

Public Art Programme – Artist Brief

Dovercourt Road, Lockleaze, Bristol



Issue 4, 28 November 2024

Client: Goram Homes and Vistry Group

Local Authority: Bristol City Council

Public Art Producer: Bricks Bristol

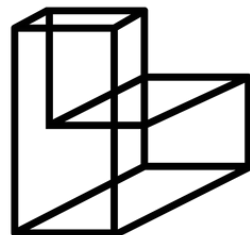


Dovercourt Road Public Art – Artist Brief



This document outlines a public art commission opportunity for South West based artist(s) for:

**Dovercourt Road (Former Bristol City Council Depot),
Lockleaze, Bristol BS7 9SH**



BRICKS

Building for Bristol, together

Goram
Homes

Vistry
Group



The Commission

We seek to appoint an artist/s to deliver the public art programme on behalf of Vistry Group (the client) and Goram Homes (landowner), who are bringing forward land on Dovercourt Road at the former Bristol City Council depot for development. The scheme includes 140 new homes, alongside public open space and landscaping.

This is an opportunity to develop:

- A public artwork and/or creative experiential programme for new and existing nearby residents.
- A podcast episode.
- A community engagement programme, delivered by either the commissioned artist or a third party.

The total budget for this commission is £34,500 plus VAT (if applicable).

The deadline for submitting an expression of interest is 20 January 2025

We know Bristol and the South West region is rich with high quality artists, who have the experience or the ambition to create public art that is meaningful, playful, connecting and which can contribute to a better place to live and work.

Through consultation with local people, a Public Art Design Code was created for the site. Setting out the ethos for the new Dovercourt Road development and outlining how creativity could be a part of the new neighbourhood. This has been distilled into features and considerations on pages 6 and 7 of this document.

Local people are passionate about seeing more creativity and social activities in their area and are flexible on the form and style this could take. For this reason, the principles guiding the programme are purposefully broad, to allow as open an invitation as possible for artists to respond creatively; either through a physical or experiential programme.

Table of Contents



- 03** Introduction
- 05** Site Location
- 06** Design Code: Features and Considerations
- 07** Design Code: Audience & Location
- 08** Inspiration and Ideas
- 10** Background
- 11** Local Community
- 12** Site History and Condition
- 13** Proposed Development
- 14** Site Visits
- 15** Community Engagement and Podcast
- 16** Budget and Timeline
- 17** Submitting an EOI
- 18** How will my EOI be assessed?
- 19** Creative Commissioning Group & Info

Site Location

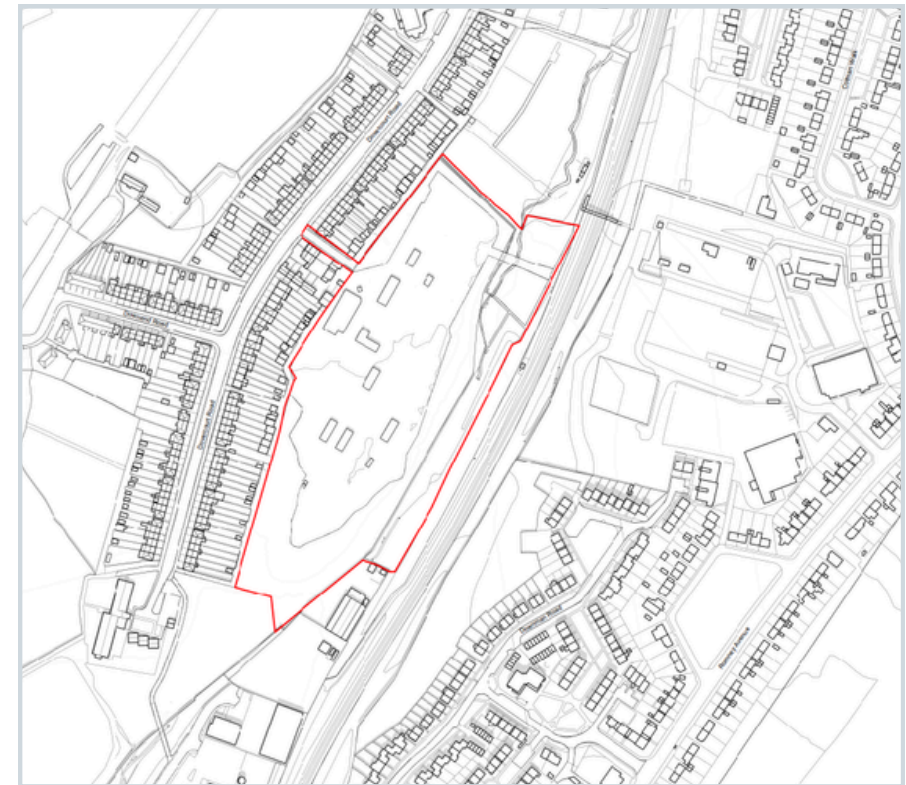
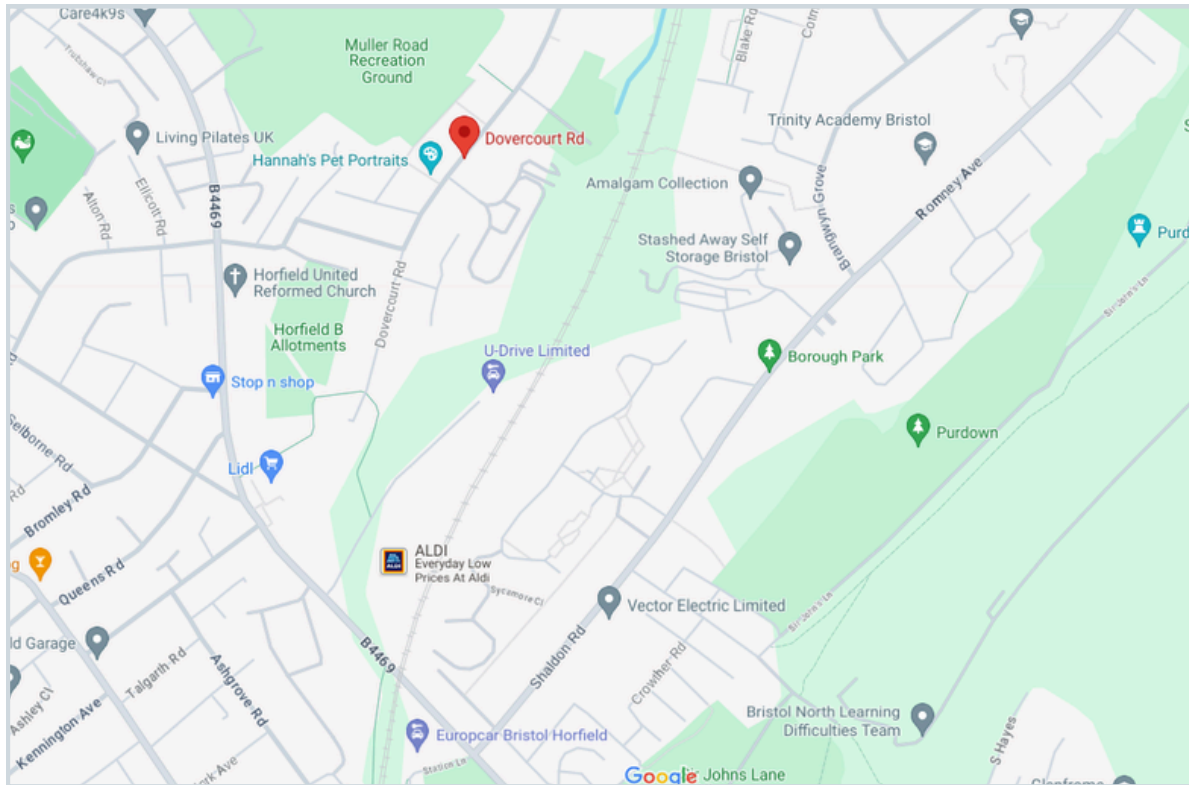
Address: Dovercourt Road (Former Depot), Lockleaze, Bristol BS7 9SH

Planning Application Reference: 22/00632/PB (Condition 23)

The former Bristol City Council depot on Dovercourt Road is located in Lockleaze, Bristol; approximately 3.5km north of the City Centre.

The site is surrounded to the west by trees, an access lane, garages and residential gardens. Mature trees, Horfield Brook (partly culverted), and the rail line are to the east. There is more woodland and scrub and an open green space next to the Concorde Way foot/cycle path to the South. To the north are the Dovercourt Road allotments.

The main access is from Dovercourt Road, with a further footpath route in the northeast corner leading over a rail footbridge to Romney Avenue.



Design Code: Features and Considerations

The public art programme is driven by a Design Code, which was collaboratively created by local people, the developer and Bricks:

Essential Features

Themes - Invitation to pause, learn, enjoy and connect to each other

Form - Pathways, meeting/stopping places, interactive, playful, joyful, experiential

Audience - Local people, new community and passers by

Environment - Connect with/inhabit the existing landscape (woodland, pond area) and the new development

Materials - Durable but consider sustainability and/or experiential formats

Lifespan - At least 15 years for a well used urban environment (if a physical artwork)



Things to consider (some/all)

Movement - Encourage greater permeability & legibility of the site & opportunities to gather

Artist - Should understand and be able to engage with the local area/community

Local Identity - Green spaces & well connected, strong community

Context - Stoke Park, Purdown, post war & new housing, wildlife corridors

Passively secure design - for any physical work








Design Code: Audience & Location



Key Site Features

Drawing on suggestions and input from local people, the following locations are seen as key features of the new development.

-  Community movement corridors
-  Connecting points between existing and new communities
-  Young people play/gathering spaces
-  Ecology corridors/spaces
-  Possible Public Art Programme Locations

Audience for the Public Art Programme

The audience for the public art programme will be made up of new residents of the Dovercourt Road development and the existing close knit community that already exists in the area.

Possible Public Art Programme Location

The areas marked above  are considered to present the best opportunities for public art locations.

This woodland pathway and pond area are felt to have the best opportunity for accommodating either a physical artwork or creative experiences for the local community.

Inspiration and Ideas

Physical examples that respond to the form and context of the programme's Essential Features



1 The Library of Ideas – Davis & Jones. Commissioner: Knightstone. Location: Junction 3, Bristol. Credit Max McClure

2 Grow Feral – Jo Lathwood. Commissioner: Culture Weston. Location: Winter Gardens, Weston Super Mare, UK. Credit: Paul Blakemore

3 Wildlife Pods – Denman + Gould. Commissioner: Stonewater + 'a space' arts'. Location: Winterbourne Abbas, Dorset. Credit: Denman + Gould.

4 Accessible outdoor classroom – Filbak. Commissioner: University of Malaga. Location: Teatinos Campus, Malaga. Credit: Lolo Mestanza

5 The Patient Gardner – Visiondivision. Commissioner: Politecnico di Milano. Location: Politecnico di Milano campus. Credit: Visiondivision

6 Community Amphitheatre – Willowsford Life, Virginia. Location: Virginia, Washington

Examples of creative and community experiences that respond to the programme's Essential Features



1 The Mossy Carpet - Art & Energy. Commissioner: Bricks Bristol + Juniper Homes. Location: Felix Road Adventure Playground. Credit: Ruby Turner

2 Really Wild Lockleaze (Pond Building)- Lockleaze Neighbourhood Trust. Location: various sites throughout Lockleaze

3 Welcome Building Public Art Programme - Dorcas Casey Sculpture Workshop - mark making for new sculpture. Location: Dings Family Fun Day,

4 Transactionland - Rachael Clerke. Commissioner: Bricks Bristol. Location: St Anne's House, Brislington, Bristol. Credit Ruby Turner

The Dovercourt Road Public Art Programme will support the redevelopment of the former Bristol City Council depot at Dovercourt Road, Lockleaze, Bristol.

This document is written by Bricks and commissioned by Vistry Group and Goram Homes.

It demonstrates the commitment of the land owner and developer to a considered and engaged approach to delivering a programme of public art within the new residential development.

The public art programme seeks to build on the shared values of Vistry Group, Goram Homes, Bricks and Bristol City Council through:

- Creating a public art programme that is relevant to its context and communities; allowing the new development to thrive.
- Commissioning a programme that contributes to the scheme's commitment to good quality design for the local built environment.
- Investing in South West art and artists to support the local creative economy.
- Celebrating the identity of the site and/or its locality.
- Engaging communities in the creation of meaningful art inspired by place.
- Providing direct commissions for the local cultural sector, supporting the sustainability of the region's art ecology.
- Delivering good working practices in the commissioning of the programme.



Local Community



The Public Art Plan for Dovercourt Road is guided and inspired by the people who live and work closest to the development site.

A creative community workshop was held by Bricks and facilitated by local artist Ellie Shipman in January 2024 to hear from local residents about what kind of public art they would like to see on the site. Alongside, what key features and considerations that a public art programme should have for the new Dovercourt Road development and local residents.

In response to this workshop, the Dovercourt Road Public Art Design Code was created.

The Code sets out the feedback from the workshop, alongside key themes and features that local people felt a public art programme should have at Dovercourt Road. It also sets out potential locations in the site that could accommodate either a physical or experiential artwork programme.

Dovercourt Road Public Art Programme will continue to engage the local community throughout the decision making process and through a wider engagement event and/or experience around the commission.

As such, two community members will be invited to sit on the commissioning panel for the programme as part of the Creative Commissioning Group (CCG).

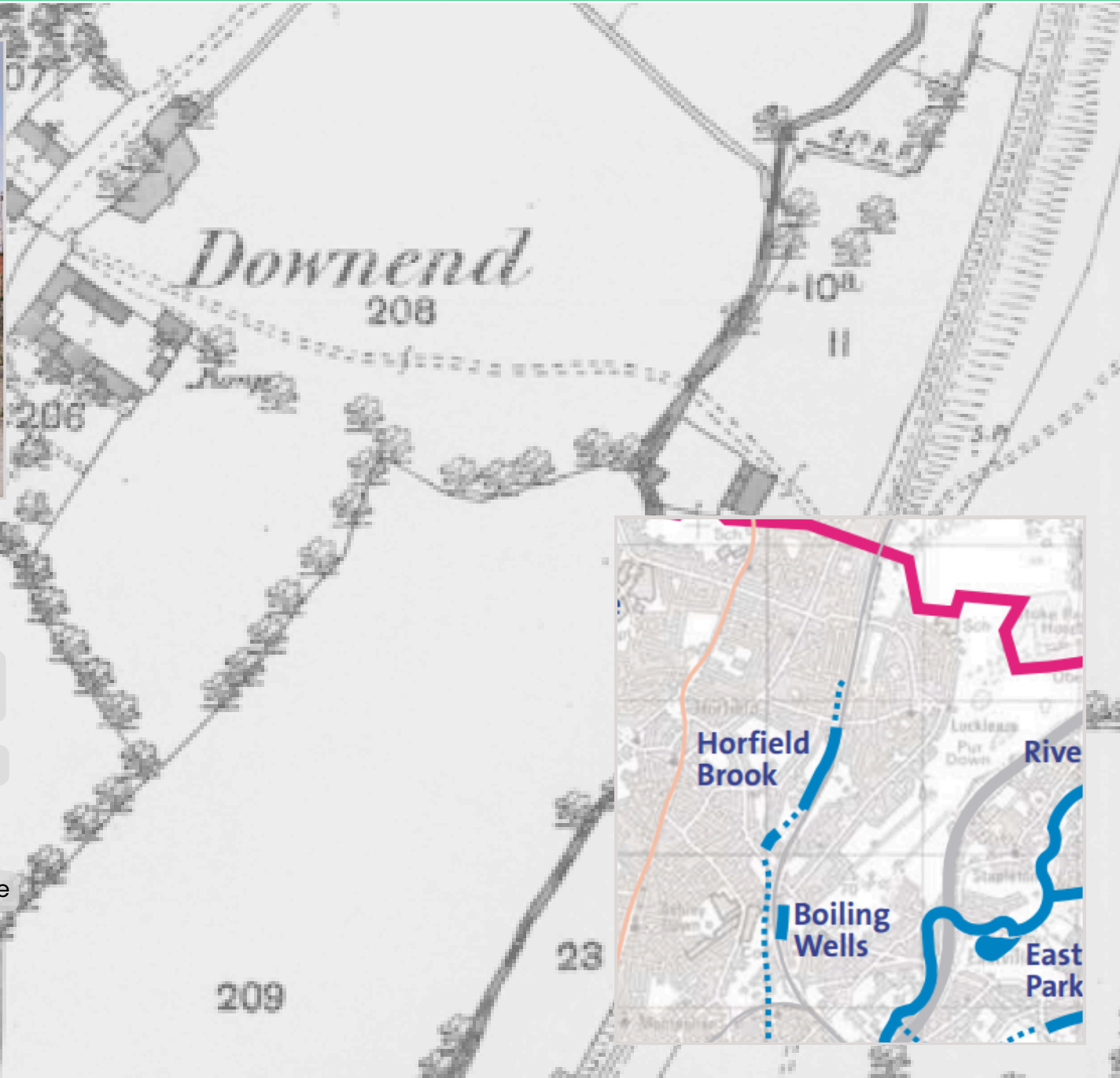
Site History & Condition



Historically, the area was farmland and orchards managed by Downend House Farm.

Although housing was developed up to the edge of the boundary of the site following the second world war, the site itself remained largely undeveloped until the 1970s when the Corporation Bus Depot and Refuse Tip moved onto the site.

Horfield Brook which ran to the east of the site was culverted and following the end of the use of the site as a depot, it has lain vacant and fallen into increasing disrepair.



Proposed Development

This new development will transform the disused Bristol City Council depot into a thriving neighbourhood of sustainable housing just three miles North of the city centre.

It will create 140 new homes, as a mixture of houses and apartments, half of which will be affordable, either as social rentals or shared ownership.

The design includes new park areas for the local community and improves biodiversity on the site by up to 20%. This includes keeping and enhancing as much existing vegetation as possible and creating new habitats across the development.

It will connect with the surrounding neighbourhood by a road and foot route from Dovercourt Road and a new pedestrian route linking to the railway bridge to the north east. (a)

The wooded area in the south and east of the site will be enhanced (b) and a new environmental flood pond and area of open space will be created in the south of the site. (c)

Bristol City Council Planning Application Reference: 22/00632/PB
(Condition 23)



We are scheduling site visits for artists prior to the deadline for EOI submission, please let us know if you would like to see the site in person. At these events you will be able to meet Bricks, hear more about the project and ask questions face to face.

Two separate site visits will take place with Bricks and developer Vistry Group, on:

Thursday 19 December 2024, 1pm to 2pm

Wednesday 08 January 2025, 11am to 12pm

Please contact publicart@bricksbristol.org to request how to book onto these, with the title SITE VISIT, stating your preferred day.

Please also get in touch to discuss any access requirements you have, either for the site visit or the project in general:
publicart@bricksbristol.org



Community Engagement and Podcast

Community Engagement

The Dovercourt Road Public Art Programme will include bespoke engagement activities designed by or in collaboration with the artist as part of their commission. These activities will respond to the artist's practice, their proposals for the project and the local community and be of a scale commensurate with the project.

We welcome proposals that include the artist working with the community to develop the programme, but this is not essential and we also welcome proposals around the sharing of practice with local people.

We appreciate community engagement is its own skillset, as such this element could be delivered by a third party creative and if so we will work with the commissioned Lead Artist to set the brief and deliver this.

Podcast

A podcast producer will work with the commissioned artist to help them design and create a podcast episode picking up on the theme and scope of the commission, the artist's practice and other pertinent aspects of the project; as driven by the artist. Artists do not need to have prior experience of working in this format and will be supported throughout the process.

The podcasts will be held on Bricks website and podcast channel and users of the reception area and audiences of the artwork can access the podcasts via QR codes in the space.



Budget and Timeline

If commissioned, the following budget is available to cover:

- Artist Fee (inc handover documentation)
- Artwork materials and installation costs
- Podcast work
- Engagement Activities (devised by the artist (or third party) and inclusive of all engagement costs)

Total = £34,500 (+ VAT, dependent on artist's tax status)

Timeline	Item
06 Dec 24	Call out launches
19 Dec - 08 Jan	Site Visits for artists to Dovercourt Road (excluding 2-13 Dec)
20 Jan 25	Deadline - EOI submission
Jan 25	CCG reviews submissions, long-lists down to between 2 to 4 proposals and invites these artists to prepare a Stage 1 submission which works up their concept further.
Jan 25	Unsuccessful artists will be notified by email
Feb 25	Deadline - Stage 1 proposal (including draft scope of works, draft budget, podcast concept, draft engagement concept and draft design)
Feb 25	CCG shortlist down to 2 submissions
Feb/Mar 25	Shortlisted artists interviewed by CCG
Mar 25	The successful artist is commissioned, monthly check in/sign off points are booked in, relevant proof of insurance provided and the artist is contracted by the client.
Apr 25	Deadline - Artist/s submits confirmed scope of works alongside their final budget, risk assessment (including installation), podcast concept and planning, engagement proposal, schedule and draft final design to CCG for sign off
Apr 25	CCG sign off artist submission
May to Jul 25	Artist R&D and development of the artwork final design
Jul 25	Deadline - Artist submits final detailed scope of work (including installation management plan), final budget and final detailed design plus structural engineer calculations (if needed), installation plan and post installation management plan.
Jul 25	CCG sign off submission
May to Aug 25	Community engagement and podcast work undertaken (dependent on project timeline and artist contract)
Jul to Aug 25	Fabrication of artwork (12 weeks)
Sep to Oct 25	Deadline - Artwork fully installed on site and project completed, including handover of maintenance and decommissioning documents and evaluation

Submitting an EOI



The deadline for submitting an Expression of Interest is Monday 20 January 2025, 10am

Please send via email with the Title/Subject header 'DOVERCOURT ROAD PROPOSAL - **Your Name**'

Section 1 - Eligibility

Use one side of A4 to tell us:

- Your Name
- Artist Name/Company (if applicable)
- Contact Number
- Website (if available)

And confirm the following:

- A. You or your practice are based in South West
- B. You have or are willing and able to get required insurances: Public Liability Insurance with a minimum limit of £2,000,000
- C. You are available for the project timeline.

Section 2 - Experience

Demonstrate your experience or capability to deliver a programme of this scale or form, in partnership with local people:

PDF of two to four sides of A4 written/ illustrated document.

or

4 minute video (video should be sent as a hyperlink)

Section 3 - Idea

Tell us about your idea/proposal in response to this brief and indicate how this meets the Dovercourt Road Public Art Design Code (Pages 6 and 7).

Please also provide us with an initial outline of how the engagement aspect of the project could work. This can be done either as:

- PDF of up to four sides of A4 written/ illustrated document.

or

- 4 minute video (video should be sent as a hyperlink)

Equality & Inclusion

Please also complete the equalities monitoring form via this [link](#). This is kept anonymous and separate from your application.

Should you be successful in being appointed, we welcome Access Riders from those who need adjustments to allow them to deliver this brief.

How will my EOI be assessed?



Your expression of interest will be considered by the Creative Commissioning Group, as follows:

Eligibility

If you are able to demonstrate your eligibility by confirming A, B and C (above), your submission will then be taken forward to be assessed against the Experience and Idea criteria below.

Experience

Artist(s) will be assessed by the Creative Commissioning Group in respect of their ability to deliver a programme of this scale or form, in partnership with local people against the following scoring:

Score 1 to 4

- 1 - Not been answered or the answer raises serious doubts.
- 2 - Partially answered but reservations remain about the clarity / robustness/ credibility of the answer.
- 3 - Acceptable – answered to a satisfactory standard.
- 4 - Excellent – fully answered and exceeds satisfactory standards.

Idea

Submissions will be assessed by the Creative Commissioning Group against the Design Code (Pages 6 and 7) and community engagement proposal/idea; using the scoring below:

Score 1 to 4

- 1 = Not been answered or the answer raises serious doubts about viability or Health and Safety.
- 2 = Partially answered but reservations remain about the clarity / robustness/ credibility of the answer.
- 3 = Acceptable – answered to a satisfactory standard.
- 4 = Excellent – fully answered and exceeds satisfactory standards.

Bricks will undertake an initial sift of EOIs against the above scoring and the wider CCG will assess those longlisted.

Creative Commissioning Group

The Creative Commissioning Group will shortlist, interview and select the commissioned artist(s) and guide the art commission process, which will be project managed by Bricks. The various design stages of the artwork/s will also be approved by the CCG. The CCG consists of:

Local community members

Vistry Group - [Developer](#)

Goram Homes - Land Owners goramhomes.co.uk

Bristol City Council - [Art and the Public Realm Bristol](#)

Bricks - Public Art Producer bricksbristol.org/what-we-do/public-art

The CCG will assess proposals at the various stages against their ability to meet this artist brief.

Further Information

For further information, please email publicart@bricksbristol.org with the subject line 'DOVERCOURT INFO'

Please get in touch to discuss any access requirements you have in respect of responding to this brief.

Please find a link [here](#) to additional information and frequently asked questions - this document will be updated throughout the commissioning process.



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