Public art brief
St Andrew’s Quay, Hull

Project summary
Design and budget of commission: £30,000
Deadline for applications: 10 August 2020
Selected artist appointed by: September 2020
Contract duration: 9 months (approx)
Enquiries: nick.pedder@environment-agency.gov.uk

Introduction and context
The Environment Agency are looking to commission an artist to produce some public art for a section of a new flood defence wall at St Andrew’s Quay, Hull.

We are required to produce this artwork as part of a condition on our planning approval for the Humber: Hull Frontage flood defence improvement scheme.

More information about the scheme can be found at https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/yorkshire/humber-hull-frontages/
There are two aspects to the artwork we wish to install at St. Andrew’s Quay. Firstly, we would like to place some artwork on the flood defence wall itself. We’d also like an art installation to be placed near the new seating areas (see plans in appendix 2 and 3). We have provided further details below:

**Artwork designs/concepts for concrete flood wall**

There are a total of 500 spaces/insert panels within the new concrete wall units alongside St. Andrew’s Quay. Each panel has a 1040mm x 740mm space available for artwork. We would like to place artwork in some, but not necessarily all, of these panels. Whilst the number of panels which have artwork placed within them will be governed by the method being used to create the art (and the associated cost of the materials being used), we would like a minimum of 75 panels to include artwork within them. These should include the sections of the wall near the seating areas.

Whilst it is up to the artist to propose the best solution and materials for including artwork on these panels, we envisage the design(s) could be cast/etched into concrete panels or stainless steel before being permanently attached to the inserts on the wall. Other materials can be used as long as they are suitable in terms of their ease of installation, durability, cost, and sustainability. It may also be possible to paint the designs directly onto the wall, as long as there are no future maintenance requirements. Regardless of the materials proposed, nothing should protrude beyond the face of the concrete wall.

Please note that there is no scope to alter the design or size of the concrete units which make up the flood defence wall at St Andrew’s Quay.

**Public art adjacent to the flood wall at the seating area**

The planning condition does not specify that the artwork must be placed on the wall units. We would therefore also like to explore options for creating a public art installation adjacent to the flood defence wall. The obvious location for this would be near the two seating areas.

We have no preconceived ideas about what the artwork(s) will look like. The artwork should, however, draw upon its location in Hull or within the wider Humber estuary. Potential themes to explore include - but are not limited to – the Humber’s role in renewable energy, its international importance for migratory birds, or its rich maritime history. We’ll welcome work which is memorable, and would encourage something abstract which allow visitors to experience the landscape in a new and unexpected way.

It’s worth mentioning that we intend on installing some interpretation boards near the pedestrian seating areas which will focus on the estuary’s importance for migratory birds. There is an opportunity for the artwork to support this theme.

The artwork should be robust, requiring minimal future maintenance. As a minimum, it should have a ten year lifespan. The location of the artwork on the edge of the estuary means that it will be subjected to harsh environmental conditions, and the design should take this into account. Artwork will need to be frost-proof, vandal resistant, colour fast (where applicable) and be resistant to salt-water and wind.
Role of the commissioned artist

The appointed artist will be responsible for the concept and delivery of the artwork. The artist will be expected to provide regular consultation with the project team and must be able to work within the timescales outlined at the end of this brief. There will be two stages to the work:

Stage 1 (design) - the artist will work closely with the project team to design the work, sharing initial ideas and development for discussion and approval. The artist will prepare drawings and samples to illustrate their final proposal which will include full budget and implementation plans for approval by the project team.

Stage 2 (implementation) - the artist will work with our construction contractors to implement and manufacture the work and install it as agreed. Depending on the final design and the materials used/method of implementation, responsibility for manufacturing and installing the artwork will lie with either the artist or our contractors (or both parties).

When working onsite, the artist will need to comply with all of the health and safety procedures set by our main contractor.

Budget

The total budget for design and delivery, including costs for materials and installing the artwork, is £30,000.

A detailed schedule of payments will be agreed with the artist when the programme is agreed.

Interested?

Please submit an expression of interest and a basic outline proposal which includes the following information:

- Some initial thoughts and ideas about how you would approach this project, including thoughts on materials and method of fabrication
- A description of your creative practice
- Your experience and track record of creating permanent, resilient, and cost-effective artwork for the public realm, including photos of previous works
- A link to your website and/or CV. If you are applying as a team, please including CVs for all of those who would be working on the project and a brief outline of how you’ll work together
- Links to any media documentation of your work

The initiative is open to all artists/teams of artists who are over 18 years old and who live, work or study in Hull, or the surrounding area.

Please submit the expression of interest to nick.pedder@environment-agency.gov.uk no later than 10 August 2020.
Selection criteria

We will use the following criteria when shortlisting applicants:

- Experience of successfully creating art installations in a public setting – and the ability to demonstrate an understanding of durability of materials and health and safety issues
- A clear understanding of the brief and its creative objectives
- Evidence of technical expertise in designing public art installations
- Evidence of working with multiple partners to deliver a successful project
- Evidence of ability to create public art that reflects place-based themes
- Evidence of delivering public artwork to budgetary requirements

Timeline

10 August 2020  Deadline for submitting outline proposal and expression of interest
w/c 7 September 2020  Interview with shortlisted candidates (may be held via videoconference)
September 2020  Successful artist notified
November 2020  Initial review of artwork design
Jan/Feb 2021  Completion of artwork design
June 2021  Deadline for installation of artwork

Contact

If you have any questions, or to find out more, please contact:

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Appendices

1. Photo of the pre-cast concrete wall outside Makro
2. Plan showing seating area opposite Makro (IMNE000169-BMM-XX-4Z1-DR-L-0001007-A4-C01-C0700-EA4-LOD4-St Andrew’s Quay Landscape Design Details Grass Seeding Proposals)
3. Plan showing seating area opposite the pod (IMNE000169-BMM-XX-4Z1-DR-L-0001009-A4-C01-C0700-EA4-LOD4-St Andrew’s Quay Landscape Design Details Planting Proposals 1)
Appendix 1 – photo of the pre-cast concrete wall at St. Andrew’s Quay
Appendix 2 – plan showing seating area opposite Makro
Appendix 3 – plan showing seating area opposite the Pod