



Creative Medway Cultural Compact Elections 2023

Invitation to stand for election

Creative Medway is looking for six committed, energetic and strategic people to join the Creative Medway Cultural Compact leading Creative Medway. We are looking for people working in, connected to or interested in Medway's creative and cultural sector or who represent the people and communities who benefit from creative activity in Medway. If this sounds like you, read on!

2023 elections

Creative Medway are looking to elect a Chair and five Vice-Chairs who will join our six sector and local authority representatives as part of the Creative Medway Cultural Compact for the next four years. These elected electees will also fulfil the role of Trustees when Creative Medway becomes a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) later in the year. The roles are:

- Chair
- Vice-Chair (Connectivity focus)
- Vice-Chair (Shared Ambition focus)
- Vice-Chair (Community engagement focus)
- Vice-Chair (Spaces and Places focus)
- Vice-Chair (Creative People focus)

What is Creative Medway?

Creative Medway exists to support and promote Medway's creative sector and is overseeing the delivery of Creative Medway's 2020-2030 Cultural Strategy in partnership with Medway Council.

Creative Medway connects an informed and empowered network with an interest in the sector in Medway, identifies opportunities and issues facing our creative sector and creates consensus around actions to be undertaken, acting as a catalyst for positive change.

Creative Medway is community and sector led. We aim to work with maximum transparency and openness and are guided by our five strategic themes (Spaces and Places, Community Engagement, Shared Ambition, Connectivity, and Creative People).

You can find the [Creative Medway Cultural Strategy including our motivations and vision for each of our five themes here](#) and find out more about Creative Medway [via our website](#). You can find us on social media @CreativeMedway.

What is the structure of Creative Medway?

Creative Medway is made up of three layers:

1. CREATIVE MEDWAY CONGRESS

Open to everyone across Medway's creative and cultural sector, community and those across other sectors with an interest in creative and cultural activity. Everyone is welcome, this a loose, open group which meets socially once a month, meets formally at least once a year and connects via Creative Medway mailing lists and social media.

2. CREATIVE MEDWAY CULTURAL COMPACT

The board overseeing the delivery of the Creative Medway Cultural Strategy and advocating for Medway's cultural sector. The board takes the form of a Cultural Compact, a new model supported by Arts Council England to bring the cultural sector together with other sectors to promote the role culture plays in a local area. The Creative Medway Cultural Compact is made up of elected and appointed members from across the creative sector, other Medway sectors and the local authority and meets quarterly.

3. CREATIVE MEDWAY TASK AND FINISH GROUPS

Short-term working groups made up of members of the Congress and Compact set up to carry out a specific task over a period of time from a few weeks to maximum one year.

Purpose of the Creative Medway Cultural Compact

The purpose of the Compact is to:

- Provide strategic leadership across the sector and within the Creative Medway model, setting and communicating a direction of travel through engagement with the sector and community.
- Be responsible for the overall vision and delivery of the Creative Medway Cultural Strategy, overseeing delivery plans and setting up Task and Finish Groups to carry out actions.
- Engage with local, regional, national and international sector organisations and bodies on behalf of the local sector.
- Connect across sectors locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, hosting events and facilitating conversation and collaboration.
- Oversee the creation and maintenance of resources for the sector.
- Support sector development, proactively identifying need and opportunity.
- Facilitate sector conversation through convening and hosting events.
- Identify opportunities or unlock new resources for the local sector and steer engagement with those opportunities.
- Test new approaches and initiatives through action learning processes, initiating new ways of thinking, new collaborations and/or partnerships to solve problems or take advantage of opportunities.
- Oversee and direct the financial and charitable responsibilities of Creative Medway.

Overview of the roles

These roles are equivalent to board positions and their responsibilities and anticipated time commitments are listed below. Following a change in the working structure of Creative Medway earlier this year, the day-to-day activity of Creative Medway is carried out by paid staff members supported the work of Task and Finish Groups.

We encourage you to read the [Creative Medway Terms of Reference here](#) to find out more about the purpose, structure, code of conduct and working principles of the Creative Medway Cultural Compact and Creative Medway as a whole.

We actively welcome role-shares to stand for election and encourage those with more experience to partner with those with less experience to support a new generation of Medway cultural leaders.

Creative Medway is committed to supporting new electees in roles. You may not have all the skills to fulfill the role already so as well as offering orientation and a handover period with existing Compact members, Creative Medway is committed to facilitating any training that might be required by new electees.

Details of role	Responsibilities and time commitments
<p>Creative Medway Compact Chair x 1</p> <p>Elected or appointed: elected</p> <p>Length of term: 4 years (no maximum number of terms)</p>	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversees delivery of the Creative Medway Cultural Strategy, overseeing action plans, evaluation and influencing sector activity and conversation. • Oversees the management of Creative Medway, overseeing organisational finances, board meeting, events and other activity. • Carries out duties as a Trustee of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) once established, ensuring Creative Medway’s charitable objectives are met. • Works collaboratively with the Vice-Chairs on the principle of ‘first among equals’, supporting and empowering Vice-Chairs in their roles and sharing the responsibilities of the position of Chair and of representing the Compact in external contexts locally, regionally and nationally. • Takes part in or leads Task and Finish Groups as necessary. <p>Time commitments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Compact meetings • Monthly meetings with Vice-Chairs • Monthly meetings with Medway Council Culture team • Quarterly national Compacts Network meetings (shared with Vice-Chairs) • Preparation for meetings as necessary • Other events and meetings on an opt-in basis
<p>Creative Medway Vice Chair x 5</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Connectivity focus 2. Community engagement focus 3. Shared Ambition focus 4. Spaces and places focus 5. Creative People focus 	<p>Responsibilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brings experience and expertise relevant to the strategy theme they represent, feeding their knowledge into Creative Medway decision making and activity. • Oversees delivery of the Creative Medway Cultural Strategy, overseeing action plans, evaluation and influencing sector activity and conversation. • Oversees the management of Creative Medway, overseeing organisational finances, board meeting, events and other activity. • Carries out duties as a Trustee of the Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) once established, ensuring Creative Medway’s charitable objectives are met. • Works collaboratively with the Chair and other Vice-Chairs sharing the responsibilities of the position of Chair and of representing the Compact in external contexts locally, regionally and nationally.

<p>Elected or appointed: elected</p> <p>Length of term: 4 years (maximum 2 terms)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Takes part in or leads Task and Finish Groups as necessary. <p>Time commitments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quarterly Compact meetings • Monthly meetings with Chair and Vice-Chairs • Cover for Chair (shared with other Vice-Chairs) • Preparation for meetings as necessary • Other events and meetings on an opt-in basis
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The elections process

We know that putting yourself forward to stand for an election can be daunting. We are committed to keeping the process as simple, informal and easy as possible.

June 2023	Elections announced and candidates invited to put themselves forward for election.
July 2023	Elections publicised, candidates invited to share a written statement listing their reason for seeking election. An informal/social meet the candidates session and an online hustings session takes place to platform candidates.
August 2023	Voting takes place online. New Compact members announced and induction and handover period begins.
September 2023	Induction and handover period continues.
October 2023	New Compact members assume roles.

How to put yourself forward for election.

If you would like to stand [please fill out the short Google Form here](#) by **Friday 30 June 2023** and we will be in touch.

Want to find out more?

If you would like to have a confidential conversation have any access needs or would like support in filling out the form, please email admin@creativemedway.co.uk.