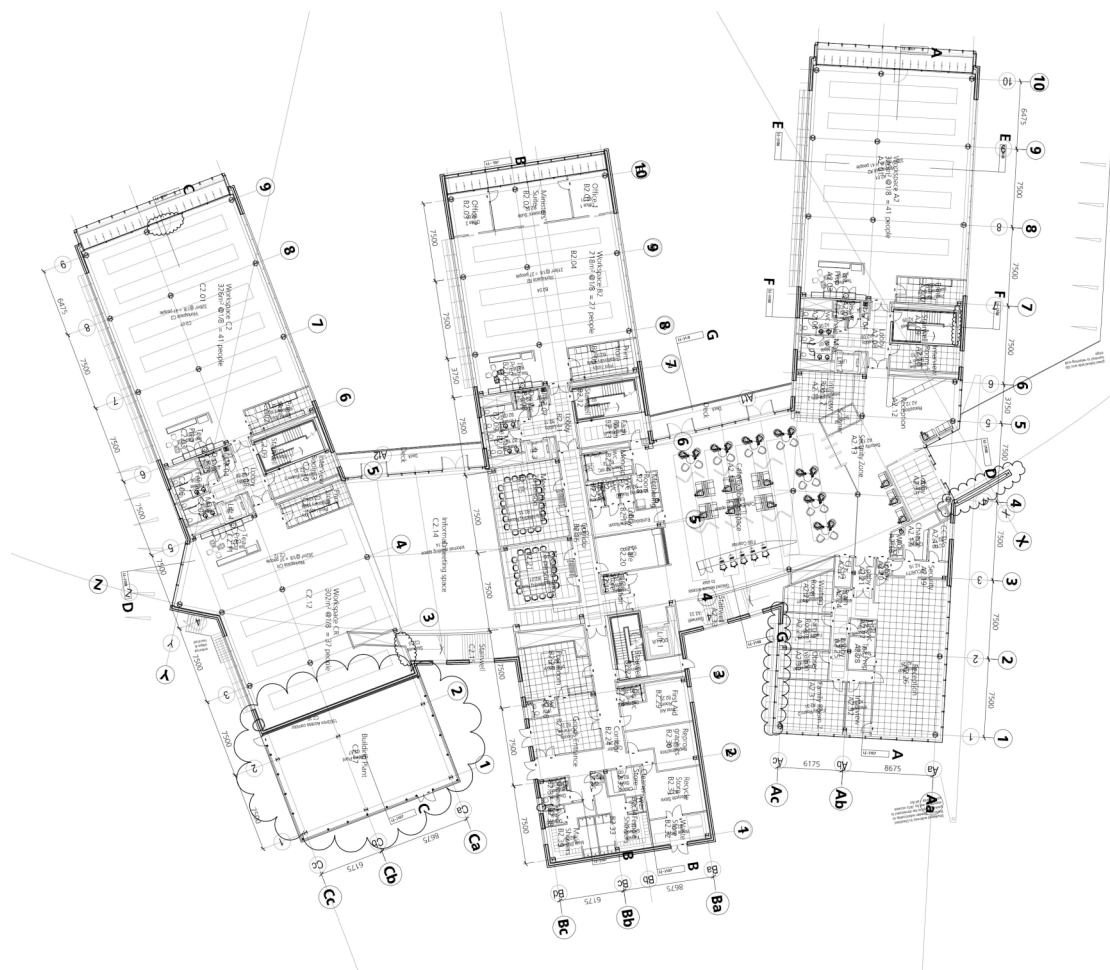


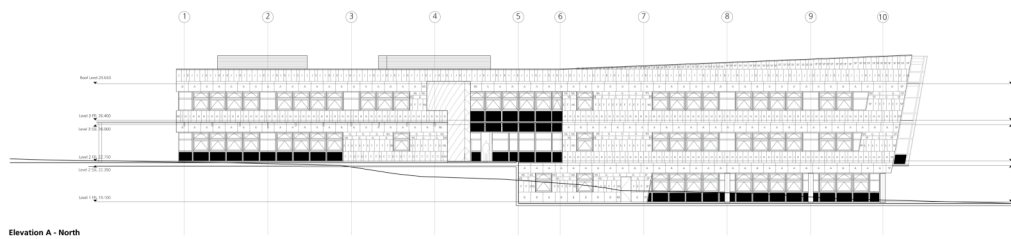
Artist Commission at Welsh Assembly Government Building – Llandudno Junction

Artist Brief

Background and Context

The new Welsh Assembly Government building at Narrow Lane, Llandudno Junction in Conwy is under construction. The site itself is in a prominent position and will be seen from much of the town and along the approaches to Llandudno Junction by road including the main A55 trunk road. The design has been novated to Pochins Construction who will construct the building. The architects are Austin Smith Lord. The building has a very distinctive 'three fingered' design arranged on three floors radiating out of the hillside.





The building is naturally ventilated and includes large glazed areas facing South West. Features including electronically controlled louvre windows to prevent excessive solar gain and under-floor heating demonstrate its high environmental specification. It is clad in Welsh slate with a copper clad entrance feature. A covered walkway runs from the disabled parking bays to the entrance. The floor throughout the public spaces within the building is also polished slate. As well as office accommodation for Welsh Assembly Government staff the building will have several public spaces, including a café and gallery area and “one-stop-shop” to enable the public to access the Welsh Assembly Government’s services.

The building is due to be completed in Summer 2010, with staff moving in shortly afterwards. The timetable for delivery is set out below.

The Commission

This is a major new building for North Wales and presents an exciting opportunity for an artist to become involved in its visual impact. The commission is for an artist/s to create a permanent artwork that is ‘available’ to the public outside the building in the public realm. Bearing in mind the location, the artist’s design could reflect aspects of nationhood, democracy, governance and culture although the brief remains open and the appointed artist will be allowed time to research and develop their ideas and designs for the site.

The Artist will be expected to work closely with Safle, Austin Smith Lord, Pochin and the local planning authority in the design and delivery of the project.

The artwork can be stand-alone and could include, for example, one of the following elements:

- Light, possibly including animated or interactive elements or a digital intervention
- A free-standing or wall mounted artwork - either sited within the public areas of the entrance or along the approach to the entrance
- Text and /or sound, found or commissioned

This is a new and contemporary building aiming to promote design and architecture in Wales. In appointing an artist the Welsh Assembly Government are looking to add to this concept and create a unique cutting edge environment. An innovative approach to the brief and use of materials is encouraged.

It is expected that the artist interacts with local community groups at agreed stages during the design/construction process. This could include workshops and

consultations, which may inform the development of the design. Details of this will be agreed with the appointed artist.

Constraints

At this moment we know of no external constraints or below ground restrictions that might impact on the work, however there are various underground services etc which will have to be taken into consideration. The work(s) will need to be durable, have a low maintenance requirement and be designed and constructed with due regard to health and safety issues.

Timescale

The building is due to open in summer 2010. An indicative timescale is shown below which will alter slightly in consultation with the appointed artist once the type of artwork is decided. The artist will need to liaise with the architect and contractors to optimise scheduling arrangements.

Deadline for expressions of interest	17 April 2009
Interviews	27 April 09
Appointment of artist/beginning of design stage	11 May 2009
Artwork and building opening	Summer 2010
Project sign off and completion	Summer 2010

The feasibility of any proposal will depend very much on the construction programme. Please contact Safle for further details/information.

Budget

Design

The artist fee for the design stage of the commission is £1,900 including expenses.

Implementation

The budget for fabrication and installation and any additional builder's work in connection with installation is £39,000 - to cover artist fee, materials, travel, accommodation and planning application fee if required.

The amounts above are inclusive of VAT.

Selection

The artist will be chosen through interview on the basis of the quality of their previous work and initial responses to the brief. The interview panel will consist of representatives from Safle, the Welsh Assembly Government, Austin Smith Lord, the Arts Council of Wales and Conwy County Council.

To apply, please submit the following:

- An expression of interest explaining why you would like to be considered for this project on no more than 2 sides of A4.

- Up to 10 images of recent work (in PowerPoint format) and a descriptive list detailing the dimensions, materials, dates etc.
- An up to date Curriculum Vitae on no more than 2 sides of A4.
- A stamped addressed envelope for return of your material if required.

We do not require worked up designs at this stage.

The deadline for receiving applications is Friday 17 April 2009.

Interviews will be held week commencing 27 April 2009 in Llandudno Junction. Travel expenses will be paid for attendance. If you have any access or other requirements to enable you to attend the interview these should be made clear after an offer of an interview has been received.

Please send applications to:

Llandudno Junction

SAFLE
Unit 4 Sovereign Quay
Havannah Street
Cardiff
CF10 5SF

T: 0845 241 3684

E: tracy.simpson@safle.com (email applications must be less than 6MB in size)

W: safle.com