

REPORT TITLE: ARTS PROGRAMME UPDATE

1 NOVEMBER 2022

REPORT OF CABINET MEMBER: Cllr Lucille Thompson, Cabinet Member for Business & Culture

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WARD(S): DENMEAD/SOUTHWICK & WICKHAM/STAKES ROAD

PURPOSE

This report sets out the resources required, and how these will be used, along with the process for delivery of the West of Waterlooville Public Art Programme across the major development area during the remainder of the development period.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Forum notes:

1. Up to 20% of the Section 106 Public Art Fund will be deployed to provide the necessary resources to lead a review and ongoing delivery of the Public Art Programme to completion.
2. Collaboration with appropriate stakeholders will be undertaken to review the existing programme and develop a revised costed public art programme for the remaining period of the development which will be presented to the Forum at a future meeting.
3. The governance arrangements for the public art programme as outlined in section 11.
4. That soft landscaping to the Gateway Installation will be undertaken deploying a suitable tree species in order to align more closely with the original concept.

IMPLICATIONS:1 COUNCIL PLAN OUTCOMELiving Well

- 1.1 Delivery of the Public Arts Programme at Waterlooville will contribute towards objectives to create attractive and well-used public facilities and green spaces with space for relaxation and play, with a wide range of physical and cultural activities for all ages and abilities.

Vibrant Local Economy

- 1.2 Delivery of the Public Arts Programme will strengthen the appeal of the Winchester district by promoting and developing our unique cultural, heritage and natural environment assets.

2 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 2.1 The balance of the Arts Programme Fund currently held by Winchester City Council is £26,103.
- 2.2 A further two contributions of £100,000 each are now due, based on occupation of 500 and 1000 dwellings, as per the Section 106 agreement.
- 2.3 A further two contributions of £100,000 each are due in the future following occupation of 1500 and 2000 dwellings respectively.
- 2.4 Based on the above contributions the anticipated Arts Programme Fund to the end of the development is estimated at £426,103, realised at the occupation milestones outlined above.
- 2.5 WWF118 was considered at the Forum held on 8 March 2022 which agreed that £79,709 remains due to Grainger. A Deed of Variation application is underway which is anticipated to be executed by the end of December 2022. This will allow for the £79,709 to be deducted from current outstanding contributions which are now due. This will leave £146,394 as the Arts Programme Fund available to spend until the next contribution is received after 1500 occupations.
- 2.6 A new Public Art Programme project resource will be allocated from the Arts Programme Fund.
- 2.7 As a guide to establish the potential resource costs three Public Art agency providers, experienced in developing and executing programmes within Section 106 agreements, have confirmed that typically a 15-20% allocation from the total contributions would be required as a management fee. Based on the remaining Arts Programme Fund and anticipated future contributions, a cost of no more than £69,278 is anticipated. This would leave a minimum of £277,116 for delivery of public art.

3 LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 A number of matters relating to the Section 106 agreement are mentioned in the report.
- 3.2 Any agency, artists and art installations will be procured in accordance with the council's Procurement and Contract Management Strategy and the council's Contract Procedure Rules.

4 WORKFORCE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 In order to ensure that the Arts Programme Fund is managed effectively and used to deliver projects, in liaison with stakeholders with outcomes that benefit the local community, a dedicated resource is required.
- 4.2 It is intended that the equivalent of a 0.6 FTE grade four Project Officer is appointed for the first year to undertake the review and develop the ongoing Public Art Programme and delivery of immediate projects. Resources will then be deployed as necessary to oversee the delivery of future arts projects as they come forward.
- 4.3 Consideration will be given to either recruiting a fixed term contract post or appointing a specialist agency, whichever offers the appropriate level of flexibility required.
- 4.4 The council's Culture and Creative Sector Development Officer will provide line management responsibility for the resource deployed and the Service Lead: Economy & Tourism will take overall oversight of this work programme.

5 PROPERTY AND ASSET IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Any art installations within the development are likely to be located within the public open space or other public realm, so would become the property of whichever organisation adopts the area in question. For any future installations, this would need to be negotiated at an early stage as part of the project planning and feasibility.

6 CONSULTATION AND COMMUNICATION

- 6.1 A significant resident and stakeholder engagement exercise was undertaken to help inform the projects that formed the original Public Arts Programme. However, as time has passed and projects have not come to fruition, as outlined in WWF119. Therefore further engagement is required to review the existing proposals and develop a new costed programme.
- 6.2 The approach set out in this report has evolved following discussions involving local ward members who were part of the Arts Advisory Panel and with representatives from Grainger.
- 6.3 Newlands Parish Council has started the process of adopting public open space on the development, so future proposals for art in the public realm will need to be discussed with the parish council at an early stage.

7 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

7.1 Winchester City Council has declared a climate emergency and in December 2019 adopted a Carbon Neutrality Action Plan, committing it to reaching carbon neutrality by 2024 and aiming to make the entire district carbon neutral by 2030.

7.2 All possible efforts will be made to ensure that any art installations are procured, sourced, manufactured and maintained sustainably.

8 PUBLIC SECTOR EQUALITY DUTY

8.1 None

9 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

9.1 None required

10 RISK MANAGEMENT

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
<u>Financial Exposure</u> Programme delivery cost exceeds the budget.	Careful budget management and robust contract management	Potential to reset the programme and consider alternative options.
<u>Innovation</u> The proposed Berewood commissions are unique, which has made costing and planning more difficult than a more traditional piece of art (e.g. a statue).	Regular review of proposals to ensure viability.	Potential to reset the programme and consider alternative options.
<u>Reputation</u> There is always a risk that public art will not be liked and this can have an impact on the Council, the developers and the artists.	Continued focus on engagement/consultation with the local community.	Residents feel included in the process and 'own' the results.
<u>Achievement of outcome</u> Complicated and expensive projects could use up a disproportionate amount of the available funding and limit the	Regular review of proposals to ensure viability.	Potential to reset the programme and consider alternative options.

Risk	Mitigation	Opportunities
ability to deliver a programme across the entire development.		
<u>Property</u> Some arts commissions are designed for public interaction and there is a risk to public safety if not properly constructed and maintained.	Health and safety advice was taken (e.g. RoSPA assessment of boat pond designs). Proof of public liability insurance is required before issuing any purchase orders for works. A regular inspection and maintenance regime will be put in place on completion.	
<u>Community Support</u> The community has grown and changed over the course of development. It is important to keep engaging in order to avoid accusations that the public art is not what is wanted on the site.	A programme of engagement took place around the earlier proposals. Further consultation to take place on the final art work.	Newlands Parish Council can be an active partner in the arts programme development and delivery.
<u>Timescales</u> The commissions for the Grainger site are behind schedule due to a changing development timetable for Berewood, the earlier need to review and reduce costs and the onset of COVID-19.	A revised timetable will be developed.	The delay allows new residents to be engaged and involved in the process.
<u>Project capacity</u> Lack of suitable management and oversight of programme delivery.	Options have been considered to ensure appropriate resourcing.	

11 SUPPORTING INFORMATION:

- 11.1 Three art projects were either completed or in progress at the time of the last Arts Advisory Panel meeting: Newlands Walk, The Gateway Commission and the Boat Pond. The intention was for the Section 106 contributions to enable at least one further commission in addition to these.

Progress to date

- 11.2 Newlands Walk open space – a bespoke play area involving designs from local children was opened in July 2018.
- 11.3 The Gateway – after receiving planning permission the armatures of a metal ring were installed, unfortunately the saplings which were due to be trained to grow around the armatures died. Options are being investigated to undertake the planting again, but with a different species that is more appropriate than oak. While not entirely meeting the original brief, this would mean the installation could be completed as planned with any additional cost minimised.
- 11.4 The Boat Pond – further to WWF118 considered at the Forum on 8 March 2022, this project remains halted and will form part of the review to be undertaken.

Governance and management

- 11.5 In January 2022 a group of council officers and members from Winchester City Council met with representatives from Grainger to review the current position and consider how best to restart work on the Public Arts Programme. The consensus was that Winchester City Council is best placed to provide the necessary oversight and accountability for use of the funds. However, it was acknowledged that there is no existing resource available to undertake this work so options were considered for how best to enable this.
- 11.6 At this same meeting challenges around the delivery of the Arts Advisory Panel was discussed. It was agreed to continue with the operation of the Panel in the short term, whilst also recognising the need to minimise the amount of work associated with administering it.
- 11.7 It is proposed that going forward the Arts Advisory Panel is retained during the period in which the revised public art programme is developed. The future role of the Panel will be determined by the Forum at a future date.

Next Steps

- 11.8 It is advised that the Public Art Programme will be reset, supported by a new community engagement process, resulting in a revised Public Art Programme to make use of the remaining contributions. In order to undertake this work an officer or agency is needed to manage the process to ensure the project is delivered on time and within budget. Officers will commence this process in the coming weeks.

- 11.9 Research into similar programmes on other major development areas has identified some interesting approaches that could be applied to the remaining arts programme here. The review will include consideration of the option to utilise the Public Art Fund for approaches such as:
- a) A community engagement project where residents can actively participate in creating a piece, increasing a sense of ownership (Townhill Mosaics / Shorelines).
 - b) A spectacle / headline / showstopper piece in a public space for all to enjoy (The Lock Gate / Millennium Garden)
- 11.10 Progress updates will be brought to the Forum as appropriate throughout the life of Public Art Programme.
- 12 OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED
- 12.1 Control and responsibility for implementation of the Public Art Programme could be passed to another organisation. This happened for a period of time when Grainger took the lead, but it became difficult for the council to maintain sufficient oversight and control so this is not the preferred way to proceed. However, there will continue to be a role for Grainger's Community Development Manager in supporting the programme and adding value through links to their work.
- 12.2 Consideration was given to the council delivering the programme from existing teams. However the limited resources available do not allow for this.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:-

Previous Committee Reports:-

WWF118 – Arts programme update

Other Background Documents:-

None

APPENDICES:

None