

Impact of the UK Decision to Leave the EU

On 23 June 2016 the people of the United Kingdom voted to leave the European Union. The UK is still a full and active Member of the EU. Therefore, the competition for the European Capital of Culture 2023 will run as normal.

The outcome of exit negotiations with the EU will determine what arrangements apply in relation to EU-administered programmes once the UK has exited. Until the UK has left the EU it remains a full member with all the rights and obligations of EU membership which includes fully engaging in relevant cultural programmes. We are committed for the UK to host the title in 2023, however bidding cities should be aware that the European Capital of Culture title may be subject to the outcome of those exit negotiations which could have a bearing on the UK's participation and the government will advise bidding cities on this once negotiations have concluded.

As with previous European Capital of Culture competitions, it is the responsibility of the cities and councils to develop and finance their bids for the competition. As is usual with cultural programmes and competitions the UK government bears no responsibility for the financial investment made by the cities and councils.