



Artist database for interest in public realm projects

INVITATION OF INTEREST

Project Title: Public Realm Artist database

Deadline for Responses: Ongoing

SUMMARY

As Coventry gets ready to enjoy its year as City of Culture we are investing over £40 million of grant funding in a range of improvements in the city centre.

Coventry City Council with support from Creative Giants are undertaking an ambitious series of citywide redevelopment projects. These projects will not only 'set the stage' for a year-long programme of cultural activity being led by Coventry City of Culture Trust, they will also become the legacy for Coventry citizens and visitors to the city for years to come.

We want to create an amazing and on-going legacy for local people, and we want to make sure that local artists are involved in all aspects. The nature of these projects are varied and cover all elements of public realm*, from garden projects, to construction projects, street art to lighting we have lots of opportunities for you to showcase your talent.

We want to talk to you whatever your specialty and whatever your experience. Projects will range in budget. We want to invite you to become part of this journey during 2020 and as we progress into 2021.

We are inviting all West Midlands, national (UK) and international creatives to submit their interest and links to their work or portfolio. The aim is to create a diverse catalogue/database of work and a register of interested artists that can be considered by Coventry City Council, Creative Giants and the Coventry City of Culture Trust for public realm projects.

*The **public realm** is commonly **defined** as any space that is free and open to everyone. The London Plan describes it as 'the space between and within buildings that is publicly accessible, including streets, squares, forecourts, parks and open spaces.'

INDICATION OF PUBLIC REALM SCHEMES

The following information is intended to give context to some of the opportunities that we expect to come up in the near future, but this is by no means exhaustive. When referring to a 'scheme' here, we are talking about an area of public space that is a focus for us. Schemes may include multiple projects and opportunities for artists.

We are currently developing design overviews for some key schemes in Coventry city centre, all of which are at differing stages of development. These include;

- Pool Meadow Bus Station
- Upper Precinct & Smithford/Market Way

- Hertford Street
- Pepper Lane
- Greyfriars Walk
- City dressing
- Palmer Lane

We invited artists on the database to submit ideas for Pool Meadow Bus Station back in April and are now working with a shortlist of artists to develop their ideas.

More recently we sent out a brief to a selection of artists on the database that we identified as mural and / or relief artists for an opportunity that has come up on Pepper Lane.

We anticipate more briefs coming up for other schemes over the next few months. Sometimes these will be specific (e.g. a space has provided a particular opportunity such as a mural, or sculptural intervention) and sometimes they will be more open (e.g. we invite artists on the database to look at a space and propose ideas without any suggestions from us as to the expected form or outcome). When briefs are more specific, we will use the database to identify artists whose work is appropriate for the type of work we are looking to commission. This helps us streamline our process and means that we do not waste your time proposing ideas that are not feasible.

WHO ARE WE LOOKING FOR?

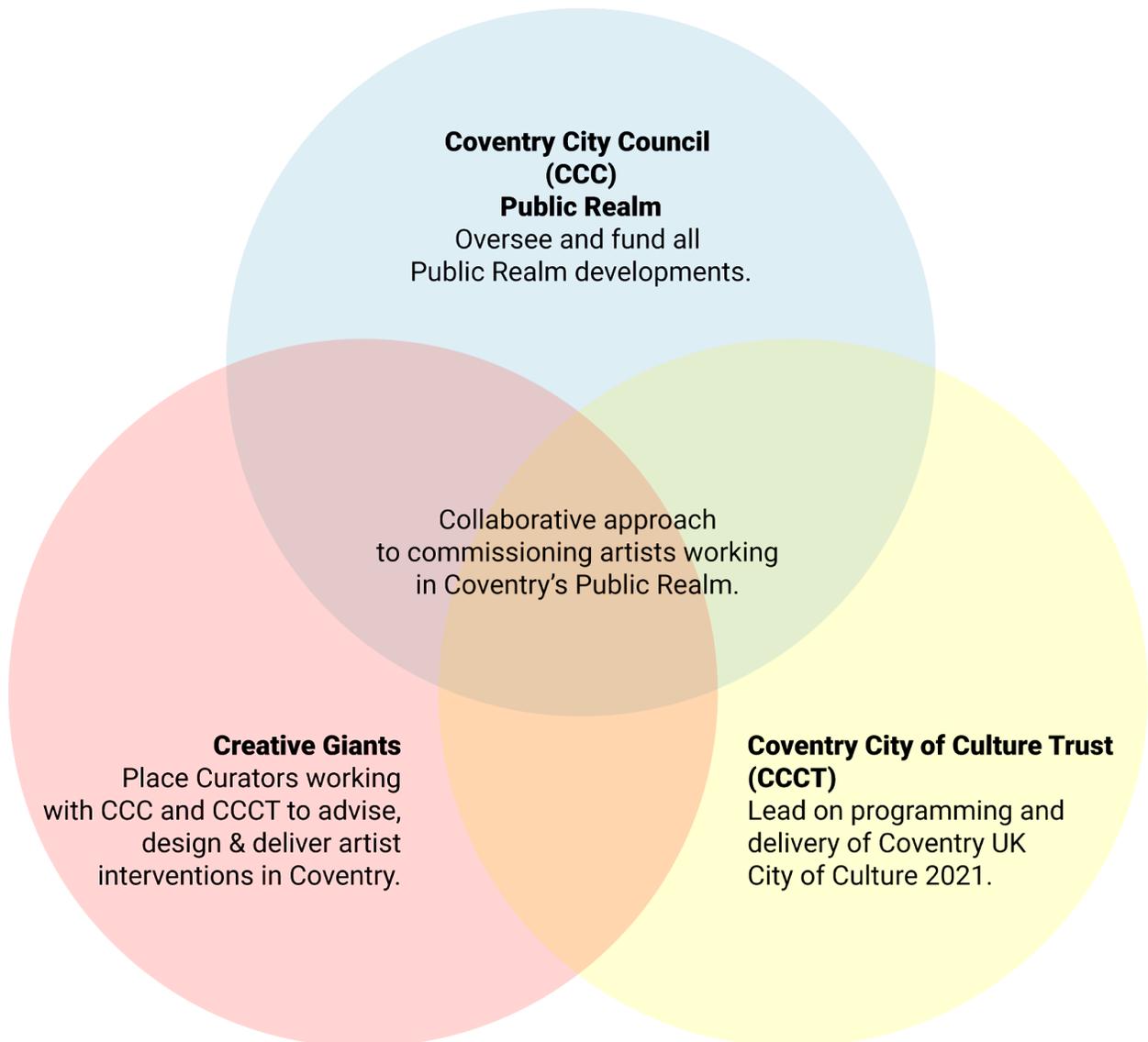
We are looking for all visual artists, designers, makers, thinkers, doers at all stages of their career.. There is no limit to the scope of work, scale or materiality.

Working within the public realm means certain policies and procedures and elements of technical planning will have to be considered and met to ensure public safety. Please do not let this discourage you from applying as support can be offered as required, on a project by project basis.

We are also interested in hearing from you if you and/or your organisation are able to support manufacturing and fabrication but may not be interested in proposing designs or ideas. Please also respond to the form below and make sure to select 'Manufacturing or Fabrication' under 'Your artistic mediums' section of the form linked in this document under 'How to respond'.

We do not anticipate commissioning live events or working with performers for this project. If you are interested in taking part in the Coventry City of Culture programme, or have an idea for the 2021 year please contact info@coventry2021.co.uk

WHO IS INVOLVED & OUR ROLES



Further detail:

Coventry City Council's Public Realm team is leading on all of the city centre development schemes and projects. A small, expert team made up of specialists in areas such as design, project management and construction. This team is driving the projects with the intention of completing in time for City of Culture which kicks off in May 2021.

Creative Giants are Place Curators working closely with the Public Realm team. Their role is to offer advice at each stage of the design process for a scheme, with a focus on creating opportunities for artists. They are the point of contact for artists working Coventry's public realm and they offer support and knowledge to both artists and Coventry City Council.

Coventry City of Culture Trust are leading on programming and delivery Coventry UK City of Culture 2021. They are a key stakeholder in all aspects of Coventry's Public Realm schemes and are working closely with Coventry City Council and Creative Giants to ensure that any developments in the city centre have a relationship to the City of Culture programme in order to maximise the benefits and legacy for Coventry citizens and visitors to the city for years to come.

Please see the [document linked here](#) for more information on these three organisations.

HOW TO RESPOND

Privacy Notice

Coventry City Council will use your personal information to create a register of interested artists for the public realm development works. We will work with Creative Giants to provide consultancy and engagement services in order to reach out to the artist communities regional, national and international.

We will also share information about you with the Coventry City of Culture Trust in order to ensure that both the Council and the Trust have access to artists who may wish to be involved in wider projects and programmes.

We also use information about you, provided to us by Creative Giants, as part of the development of the artist register. This information may also be shared with other third party organisations as appropriate by responding to our online form.

More details about how we use information about you can be found in the full privacy notice on the Council website at www.coventry.gov.uk/privacynotice

Submit your details:

If you would like to add your details to our artist database, please go to www.coventry.gov.uk/artistdatabase

If you have any questions, require any assistance with the language and terminology, or anything else, please contact creative.giants@coventry.gov.uk and we will be able to clarify any questions and / or arrange support for you.

Once you have completed the online form you will then be added to the public realm database and relevant briefs will be shared with you.

From time to time we may also send you updates about the work we are doing in Coventry's Public Realm and send you other relevant opportunities from our trusted partners.

Equal Opportunities

Coventry City Council and Coventry City of Culture Trust are committed to equal opportunities and will treat all applications fairly on the basis of written and/or visual submissions.

The form asks you to submit 'sensitive personal information'. This is for evaluation & monitoring purposes only. Submission of this information is strictly voluntary.