



Waterford City and County Council dedicated to continuing the cultural partnership created by the Three Sisters Bid.

Friday 15th July 2016

Members of Waterford City and County Council today acknowledged the hard work and dedication of the Three Sisters Bid team who were unsuccessful in their bid for European Capital of Culture (ECoC) 2020.

They also congratulated Galway on their success and wished them all the best in 2020.

The Three Sisters region (Waterford, Wexford and Kilkenny) formed an historic partnership in a bid to win the European Capital of Culture 2020. It is the first time in the 31 year history of the European Union's cultural competition that three counties have united together as equal partners to bid for the title. The unique partnership offers enormous potential through the implementation of a Regional Cultural Strategy, which the three councils unanimously adopted in May this year.

The European selection panel today awarded the ECoC 2020 title to Galway, and despite this disappointing news, the Three Sisters Region is looking forward to a new and exciting future. The Regional Cultural Strategy aims to deliver culture-led regeneration and development, and will remain in place until 2025. A core focus of the framework will be to progress with a number of projects that were developed under the ECoC 2020 proposal, on a smaller scale.

Commenting on the decision, Councillor Adam Wyse, Mayor of Waterford City and County Council said "While we are disappointed at today's news, we are very much looking forward to moving ahead with the Regional Cultural Strategy. We have every confidence that this programme will lead to regeneration through cultural initiatives, and will enhance the lives of

our people. On behalf of the Three Sisters team, I would like to congratulate Galway on winning the European Capital of Culture 2020. We know they will do a fantastic job.”

Waterford City and County Council are dedicated to continuing and strengthening the cultural partnership with Wexford and Kilkenny County Councils to deliver on the Regional Cultural Strategy into the future.

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