

Art for Alder Hey in the Park
ARTISTS COMMISSION BRIEF: The Aquatic Therapy Pool

Introduction and Background

The new Alder Hey Children's Health Park is a unique concept in which the 100 year old hospital will be replaced by a new 270 bed hospital designed and built by 'Acorn' and a new public health park created on the old hospital site.

http://www.alderhey.co.uk/Media_Centre/Latest_news/new_alder_hey_unveiled.asp (Laing O'Rourke Construction with Building Design Partnership Architects)

<http://www.alderhey.nhs.uk/category/alder-hey-in-the-park/>

The new hospital will be a welcoming healing environment in which the art helps enhance and improve the patient experience and enables a personalised delivery of healthcare' for children and young people.

A lead artist, Lucy Casson, was appointed by the children and young people's design group to work with the interior designers to enhance wayfinding, and she has developed the 'sense' of the hospital linked to the environmental / nature interest of the Health Park inspired by the young people. This commission is informed by Alder Hey's commitment to artistic practice and artist collaborations that will support children, their families, staff and visitors:

<http://www.alderhey.nhs.uk/departments/arts-for-health/>

A Children and Young People's Design Group helps inspire the artistic vision, and is consulted on designs. Throughout the next 18 months, there will be a series of other art commissions developed throughout the new building.

The Commission

The children and young people and the clinical staff who use the existing Hydrotherapy Pool are keen to commission art for the new Aquatic Therapy Pool. "Art for Alder Hey in the Park" is seeking an artist (or artists' group) who will work with the consultation group of children and young people, and agreed hydrotherapy staff, as part of the process to commission the art.

The Aquatic Therapy Pool is used for movement therapy for all ages of children and young people, so the artistic narrative and imagery needs to include elements that the staff can draw the attention of the young people to and the young people can focus on, and physically move or point or stretch towards. The imagery needs to address the interests of all ages including young children.

In line with the environmental ethos of the art programme, and the briefing set by the Aquatic Therapy Pool Consultation Group, we would like the art to be imaginative and

- Reflect the natural aquatic world, and 'bring the outside inside'.
- Be colourful
- Include relaxing sound created for the environment. There is a suggestion that any decorated tiles in the water might have a 'push button' so that they will trigger sound.
- Consider the opportunity for one of the young people to develop a special composition working with a musician or sound artist (There is a regular programme of live music within the hospital and we also employ a part time Music Therapist)

- Address the walls (including doors) and ceiling – and one young person suggested projecting moving images of sea birds across the walls and ceiling

The Pool

The Aquatic Therapy pool is in the Outpatients area of the new hospital and is essentially underground. Daylight comes into the pool via a large roof light over the pool itself.

The pool slopes from 900mm-1200mm depth and is lined with a glazed ceramic mosaic. The water will be level with the edge of the pool, so any integrated tile decoration will be viewed or felt through the water. Artists may propose tiling decoration at the upper levels of the water edge.

A plan is attached to this brief.

With regard to sound there is an integrated speaker and sound system operated from the Therapy Office.

Submissions

This commission is an open competition.

The Aquatic Therapy Pool Consultation Group will appoint the artist from portfolios and interview. The artist will liaise with this group through out the commission to inform and develop the work – much of the liaison will be email.

At this stage we require a digital portfolio & c.v. of relevant work and a short outline/letter explaining how you would like to approach this commission.

To be submitted by 5pm Monday 28th April.

Commission Fee (all inclusive, ex VAT) : £15,000

The proposals will be discussed with the Aquatic Therapy Pool Consultation Group in the following week and artists contacted after that.

The Aquatic Therapy Pool Consultation Group consists of three members of staff and three young people who are currently inpatients but who have committed to the process even (as is hoped for) they leave the hospital during the commission programme.

Please submit your portfolio (compressed - please do not exceed 12 megabytes) & outline by email to:

Lesley Greene

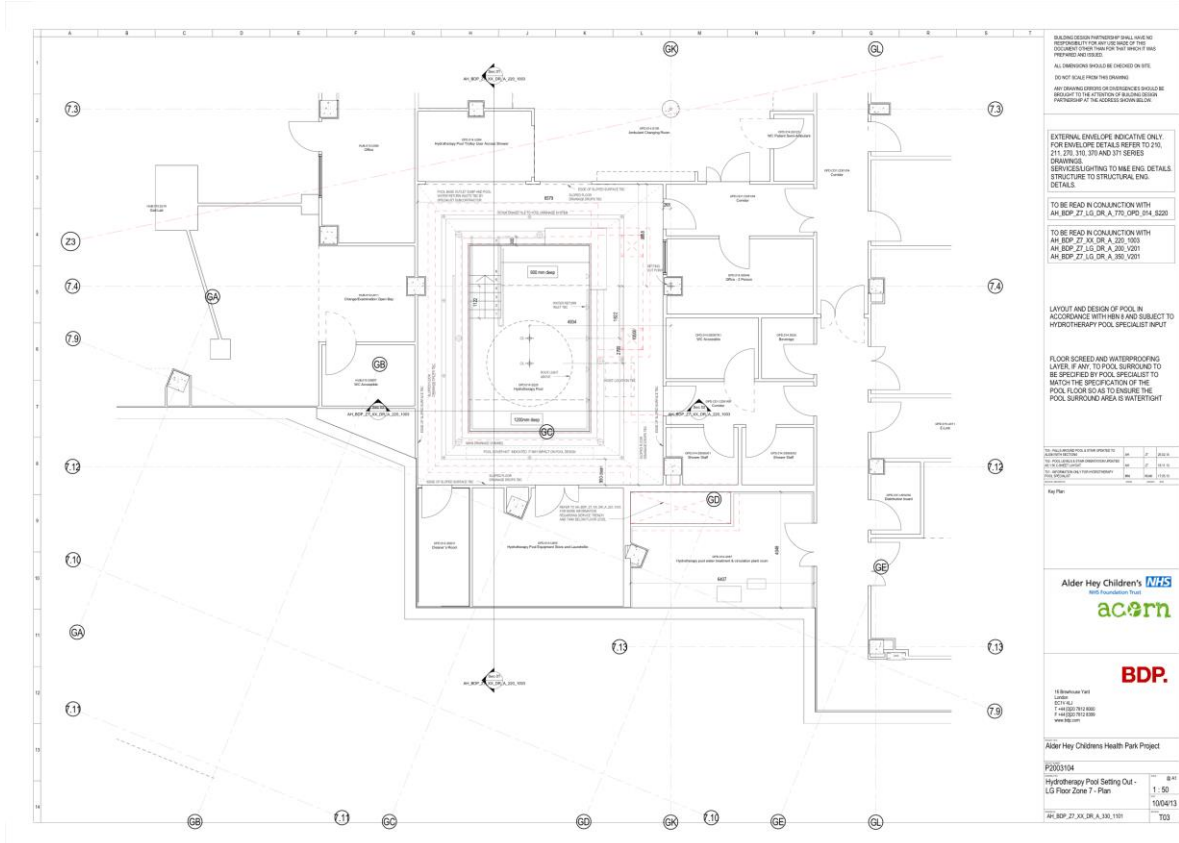
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Aquatic Therapy Pool: Plan



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LAYOUT AND DESIGN OF POOL IN ACCORDANCE WITH HSE AND SUBJECT TO HYDROTHERAPY POOL SPECIALIST INPUT

FLOOR SCREENED AND WATERPROOFING LAYER IF ANY. TO POOL SURROUND TO BE SPECIFIED BY POOL SPECIALIST TO MATCH THE SPECIFICATION OF THE POOL FLOOR EG NS TO ENSURE THE POOL SURROUND AREA IS WATER TIGHT

NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE	BY	CHKD BY
1	ISSUED FOR PERMIT	20/01/2024	AK	AK
2	FOR CONSTRUCTION	20/01/2024	AK	AK
3	FOR CONSTRUCTION	20/01/2024	AK	AK

Key Plan



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Alder Hey Children's Health Park Project

P2003104

Hydrotherapy Pool Setting Out -

LG Floor Zone 7 - Plan

15/04/23

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