

What is happening now?

A Dott Cornwall Partnership is exploring the programme's potential. It includes representatives from Cornwall County Council, SWRDA, University College Falmouth, the Design Council, the Cornwall Design Forum and the South West Design Forum.

Discussions are also underway with people and organisations across Cornwall, and the Design Council is talking to national organisations about supporting the programme.

A six-month project to scope the Dott Cornwall programme is underway, supported by the Dott Cornwall Partnership. This activity will provide:

- A detailed review of how the programme can support the objectives of the Convergence programme
- A vision for the legacy of the programme in Cornwall

- A developed funding and operational model
- An outline of how the programme connects to existing or planned initiatives in Cornwall
- Clarity on how the programme will engage the creative community
- A map of the mechanisms for engaging local communities throughout the lifecycle of the programme.



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What is Dott?

Dott (Designs of the time) is a national programme devised by the Design Council. It aims to encourage the best use of design to drive new thinking and ideas that produce innovative solutions to complex problems and help make the UK a more competitive, creative and sustainable nation.

Dott is based on the principle that innovation thrives on the creativity of many. It is a programme which brings people together with designers to identify, and then create practical solutions to the issues which affect their lives and environment.

Cornwall is on its own ambitious trajectory. With the goal of establishing a more knowledge based economy, Cornwall is ideally placed to both benefit from and to inspire a Dott programme. Dott Cornwall would be built on the interplay between creativity, community and innovation and would help Cornwall find a new way to develop sustainable solutions to its social, environmental and economic issues.

Why is this the right time for Dott Cornwall?

The next five years offer a unique opportunity for Cornwall. It is widely recognised that Convergence will be Cornwall's last significant tranche of European funding and that it needs to be used to bring deep-rooted, long lasting change to Cornwall's economy. The aim is to move towards a sustainable knowledge economy offering more skilled and better paid jobs for the people of Cornwall.

Dott can play an important role in building this future by offering an approach to driving transformation and creating lasting shifts in expectations and ways of working. Innovative, design-led thinking can add value to Convergence and other investment.

What would Dott Cornwall look like?

The potential of Dott Cornwall is that it will help realise the potential of the place for the people who live here. It will bring together the

expertise and national connections of the Design Council with the best skills and knowledge locally, to drive a programme which puts innovation and enterprise once more at the heart of Cornwall's activities.

Dott Cornwall would work with communities, using design as a tool to foster collective innovation. It would help ensure that projects make change happen, generate high quality results and are sustainable because they are owned by the people of Cornwall.

It will work alongside existing initiatives and add value to projects in a number of ways. The Dott Cornwall Partnership has agreed these initial aims:

- To enhance the effectiveness of the Convergence programme in Cornwall, bringing sustainable change that has lasting value, helping to realise the potential of place for its people
- To embed the value of a design-led approach to economic and social development
- To effect cultural change in the way organisations approach challenges and how they scope, devise and deliver projects.

Dott activities are intended to have long-term benefits. They will be defined in detail when the programme is agreed in full, but are likely to include:

- New skills to support innovation

- New approaches to engaging the community in discovering and solving issues
- New models of collaboration to trigger grassroots innovation
- Engagement of Cornwall's creative communities in tackling economic and social problems
- Realisation of Cornwall's sustainability vision.

How does Dott work?

Dott is developed with host partner organisations to respond directly to the region's own priorities and challenges. Content is shaped with a local programme team, exploring links with existing initiatives and projects.

Design teams work with local people to co-design the programme's projects, drawing on a range of design tools to analyse and understand the community's issues. Then they use visualisation and prototyping skills to generate ideas and solutions.

Where has Dott been tried?

The first Dott happened in the North East. Around 200,000 people, including 16,000 school children, were either directly involved or experienced the activities in some way. Citizens acted both as clients and co-designers of sustainable solutions in areas such as rural transport, health, energy and food. The resulting projects delivered long-term benefits. To find out more about Dott 07 go to www.dott07.com