienced sector leaders shaping policy responses and strategy and representing you in meetings with strategic stakeholders.


More time to focus on delivery: You don't have to monitor every policy consultation or strategy update, we do it for you. The Network tracks developments, responds where needed and keeps you informed.

Strength in collective representation: You are part of a voice that carries greater weight than any single organisation alone. Collective advocacy increases credibility, legitimacy and influence with decision-makers.


Regional credibility: The Network demonstrates that LCR takes culture seriously. By presenting a coordinated, confident and unified sector, we strengthen external perception.

 As a small organisation I wouldn't have the time to attend meetings with different stakeholders across the region. It's great that the network does this on our behalf."

Patrick Fox, CEO Heart of Glass & Culture Network Board of Directors

 When I represented Liverpool in Ho Chi Minh City recently, it was our cultural institutions that made the strongest case for what our city and region is and what it's becoming. The Culture Network LCR is part of what makes that possible. It means we show up internationally not as individual organisations but as a city and a region with a shared story and a collective ambition. For our cultural institutions and organisations, that's the real return on investment: influence, profile, and a voice at tables that matter - from the corridors of Westminster to the international stage. Liverpool's culture sector is a national asset. The Network is how we make sure the world knows it."

Cllr Harry Doyle, Liverpool's Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing & Culture

 Thanks for the positive difference you're already making through the Culture Network LCR – we're really enjoying the increased connectivity, opportunities to speak with a united voice, and relevant and engaging information you're sharing from across the network. Great job, thank you."

Faye Dyer, CEO The ACC Liverpool Group (renamed Liverpool Experience Campus from April 26)

NETWORKING

Threads of connection across the cultural ecosystem

Membership creates opportunities to build trusted relationships with like-minded organisations.

These connections make it easier for us to share our ideas, form partnerships and respond quickly to opportunities, turning networking into collaboration and action.

Like mycelium beneath the forest floor, we create strong relationships that allow ideas, knowledge and opportunities to flow through the cultural ecosystem

Our networking opportunities in 2025 have an estimated future value of **£222,000**.

Here's some of our 2025 achievements:

2
Catalyst events

our online twice yearly whole-network sessions for members to share big ideas, test thinking and spark collaboration – in just 2 events **32%** showcased their offer to the whole membership

2
Connect events

our in-person twice yearly networking events designed to deepen relationships and create new connections – in just 2 events we considered our impact on the arts, our solidarity and allyship, and our coalition of shared interests

Our 2025 achievements continued:

11

First Friday
Socials

our informal monthly gatherings supporting relationship-building across the cultural community and beyond, generating an estimated **740** meaningful connections

Attracted
80%

of members to at least one event



We developed a new WhatsApp community to make it easier for members to connect quickly with each other, especially new colleagues.



Facilitated sharing of Member Contact information via your Member Monthly bulletin encouraging direct connections and dialogue



Photo: Large group of seated Culture Network members listening to group feedback during an in person member event. Photo by Mark McNulty

What this means for you

Stronger professional relationships: You build trusted connections with other members, relationships that make collaboration faster and more natural.

Feeling less isolated: Regular planned or unplanned touch points help you feel connected to a wider cultural community.

Quicker access to the right people: When you already know who to call, opportunities move more quickly and challenges are easier to solve.

A more connected sector around you: Stronger relationships create a healthier cultural ecology, benefiting every organisation, not just those in the room.



Photo: Seated Culture Network members having a focused one to one discussion during an in person event. Photo by Mark McNulty



Photo: Culture Network members at an in person event. Photo by Mark McNulty

“ Through the network I was introduced to the finance manager of a member organisation who shared how they approach Exhibition Tax Relief - which I was able to implement in my own organisation.”

Sarah Fisher, Executive Director, Open Eye Gallery & Strategy Working Group Member

“ The networking opportunities have made it much easier to build trusted relationships that would have taken a lot longer to otherwise build.”

Lucy Byrne, Director, dot art, Culture Network Board of Directors & Joint Promotion Working Group Member

“ It’s truly inspiring to see the shared knowledge and the unified voice we’re cultivating together. The opportunities you’re creating to connect, share, and grow are invaluable, and I’m so excited about what we can achieve in the future as culture organisations in Liverpool and the region.”

Zi Lan Liao, CEO, Pagoda Arts

JOINT PROMOTION

Cross-pollinating audiences across the cultural sector

Through shared promotion, cultural ideas cross-pollinate, helping creativity travel further, reach new audiences, and strengthen future ideas

By working collectively, we use Uncoverliverpool.com to increase our members visibility and reach wider audiences.

Shared promotion and cross-marketing help us tell our stories and make our marketing resources go further, showcasing our members 365 day a year cultural festival.

Joint promotion for members in 2025 has an estimated future value of **£265,500**

Here's some of our 2025 achievements:

50

Uncover Liverpool bulletins*

providing targeted promotion for hundreds of member events, job vacancies, call outs and news. Plus Uncover's Culture Skip (freecycle for the arts) stops items going into landfill

42%

open rate for Uncover Liverpool bulletins

sometimes much higher, which is double the national average

21

members using newly developed Uncover Liverpool event automation tool

saving valuable staff time

84

hours of strategic professional support

from the Joint Promotion working group

What this means for you

Wider reach without additional spend: Your events and opportunities are promoted to highly engaged bulletin subscribers and an even wider online audience via social media.

Greater visibility in the marketplace: Your work sits within a curated cultural platform that audiences trust and engage with.

Audience development support: Bulletin clicks and website traffic create additional routes for audiences to discover your programmes, events, news and call outs, driving more ticket sales

Sector intelligence in one place: You can see what other members are producing and what funding is available, you can stop materials being wasted and landfilled, and find out where opportunities exist and all without searching multiple sources.

Increased recruitment reach: You can promote job vacancies, internships and voluntary opportunities to a targeted cultural audience, improving access to sector talent and driving our talent pipeline.



Photo: Culture Network member giving feedback during a Connect member event.
Photo by **Mark McNulty**



Photo: Culture Network members at Connect event. Photo by **Mark McNulty**

“ We love Uncover Liverpool, and their tireless coverage and ongoing support for the city region arts scene. They help us spread the word of all kinds of events from intimate gigs to ever growing festivals.”

Dave McTague, Director, One Fell Swoop & Joint Promotion Working Group Member

“ Uncover Liverpool is a much-needed resource for practitioners and audiences alike. A single place where locals and tourists can see in a structured format everything that is on across all cultural activities throughout LCR.”

Sharon Colpman, Director, The Studios Below & Beyond and Make It Write Productions

“ I always look forward to Uncover Liverpool’s weekly newsletters. It’s really good to know about all the creative events and activities coming up, and it makes me appreciate how lucky we are to have such a vibrant cultural scene here in the Liverpool city region!”

Zoe Armfield, Head of Learning, Liverpool Philharmonic & Skills & Participation Working Group Member

SHARED LEARNING

Knowledge that grows when shared

Shared learning enriches the cultural soil, turning experience into knowledge that strengthens organisations across the ecosystem

We learn with and from one another through shared training, peer learning and the exchange of practical experience.

Learning together builds new skills, deepens knowledge, and strengthens organisational practice.



Shared learning for members in 2025 has an estimated future value of **£156,500**

Here's some of our 2025 achievements:

- **Delivered 2 headline training sessions** by members for members.
- **Promoted 10+ free and low-cost training opportunities** for members to gain from.
- Opened up LJMU's and University of Liverpool's Internship programmes and Business Advice to members.
- Provided practical learning resources for members from Martyn's Law to guidance for supporting freelancers to the Working Group led Allyship, Solidarity & Action Document.
- Delivered 10 Round Tables with a specific focus on learning together. Themes included standing against racism, capital infrastructure, devolution, audience and staff safety and more.

What this means for you:

Access to specialist training: You gain high-quality, relevant professional development opportunities provided to members for free or at low cost.

Improved practices to take back to your organisation: Access to training, resources and peer-to-peer learning opportunities fills you with ideas and improvements to apply in your own organisation.

Peer-led problem solving: Round Tables create space to discuss real challenges with colleagues who understand your context.

Practical resources when you need them: Curated guidance helps you get the information you need, when you need it



Photo: Large group of Culture Network members at in person event. Photo by Mark McNulty

After Round Table events I talk about the discussions and themes with my team and we consider how they might apply to our organisation.

Francisco Carrisco, Luma Creations & Strategy Working Group Member

We get access to a wealth of information and resources through the network that we never would have without it.

Helen Maguire, Founder & Teacher, Live Wire Dance Studio

Being able to collaborate with peers on the opportunities for people to develop their skills and engage with the arts has been brilliant. We all do so much wonderful work and to be able to share those light bulb moments amongst each other and collaborate when right, is invaluable.

Nathan Powell, Creative Director Liverpool's Everyman & Playhouse and Skills & Participation Working Group Member

OUR PLANS FOR 2026 AND BEYOND

The next chapter in our growing ecosystem

We are nurturing collaboration, advocacy and insight, creating the conditions for new growth across the cultural landscape

8. NEW GROWTH

Culture continues to evolve and adapt, and across the Liverpool City Region our members do extraordinary things every day.

Festivals, exhibitions, performances, and programmes bring people together, spark new ideas, deepen partnerships, and create new ways for people to connect with creativity and with one another. Like any living ecosystem, the cultural sector grows within an environment that is constantly changing. Funding landscapes shift, audiences adapt to new economic realities, and organisations continue exploring new ways to sustain their work while remaining open and accessible to the communities we serve.

Public events now take place within a more complex social context. Expectations around safety, inclusion, and public dialogue continue to evolve, requiring organisations to respond thoughtfully and collaboratively. At the same time, technology is opening new possibilities. Artificial intelligence and digital innovation are creating tools that can expand creativity, participation, and reach. These

developments also prompt important conversations about ethics, authorship, employment, and the future of creative work across the sector.

In this environment of change, the strength of the cultural ecosystem becomes increasingly more important. When organisations share knowledge, coordinate advocacy, and explore challenges collectively, the sector is better able to adapt, experiment, and grow. The Culture Network LCR exists to nurture these shared conditions. From this shared ground, new ideas, partnerships, and cultural experiences can continue to grow across the region.

In 2026, we will continue cultivating the foundations that allow collaboration, insight, and opportunity to emerge across the sector:

Strengthening the shared infrastructure that supports the sector

- Developing a new impact report quantifying the collective social and economic contribution of our members, creating the first comprehensive picture of the arts and cultural sector across the Liverpool City Region.

- Providing an exclusive members-only tool enabling organisations to articulate and measure their own impact with clarity and confidence.

Expanding collaboration and collective activity

- Activating our fifth core aim, Joint Programming, opening new opportunities for members and partners to collaborate on shared cultural activity across the region, with unity at its heart.
- Developing a training, peer to peer and mentoring programme to create the right conditions for our members to grow and flourish, like healthy plants in fertile soil, so they can thrive, not just survive.

Ensuring culture has a strong and visible voice

- Continuing to advocate clearly and consistently for culture across the city region and nationally.
- Strengthening relationships with city region leadership and contributing to the development of the new LCR Cultural Strategy, creating more direct opportunities for member engagement.



Photo: Culture Network members having a one to one animated discussion.
Photo by **Mark McNulty**

The questions we will grow through together

Healthy ecosystems grow through curiosity, experimentation, and shared learning over time. In the year ahead, our network will continue exploring the questions shaping the future of the sector:

- How do we diversify our business models and strengthen long-term financial resilience?
- How do we maintain safety, trust, and inclusion in a changing social landscape?
- How do we articulate the value and impact of culture across the Liverpool City Region with clarity and confidence?
- How do we advocate more effectively for culture as essential civic and economic infrastructure?
- How do we harness emerging technologies in ways that enhance creativity while protecting creative practice?

These are not questions any organisation can or should solve alone. They are challenges the whole ecosystem must navigate and grow through together.

A cultural ecosystem grows strongest when its members grow together.

OUR MEMBERS

Investing in a regenerative cultural ecosystem

At the start of 2026, our network grew to 78 members. Together, we represent the cultural heartbeat of the Liverpool City Region, a dynamic and connected community including arts organisations, heritage institutions, festivals, performance venues, museums, universities, and community-led practice.

Together we tell stories, spark ideas, open doors, and create experiences that shape everyday life across our region and beyond. Our members include performers, artists, producers, educators, and innovators. We are custodians of heritage and champions of new and diverse voices. As trusted civic partners, we help strengthen the city region's identity while supporting wellbeing, belonging, and opportunity for residents.

We are important economic contributors. Cultural organisations attract visitors, create employment, and develop skills across the region, driving overnight stays and cultural tourism, bringing audiences into the visitor economy and supporting hotels,

Together, our members sustain a thriving cultural ecosystem where ideas take root, knowledge circulates, audiences connect, and creativity grows season after season

restaurants, and the wider hospitality sector. We support freelancers, nurture creative talent, and sustain the wider business ecosystems that benefit from a vibrant cultural offer.

This is a living ecology. Our network connects grassroots organisations with major institutions, neighbourhood initiatives with international platforms. Through our partnerships, culture reaches into almost every part of the regional economy.

Grounded in shared values of collaboration, inclusivity, sustainability, creativity, and community, our work is ultimately about the moments that stay with people long after the curtain falls or the exhibition closes.

Every event that brings someone joy.
Every voice amplified through a festival.
Every creative idea that takes root and grows.

Together, these moments form the harvest of a shared cultural landscape, demonstrating the enduring value of culture across our region and sustaining a creative ecosystem that will continue to grow for many seasons to come.

CURRENT MEMBERS

20 Stories High	First Take	March for the Arts	The Black-E
24 Hope Street	Focal Studios	Mersey Swing	The Bluecoat
A Place For Us CIC	Future Yard	Metal - Liverpool	The Comedy Trust
ACC Liverpool (Liverpool Experience Campus)	Heart of Glass	Milap Festival Trust	The Hope Street Theatre
Art in Liverpool C.I.C.	Homotopia	Movema	The Windows Project
Arts Groupie	Kitchen Sink Live	National Museums Liverpool	Tip Tray Theatre
Batala Mersey Community Samba Reggae Band CIC	Lantern Company	Norton Priory Museum Trust Limited	Tmesis Theatre
Be Free Campaign	Live Wire Dance Studio	One Fell Swoop	Unity Theatre
Bidston Observatory Artistic Research Centre (BOARC)	Liverpool Arab Arts Festival	Open Eye Gallery	University of Liverpool
BlackFest	Liverpool Architecture Foundation CIC	Pagoda Arts	Wired Aerial Theatre
Bluecoat Display Centre	Liverpool Biennial of Contemporary Art	Playmaker Creative Studio	Wirral Musuems
BrazUKa & Katumba	Liverpool European Partnership	Positive Impact	Wonder Arts
Bring the Fire Project	Liverpool Irish Festival	Raised Voices CIC	Writing on the Wall
Capoeira for All CIC	Liverpool John Moores University (LJMU)	RAWD	Zest Event Management
Chaos Arts CIC Leap Dance Festival	Liverpool Lighthouse	Royal Liverpool Philharmonic	
Collective Encounters	Liverpool's Everyman & Playhouse Theatre	Rule of Threes Arts	
DaDaFest	Liverpool's Royal Court	Salt & Tar	
DoES Liverpool CIC	Luma Creations	Shakespeare North Playhouse	
dot-art	Make CIC	Sole Rebel	
Empire Theatre	Make It Write Productions CIC & The Studio Below & Beyond	Squash Liverpool CIC	
FACT Liverpool		St Helens Arts In Libraries	
		Tate Liverpool (at RIBA North)	
		The Atkinson	

This is the power of The Culture Network LCR, as of March 2026. We are growing every month!

10. METHODOLOGY

Calculating our value

Value to the sector in 2025:

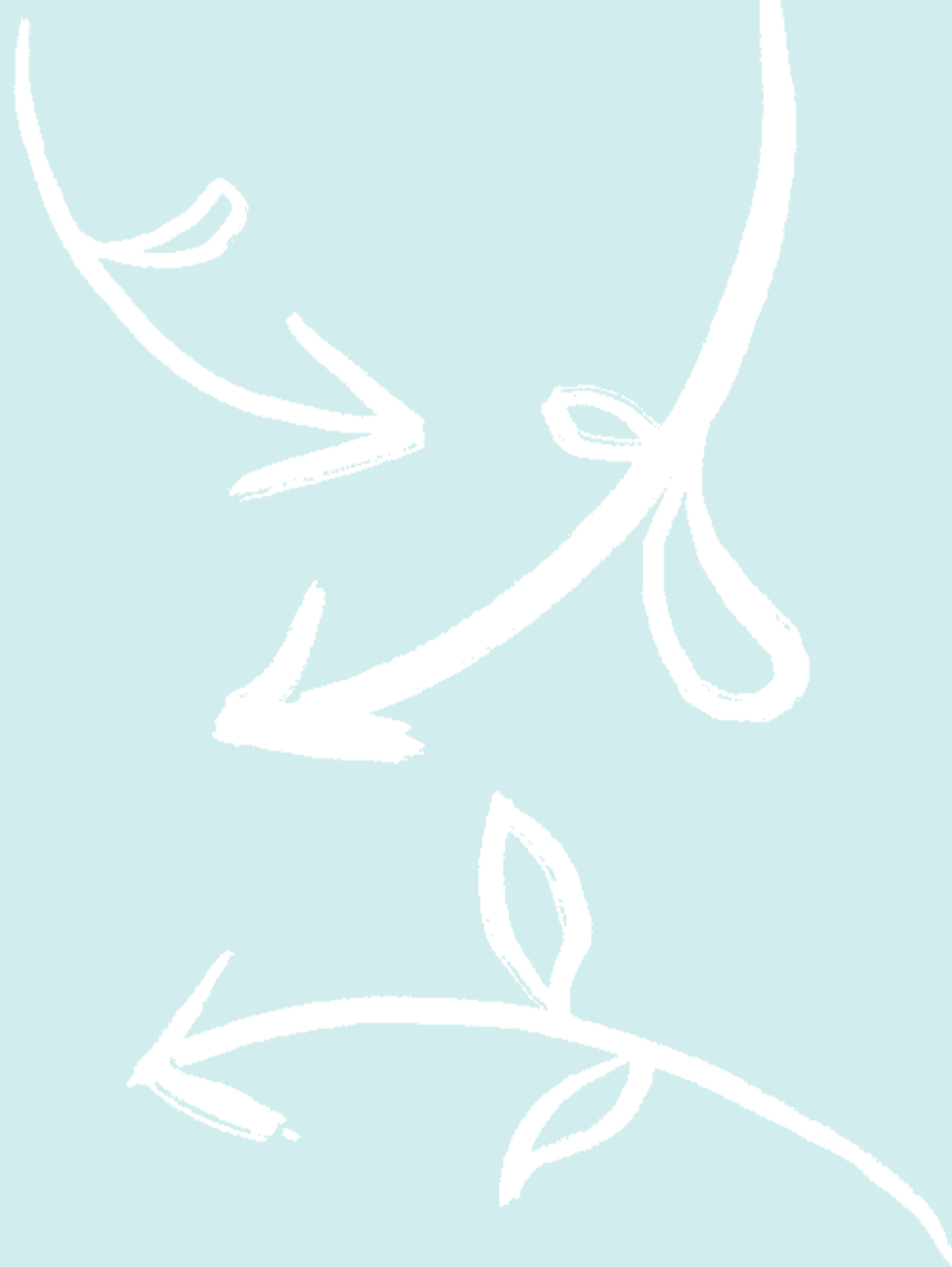
The current value of **£310,000** for 2025 is calculated using market-equivalent estimates for the activities delivered through the Culture Network LCR. For example, professional hours contributed through working groups are valued using typical consultancy day rates, the contribution of Uncover Liverpool is benchmarked against the market cost of equivalent marketing services with a similar audience reach and click-through performance.

Future value to the sector:

The estimated **future value of £1.6 million** is based on this current value combined with modelled assumptions about the outcomes that could reasonably be achieved over the next three years. These projections are intentionally conservative. They include, for example, the potential financial value of audience growth for paid events (using average ticket prices for the sector), new revenue generated through relationships and partnerships formed via the network, and other quantifiable benefits expected to emerge. All values are modelled across a three-year period.

Ecosystem Multiplier effects:

The multiplier effects (£4.60 for current value and £24.00 for future value) represent the value created for every £1 of member income received.



THANK YOU

If you have any questions or queries
please email Charlotte or Dan on
admin@culturenetwork.co.uk

To join the Culture Network LCR, please
use this [simple application form](#)

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