

This project is part-financed by the European Union's Programme for Peace and Reconciliation (PEACEIII) managed by the Special EU Programmes Body; the Arts Council of Northern Ireland; and the International Fund for Ireland.

BARN (Birches Action Rural Network)

2 Clonmakate Road,

Portadown

BT62 1LP

**Building Peace through the Arts
Public Art Commission**

Tender to commission the appointment of an artist to design, produce and install an artwork in the public realm.

BARN seeks expressions of interest from experienced and suitably qualified artists or design teams in developing a new public artwork. The total budget available for the artwork is up to £35,000 (inclusive of VAT) Appointment of the successful artist/design team is contingent upon the availability of funds from the Arts Council of Northern Ireland

The deadline for expressions of interest is 12.00hrs on Tuesday 26th May 2015

Late submissions will not be accepted.

Applicants are requested to read the full content of this document carefully as it contains important information pertaining to all stages of the commission.

Please note that all submissions should be posted in hard copy.

Contents

1. Application process
 2. Background
 3. Artist's Brief
 4. Public Art selection panel/Steering Group
 5. Stage 1 Expression of interest submissions
 6. Budgets, fees and expenses for shortlisted artists
 7. Arts/Design Team responsibilities
 8. BARN responsibilities
 9. Project Timeline
 10. Ownership
 11. Contractual Arrangements
 12. Submitting an Expression of Interest
 13. Further information
- Appendices

1. APPLICATION PROCESS

Stage 1 Expressions of Interest

Expressions of Interest are sought from artists (or a team of collaborating artists) to deliver a piece of Public Art. Shortlisting will be based on the information provided (see *Appendix A*) using the *Evaluation Criteria set out in Appendix B*. **Please read Appendix A carefully and comply fully with the requirements.**

The deadline for receipt of applications is **12.00hrs on Tuesday 26th May 2015**. The selection panel will consider submissions received by this deadline and select up to three artists to go forward to Stage 2 of this process.

Stage 2 Proposal

£500 will be made available to up to three artists / teams who will be invited to present their proposals to the selection panel. The proposal must include; sketch designs, visualisations and/or a maquette as well as an explanation of the concept for the artwork, how it relates to our theme and how the artist/artist team would approach its design, fabrication and installation. Details of maintenance requirements and lifespan expectations should also form part of the presentation.

The artist/artist team must demonstrate how the work can be implemented within the allocated budget and details of the anticipated duration of the project with timescale broken down into research, production and delivery. The selection panel aims to select one artist / team to undertake the commission.

The Birches community will be at the heart of this project and the selected artist/artist team must demonstrate how they will work with the community to develop a sense of ownership / pride in the piece & the environment and most importantly help create a shared space for all. Therefore the artist/artist team must also outline the approach they will take to engage and work with the local community and showcase the successful project.

Selected artists / teams must submit their presentations to BARN Secretary Mrs Mary Stafford by 12.00hrs on Thursday 25th June 2015.

2. BACKGROUND

The project seeks to develop a legacy artwork reflecting the group's journey towards peace.

The Building Peace through the Arts – Re-Imaging Communities Programme themes are community cohesion, regeneration through the arts, positive relations at the local level, peace and reconciliation, connecting communities.

The growing rural community at the Birches has witnessed a 23% growth in population in the last 10 years as new housing developments have expanded. A quarter of the population are of school age with only 14% over 65. BARN wish to re-image previous widespread misconceptions about apparent single identity local traditions, address community issues including sectarianism and racism, and encourage a renewed and welcoming identity which will be inviting to neighbouring communities, the wider Northern Ireland population and beyond.

As a first phase of the project the group developed a local steering group to help manage the process. Artists Idan Meir and Paul Mc Guckin were recruited to carry out creative community consultation with a wide range of stakeholders in the community. They presented a report containing their findings to the steering group including possible themes and potential site locations for the proposed artwork. The steering group agreed that 'shining out' was the theme most open to artistic interpretation.

The preferred location for the public art is at a "gateway" location beside the junction of the Birches Road with the B196 Clonmakate Road, immediately north of Junction 12 (The Birches) on the M1 motorway.



3. ARTIST'S BRIEF

Theme Title: Shining Out

This is the agreed primary theme of the group. From the very first workshop, participants described a desire to project a positive and welcoming message within and beyond the existing community. The group described their wish to make a real impact with this project, in terms of changing negative perceptions from within and outwith the local community and to show they want a rejuvenated and cohesive community working with and for each other.

The population of the area is continuing to grow and they want to welcome and engage with newcomers and encourage them to stay and help build their community. There is recognition that not everyone wishes to engage all the time, so participants expressed a desire to keep the door open, at all times. But even more than that, they were only too aware that their community need to realise the door is partly of their own making and they want this project to act as a catalyst amongst the community to realise the opportunities available if they push it open from within.

With the growth in population of the area one of the group's core visions is to make The Birches a place to be proud of, where people want to come, set down roots and live long term. That will only come from an understanding of the proud independent past of the people of the area, balancing that with the needs of today and empowering the community to embrace the opportunities of the future. This in essence is what the participants feel any artwork should encapsulate.

Project Specific Constraints: It is part of the artists brief to contact utilities companies and statutory agencies for advice in regard to nearby services i.e. electricity and water supply for any artist wishing to incorporate light or water as part of the art works, although this is not a pre-requisite of the brief. Any work involved in extending the services to the site will be part of the overall budget. **Depending upon agreement with the current landowner, DRD, the proposed 6m X6m site adjoins a road junction so the artist will need to ensure that materials used take road safety into consideration.**

Materials: The brief does not specify the materials to be used, but the artwork is intended to be permanent and of high quality. Therefore should be made of high quality, durable materials which require minimum maintenance.

Other Considerations: The successful artist / team will be expected to provide satisfactory drawings and elevations to satisfy planning procedures. On completion of the project, the successful artist will be required to provide an engineer's certificate to satisfy the groups Steering Panel that the artwork has been designed, constructed and installed in accordance with current standards and judgments.

4. PUBLIC ART SELECTION PANEL/STEERING GROUP

The selection panel is comprised of representation from local stakeholders and the Arts Council of Northern Ireland. This panel will be responsible for all short-listing and selection procedures as well as overall management of the project.

5. STAGE 1. - EXPRESSION OF INTEREST SUBMISSIONS

Submissions for Stage1 will be assessed against the following criteria:

Section	Scoring
1. Organisation Details	N/A
2. Insurance	N/A
3. Health & Safety	N/A
4. Experience	Pass / Fail
5. Requirement Specific Questions	
- 5.1 Artistic Quality	50%
- 5.2 Approach	30%
- 5.3 Community engagement	10%
- 5.4 Stakeholder engagement	10%

***Please refer to Appendix A Format of Submission for Stage 1.**

6. BUDGETS, FEES AND EXPENSES FOR SHORTLISTED ARTISTS

6.1 Each of the **3 artists / teams** short-listed to undertake Stage Two will be paid **£500** to cover the costs of developing a detailed design proposal including sketch designs, visualisations and maquette. This fee will include any postage or courier costs involved in transporting the maquette. Payment will be made on submission of an invoice. All travel costs to facilitate expenses associated with site visit(s) and presentation to the selection panel are included in this fee.

6.2 The successful artist/design team will be responsible for the design and creation of the artwork including foundations and final installation within the budget. The budget is inclusive of VAT and will include any further artists design fees, expenses, foundation costs, materials, insurances, production and manufacturing, engineer's reports, any relevant consultations and installation fees, transport costs, and other necessary fees in order to finalise the installation of the public art piece. The successful artist/design team will be required to sub-contract and project manage all associated work for the public art piece, and to liaise with the group or their appointed representative in providing information required to secure all required statutory approvals such as planning and technical approval.

6.3 The overall fee also must include any re-landscaping of the site and additional lighting that the artwork may require.

6.4 Short-listed artists / design teams will be expected to submit an itemised project budget that identifies all costs. It must cover all expenditure, design, documentation, materials, foundation costs, manufacturing, delivery to the site and installation of the finished art work, including all health and safety requirements.

7. ARTIST/DESIGN TEAM'S RESPONSIBILITIES:

The successful artist/design team will be responsible for:

7.1 Liaising with the group on all aspects of the project.

7.2 Providing all necessary drawings, elevations etc. required to secure statutory planning approvals.

7.3 Providing a detailed timetable/schedule of work

7.4 Documenting the project design and specifications

7.5 Supplying and funding all materials required for the project, including foundations, artwork materials, as well as all transport and works safety requirements

7.6 Ensuring appropriate work site safety procedures are undertaken throughout the preparation of the foundations and installation of the public art.

7.7 The fabrication and installation of the works;

7.8 The provision of a structural engineer report for foundations and final installation, satisfying planners and the Council that the foundations and artwork comply with current engineering standards;

7.9 Completing the project within the timeframe and budget provided;

7.10 Contributing to marketing activities such as photo shoots, allowing use of concept drawings, providing artist statements and any other reasonable activity requested by the group to promote the project;

7.11 Contributing to reporting and evaluation at the conclusion of the commission;

7.12 Attending Public Art Steering Group as required and updating the group on project development;

7.13 Providing the group with operating and maintenance instructions and costs;

7.14 Provision of an integrated artist's statement as part of completed art work;

7.15 A Lifecycle maintenance budget for the commission.

8. BARN responsibilities:

8.1 Monitoring the project through the Public Art Steering Group;

8.2 Providing the artist/design team with support through **BARN** and the Public Art Steering Committee;

8.3 Overall Project Management and supervision;

8.4 Drafting the Commission Agreement and Contracts;

8.5 Primary artist/team contact;

8.6 Providing community contacts;

8.7 Project marketing and reporting;

8.8 Advising the artist/team if in the future the art work needs to be relocated or intentionally modified, or decommissioned;

8.9 Facilitating community relationships as requested and as suitable;

8.10 Overseeing the budget for the project;

8.11 Obtaining planning permission.

9. PROJECT TIMELINE

Event	Day & Date
Advert for expression of interest	1. Tuesday 28th April
Deadline for receipt of Expression of interest	2. 12.00hrs on Tuesday 26th May
Shortlisting of artists based on expressions of interest	3. Thursday 28th May
Invitation letters to shortlisted artists to move to Stage 2 (and letters to unsuccessful artists)	4. Thursday 28th May
Deadline for detailed design phase of short listed artists	5. Thursday 25th June
Presentation of detailed design proposals e.g. maquettes to selection panel & artist interviews	6. Friday 26th June
Anticipated delivery of project (normally 6 months)	7. To be confirmed

10. OWNERSHIP

The Public Artwork becomes the property of the landowner after installation by artist/design team. A contract for this project will provide for the appropriate care and maintenance of the work, artist's copyright and acknowledgement.

11. CONTRACTUAL ARRANGEMENTS

The successful artist will be engaged by the group and the payment schedule will be in the form of staged payments to be agreed prior to the development of contract.

12. SUBMITTING AN EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EoI)

The group invites the submission of a completed EoI from suitably qualified and experienced artists for undertaking the provision of a public artwork. Please note if arts organisations or design teams are applying you must submit relevant information on the experience of the artists to be involved in the project including their CVs.

The available funds of **£35,000 (including VAT)** are also to allow for all necessary design, treatment of surfaces, installation, the erection and all fixings to secure the feature and all making good to the surrounding surfaces and artwork disturbed during installation or development of the works.

The artist shall be deemed to have satisfied him/herself before submitting their response as to the accuracy and sufficiency of the information contained therein.

Submission requirements for Stage 1 are detailed in **Appendix A** please read these carefully.

All submissions are to be sent to: BARN at 2 Clonmakate Road, Portadown, BT62 1LP no later than 12.00hrs on Tuesday 26th May 2015

Applications must be in English and prices in £ Sterling, **inclusive of VAT**

Information submitted shall be checked for completeness and compliance with the instructions before evaluation.

It is the responsibility of applicants to obtain for themselves, at their own expense, any additional information necessary for the preparation of their submissions.

13. Further Information

13.1 Requests for clarification

All requests for clarification or further information in respect of this EoI, or any questions about the procurement, should be submitted by email to the nominated person from the group dealing with the project (this information will be included in the advertisement). No approach of any kind in connection with this commission should be made to any other person within, or associated with the group or by any other means.

If the group considers any question or request for clarification to be of material significance, both the question and the response will be communicated, in a suitably anonymous form, to all artists/ artist teams who have responded or have expressed an interest, or those that show an interest before the EoI return date and time.

Any such communication from applicants must be received no later than two days before the closing date and time. Communications shall be treated in confidence, but shall be subject to this paragraph.

Both successful and unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing by the group.

13.2 Right to Issue Further Instructions

During the procurement period, the group reserves the right to make changes to the EoI documentation and any such changes shall be accepted by the applicants and incorporated into the finalised submission.

13.3 Expenses and Losses

The Group shall not be responsible for, or pay for, any expenses or losses that may be incurred by any applicant in preparing their submissions or abiding by the conditions outlined herein.

13.4 Confidentiality

All information supplied by the group in connection with this competition shall be treated as confidential by applicants, except that such information may be disclosed so far as is necessary for the purpose of obtaining sureties, guarantees and tenders necessary for the preparation and submission of the EoI or by operation of law.

13.5 Ownership of application documents

The documents comprising this application shall remain the property of the group. All Public Art Work and publications become the property of the group after installation/completion.

13.6 Return of specified documents

Failure to return all specified documentation by the closing date, or such subsequent date as may be prescribed, may result in the submission not being considered.

13.7 Qualified submissions

No amendments to the EOI documents issued will be considered valid, except as shall be explicitly required or admitted (in writing) by the group, qualification of submissions may result in rejection thereof.

13.8 Right to request additional information

The Group reserves the right to require any applicant to provide additional information supplementing or clarifying any of the information provided in response to the requests set out in this EOI. **BARN** may also seek independent financial and market advice to validate information declared, or to assist in the evaluation of the submission.

13.9 Evaluation Criteria

Evaluation criteria and scoring mechanism are set out below at *Appendix B*.

Only those applicants who achieve a minimum quality score of 60% may proceed to the tender stage.

13.10 Conflict of Interest

Artists will be required at all times to adhere to high standards of propriety, including impartiality, integrity and objectivity. This means that any private, voluntary, charitable or political interest that might be material or relevant to the work of the project should be declared. Both real and perceived conflicts of interest must be declared, as the appearance of conflict could be as damaging as the existence of actual conflict.

It is important that all potential conflicts of interest are declared at the beginning of the appointment process. All submissions will be assessed on merit and not treated more or less advantageously because of an actual or perceived conflict of interest.

13.11 Equality

The group is committed to equal opportunities for all and the submissions will be judged as seen, purely on merit and without prejudice.

Appendix A - Format of Submission

Interested artists are invited to submit an Expression of Interest in **hard copy** to **BARN**, by no later than **12.00hrs on Tuesday 26th May 2015**

1	ARTIST/ ORGANISATION DETAILS		
1.1	Name of Applicant (or organisation)		
1.2	Contact name for enquiries about this EOI:		
1.3	Job Title:		
1.4	Address: Post Code:		
1.5	Telephone number:		
1.6	Fax number:		
1.7	E-mail address: (if available)		
1.8	Website address (if any):		
1.9	Company Registration number (if this applies):		
1.10	Date of Registration: (if this applies)		
1.11	Registered address if different from the above: Post Code:		
1.12	Are you registered for VAT? If so, please provide Registration number:		
1.13	Are you:	i) a limited company?	
		ii) a partnership/ team?	
		iii) a self- employed sole trader	
1.13b	Are you acting as the lead artist in the partnership/ artist team?	Yes/No	

2	EXPERIENCE	
2.1	Experience of Working in the Public Realm Demonstrate a full understanding of problems which may be encountered whilst working in a busy operational public area and the approach to minimising the impact on operation of traffic and residents when carrying out the works. Outline relevant lessons learnt from other projects to this commission that demonstrate your understanding of public area working.	Please limit your response to 600 words
2.2	Relevant Experience and Past Clients Provide a list of up to 3 examples (5 maximum) of work in the public realm which has been undertaken in the last 10 years . Include the commissioner's name and contact details, site location, the commission period and value. One of your examples should relate to a commission worth at least £25k.	Complete and submit <i>Appendix C</i>. Do not include generic lists or projects which are not for similar works. Please include 2 images per project (see below 3.1)

3	REQUIREMENT SPECIFIC QUESTIONS	
3.1	Artistic Quality Artistic quality will be judged on images provided for 3 examples of relevant past work. (see 2.2 above)	Please include 2 images per project on 3 examples listed in 2.2 (see above). Maximum size per image is 1 x A4 page.
3.2	Approach Provide a document outlining the approach taken to the delivery of 3 of the artworks provided in 2.2	
3.3	Community and Stakeholder engagement With reference to up to 3 completed artworks, please demonstrate how the applicant has worked with and engaged the community and key stakeholders.	Please limit your response to 600 words font size 11.

The successful artist / team will be required to satisfy the panel that adequate safety provision will be made and that appropriate insurance cover will be in place.

4	INSURANCE	
4.1	The minimum amount of Public and Products Liability Insurance required is £1m for each and every claim. Please enclose copy of current certificate. If you do not have this level of indemnity you will be required, upon award of contract, to put this in place.	Information only
4.2	The minimum amount of Employer's Liability Insurance required (if appropriate) is £5m for each and every claim. Please enclose copy of current certificate. If you do not have this level of indemnity you will be required, upon award of contract, to put this in place.	Information only
4.3	Please confirm whether you would be willing to take out the appropriate level of insurance cover to comply with above contract conditions if you are successful in winning the contract?	Yes/No

5	HEALTH & SAFETY	
5.1	Does your organisation have a written health and safety at work policy? If "Yes" please enclose policy.	Yes / No
5.2	If " No ", please explain why:	

Appendix B – Evaluation Criteria and Scores

Section	Weighting
1.Organisation / Applicant Details	N/A
2. Insurance	N/A
3. Health & Safety	N/A
4. Experience	Pass / Fail
5. Requirement Specific Questions	(100% Total)
- 5.1 Artistic Quality	50%
- 5.2 Approach	30%
- 5.3 Community engagement	10%
- 5.4 Stakeholder engagement	10%

Assessment	Score	Indicators
Excellent	5	The content of the Expression of Interest is excellent and fully addresses the requirements of the brief.
Very Good	4	The content of the Expression of Interest is very good and fully addresses the requirements of the brief.
Good	3	The content of the Expression of Interest is good and addresses the requirements of the brief.
Satisfactory	2	The content of the Expression of Interest is adequate and addresses the requirements of the brief.
Poor	1	The content of the Expression of Interest is poor and fails to address the requirements of the brief.
Nil Response / Unacceptable	0	No response or unacceptable information provided.

Appendix C - Relevant Experience and Past Customers' Record

Please list all relevant projects using the format below and include the following information; commissioner, commissioner contact name and telephone number, commission period, value, site location and commission description. Please limit your response to 1 side of A4 paper (font size 11) per commission. 2 images to be included, maximum size 1 side of A4 per image. **BARN** reserves the right to contact the contact names provided.

Commissioner: _____

Contact name and phone number: _____

Commission period: _____

Commission Value: _____

Description of commission including site location of final piece:

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.