

# The Hub

## Workington



**The outcomes of this project could contribute to the following performance indicators within the Local Area Agreement:**

**NI 3 - Civic participation in the local area**

**NI 5 - Overall/general satisfaction with local area**

The Hub in Workington is the world's first permanent outdoor 3D sound field and performance space. The area has a canopy overhead, lighting and state of the art 3D sound system.

million of investment from the Northwest Regional Development Agency to improve the public realm of Workington town centre. The art projects complement Workington's new retail development.

Allerdale Borough Council and Workington Regeneration have commissioned a series of new urban spaces and public art as part of the redevelopment of Workington town centre, of which The Hub is the final piece. This has been made possible of £2.74

Allerdale Borough Council has managed the projects. The other pieces of public art in Workington include Coastline, the new seating area in the town square; the new futuristic, 15 foot high called Lookout; the steel column in Curwen Place; and the Portico.



The Hub, Workington town centre. The centrepiece of the £35 million Washington Square development. Photo: Tom Kay, Thomas Kay Photography, Cumbria

The Hub's canopy, designed by BASE Structures in Bristol, is suspended from the corresponding buildings. The 3D soundscapes composed by illustrious immersive sound experience and include elements of recordings made in and around Workington. The Hub 3D sound system can be configured to broadcast any live recorded sound.

Allerdale Borough Council is working in partnership with SoundWave as well as local performers and organisations to programme and create new work to be performed in the space in the future. SoundWave is a social enterprise company specialising in music development and delivering projects to people who do not normally have access to music provision.

David Martin, Allerdale's Director of Partnerships and Community, commented: 'This was the finishing touch to the new Workington town centre and shows just how public art can really help

regenerate an area by creating excitement and interest in the environment.'

Dave Camlin from SoundWave said: 'This is a real coup for Workington. This is unique and will put Workington on the cultural map.'

The Hub is for everyone to use. The design was selected to meet the demands of the initial public consultation, to provide shelter as well as a new public performance and meeting space.

Funding from the Arts Council enabled them to deliver a programme of temporary work that sat alongside the permanent programme of works. It enabled them to reach the public and ensure that the new works were meaningful. Our funding proved essential in delivering work that built public awareness through advocacy and temporary arts programmes.

Further details available from [allerdale.gov.uk/publicart](http://allerdale.gov.uk/publicart)



Theatre by the Lake Youth Theatre performance at the Workington town centre celebration event. Image courtesy of Allerdale Borough Council. Photo: Karen Jones