



Project Brief: TVPA001
ANDOVER BUSINESS PARK - PUBLIC ART COMMISSION
CALL FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

'FLIGHT AND NAVIGATION'
ARTIST BRIEF

VISION

TVBC in partnership with Goodman wish to commission a work of public art for the new Andover Business Park. It is envisaged that this piece will provide a landmark for the site, marking the entrance to Andover, and will make reference to the history of the site as Andover Airfield.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- To commission a work of art that will celebrate the regeneration of Andover Business Park whilst encapsulating the history of the site as RAF Andover.
- To produce an artwork of sufficient scale and impact to create a landmark that appeals to a broad audience and inspires comment beyond its immediate locality.
- to engage with users of the site and other communities living close to the site

BACKGROUND

Andover Business Park has a rich history as RAF Andover. In the early twentieth century it was known as 'No. 2 School of Navigation and Bomb Dropping'. Several experimental military aircraft made their first flights from the airfield. Amongst them were: the *Westland Yeovil*; the *Westland Witch*; the *Westland F.7/30*; and all of the *Westland-Hill Pterodactyl* series of experimental flying wing aircraft. RAF Andover has a unique place in British history, as the first British military unit to be equipped with helicopters. The Helicopter Training School, was formed in January 1945 at RAF Andover.

Post-war, RAF Andover continued to be used for helicopter flying training and operational research. The station's association with aviation research continued, and some of the trials of experimental vertical take-off aircraft took place on the station, including some of the trials for the Hawker Siddeley Andover which was named after the station. The Andover's main role in RAF service was tactical transport, for which its unique ability to "kneel" and allow vehicle entry at a shallow angle via a rear ramp was an asset. RAF Andover was also the home of a number of communications squadrons.

The RAF station was closed on 10 June 1977 and the airfield was handed over to the British Army. The last RAF personnel working in these units left in November 2009. The RAF Museum preserves a number of individual aircraft which were based at RAF Andover during their service lives.

In 2007 the site was acquired and has been transformed into a new business park, currently housing the Co-op food Distribution Centre, with Stannah owning another plot and Marstons Breweries currently building a hotel/pub at the entrance. The site runs adjacent to a major road, the A303, and is located by one of the main exits from this road into Andover Town.

ARTIST'S ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The commissioning panel is looking to appoint an artist to design, fabricate and install a work of art for Andover Business Park.

Approach: The artwork is to be sited in a commercial park. The site has deep historic associations which still resonate with residents in Andover. The artwork should seek to incorporate the history and social relevance of the airfield to Andover, whilst celebrating its new life as a Business park.

Site

The preferred site for the artwork is the roundabout at the entrance of the business park, but we would be happy to accept proposals for other sites that might be more visible outside the park. For example near the entrance on the left on Plot One, or in the planting behind the bus stop on the right of the entrance. This can be discussed during the site visit on Monday 5th August.



Roundabout



Planting behind the Entrance Bus stop

If shortlisted, the artist would need to assess the best site for their work, demonstrate why they have made this decision and show that they have considered the practicalities of installation and potential risks/health and safety issues. A site visit will be held prior to the deadline for expressions of interest at 11.00am on Monday 5th August 2013. If you wish to attend you must inform Alex Hoare on alexhoare@testvalley.gov.uk or 01264 368844.

Themes

The theme for the project is ***Flight and Navigation***. It is intended that this theme provides inspiration for the piece in which to encapsulate the aims and objectives stated above.

The artwork is intended as a landmark for the park, and must be of sufficient size and scale to create an impact. This may involve one major work or a series of smaller works that are linked by the theme. The materials must be durable and easy to maintain.

Community Engagement

The development of the artwork must include engagement with the users of the park and communities from surrounding areas, (groups to be identified and agreed between the artist and the commissioners.) Site users at the present time include the Cooperative distribution centre, land owned but not yet developed by Stannah, Marston breweries who are currently building a hotel/pub on plot one. The Hawk Conservancy, which is nearby, have offered facilities for workshops and also the link to their work of the theme of the commission. (They have specialist knowledge of the native and migrant birds that have inhabited the site for years).

The form in which engagement takes place will be negotiated by the artist, but the outcomes should feed in some way into the final artwork.

SELECTION PROCEDURE AND CRITERIA

An initial expression of interest should be submitted by Wednesday 28th August to include:

- An outline proposal of your approach to the commission, including initial responses and ideas from the brief. No more than 2 A4 pages.
- An current CV
- 6 examples of previous relevant projects, including images.
- Artist's statement

This should be sent to: Alex Hoare, Arts Officer, Test Valley Borough Council, The Lights, West Street, Andover SP10 1AH. Or emailed to: alexhoare@testvalley.gov.uk **by 5.00pm on Wednesday 28th August 2013.**

Artist must demonstrate the following in their application:

- a track record in commissions for the public realm
- experience of community engagement within public art projects
- skill in producing high quality works of art
- imaginative and relevant understanding of the themes and sensitivities of the project.

Applications will be shortlisted by the commissioning panel. Shortlisted candidates will then be awarded £1000 to research and develop their proposal further and invited to present their final full proposals in December 2013.

TIMETABLE

Call for Expressions of Interest:	Wednesday 3 rd July 2013
Site Visit:	Monday 4 th August 2013
Deadline for submissions:	Wednesday 28th August, 5.00pm
R&D Period:	3 months
Interviews/Presentation of ideas:	December 2013

BUDGET

The budget for the commission, to include design, participatory workshops/consultation, fabrication and all installation costs is £88,000. Proposal exceeding this amount will be considered if it can be demonstrated that matched funding is available.

MAINTENANCE

A budget has been set aside for maintenance. The shortlisted artists will be expected to provide a full maintenance manual on completion of installation with clear guidelines as to the best way to maintain the artwork and any specialist treatment/knowledge that is necessary. The artist should also indicate the anticipated life span of the work and any decommissioning procedures that should be applied.

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Test Valley Borough Council is committed to providing and promoting equal opportunities in employment and service provision, eliminating discrimination, and encouraging diversity amongst the workforce. A full copy of our equal opportunities policy is attached.

Project Partners: TVBC, Goodman, Cooperative, Stannah, Hawk Conservancy.