



## SHAPING THE ISLAND'S URBAN FUTURE - OUR CITIES & OUR COMMUNITIES

**The Summit of the Cities is a landmark gathering of every city on the island of Ireland, who, for the first time ever, will come together in Belfast on 24<sup>th</sup> June 2026.**

Government leaders, policy-makers, entrepreneurs and cultural voices from the island's 12 cities will join global leaders and experts to share ideas, confront common challenges, foster collaboration and create a bold vision for a new era of city leadership.

**The keynote address at the inaugural Summit of the Cities will be former Mayor of New York, Bill de Blasio.**



*Bill De Blasio, Mayor of New York, 2014-2021*

**Also in attendance will be senior Ireland, Northern Ireland & UK Government Ministers.**

### **The first ever Summit of the Cities will:**

- Provide a **platform for Leaders & Chief Executives for the island's 12 cities** to connect, share what's worked, address challenges and discuss the future of our cities and their communities across a range of key issues.
- Introduce global perspectives through keynote speakers and **curated specialist sessions** with urban leaders, policy pioneers, trade & commerce leaders and international advisors. These will include **cross-border trade, AI and government, arts/culture and heritage, and financing city growth.**
- Create a meaningful interface where local government can constructively engage with each other, with public & private sector and with Ireland, NI and UK government leaders on **key topics** including **all-island rail connectivity, air connectivity, infrastructure, planning, education, regeneration, poverty reduction, housing, transport, hospitality, nightlife and economic development.**