

# Luton Culture

## Luton Cultural Quarter (LCQ)

Luton Culture is an arts and cultural charity which provides exceptional and meaningful public engagement with museums, arts centres and libraries across the town. In the LCQ we provide performance and exhibition spaces, studios and a year-round theatre and events programme at the Hat Factory Arts Centre.

Over the next five years Luton Culture plans to build on the town's hat making and manufacturing heritage and engage more creative practitioners, artists, media companies, makers, producers and designers to cluster in the LCQ.

### Luton Culture is working with various partners to:

- Create an energy and vitality that is productive and also attractive to residents, visitors, investors and businesses
- Further contribute to the local economy by providing more work, spaces, jobs, training and opportunities for inward investment.

**Animate:** We have secured £375K from the Arts Council England to invest in a three-year public realm arts project for the LCQ. Working with partners we will provide a major site-specific art commission by Mark Titchner (see illustration) and an outdoor projection gallery for locally relevant and nationally important work. The funding will also be used to create new networks to share creative ideas, technology and skills; and positive images and stories about Luton.

**Populate:** We are working with regional and national agencies to develop more creative workspaces and venues across the LCQ. We are currently exploring options with The Mall to transform 47 Guildford Street, the oldest hat factory in Luton (see illustration).

**Incubate:** Providing more opportunities for talented creative people to meet their full potential through bursaries, training, workspaces, graduate opportunities and cultural career progression.



Luton has a very rich culture and heritage, with over 122 languages spoken, award winning parks and museums, and holds a variety of cultural events throughout the year including the country's largest one-day annual carnival.

This was recently recognised by Arts Council England (ACE) which has awarded £1.16m to four organisations to deliver arts and cultural activity in Luton over the next three years.

### Contact details:

#### Luton Culture

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**219 FUNDED**  
OPPORTUNITIES FOR  
ARTISTS AND CREATIVE PEOPLE



**ENGAGE**  
1.6 MILLION PEOPLE  
IN ARTS AND CULTURE



**112 NEW**  
ARTS AND CULTURAL  
COMMISSIONS



**RICH CULTURE AND HERITAGE**  
122 LANGUAGES AND DIALECTS,  
AWARD WINNING  
MUSEUMS AND PARKS