

## **Artist Brief for Temporary Sculpture Trails in Dewsbury and Huddersfield Town Centres**

### **1. OVERVIEW**

#### **1.1 Introduction**

Arts organisation Beam has been appointed by Kirklees Council to produce a temporary sculpture trail in Dewsbury and Huddersfield town centres as part of a creative approach to safely re-engaging the surrounding communities with these urban centres.

Artists and creative practitioners with the relevant experience **either living or working in a Kirklees postcode** are invited to apply via an open call process.

#### **1.2 Context**

As part of the country's economic recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic and the gradual re-opening of business, this commission aims to contribute to the re-opening that is taking place in Kirklees. Spaces in our towns need to be made safe, welcoming and attractive to residents, shoppers, workers and visitors. With an initial focus on both Dewsbury and Huddersfield new cultural spaces will be created, building on existing place-based cultural developments.

This project builds on the approaches and best practice established in initiatives such as WOVEN in Kirklees, Temporary Contemporary, and Year of MUSiK. The 'Sculpture Trails' will be just one of a series of commissions, a collective cultural response for Kirklees, coming out of lockdown and our need to refocus on recovery that centres on health and wellbeing. This will be through our two prime urban centres of Huddersfield and Dewsbury, but drawing on the spirit and community of every village from north to south.

The series of commissions will be big on impact, high on curiosity and playful, weaving safe practices and social distancing creating the environment for new exchanges. In both Huddersfield and Dewsbury, new spaces shall be created, bringing new life and a new sensory experience through colour, sight and smells. The spirit of all commissions will be one of collaboration, shared experience and togetherness.

### **2 ARTIST BRIEF**

#### **2.1 Vision**

Taking inspiration from Kirklees and supporting the greening of the town and wider regeneration plans for new town parks, a cohort of artists will design green sculptural interventions that reflect the surrounding nature of each town helping to *green* these urban centres creating a fun and friendly welcome.

## 2.2 Aims of the commissions

- Welcome residents and families back to Dewsbury and Huddersfield town centres encouraging exploration in a safe, socially distanced approach.
- Each trail will help to create a new sense of place for each town centre and encourage a sense of curiosity.
- Artworks will reflect the nature, landscape and wildlife of Kirklees. There may be synergies with textiles or our music heritage within these green sculptures

## 2.3 Deliverables

- Each commission will result in one temporary sculptural intervention in either Dewsbury or Huddersfield town centre to form part of a wider trail (x5 in each town centre).
- Artworks should be designed to be free standing on a hard surface and designed to discourage theft or vandalism.
- Artworks will be in situ for the duration of 6 weeks so will need to be durable and weatherproof.
- There could be the potential to utilise/adapt existing artworks if relevant to brief.
- Artists will be required to fabricate, install and de-install their works providing all necessary information for a Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS)
- Artists will be required to have their own Public Liability Insurance to cover fabrication, installation and de-installation periods.
- Liaison with Beam remotely and attendance at a site visit (socially distanced).

## 2.4 Sites - Dewsbury & Huddersfield

Artwork will be sited in pedestrian friendly areas to encourage exploration of each town centre.

**Suggested sites for Dewsbury:** Potential locations within and around the Town Hall Apron and Market Place stretching up to the open market and nearby arcades.

**Suggested sites for Huddersfield:** In and around the Piazza near Huddersfield Library, Victoria Lane, King Street, surrounding area / grounds of St Peters Church, St Georges Square.

## 3. OPPORTUNITIES & FEES

**3.1 Sculpture Trail:** x5 artworks will be commissioned for Dewsbury and x5 artworks will be commissioned for Huddersfield

**£2,500 each** + VAT if applicable inclusive of all artists fees, materials, installation & de-installation costs and all expenses.

*NB If applicants feel they have the capacity and are interested in delivering an artwork in each town this should be indicated in their proposal.*

#### 4. OUTLINE PROCESS AND TIMEFRAME

Activity	Timing
Artist Brief promoted	w/c 15 June
Deadline for Artist submissions	Monday 29 June, 9am
Artist selection (may include zoom calls with preferred artists)	w/c 29 June
Artist contract in place	By 6 July
Artist potential site visit (socially distanced)	w/c 6 July
Artist design development time	w/c 6 July & w/c 13 July
Artist fabrication period & development of risk assessment, installation plan	w/c 13 July & w/c 20 July
Installation of works in Huddersfield & in Dewsbury	27 - 30 July
Launch of artworks	31 July
Work insitu	Until end of August
Work de-installed in Huddersfield & Dewsbury	w/c 7 September

#### 5. PERMISSIONS

All relevant Beam and Kirklees Council policies and procedures will apply to these commissions and any related work. All work will be subject to relevant permissions prior to implementation. Should the work require temporary planning permissions we will work in close consultation with the appointed artists and Council representatives to achieve this. Artists must ensure that the installation and de-installation of artworks does not cause any damage to the setting.

#### 6. HEALTH & SAFETY / CHILD PROTECTION

Beam and Kirklees Council's Health & Safety and Child Protection Policies will be applied to these commissions and any related work as appropriate.

#### 7. INSURANCE

The artist will be required to provide detail of Public Liability and other relevant insurances as requested on appointment.

#### 8. COPYRIGHT

Copyright in the designs and work will be retained by the Artist in accordance with The Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988.

## 9. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Beam is committed to building an organisation that makes full use of the talents, skills, experience, and different cultural perspectives available in a diverse society. The aim of our policy is to ensure that at all stages of the recruitment, selection and employment process (including the artist commission process) we consider all applicants in a fair and considered manner so that the most appropriate person is selected, regardless of age, colour, disability, gender, marital or family status, nationality or ethnic origins, race, religious belief or sexual orientation. Beam and Kirklees Council's Equal Opportunities Policies will be applied to this commission.

## 10. PROPOSALS

**Deadline for proposals: Monday 29 June, 9am**

Your proposal should be made by email to [kate@beam.uk.net](mailto:kate@beam.uk.net) in PDF format to include the following:

1. Contact details: Name, email, phone, web, social media accounts if applicable
2. Home / work / studio address stating Kirklees postcode
3. A brief summary of your practice and experience.
4. Please state if you are applying to create an artwork in both town centres. If so, then you will need to provide the information requested in the next point (5.) for each.
5. An outline of your proposed sculptural intervention indicating -
  - how the work responds to the themes in this brief
  - an overview of materials and scale
  - indicative budget
  - how you would successfully meet the demanding timescale
  - you should include sketches of your idea or photographs of previous similar work that demonstrates your idea
6. Up to 6 relevant examples of your work including images and short descriptive text to demonstrate your relevant experience in delivering similar works.
7. Submissions should be 10MB or less. Maximum 4 sides A4 and saved in PDF format.
8. Completion of anonymous Equality and Diversity Monitoring form (this is not compulsory) via this link:  
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dzyorwfhfbybU4n2Dmr7vlyeWB0DA788jDr6BqPkh7b0/edit>

**Proposals will be appraised on the following:**

- How well the proposal meets the aims and themes outlined in this brief.
- Quality and durability of proposed artwork.
- Ability to demonstrate relevant experience of delivering temporary artworks in the public realm to brief, time and budget.
- Consideration of how the work fits within a curated approach alongside the other selected proposals.

## **11 CONTACT DETAILS**

For all enquiries please contact –  
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