

Winchester City Council

Commissioning Specification

Public Art Project Co-ordinator **Extra Care Scheme, Chesil Street, Winchester**

Summary

Winchester City Council is offering a short term commission for the facilitation and delivery of a temporary public art project in central Winchester.

Inspired by the success of a similar commission for the [Stanmore neighbourhood](#) in 2014, it is hoped that this will form part of an ongoing series of community art projects associated with the Council's new homes programme.

Expressions of interest are invited from individuals or organisations with suitable skills and experience, to be submitted by **midday on Wednesday 2nd March 2016**.

The fee for this commission is **£4,000 excluding VAT**.

Chesil Street Extra Care Scheme

There are growing numbers of older people in Winchester, with a 25% increase in over-85 year olds since 200. This has resulted in an increased need for housing and services that suitable for older people, and Winchester City Council is committed to ensuring there is a choice of appropriate facilities in the District.

Whilst some people's needs will be better met by staying in their existing home, moving in with relatives or into nursing or residential care, others will fair better in extra care housing.

Extra care housing consists of groups of individual houses or flats with communal facilities that allow residents to retain independence whilst having access to 24 hour care.

Research shows that people who live in extra care housing enjoy better health and have fewer hospital stays.

A number of new extra care schemes have been built across Hampshire in recent years. However, provision in Winchester is very limited and the Council is seeking to address this shortfall. Following consultations held In March, September and December 2014, planning permission was granted for the Chesil Street Extra Care Scheme.

This will consist of 52 one and two bedroom units, occupied by a mixture of single people and couples. Most will be for rent from the Council, with some shared ownership flats.

Copies of the exhibition boards from the September event and other information is available to download [here](#). An artist's impression of the Scheme can be found at Appendix 1.

Galliford Try have been appointed by the Council to be the main contractor for the site. They are positive about public art and have experience of working with artists. They also have good contacts with local schools.

The Brief

The Council wishes to engage the local community in a creative project using site hoardings which will be in place during the construction of the Extra Care Scheme, from March 2016 to May 2017.

Drawing on the history and character of the area, and shaped by the involvement of local residents and businesses, the project could explore one or more of the following themes:

- a) Older people in Winchester (eg the St John's Charity, volunteering, 'City Fathers', grandparents caring for grandchildren, local clubs);
- b) The story of Chesil past, present and future (eg notable figures from history, local businesses, interesting buildings, the railway legacy, community life);
- c) Walking in Winchester (the corporate campaign theme for 2016/17).

To this end, the Council wishes to appoint a Project Co-ordinator whose role will be to:

- facilitate access to images and other materials (eg through historical records, through people's own collections, through works by other artists)
- enable groups and individuals to produce new (digitised) images of the area reflecting the theme of the project
- facilitate community participation in the composition of the final design for the hoardings, ensuring a coherent outcome to the overall design
- co-ordinate arrangements for the production and display of the images in conjunction with the council and site managers
- ensure a photographic record of the activities is maintained and identify options to ensure the legacy of the project
- produce a final design and liaise with those responsible for production and installation.

Fee

The fee for this commission is £4,000. This figure is exclusive of VAT. Essential materials may be funded over and above this figure, but travel and other personal expenses are included.

Production costs to transfer the design to the hoardings will be met from a separate budget of £2,000.

Project Outcomes

The key outcomes are:

- i) to foster pride in the area by engaging with residents, businesses and community organisations in a way that enables them to express what is of value and interest to them in their neighbourhood; and
- ii) to help residents and businesses to see the positive contribution of the Extra Care Scheme to the area, and to Winchester as a whole.

Partners and Stakeholders

It is expected that the Co-ordinator will work a number of the following:

- local community and church groups
- All Saints CofE Primary School
- curators of the Hampshire Cultural Trust
- Hampshire Record Office
- local institutions such as the St John's Charity (which owns property in Chesil Street) and Chesil Theatre
- residents of Watersmeet supported housing scheme for older people
- businesses in and around Chesil Street
- City Council Ward Members
- Other local artists
- Winchester secondary schools
- Winchester School of Art (University of Southampton)

The Co-ordinator will work closely with the Community Officer from the Council's New Homes Team, who can provide contact details and draw on his excellent local knowledge to facilitate delivery of the project.

There is also a newly-formed residents' group in Chesil Street. Although the group was primarily formed to object to the Scheme, it is very much hoped that they will have a significant input into the project.

Timescales

Deadline for expressions of interest	Midday on Wednesday 2 nd march 2016
Selection panel chooses shortlist for presentation stage	Tuesday 8 th March 2016
Presentation to selection panel	Thursday 17 th March 2016 (interview slots between 10am and 2pm) Guildhall Winchester
Inception meeting	Monday 21 st March at 1pm City Offices

Expressions of Interest

Applicants should be able to evidence the following knowledge, skills and experience:

- co-ordination of community arts projects
- facilitation of community engagement and participation
- knowledge and expertise in photographic and digital media
- excellent communication skills, including writing for the web and social media
- strong organisational skills

Also desirable are

- experience of liaising with developers / site managers / local authorities
- experience of delivering heritage-related or oral history projects
- familiarity with the Chesil Street area of Winchester

Applicants will need to provide:

- public liability insurance
- current DBS (formerly CRB) check
- two references for similar projects

In the first instance, please submit your CV and supporting materials addressing these requirements to:

Sonia VINCENT at svincent@winchester.gov.uk

Sonia can be contacted on tel 01962 848 269 and works Mon, Wed, Thurs.

Shortlisted applicants will be invited to attend interviews (see timescale above) by the selection panel.

For an informal conversation / further information contact Mark Maitland, Community Officer, at mmaitland@winchester.gov.uk or on tel 01962 848 518.

Ends

Appendix 1: CGIs of the Extra Care Scheme from Chesil Street

