



## AGENDA ITEM NO. 6

### Hengrove and Stockwood Neighbourhood Partnership 24<sup>th</sup> January 2012

**Report of:** Aldo Rinaldi, Senior Public Art Officer, Bristol City Council  
Theresa Bergne & Jes Fernie Public Art Consultants

**Title:** Section 106 report – Public Art

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#### RECOMMENDATIONS

That following the appointment of the public art manager the Neighbourhood Committee decides to approve a request for £13,300 from the devolved s106 public arts budget of £269,994.29 to fund a programme of engagement events within the local community as follows:

1. £4200 for a talks and workshops programme for the community
2. £7000 on commissioning a display case project, with community engagement element
3. £500 for leaflets to inform all residents of the forthcoming engagement programme
4. £1000 on initiating the evaluation of the project during this first phase, with a view to continuing the evaluation throughout the life of the project
5. £600 for an artist/photographer to commence with documentation of engagement programme with local community involvement

#### REPORT

1. Following a tender process managed by Bristol City Council, art consultants Jes Fernie and Theresa Bergne were selected in December by a committee including representation from the Neighbourhood Partnership and the Ward Cllrs. The consultants' brief is to develop an arts plan through an engagement and consultation process involving the local community, and following its approval by the Neighbourhood Partnership to implement the arts plan and deliver the individual artist projects.

2. It is the consultants' intention to present the Plan for approval to the NP in October 2012. A programme of actions is attached as Appendix A to this report.

3. The consultants are excited by the opportunities offered by the project and are keen to start the process as soon as possible. The consultants' have developed their proposals for the first phase of the works and would like to take forward the programme detailed in the attached Appendix B. In order to do so the consultants have identified the related costs and would like to ask for these to be made available from the devolved project budget that the Hengrove and Stockwood NP hold.

4. In the submission to the tender, the consultants asked for £4200 to deliver 4 workshops in the area (to include engagement with the public, speakers and artists to share their ideas etc). This figure remains unchanged and is broken down as follows:

Talk/Workshop Fees to artists: (x4)	£2,800
Minibus Hire	£600
Speakers Travel Costs (x4)	£400
Hospitality (x4)	£400

5. In addition, the consultants would like to develop an artist designed display case with members of the community. They would like to ask for £7000 for this project so that they can start this as soon as possible. This figure is broken down as follows:

Artist Fee	£2,000
Materials & Fabrication	£4,500
Artists Travel, subsistence and accommodation	£500

6. In order to publicise the events to the community the consultants would like to print a leaflet to be distributed via a door-drop throughout the local area at a cost of £500.

7. The brief requires post-project evaluation. As part of their submission the consultants recommended that the key aspirations for the project be identified at the outset of the project, and that initial interviews with key stakeholders are carried out from the beginning of the project in order to establish comparables and track the impact of the arts programme on the local area. This would be at a cost of £1,000 during the first phase.

8. The brief requires the programme to be documented throughout. It is the consultants desire that the documentation be seen as an opportunity to extend the reach of the programme to a broader number of local people and develop skills within the local community. The cost to initiate the documentation in the first phase will be £600.

9. In order to make this project a success, considerable time will need to be spent working with members of the community to make sure that the programme is relevant, meaningful and exciting to as broad a range of residents as possible. The consultants are appointing an Engagement Co-ordinator who will be key to this ambition.

10. A balance of £256,694.25 of devolved funds will remain following this expenditure.

## **Appendix A**

### **Timeline for delivery of Phase One: The development of the public art plan**

#### **2012**

##### **January**

- Funding for initial programme of activity approved by Neighbourhood Committee
- Arts consultants contracted

##### **February**

- Briefing meetings with key stakeholders in the area
- Art consultants start mapping out businesses, schools, service providers and potential partners in the local area, commence initial meetings
- Begin researching members for the art steering group
- Research artists and their community stakeholders and check availability to deliver programme of talks and workshops for local community
- Draw up list of existing events in Bristol relevant to Engagement Phase
- Research artists and check availability to deliver initial library showcase commission.
- Identify potential partners and community groups local to Hengrove to participate directly with library showcase commission and documentation project
- Take summary of programme to Forum Meeting for comment and feedback

##### **March**

- Confirm workshop & talks programme, research and book venues for activity, book transport to enable visits to existing Bristol based events.
- Research relevant methods of communicating programme to Hengrove residents.
- Confirm programme for commissioning of library showcase
- Produce leaflet and posters for programme, distribute throughout Hengrove inviting participation.
- Continue process of meetings with potential partners in the local area.

- Finalise and invite members to participate in the art steering group
- Appoint an evaluator.

### **April**

- Initiate and meet with community to confirm artist brief for library showcase
- Draw up shortlist of artists appropriate to brief
- Select artist for library showcase commission
- Appoint school leaver for work experience post

### **May to June**

- Programme of Talks and Workshops take place
- Library Showcase commission develops

### **July**

- Draft public art programme and budget
- First draft of public art programme and budget discussed and agreed 'in principle' with art steering group

### **September**

- Second draft public art programme and budget presented to Forum for comment

### **October**

- Public art programme and budget taken to Neighbourhood Partnership for approval.

## **Appendix B**

### **Programme of Activity Proposed for Phase One: The development of the public art plan**

#### **A. Conversations and workshops and developing links to wider Bristol cultural infrastructure**

The current strategy 'Arts for All' lists a number of areas, which the local community would like to see addressed through the public art plan. Our initial approach will be to reflect on a selection of the themes cited in 'Arts for All', and take these as starting points for a programme of open conversations, site visits and workshops for the arts committee, key stakeholders in the project and with artists and practitioners experienced in delivering art in the public realm.

It is our intention that these conversations should be open to the wider community but that they should also be recorded and made available through podcasts downloadable over the internet (*audio recordings*).

Where possible we would aim to draw and build on existing activity and the rich cultural infrastructure of Bristol. These talks might include artists and practitioners selected from the local Bristol arts community as well as from further afield, but should more importantly include members of the local community who have been involved in these arts projects who can reflect on what those experiences have offered them.

We also plan to develop links with existing arts providers in the City by organising visits to talks or lectures such as the *Art & the City* series at the Arnolfini, or Spike Island's talks programme. We aim to make these more accessible to the Hengrove and Stockwood group by organising transport and an opportunity to reflect on the talks afterwards within the context of Hengrove Park.

#### **B. Library showcase**

A further strand to this first phase will be to bring forward the commission for a library showcase for local artists' work as suggested within the Arts for All strategy. Our proposal would be to use the development of the brief for the showcase and ideas for its future use as a starting point to discuss priorities and approaches to commissioning with the local community and arts committee.

In the short-term we see the completed showcase as an opportunity to display information and ephemera on the ongoing discussions and debate around the public art plan to a wider public as well as a site to show work by local artists in the long-term future.

#### **C. Investigating the wider Hengrove area**

Parallel to this activity, we would research the existing infrastructure of Hengrove Park and identify potential local partners with whom collaboration and delivery of the projects would be possible. This might include (but is not limited to), the Bottle Yard Film studios, the South Bristol Skills Academy, Whitchurch Sports Centre and the new Leisure Centre, and the Whitchurch Folk House.

#### **D. Work Experience Post (young person)**

We propose to set up a paid internship to work closely on the engagement programme assisting with the administration and delivery of projects. A young person or recent graduate based within the Hengrove districts will be recruited and offered the opportunity of learning new skills, and working alongside artists, the public, and curators in Hengrove.

#### **E. Public Art Plan**

Our intention is that through the programme of discussions and conversations with the arts committee and wider community, we will stimulate and widen thinking as to possibilities for the public art programme, begin to select priorities and begin to identify potential partners, all of which will inform the contents of the Public Art Plan. At present we have no fixed ideas about what this should be. However we feel that stand-alone (sculpture) commissions might not be appropriate for this context, and are thinking that a series of projects that develop through an artist engaging closely with an area or specific group of people over a period of time might be a more useful model to pursue. We are currently considering that a strand running throughout the project could be skills development of local young people.