

Lochside Public Art Project

Signs and Symbols

Commission Brief

Background

A public art commission located in North West Dumfries to create permanent artwork interventions as part of a new housing development in Lochside.

The Signs and Symbols commission looks to embed some of the creative research already gathered as part of the LPAP, as well as additional ideas and materials within the everyday environment and surrounds of the local area.

The selected artist/s will work with the local community, to develop a series of iconography and visual identity for the area that will be applied to existing surfaces e.g. street lamps and fittings, railings and pathways. There is potential for the Signs and Symbols project to mark out new routes joining green space projects, the new school campus and the new housing estate.

The commission will commence with a period of research and consultation within the community. This will include working collaboratively with the local Public Art Group and identified community groups to develop the visual themes and identity for the commission going forward.

The Lochside Public Art Project has been commissioned by Dumfries and Galloway Housing Partnership, and is based within The Stove's community-based project in NW Dumfries called Creative Futures: Lincluden and Lochside

The budget available for this project, including artist fees, all materials, fabrication and installation is £20,000.

The selected artist/team will undertake the following commissioned stages:

1. Research and Consultation

A period of familiarisation with the community and context of Lochside and development of proposals for the commission. We expect that this phase would include significant engagement with local people, issues and other initiatives that are live in the area. This period will also include in-depth thinking about the way spaces are used and the opportunities for interventions that will make a useful and engaging contribution to the local environment. Consultation will be required with the Local Authority and DGHP around permissions and long term maintenance of the artworks and careful consideration given to the sustainability of materials and processes used. During this Stage the commissioned artist/team will also give support to the local 'public art group' (run by Creative Futures: Lincluden and Lochside). This may take the form of a skillshare workshop series based on the expertise of the commissioned artist/team or facilitating the Public Art Group to take part in the development of the Signs and Symbols commission.

2. Sign-Off on Final Design Proposals

Final design proposals will require to be agreed by:

- Local Community
- The Stove Network
- DGHP
- Any other statutory agency made relevant through the design process (eg DG Council for adoption/maintenance/planning)

The format for sign-off on proposals by the local community will be developed by artist/team through the Research and Consultation phase and agreed with The Stove Network.

3. Production, Fabrication and Installation

It is hoped that, as far as is possible, production and fabrication of physical artworks will make use of locally sourced materials and local makers. The Stove has a development policy of balancing external expertise with local benefit, we want to see consideration given to sharing of skills and knowledge within the local community and retaining the production budget for the commission within the local economy. The commissioned artist/team will be responsible for management of the production/fabrication of artworks and installation on site.

4. Public Launch

The commissioned artist/team will work with The Stove, DGHP and local community to design an engaging public event and promotional/information strategy for embedding the artwork interventions within the local community. The costs of the launch event and promotional work will be covered within the overall LPAP budget – not the commission budget.

5. Defects and Ongoing Community Connection

The commissioned artist/team will be responsible for remedying any defects in the artwork interventions (not including deliberate vandalism) for one year from the public launch. In addition the artist/team will undertake to be available to the local community for any ongoing community connection with the artwork/intervention. For example - if the artist/team adds an element into their work that is 'live' such as planting or a work that accumulates new material over time it will be deemed as part of this commission for the artist to return to facilitate such a process, unless specifically agreed with The Stove as part of the design sign-off.

6. Support

The following support will be available to the commissioned artist/team during the project:

- Community Engagement – from a specialist within local community
- Support for the Public Art Project Worker employed by Creative Futures: Lincluden and Lochside.
- Networking and partnership with agencies (e.g. local creative community, local authority etc.)
- Support in sourcing local suppliers/fabricators etc.
- Promotion and marketing of consultation events and Public Launch event
- Production and delivery of Public Launch Event
- Ongoing support and advice on contracts and permissions etc. connected with the project

7. Project Budget

The total budget for delivering the project described in this brief is £20,000 (excluding project launch). This budget will be inclusive of all fees, materials, installation costs and VAT. An artists Fee of £3500 is included within the budget to cover stages 1+2. The remainder of the budget will be allocated by the commissioned artist/team through consultation and agreement with The Stove Network as part of the design sign-off in Stage 2.

8. Contract

The artist/team will be required to sign a contract with The Stove Network, on awarding of the commission, for the delivery of the project and payment stages etc.

9. Insurances and Disclosure

The commissioned artist/team will carry public liability insurance and PVG disclosure appropriate for delivering the commission and all work within the community.