

Mining Memorial Artist Commission, Normanton, West Yorkshire

Fee: Up to £67,000 + VAT if applicable

Dates: May 2021 – March 2022

INTRODUCTION

Are you an artist experienced at creating site-specific permanent artworks in the public realm with a passion for history? Do you love engaging with communities? If so this opportunity could be perfect for you.

Arts organisation Beam has been appointed by Wakefield Council to produce a permanent mining memorial artwork for Normanton town centre.

We're seeking an experienced public artist to engage with key stakeholders and the local community to develop a bespoke artwork that can be enjoyed by residents and visitors. The artwork will remember and celebrate the strong mining heritage of the area.

CONTEXT

Normanton is one of the five towns of the Wakefield district in West Yorkshire and is situated north-east of Wakefield city centre and south-west of Castleford. It is now a very different place to what it was at the turn of the last century. The once bustling collieries employing over 10,000 men and intricate rail network are now long gone and leave little if any clue to them ever being there.

Normanton has a small market held every week and contains a wide range of products for sale which is in the heart of the town's main shopping area. Normanton holds a gala every year that attracts crowds from across the district.

The emphasis of this commission is to create an artwork that visualises Normanton's mining heritage to celebrate it and raise awareness amongst the next generation and visitors to the town. Engagement with local residents and young people is vital to foster ownership of the work and to share knowledge about the town's history.

AIMS OF THE COMMISSION

- To deliver a high-quality contemporary artistic commission that celebrates and reflects the strong mining heritage of the area
- To improve the aesthetic impact of a key pedestrian gateway into the town
- To increase local pride in place and promote positive wellbeing
- To develop opportunities for residents of all ages to engage/ participate in creativity, fostering intergenerational understanding of the local heritage

DELIVERABLES

- Presentation of design development to Steering Group.
- Permanent artwork designed specifically for the location outlined below.
- Interpretation will be integrated into the work or included on a plaque / display panel.

- Embed opportunities for engagement with key stakeholders and the community (*suitable approach to be agreed with Beam in light of government restrictions to reduce spread of Covid 19*).
- Resulting artwork will be safe, durable and weatherproof.
- The Artist will be required (or work with their sub contractor/s) to design, fabricate and install their work and liaise with Beam to ensure all necessary information is available for Risk Assessment Method Statement (RAMS).
- The artist will be required to have their own Public Liability Insurance to cover fabrication and installation period before handover of ownership to Wakefield Council.
- Liaison with Beam and attendance at site visits (socially distanced).
- Support submission of full planning application.
- Documentation (photographic and online), which can be used for publicity and promotional purposes.
- Attendance at project meetings with Beam during the process as applicable.
- Attendance at evaluation meeting on completion of the commission.
- Please note that most communications and meetings can be done remotely.

PREFERRED LOCATION



The preferred location above has been identified and has potential to incorporate sculptural elements, engraved paving and seating. This area is located at a key pedestrian gateway at the start of High Street adjacent to Market Street.

PROCESS & TIMELINE

- A project steering group with representatives from Wakefield Council and local groups will guide this commission and help to facilitate community connections.

Activity	Date
Artist brief promoted	Monday 26 April 2021
Deadline for applications	9am Monday 24th May 2021
Shortlisted artist interviews	w/c 7 June
Artists appointed and contracted	w/c 14 June
Artist initial project meeting (include site visit)	w/c 14 June
Artist R & D phase	June / July

Stakeholder & community engagement	June / July
Concept development	July / August
Concept presentation	August
Detailed design development	August / September
Detailed design presentation	September
Preparation & collation of documents for planning application	September/October
Result of planning application	December
Fabrication period	December - February
Installation	March
Maintenance plans submitted	March
Evaluation meeting	March

FEES

Total budget of up to £67,000 + VAT if applicable

Estimated breakdown:

Design Development and Engagement: £6,300 to include all artist fees and expenses, community engagement costs such as materials and structural engineer fees.

Fabrication & Installation: £60,700 to include all artist fees and expenses, materials and fabrication costs, foundations, interpretation panel, transport and installation etc

The artist should allow for some contingency.

Figures are exclusive of VAT, which is to be added if applicable.

Payments to artists will be scheduled to align with specific milestones being achieved to be agreed with Wakefield Council.

PERMISSIONS

All relevant Wakefield Council policies and procedures will apply to this commission and any related work. All work will be subject to relevant permissions prior to implementation.

HEALTH & SAFETY / CHILD PROTECTION

Wakefield Council's Health & Safety and Child Protection Policy will be applied to this project as appropriate.

INSURANCE

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

COPYRIGHT

Copyright in the designs and work will be retained by the Artist in accordance with The Copyright Designs and Patents Act 1988, however Wakefield Council will be able to use images of the artwork within any marketing and promotional literature.

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 artist selection processes) we consider all applicants in fair and considered manner so that the most appropriate person is selected,

regardless of age, ethnicity, disability, gender, marital or family status, religious belief or sexual orientation.

Beam and Wakefield Council Equal Opportunities Policies will be applied to this commission.

HOW TO APPLY

Deadline for applications: 9am Monday 24th May 2021

Your proposal should be made by email to kate@beam.uk.net and include the following:

- **Contact details:** Name, email, phone, web, social media accounts
- **A written or filmed statement detailing:** why you are interested in this opportunity; referencing your relevant experience; and outlining your initial ideas in response to the brief.
- **Up to 6 relevant examples** of your work with images, descriptions and weblinks if available.
- **X2 Referee contact details** (References will only be sought for the selected artists before contracting)
- Completion of anonymous **Equality and Diversity Monitoring form** (this is not compulsory) via this link:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1dzyorwfhyfbU4n2Dmr7vlyeWB0DA788jDr6BqPkh7b0/edit>
- Please contact us to discuss if you have **specific access needs** which mean that an alternative method of application would be preferred.

Proposals will be appraised on the following:

- Artistic quality of previous work
- Ability to demonstrate previous relevant experience - permanent artworks and stakeholder and community engagement
- Quality of proposed initial response
- Ability to demonstrate relevant experience of delivering projects of a similar scale to brief, time and budget

CONTACT DETAILS

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