



Thurrock Artist Call Out

Project:	Green Light 2027
Opportunity Opens	24 th September 2026
Opportunity Closes:	25 th October 2026
Delivery date:	6 th - 21 st Feb 2027
Location:	Thurrock, with local areas expected to include Aveley, Chadwell St Mary, Corringham, East Tilbury, Purfleet-on-Thames and South Ockendon

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1. Objectives

Now in its fourth year, Start Thurrock's Green Light programme is a series of free creative tasters that give Thurrock residents of all ages, the chance to explore their creativity. By giving residents the 'green light' to try something new, the programme introduces people to engaging experiences and new skills in inclusive and welcoming environments. Green Light is curated by Start Thurrock in response to what residents have told us they'd like to experience or try out.

We are inviting Thurrock artists and creatives to get in touch to propose a taster activity for the Green Light programme in February 2027. If you have something to offer, that meets the aims of the Green Light programme, and you are happy with the following arrangements, we'd love to hear from you.

- You are able to deliver your taster activity or workshop in one of the locations listed above.
- You can deliver your activity/workshop between Saturday 6th to Sunday 21st February 2027.
- There is no cost to participants for taking part in the activity/workshop.
- You will secure your own venue, but we may request you deliver in a particular area or venue based on your proposed activity and/or our learning. Start Thurrock will cover the cost of venue hire.
- Start Thurrock will cover activity/workshop materials and artist fee, including preparation and delivery.
- Age range: we're open to activities aimed at all age ranges and particularly interested in activities for adults. Please submit your ideas (and basic info below) by Sunday 25th October 2026. We'll contact applicants by Monday 2nd November 2026. Start Thurrock will promote your activity via socials, our website, a marketing campaign and through 'on the ground' community engagement.

2. About Start Thurrock



We have a vision where more people in Thurrock can enjoy and participate in arts and cultural activity in their local area. We all have a story to tell, and a part to play. We want to give every person in Thurrock the chance and space to express themselves, and enjoy that feeling, together. We want our spaces to express our cultures. Our towns to be more connected and creative. We want our joy and energy to reach every town, every family and every person.

Start Thurrock is a Creative People and Places programme funded by Arts Council England.

Our programmes will be **inclusive, inspirational and innovative**, open to anyone, exciting people to engage again, whilst open to experimentation with a range of amazing creative approaches

Our approach will be **rooted, respectful and responsive**, grounded in the reality of local life, sensitive to the diversity of our people, whilst continuously listening and facilitating the creative aspirations of our people

3. About Green Light

More information about Green Light, including a film, can be found here:

<https://www.startthurrock.org/our-work/the-green-light-to-try-something-new/>

Green Light aims:

- Engage audiences and participants who would not normally experience creative and cultural activity
- Promote creative experiences that are inclusive, inspirational and innovative
- Broaden perceptions of creativity and culture
- Increase confidence to develop creative skills

4. Our Learning: Participants and audiences

In this section, we share some of our learning from being a Creative People and Places programme since 2022. In doing this, we hope it will help you decide what activity would appeal to local people and inspire engagement.

We lead sustained and inclusive listening and engagement processes across Thurrock, to build a solid understanding of what is important to residents when deciding to engage in programmes like Green Light. We have learned that:

- Participants value experimenting with new creative processes and the freedom to be creative, at their own pace, under expert guidance and instruction.
- Participants enjoy activities where they can socialise and feel relaxed.
- Movement based activities that were uplifting, and had mental and physical benefits received positive feedback in the 2026 programme
- Adult-only sessions booked out quickly in 2026 and were well received.
- Intergenerational activities where parents and carers can create with their children, receive very positive feedback. As do activities that have an educational benefit for children.



- One-off sessions are preferable and suit people who are time poor. Projects completed over multiple sessions are unappealing to the Green Light audience.
- We receive positive feedback about Green Light being inclusive and accessible. Offers for people with disabilities are well received.

Your proposal

- Your name and contact details (including address / where you are based)
- Workshop/activity description
- Details of workshop including duration, audience/participant numbers, age range, your preferred location
- Why you are proposing this activity/workshop and what you think it will offer to participants
- Budget, including a detailed breakdown of costs for preparation, delivery, materials, room hire and access.

Proposals should be no more than two sides of A4.

6. Schedule

Sunday 25th October 2026: Proposal deadline

Mon 2nd November 2026: Outcome of proposals communicated

Mon 23rd November 2026: Workshop logistics and venue confirmed by commissioned artists

