

**We would like to invite you to take part in the development of the bid for Southampton to become UK City of Culture 2025.**

Bidding to become UK City of Culture 2025 is our chance to put Southampton on the map. UK City of Culture is a title awarded every four years, with the winner hosting a year-long programme of cultural events and celebrations. The winner receives significant funding to transform their city through culture, which will bring in new investment and tourism, lifting the economy and creating jobs.

To do this, we need to ask for your help. Your expert knowledge of the area you live in is vital to the development of the bid, along with your opinions on topics such as the strengths and challenges that the area you live in faces, and how you think becoming UK City of Culture will help Southampton. It is critical that our final bid represents all the voices of Southampton.

We would like to invite you to participate online to represent your area on the following dates:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Time** | **Wards** |
| Monday 25th January | 17.00-18.00 | Shirley & Freemantle |
| Tuesday 26th January | 17.00-18.00 | Bargate & Bevois |
| Wednesday 27th January | 17.00-18.00 | Redbridge & Millbrook |
| Wednesday 27th January | 18.30-19.30 | Coxford & Bassett |
| Thursday 28th January | 17.00-18.00 | Portswood & Swaythling |
| Wednesday 3rd February | 17.00-18.00 | Bitterne & Harefield |
| Wednesday 3rd February | 18.30-19.30 | Woolston & Sholing |
| Thursday 4th February | 17.00-18.00 | Bitterne Park & Peartree |

To get involved, please email [cityofculture25@southampton.gov.uk](mailto:cityofculture25@southampton.gov.uk) stating clearly in the subject line which meeting you would like to be invited to.