



Leicester
City Council

Heritage, Culture, Leisure and Tourism Scrutiny Commission

March 1st 2022

Festivals and Events Calendar for 2022

1. LCC Core Programme

Events delivered directly by the LCC Festival and Events department

2. Funded Festivals

Festivals and events that receive funding contributions from Leicester City Council

3. Additional Festivals & Events planned for 2022

Other events due to be delivered in the City this year

LCC Core Programme

St George's Day Festival, 23rd April

One day event in Leicester's Cultural Quarter delivering family friendly activities and entertainment.

Riverside Festival, Saturday 4th & Sunday 5th June

Annual family friendly summer festival at Bede Park, Western Boulevard and Castle Gardens featuring market stalls, live music, boats and arts . This year activities will link to Queen's Jubilee.

City Festival, 27th – 28th August

City wide finale weekend to the summer programme .

Summer in the City, Free, themed, pop-up activations, programmed throughout the summer holidays. Aim to bring a positive impact on Leicester's high street and city centre by animating spaces & connecting people with attractions. Wide range of organisations to incorporate a full programme of inclusive activities within Arts & Culture; Play & Accessibility; Health & Wellbeing.

Diwali Switch On, 9th Oct

Annual event marks the illuminations of the Diwali lights in Belgrave. Previous events have featured, firework displays, countdowns, stage shows, religious ceremony, entertainment and food and drink

Diwali Day, 24th Oct

Annual event to mark Diwali Day. Previous events have featured, firework displays, countdowns, stage shows, religious ceremony, entertainment and food and drink



LCC Core Programme Cont.

Abbey Park Bonfire Night, 5th Nov

The biggest firework display in Leicester City, featuring a bonfire, live entertainment, food and drinks and funfair



Christmas Lights Switch On, 17th Nov

An annual evening event to mark the City Centre Christmas Lights being illuminated. Traditionally, this features a countdown, entertainment and is spread across numerous city centre locations



Santa in the Square, December

Santa's grotto installation that invites children and families to visit Santa and Elf during the festive period.

Big Wheel, Belgrave Road 7th Oct – 6th Nov, Jubilee Square 11th Nov – 1st Jan

Features as part of the Diwali and Christmas celebrations



Jubilee Square Ice Rink, 1st Dec – 2nd Jan

Real ice rink invites skaters to enjoy a new activity in the City across the festival period

Funded Festivals

Leicester Comedy Festival, 2nd – 20th Feb

UK Kid's Comedy Festival, 3rd – 21st Feb

Delivered by The Big Difference Company. Celebrating 29th anniversary with a fantastic line up, over 560 shows, over 800 performances and 64 venues. Core programme.

Chinese New Year Procession, 6th Feb

Delivered by Cosmopolitan Arts. One day event including processions, activities at Leicester Museum. Core programme.

The Spark Festival, 8th – 14th Feb

Delivered by The Spark. Festival will take place in Leicester live and online for seven days. Children and families can take part in schools, libraries, their homes, their communities and in well-known venues across the city. Core programme.

Light Up Leicester, 3rd – 6th March

Delivered in partnership with ArtReach & BID Leicester. A festival of illuminated artwork installations taking residence in 9 locations across Leicester City Centre. Received additional one off funding contribution from LCC and significant grant (circa £100k) from Arts Council England. Not part of core programme.



Funded Festivals Cont.

St Patrick's Day Parade, 13th March

Delivered by The Emerald Centre, this event receives funding contribution from LCC as one of the funded organisations. .
The procession is led to Jubilee Square where traditional dance and music is presented.

Liberty UK

Delivered by ArtReach

The Midnight Run, 6pm - 12pm, 25th & 26th March: outdoor walking arts trail around the city centre

Write to Rave, 26th March: indoor venue

Accessible Art for All, installation from 25th March, indoor venues

Slow Down, 26th March: outdoor, street theatre intervention approx. 50 audience members throughout the day

A programme of workshops and other community based activities across 25th and 26th March

Cosmopolitan Arts Festival, 1st – 3rd April

Delivered by Cosmopolitan Arts, this event receives funding contribution from LCC as one of the funded organisations.

Let's Dance International Frontiers, 29th April – 8th May

Delivered by Serendipity, this event receives funding contribution from LCC as one of the funded organisations.

An annual international dance festival, launching on International Dance Day. Showcasing high quality dance that celebrates diversity and intersectional identities, in over 11 years LDIF has welcomed over 266 artists and companies from over 45 countries. The theme for LDIF22 is In Situ: Responding to Space, Place, People and Time.

Eid Prayer Events, 2nd - 3rd May & 9th July dates tbc

Funded Festivals Cont.

Bring the Paint, 23rd – 29th May

Award winning street art festival. Returns to Leicester with an enhanced programme of activities to showcase a diverse and thriving arts scene. Not part of core programme. BID supported.

Caribbean Carnival, 6th Aug

2022 should see the full return of a physical delivery of the Caribbean Carnival on Victoria Park and city centre street procession as in previous years. Core programme

Pride, Saturday 3rd September

This event receives funding contribution from LCC as one of the funded organisations. Returning to Victoria Park, Leicester's annual Pride celebrations are due to be delivered in the usual style with stage programming and activities to mark the occasion. Core programme

Black History Month, October

Delivered by Serendipity. A programme of events delivered across the month in a variety of city centre venues and spaces. Core programme

The World Reimagined, 13th Aug – 16th Oct

Ground-breaking national art education project to transform how we understand the Transatlantic Slave Trade and its impact on all of us, featuring a public art trail and education programme with local schools. Not part of core programme.



Additional Festivals & Events planned for 2022

UK New Artists, 25th – 27th Feb. High profile 'city takeover'. Multiple venues

Martyrdom Procession, 27th Feb

Cultural eXchanges Festival, 28th Feb – 4th March, De Montfort University

Holi Festivals, 18th / 19th March

Literary Leicester, 23rd-26th March, Literary Festival from University of Leicester

National Student Drama Festival, 5th – 15th April

Walk Leicester Festival, May

Vaisakhi Procession, Nagar Kirtan, 1st May

Tour De Moon, 13th – 16th May

As one of only 3 host cities in the country, Leicester hosts Tour de Moon alongside Southampton and Newcastle. City wide activities will feature talks, music, sports, cinema and immersive experiences across numerous cultural venues and communities.



**WALK
LEICESTER**

Additional Festivals & Events planned for 2022

Queen's Platinum Jubilee, 3rd June

Programme for Jubilee Square and activities linked to Riverside. Community groups applying to Arts Council & National Lottery Platinum Jubilee fund for family friendly activities.

Queens Road Summer Fair, 19th June

Beyond Festival, 24th & 25th June, Abbey Park

Music festival with multiple stages and genres from House to Drum & Bass. Over 30 artists. A celebration of Leicester with the best DJ's and food from the City.

Armed Forces Day, tbc 25th June

Rathyatra, 17th July

British Science Festival, 13th – 17th September, DMU. High profile, coming to Leicester for first time, multiple venues

Mela, Summer 2022

Diwali Mela, 15th Oct

LCC Cycling Events, throughout summer: Open Streets and Bike Fests from May - Oct

