**Hull 2017 UK City of Culture**

# In 2017 the eyes of the world will be on Hull as it becomes UK City of Culture. Hull is only the second city to hold the title (the first being Derry/Londonderry) and the first in England awarded by the DCMS following a successful bid by the city in 2013. Hull 2017 has been set up to produce 365 days of transformative culture in 2017 through a range of diverse and high profile events and projects.

After the Olympics and Paralympics, Commonwealth Games and the Tour de France in Yorkshire this will be the biggest, most high profile event that the UK will be staging over the next few years. It will be a celebration of Hull’s rich history and its future and will position Hull as the UK host city of cultural activity and debate throughout 2017.

The year will be split into four seasons each with a distinctive theme

**Season 1: Made in Hull**

*January – March*

In the opening season, we welcome the world to Hull. Hull makes things; from theatre, music and poetry to wind turbines and caravans. Hull has long inspired great ideas, great people and great artists. Hull knows about its contribution to the world, now it’s time that everyone else did.

**Season 2: Routes and Roots**

*April – June*

Hull is a city of migration and transitions, a place, like the tidal moevements that govern its rivers, that is constantly in flux, often buffeted by outside influences beyond its control.

A place rooted in history and a clear sense of itself, it is a place on the edge, seemingly remote yet at the heart of international networks, a place to enter the West and depart to the East, a terminus and start of the line.

Roots and Routes will explore Hull’s connections and its place in the networked, globalised and digital world. With a distinctive international flavour, new partnerships and collaborations will rub up against old friends.

**Season 3: Freedom**

*July – September*

Hull played a pivotal role in the emancipation movement. It helped ignite the still unfinished global journey towards equality and social justice for all. Hull has always attracted creative risk takers and rule breakers; it is a place that seems to inspire rebellion and freedom of thought, not bound by the conventions of others, a place of pioneers.

And freedom allows people to celebrate, enjoy and to share. In the summer, as the sun shines, we will join that celebration with a party to remember!

**Season 4: Tell the World**

*October – December*

Looking to the future, exploring what’s next. We will celebrate the qualities that make Hull, and indeed the UK, stand apart. Our sense of independence, our individuality, integrity and sense of humour.

How will Hull redefine itself as a key city within the Northern Powerhouse? It will be a confident city, a city reborn and a people on the up. As 2017 draws to a close you can tell this is the start of something special for Hull and something the world should hear.

Each season is intended as a curatorial framework to explore ideas and act as a starting point for the creative process, the themes are there to give an extra context to the programme and help create a continuing momentum through the year, with four opportunities to launch and four programmes with a distinct identity.