

Creative Industry Workspace Study

Creative Leicester Shire

Brief

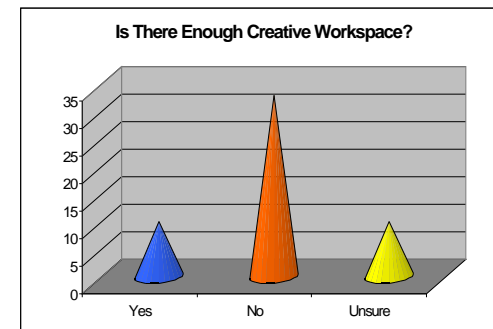
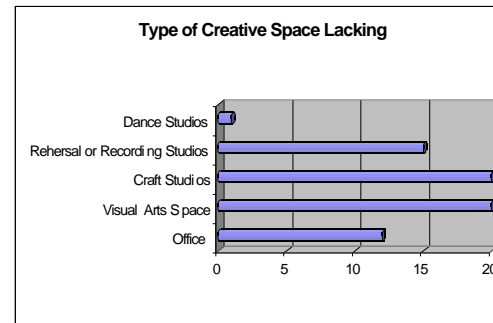
BE Group was appointed by Creative Leicester Shire to examine the supply and demand of workspace for micro and start-up businesses in the creative industries sector in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.

It focused on those creative industries (of all sizes) requiring more unconventional workspace, such as the performing arts, visual arts, crafts and digital media.



Activities

- Desktop review of existing studies, site surveys and consultations with key stakeholders such as the arts development officers at the various local authorities.
- Workspace identified through consultations with stakeholders, a review of property registers, employment land studies and internet searches.
- Demand also assessed through a survey of creative businesses and discussion with arts colleges.



Outcome

There are 12 schemes in the study area which provide workspace dedicated to the creative industries. A further 29 conventional managed workspace and incubators exist, a number of which contain significant concentrations of creative industries. Ten emerging creative workspaces were also identified.

The report recommended that unconventional, affordable workspace should be developed in Leicester with an office-based creative workspace scheme established in Loughborough. Other creative workspaces should be supported if they respond to local need.

Other recommendations included providing advice and support on setting up shared workspace, finding more innovative solutions such as live-work units and working with the universities to assimilate graduates into the commercial world.

