

FOI Ref

Response sent

10341

16 Feb 22

(CCC) Council Spend on Public Artwork

This is an information request relating to council funding of public artwork.

Please include the information for each of the following periods: 2019-20, 2020-21, 2021-22:

A full breakdown of any public artwork commissioned and funded by the council, including details on location and all costs including the cost of installation, commissioning and any incidentals. Please also include where relevant the difference, if any, between the expected cost and actual cost. Where a piece of public artwork has not yet been completed, please include the expected cost and the cost so far

Images of the public artwork, or an artist's rendering if that's not possible

By public artwork I mean any artwork within the council's remit which is publicly displayed and includes, but is not limited to, sculptures, mosaics, paintings, murals whether standalone or on bridges, walls or any other structures

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for.

Response:

Thank you for your request for information above, which we have dealt with under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I hope the following will answer your query:

The Council has commissioned one public art project entitled 'Play is Anywhere'. The intention of the commission is to change people's sense of place and ways of seeing the world around them, to look up, actively listen and see their neighbourhood anew, foster new ways to engage with the built and natural environment and facilitate inter-generational play opportunities and promote physical activity for families; play is anywhere.

The project aims to animate routes and spaces. The project comprises of two elements.

Element 1 - The first element should be a standalone and playful temporary outcome, which aims to animate the public realm and engage the community, in whatever form that may take, which could include written word; performance; live art; it must encourage and celebrate playfulness and initiate activity to inspire the second element of the project. The budget for this element of the work is £15,000 and includes all costs.

Element 2- The second element will create a playful artwork/s; inspired from research looking at spaces/routes whether incidental or formal, designated routes or desire lines; who is using the area and where are they the going and how? Also, exploring the history and geography of spaces is key to discover hidden narratives. The artists will identify locations for the artwork/s as well as developing concept proposal(s) and it is hoped that this process may include playful engagement with the public. The budget for this element of the work is £75,000 and includes all costs.

The commission has a total budget of £90,000 and artists have been contracted to deliver the project within this budget.

The location for the commission is the area at the boundary of four wards to the south of the City: Trumpington, Queen Edith, Coleridge and Petersfield. The area is set by conditions for the funding of the project.

This project has been delayed due to the pandemic and the requirement for community engagement. A robust artist procurement process has now been undertaken and artists have been appointed. There are no drawings for artworks at this point as the artists are in the research and development stage of the project.

The Council has granted funded a further project – Creative Canopy. It is co-created with Abbey People and an Abbey based artist. The project will culminate in the creation of a collection of 20 original hangings celebrating the creativity of the community and their relationship with the natural world. These unique artworks will be exhibited in the Barnwell area, before forming part of a larger and ongoing project and finding a permanent home in the Abbey People's Community Hub.

Creative Canopy will be created through a series of workshops that will engage the community living and working in Abbey ward. These will be delivered in partnership with Galfrid School to ensure the youngest voices in the community are involved and also with Abbey People through community workshops and drop-in sessions in order that they are accessible to everyone. This approach is designed to achieve multi-generational maximum engagement across the community.

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The project will grow over the course of 2022. The co-creation phase will take place from March – August 2022 and will involve a series of community and school-based workshops as described above.

The total budget is £20,000 and it will not be exceeded.

We aim to provide a high-quality service to you and hope that you are satisfied with this response. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Further queries on this matter should be directed to foi@cambridge.gov.uk