

**Artist Brief**  
**Shirley Iceland Car Park Commission**  
**Solihull Borough Council**

**Project Summary**

Solihull Council wishes to commission an artist to deliver a public art project around Iceland Car Park (full name on google maps 'Shirley Car Park rear of Iceland') in Shirley as part of its ongoing work to support businesses and develop the public realm.

The car park is surrounded by recently painted cream walls totalling roughly 200 sq meters. The project aims to look at visually transforming the space by artistic interventions on the walls. It is not necessary for all walls to be covered however the project should work on a minimum of 20% of the wall space.



**Commission Methodology**

Solihull Council is seeking to commission an artist/artists, company or collective to develop a new artwork or series of new artworks to be sited on the walls in the car park. There is no colours, theme or topic the work needs to address, the commissioners are open to creative solutions that prompt community engagement with culture and positive interaction with spaces, whilst discouraging graffiti and anti-social behaviour.

The commissioners are looking for an engaging piece of work that will communicate with the people of Shirley and the wider borough. The commission offers an opportunity for a professional artist to design, develop and deliver a finished artwork that will form a permanent part of the public realm. The artworks should provide focal and discussion points increasing dwell time in Shirley, enhancing the public realm and increasing civic pride.

There is no set medium of form the work needs to take, the work could be directly applied to the wall, or cut outs, vignettes, photography or wraps used. The artist should therefore consider installation alongside design in their time and budget planning.

There are car park and information signs currently on the walls. This information needs to be available to the public however it might be possible to move or reposition signs in order to facilitate the artwork.

The commissioners are aware that depending on the medium installation maybe weather dependent and in some cases work unable to be fully realised until Spring 2024.

This opportunity is open to all visual artists, although links to Solihull or the West Midlands would be preferable. This is an exciting opportunity for an artist to creatively interpret the brief.

### **Application Process**

To be considered for the commission, artists must provide a proposal (expression of interest) in response to this Artist Brief, to be submitted by email to [lisa.cleaver@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.cleaver@solihull.gov.uk)

Outline proposals must include a CV, examples of past work and a short statement of interest in response to the brief. Artists should specify the amount of wall space they propose to work on, the theme and style the work will take and general concept, alongside the materials they would use to realise the work. The expression of interest should be no more than 800 words.

**Deadline for submission: 29th October 2023.**

### **Commissioning Process**

Stage 1 – Proposals submitted

Stage 2 – Proposals shortlisted

Stage 4 – Shortlisted artists invited to present their ideas to a selection panel which will award the final commission to the successful artist/s.

Stage 5 – The successful artist/s will be contracted to realise the artwork in further consultation with the commissioners to deliver the finished piece.

**The fee for the full commission is £10,000**

All costs for realising the work (including materials and any associated realisation costs) must be budgeted for within the £10,000.

### **Artist Selection Panel:**

The artist selection panel will include:

- Solihull Council staff including staff from Highways and Culture
- Local councillors and community representatives
- Local businesses

### **Selection Criteria**

Artists will be selected on the basis of their past work and on the response to the brief.

We will also consider the following:

- Ability to generate creative art works of uncompromising quality
- Ability to work collaboratively with the project team and commissioners
- Ability to understand and work with a diverse range of stakeholders
- Proven ability to meet established budgets and work to a schedule

Proposals are encouraged from artists from Solihull and across the West Midlands area, and also from artists who have previously lived, were born and/or have studied here, or have family links to the area.

### **Artist's Role**

The artist will seek to understand the context of the commission and generate a piece of exceptional artistic quality

- To work with the commissioners and other stakeholders to familiarise themselves with the overall project objectives to inform the artwork
- To develop concepts, ideas and proposals for the artwork
- To ensure the work can be realised within budget and timescale
- On completion, agree to input into a short evaluation report
- Attend meetings with the commissioners, and make presentations in relation to the project as appropriate

### **Timeline and Schedule**

Stage 1 – Proposals submitted

**29th October 2023.**

Stage 2 - Shortlisted artists present proposals to panel

**w/c 13<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

Stage 4 –Selection Panel which will award the final commission to the successful artist/s.

**w/c 20<sup>th</sup> November 2023.**

Stage 5 – The successful artist/s will be contracted to realise the artwork in further consultation with the Commissioners to deliver the finished piece.

Stage 6 - Work realised by

**Summer 2024**

Stage 7 – Evaluation

**Summer 2024**

### **Budget**

1 x Commission Fee of £10,000 for the successful artist to design and deliver the final artwork.

The above fee is exclusive of any VAT and this should be added if applicable.

### **Intellectual Property and Copyright**

The artist shall retain copyright of the artwork, however the copyright and any other intellectual property right in any materials produced during this commission shall belong to commissioner including reproduction rights.

### **Ownership**

The commissioned artwork shall on completion, become the property of the commissioners, and maintained by the commissioners.

Further copies of the work may not be made by the artist for sale or via commission without the permission in writing of the commissioner (permission not to be unreasonably withheld).

## **Practicalities**

Permissions - all work will be subject to relevant permissions prior to implementation

Equal opportunities – Solihull Borough Council's Equal Opportunities Policy will be applied to this Commission.

## **Maintenance**

The maintenance of artwork and removal of any graffiti will be the responsibility of the commissioner.

## **Decommissioning**

The art works will be reviewed on a yearly basis and decommissioned when upkeep is no longer feasible. Although this decision will lie with the commissioners the artist will be consulted and kept abreast of all decisions around decommissioning.

## **Evaluation**

Solihull Council and will support the artist in producing an evaluation, including gathering feedback from the selection panel and community. A detailed record of the project will be produced for future reference to include a project overview, successes, challenges/lessons learned and a photographic record of the project process and completion. This information will be made available on request to help promote the successes of the project and share learning from the process.

## **Contracts**

Artist contracts will set out:

- definition of involved parties, names and addresses
- details of the commission, the design stages and the artist's brief
- confirmation of budget, fees and methods of payment
- overall timetable stages and schedule of work
- agreement of roles and responsibilities of both parties
- delivery of work and insurance requirements
- ownership
- risk of loss or damage and maintenance of work
- decommissioning policy
- copyright, reproduction rights, credits and moral rights
- termination of agreement
- disputes procedure

## **Contact**

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