



Public Art Producer Brief

Bristol Guildhall

January 2023

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This briefing document is prepared by Nash Partnership (NP) on behalf of Paton Developments (PD) who are leading on the approved redevelopment of the former Guildhall, Broad Street, in central Bristol.
- 1.2 PD wishes to appoint an Art Producer with proven experience and creative ability, to develop an outline strategy followed by a full art strategy for the project.
- 1.3 The appointed consultant will be required to put in place the plans to support PD to deliver a strategy that meets the planning requirements as set out in this brief, the Gotham Hotel brand and the aspirations of Bristol City Council (BCC).

2. The Project

- 2.1 The project involves the refurbishment and conversion of the Grade II* listed Bristol Guildhall into a 75 bedroom and suite 5-star Gotham Hotel. This will involve the restoration of the front, rear and side facades and restoration of many internal original features. It also includes a contemporary 2 floor extension on top of the middle of the building which will include a roof terrace, restaurant, and bar.
- 2.2 The hotel concept theme will be based on the previous use of the building, which was the criminal courthouses for the Bristol area. The Gotham Hotel brand is always going to be unpredictable and make a statement: a unique experience, a spectacular destination, not to mention a taste of the theatrical which is why they have chosen to invest in this building.

3. Planning Background

- 3.1 The Bristol Guildhall development project was granted planning and listed building consent on 17/3/21. Full details can be viewed on the BCC planning portal ref: 20/05366/X.
- 3.2 Planning Condition 2 requires full details of a landscaping and public art scheme for the access way and courtyard to be submitted and approved in writing by the LPA.
- 3.3 Planning Condition 3 requires details of the ceramic tiling to the inset balconies to be submitted and approved by the LPA. Anna Gravelle was named as the artist to produce the ceramic tiles in the original planning application. Best practice would be for the Arts Producer to approach Anna to offer her first refusal of the work.
- 3.4 The full wording of conditions 2&3 is to be found at Appendix 1.

4. The Policy Context

- 4.1 BCC's Art Strategy from 2006 is in the process of being reviewed and updated. BCC has a progressive, forward thinking approach and commitment to culture and art in the public realm.
- 4.2 The Public Art approach for Bristol is underpinned by 5 principles which put cultural experience, creative practice and artist commissioning at the heart of social engagement, vibrant place making, sustainability, quality urban design and cultural ecology.
- 4.3 Public art refers to art that is in the public realm, regardless of whether it is sited on public or private property. BCC supports Ixia's (The National Public Art think tank) approach to public art, defining it as 'a diversity of creative practice and cultural experience that takes place in the public realm'.

4.4 This might include a combination of:

- Providing space, assets or infrastructure to enable ongoing cultural and community activity and experiences such as artist studios, access to nature, community resources
- Commissioning cultural ‘happenings’, socially engaged practice and public realm animation e.g. performance, street art, creative interventions and installations
- Artist-led design to support functional requirements such as lighting, wayfinding, colour schemes, landscaping and green space
- Commissioning temporary or permanent artworks as part of a layered programme in the public realm

5. The Need for an Arts Producer

5.1 Following consultation with Georgina Bolton, Bristol City Council’s Public Art Officer, it has been agreed to engage an Arts Producer to develop a public art strategy for The Guildhall.

5.2 The Arts Producer is required to produce:

- Stage 1 - An outline public art strategy which will be submitted to BCC in order to discharge conditions 2&3. This must include the agreed budget.
- Stage 2 - A full public art strategy.

6. The Brief

Stage 1 – Outline public art strategy

6.1 In consultation with the client, BCC the outline strategy should identify the opportunity, scale and ambition for the art strategy, including the budget. The outline strategy will be submitted to BCC by Nash Partnership to discharge planning conditions 2 & 3.

Stage 1 Tasks	Details
1. Liaise between client, local authority and design team as required	Attend site visit with client Briefing meeting with client/design team Contact Anna Gravelle to identify current interest and capacity for the tiling aspect of the art strategy and find an alternative artist if necessary.
2. Identify the opportunity, scale and ambition for the strategy.	Research site and project Research art strategy and local context Gain understanding of any hard landscaping proposals.
3. Advise on budget and programme for final strategy.	Agree timetable for delivery of art strategy
4. Present draft outline strategy to client and BCC Art Officer	
5. Finalise outline Art Strategy	

Stage 2, Delivery of Art Strategy

Stage 2 Tasks	Details
6. Oversee appointment of artist/s	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree timetable, brief and criteria for appointment of artist. • Prepare artist/s brief • Administer tender process for artist/s • Propose and agree selection process • Present options to client and design team
7. Lead on engagement with BCC and relevant stakeholders	
8. Finalisation of artist/s proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oversee finalisation of approved proposal, and submission for any permissions where necessary. • Monitor the production of the commission/s, regularly liaise with client and BCC as necessary • Ensure art commission/s are fully integrated into development timetable and/or that there are appropriate systems in place to oversee production and technical implementation. • Establish any maintenance requirements with artist and Bristol City Council • Agree timetable with artist and other specialist contractors for production and installation of works to coincide with build programmes. • Oversee any associated works eg. lighting, landscaping • Act as conduit between artist, contractor and Bristol City Council in order to ensure smooth completion of the project. • Agree method of recording and evaluating project with BCC and client
9. Completion of Final Phase for Art Consultant	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with Project Manager and Marketing team at Bristol City Council to establish publicity and, if appropriate, launch of the commission. • Lead on recording of project and provide info. for BCC website on project completion.

7. Indicative Timetable

- Arts Producer to submit draft outline Public Arts Strategy to client by 3 March.
- w/b 6 March – client and BCC to comment on draft strategy and changes by Arts Producer made if required.
- w/b 13 March – formal submission of outline public arts strategy by Nash Partnership to discharge conditions 2&3.
- Timetable for Task 2 to be determined as part of Stage 1 process.

8. Tender Requirements

8.1 Art Producers submitting a tender for this project should include the following in their submission:

Response to brief, comprising:

- A statement setting out your overall approach to the project
- A brief methodology statement for the delivery of the Services detailed above
- An outline work plan identifying key dates, taking into account the indicative programme

Accessibility

8.2 If you would like to receive the brief in an alternative format or to discuss an alternative to a written form of submitting a tender, please contact grant@patondevelopments.co.uk

Relevant experience, including:

8.3 Details of relevant projects, including a description of the project, your role, client, budget and project dates and examples of implementation. Also include current CV.

Fee Proposal:

8.4 The Fee Proposal is to include all expenses. This will include printing costs, travel costs, accommodation, disbursements, visuals, models and all other expenses and costs required in the provision of the Services. The fee should exclude VAT.

9. Tender Return and Programme

9.1 Tenders must be submitted no later than 17:00 on 27 January 2023. This should be by email with the subject field 'Bristol Guildhall – Art Producer tender' to: grant@patondevelopments.co.uk

Activity	Date
Brief issued	19/1/23
Deadline for tenders	27/1/23
Interviews if necessary	w/b 30/1/23
Appointment of chosen Art Producer	By 3/2/23
Initial project meeting and site visit	w/b/ 6/2/23

10. Enquiries

10.1 Please send any enquiries arising from this invitation to tender to grant@patondevelopments.co.uk

11. Contacts

- Client - Grant Egmore-Frost, Paton Developments grant@patondevelopments.co.uk
- Planning consultant, Stephanie Massie, Nash Partnership smassie@nashpartnership.com
- Georgina Bolton, Public Art Officer, BCC, Georgina Bolton Georgina.Bolton@bristol.gov.uk
- Anna Gravelle <https://www.annagravelle.com/>, (0) 7930 374006, studio@annagravelle.com

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: Planning conditions 2 & 3

Condition 2 – Landscaping and Public Art

Prior to the commencement of development within Phase 1 (as indicated on plan ref. BGHZP01) full details of the combined landscaping and public art scheme for the access way and courtyard, shall be submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The scheme shall be completed prior to the commencement of the hotel use and retained and maintained at all times thereafter.

Reason: To ensure that the scheme adequately incorporates public art and to safeguard the special interest of the listed building and the City and Queen Square Conservation Area.

Condition 3 – Tiling to balconies

Prior to the commencement of development within Phase 1 (as indicated on plan ref. BGHZP01) details and elevational drawings at a scale of 1:5 of the ceramic tiling to the inset balconies within the north east elevation (? Check this) of the two storey Guildhall extension, shall be submitted and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The submitted details shall outline the artists involvement and contribution to their design. The tiling shall be provided in accordance with the approved details prior to the hotel use commencing and retained at all times thereafter.

Reason: To ensure that the scheme adequately incorporates public art and to safeguard the special interest of the listed building and the City and Queen Square Conservation Area.

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