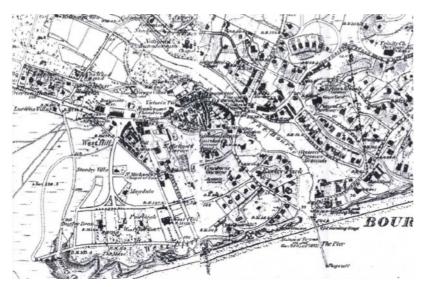
## INTRODUCTION

THAT Group is seeking to commission an artist to create an innovative and striking artwork, or series of artworks for integration into the public realm design of their new Hilton Hotel development in Bournemouth. This commission is being funded through a S106 agreement with Bournemouth Borough Council, for this contemporary development in the town's centre.

## THE SITE & ITS HISTORY

The post code for the development site is BH2 5NW. Prior to this development, this site was used as a car park, which served shoppers heading for Bournemouth's town centre. In the early days of Bournemouth the site was wooded, and at the lower level was from the 1820s the site of Terrace Cottage, the home of the gardener of Lewis Tregonwell - the founder of Bournemouth. Then from around the 1870s eight villas were built, set in spacious landscaped grounds. A number of the villas were used as hotels and guest houses, including the Boscobel Hall Hotel, Studleigh Royal Hotel, Balna Howe Hotel, Mount Royal Hotel and Merville Hotel. From the 1970s to the 1990s, the villas were demolished and a surface car park and road scheme took their place. The site is in an elevated position to the south west of Bournemouth's bustling town centre, providing clear views of Bournemouth's award-winning beaches.



**Image 1**: Section of first edition OS Bournemouth map 1870.



Image 2: Section of second edition OS Bournemouth map 1924.

## THE DEVELOPMENT

The landmark scheme has been designed by Cube in association with White Ink Architects. It consists of: Block A - a 13-storey, 172-bedroom, 4-star full brand Hilton Hotel with 14 exclusive residential apartments above; Block B - an 8-storey 120-bedroom Hampton Hotel by Hilton and; Block C - 45 penthouse apartments with a 224-space, 3-storey deep, underground car park and associated landscaping.

Installation of the public art at the site is scheduled to begin on July 1<sup>st</sup> 2015 for a maximum period of four weeks, with completion expected no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2015. **Image 3** below shows a computer generated view of the new Hilton Hotel Block A at Terrace Mount, looking north west.



## THE DEVELOPER

THAT Group is a privately-owned property group. Urban regeneration and creative re-use are THAT Group's markers, specialising in developing mixed-use city centre projects on under-utilised, brownfield sites. Current projects include Hotel, Retail, Restaurant, Office and Residential uses in the South and South West of the UK.

THAT Group signaled its arrival in 2013 with £100m of new-build, Hotel-led projects in Bournemouth, and then in Torquay, alongside some other mixed-use Urban Renewal work. In bringing these projects forward THAT Group has shown its dedication to working with local Councils, English Heritage, local organisations, Partnerships, Residents and other local Stakeholders to deliver high-quality developments that contribute not only to the local economy, but also to the visual amenity of the site in question. THAT Group sets out to build: The right property, in the right place, with the right design, in the right materials, with the right end users.

## THE BRIEF

Reporting to a designated Project Panel (named below), an experienced artist is sought to design a site-specific, innovative, timeless and high quality artwork (or series of artworks) for integration into the external public realm / landscaped areas of the scheme.

It is anticipated that the work produced in response to this brief will be largely focussed on the retaining wall at block B but will extend to the retaining walls in the vicinity of blocks A and C, as well as providing aesthetic treatment of the hotel's associated landscaped areas and pathways.

The public art at the site is expected to serve as an aesthetic narrative for a pedestrian audience - as shown in the following images - and will be clearly visible from nearby highways.

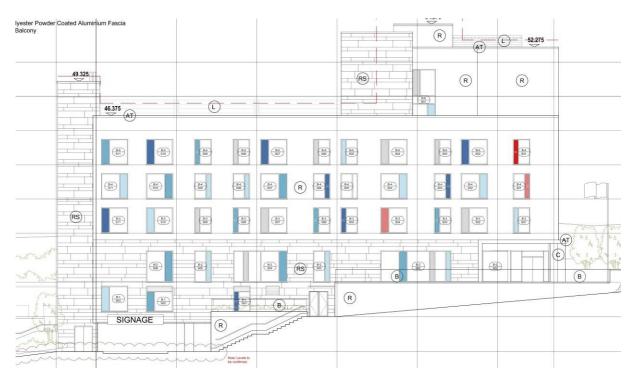
**Image 4** shows block A in plan and an inset elevation of the public realm / landscaped area adjacent to that building:



**Image 5** shows the north elevation of block A and gives an indication of the level changes across the site designated for the artwork(s):



**Image 6** shows the north elevation of block B and the corresponding expanse of retaining wall, which will form an important focus for the work of the appointed artist:



**Image 7** shows the north elevation of Block C and an expanse of retaining wall, which may form an important focus for the work of the appointed artist:



**Image 8** shows the landscape proposals plan of the whole site, and gives an indication of the entire site layout:



The appointed artist will - supported by the Project Panel - be required to produce (in partnership with the developer's design team where appropriate), a design for the arrangement, form, configuration, scale, materials, and finish to all of the built elements of the artwork, including lighting and fixing methods. The completed artwork will need to be robust, durable and low maintenance. A maintenance schedule will be requested from the appointed artist in relation to any interventions installed as part of this work.

## FURTHER CONSIDERATIONS

It is key to the over-all success of the public realm aesthetic, that the intervention to which this commission applies, is considered alongside the palette of materials which have been designed into the buildings and landscaping. The appointed artist will also need to pay attention to the presence of a separately commissioned piece of public art - an LED Light Wall (LLW). The LLW will be installed on the external, north-west, ground floor facade of hotel Block 'A' - an indication of its position can be seen in Image 5, above.

**Image 9:** The image below shows an artist's impression of how the LLW could look in situ.



The purpose of the LLW is to set creative challenges and showcase local digital talent in partnership with the Arts University Bournemouth's VFX Hub - <a href="http://www.internationalvfxhub.com/partners/the-arts-university-college-at-bournemouth/">http://www.internationalvfxhub.com/partners/the-arts-university-college-at-bournemouth/</a>

The LLW will be broken up into a number of elements and is being designed in a contemporary style by the developer's team to enhance the building's facade and to appear aesthetically pleasing at all times, whether showing digital media or not. The relationship of the public art being commissioned through this brief and the LLW will need to be carefully considered by the appointed artist.

## **CREATIVE ENGAGEMENT**

Community engagement forms an important part of this brief and the themes and aspirations generated through this process, will serve to drive the concepts behind the artist's ideas and the resulting, physical intervention(s) in the public realm.

The artist will be expected to carry out creative engagement with nearby residents of the hotel development. Support will be offered to engage with these and other members of the community, who have an interest in the public art's development at the site.

## **DESIGN ISSUES / CONSTRAINTS**

The artwork must:

- Have a minimal pollution impact in both the immediate and wider vicinity.
- Be sensitively designed and installed to respect and complement the appearance
- of the materials palette being employed elsewhere in the development's designs
- Be sensitively designed to respect the context and setting of the site

• Be carefully and thoughtfully designed in relation to the existing street furniture, landscape design and other elements installed on the buildings' façades.

- Be robust, durable, fit-for-purpose and low maintenance.
- Be designed, manufactured and installed using sustainable materials, processes and techniques wherever possible.

• Not unnecessarily distract or interfere with the operations of the nearby highway, hotel facilities or adjacent residencies.

## **SELECTION CRITERIA**

We will be considering applications from artists with a background in the following: • Having undertaken the creation and installation of permanent, robust, innovative and site-specific artworks for a range of external situations.

• Working in collaboration with fabricators and in partnership with a range of stakeholders including the local community, property developers, Elected Members and Local Authority Officers.

## ACCESSIBILITY DESIGN ISSUES

Issues of accessibility are central in decisions regarding the siting of artwork and interpretation for the work.

#### INTERPRETATION

Interpretation will be provided as part of this commission, which provides information on title, concept, installation date and name of the artist. This will need to be provided near to, or as part of the artwork(s) described above.

## APPOINTMENT PROCEDURE

Your initial submission, for expression of interest, should include the following: 1. A letter stating:

Why you are interested in the project

How you would apply your existing knowledge, skills & experience.

- Availability to attend an interview on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 2015 2. Your current CV
- 3. 12 images of your work. Please send hard copies only of these and an S.A.E if you would like these returned to you.
- 4. The contact details of two referees for whom you have completed work in the last 2 years.

#### **APPOINTMENT TIMETABLE**

Submission Deadline:	5 p.m. on Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January 2015
Shortlisting:	22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2015
Interviews:	27 <sup>th</sup> January 2015

#### **INTERVIEW**

At interview, short-listed artists will be asked to give a 20-minute presentation of their past work and an initial response to the site and project. We are not asking for proposals at this stage but a discussion about how past work relates to the opportunity at this site and thoughts on the approach that might be taken. Each short listed artist will have 45-50 minutes for presentation and questions.

## PROJECT RECRUITMENT AND MANAGEMENT PANEL

The panel will consist of: Elected Member - Bournemouth Borough Council (BBCo) THAT Group Property Man Construction Project Manager - McAleer & Rushe Senior Planning Officer (Urban Design) BBCo Public Art Consultant & Project Manager

Cllr. Jane Kelly Peter Tisdale Darragh Greenan Catherine Miles Nicky Whittenham

## CONTRACT

The successful artist will be issued with a contract from THAT Group. A draft of that contract will be available at interview. The artist will be engaged by THAT Group.

## **PROJECT MANAGEMENT**

The Artist will be managed by the Project Panel through the Public Art Consultant.

#### **PROJECT TIMETABLE**

The Artist will commence the work as soon as possible after selection and undertake a Concept Design Stage followed by a Concept Design meeting with the

Project panel (dates TBC). This will be followed by a Detailed Design stage and meeting (dates TBC) at which the artist will present final designs to the Panel for sign off, so that manufacture can begin.

## OUTPUTS AND DESIGN AGREEMENT PROCESS / TIMETABLE:

- 1. Successful artist appointed: w/c 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015
- 2. Concept design meeting (see below): TBC.
- 3. Detailed design meeting (see below): TBC
- 4. Installation of artwork: Complete by beginning August 2015

## Stage 1 - Concept Design

Further to their appointment and following a Concept Design Stage, the Artist will be asked to present their initial thoughts and work in progress to the Project Panel.

This meeting will involve discussions of:

- Community's' themes &
- aspirations

• Ideas input

- Initial proposals
  Technical & maintenance issues
  - Potential for landscape integration

The meeting is for evaluation by the Project Panel. This process is intended to assess the initial practicality, workability and affordability of the proposals at an early stage in the process and to address and resolve any fundamental concerns.

## Stage 2 - Detail Design

Following the Detailed Design Stage a meeting will take place at which the Artist will be asked to present detailed designs for the commission to a standard where accurate costing and a timetable for the finished scheme can be made. The detailed designs will include:

• Sketches to illustrate the scheme, fully annotated with materials, fixing methods, and any other relevant information.

• A written description, with a clear rationale behind the overall concept and explanation of each component.

## Stage 3 - Project Completion

The artist will ensure installation of the completed artwork by the start of August 2015.

## **BUDGET AND FEES:**

The maximum overall budget for the project is £38,000 for materials, fees and installation. No additional expenditure arising will be entertained. The artist's fee for the Concept and Detailed Design Stages, artwork interpretation and installation of all components is included within this budget. All meetings will be in Bournemouth.

## FURTHER READING / INFORMATION:

• The Town Centre Area Action Plan gives an overview of the Council's aspirations for the future of the town centre.

http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/PlanningBuildings/Planning/Policy/Local-Plan/TCAAP/TCAAP.aspx\_\_\_\_

•The draft Bournemouth Town Centre Development Design Guide expands on the policies relating to design and quality contained within the Local Plan. Its focus is on buildings rather than the treatment of the public realm, but it may help to give a flavour of the character of Bournemouth and help with inspiration. The Council aims to adopt this document in the Spring of 2015.

• The Bournemouth Public Realm Strategy: Guiding Principles Supplementary Planning Document may also help to provide background. <u>http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/PlanningBuildings/ConservationDesignTrees/UrbanDesign/Public-Realm-Strategy.aspx</u>

• Plans for the development can be viewed at the following web address, by entering -16530-L into the Application Number search box. <u>http://www.bournemouth.gov.uk/PlanningBuildings/Planning/ViewComment/Discla</u> <u>imer.aspx</u> Please note that these plans have been subsequently slightly amended; the selected artist should obtain a full set of the latest plans from THAT Group before commencing any design work.

## SUBMISSIONS:

Please ensure submissions (marked with reference: **TM381**), reach us by 5 p.m. on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> January 2015 and are addressed to:

Nicky Whittenham - Public Art Consultant c/o Catherine Miles - Senior Planning Officer Planning & Transportation Bournemouth Borough Council Town Hall Annexe St Stephen's Road Bournemouth BH2 6EA

If you have any questions, which are not answered in the brief, please call Nicky during office hours on 07799 052975 or email <u>nickywhittenham@gmail.com</u>

#### PLEASE ENSURE YOUR SUBMISSIONS ARE SENT IN HARD COPY FORMAT AND INCLUDE AN SAE FOR THEIR RETURN IF REQUIRED.

## THANK YOU.