



Subject:	Request for use of City Hall grounds for Culture Night 2026
Date:	19 June 2025
Reporting Officer:	Nora Largey, City Solicitor and Director of Legal and Civic Services
Contact Officer:	Christopher Burns, Interim Functions and Exhibition Manager

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
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1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	To consider requests from MayWe Events to hold Culture Night animation and activities on City Hall lawns on Friday 18 th September 2026
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is requested to: 1. Authorise the use of City Hall grounds on date noted above. 2. Authorise the activity to take place on the basis of submission of an event management plan and risk assessment to ensure delivery of a safe public events.
3.0	Main report

3.1	<p><u>Background Information</u></p>
3.1.1	<p>Members will be aware that requests for the use of City Hall are normally dealt with under the authority delegated by the Committee to the Director of Legal and Civic Services using criteria agreed for this purpose. Occasionally however, it is necessary to place such requests directly before the Committee, and the requests set out below falls into this category.</p>
3.2	<p><u>Key Issues</u></p> <p>MayWe Events have made a request to deliver activity in the City Hall grounds as part of Culture Night 2026 and this report seeks to update members on this request. Due to the larger scale of activity involved it is deemed necessary to seek Committee approval.</p>
3.3	<p><u>The Proposed events</u></p> <p>The proposed events would take place on the front lawns only and areas such as the Titanic Garden and Cenotaph will remain open to the public. Access to the City Hall building will not be affected.</p>
3.3.1	<p>The organisers would be providing all stewarding/marshalling staff & first aiders and would of course have to comply with the usual conditions including indemnities for damage and submission of a formal event-management plan.</p>
3.4	<p><u>18 September 2026 – Culture Night</u></p> <p>Culture Night is an island wide initiative that celebrates the arts and culture. The CNB format concentrates on venue-based events across the city, North, East, South and West. The programme will be designed with the city's artists and creatives, via an open call that will open in June. The event will showcase the spectrum of what arts and culture can do for society. To support this wider event in the city, between 4pm and 8pm it is proposed that City Hall grounds be animated with family friendly arts and crafts, street performances, storytelling and family friendly music. Organisers have confirmed the activity will have a small footprint, requires no power or water, and will have a quick set-up and dismantle with no staging or structures.</p>
3.5	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>There would be no costs for the council beyond already assigned budgets as the organisers would bear any/all stewarding and equipment costs etc themselves.</p>
3.6	<p>There are no concerns from an asset management point of view, although the organisers</p>

3.7	<p>would be required to provide the usual insurances, indemnities, and obligations.</p> <p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>There are no direct good relations, equality or rural needs implications arising from this report.</p>
4.0	<p>Appendices</p> <p>None</p>