

Lead Artist/ Consultant / Designer for Artworks Programme, Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop (KGIL)

SUMMARY

Applicants with significant experience of developing artwork in consultation with communities for the public realm are invited to apply for consideration for the role of Lead Artist/ Consultant / Designer for Phase I of a major new public art programme as part of Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop (KGIL). Applications from individual or collaborative partnerships are welcome.

PROJECT BRIEF

Overview

East Ayrshire Council in partnership with East Ayrshire Leisure has identified the opportunity for a major public art programme to enhance the proposed fabric of the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop and bring an additional dimension to the experience of users.

The aim of the project is to create ambitious, challenging and high quality artworks that enhance the experience of KGIL and promote active travel, outdoor activity and sustainability.

Public art has the potential to make a significant contribution to the KGIL and its identity, which will provide opportunities for artists to work with residents to create an innovative and dynamic range of public art for everyone to enjoy.

A concept stage Artworks Strategy carried out by SWECO identifies potential opportunities for site-specific public art across the KGIL. Designs are for a range of large, medium and intimate installations.

Context and site

Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop is a proposed shared pedestrian / cycle network encompassing the town of Kilmarnock. The proposed route comprises of a radial route around the town, interconnected by a spinal route running North/South through the town centre. The infinity loop is a 'figure of eight' network of pathways comprising a 26km circular route around the town with a Spinal Route from north to south through the town centre, linking into the circular route. The development of the Spinal Route will provide direct access to public transport facilities, the Kilmarnock Active Travel Hub, all of our major parks and the facilities associated with the town centre. It will also allow for a 'figure of eight' route providing greater choice for locals and visitors using the Green Infrastructure network.

The KGIL project is currently at 'Stage 4 – Detailed Design' with construction of the route anticipated to start in April 2025. The KGIL network is divided into identified Routes 1 - 4. Funding is currently secured to deliver Routes 1 & 2 with Routes 3 & 4 following after.

For full details of KGIL and more info on the Artworks Strategy concept in the 'Landscape, Signage, Interpretation & Public Art Report' see: eastayrshireleisure.com/countryside-outdoor/routes-in-east-ayrshire/kilmarnock-infinity-loop/

Vision for the Kilmarnock Green Infinity Loop Artworks Programme

A range of approaches to planning artworks across the KGIL network will be required, depending on the uses (Waymarking, Feature, Historic) and location (Town Centre, Open and Green Spaces, Housing Developments, Along the line of the Green Infinity Loop).

Large Scale Feature Art, Sculptural Trails, Art & Play and Linking Art are just some of the types of artworks the KGIL Artworks Programme will incorporate.

Artworks should be site-specific, and relate to the physical and social context in which they are located: interpreting, reflecting on, celebrating and commemorating the past, present or future.

They should celebrate a sense of place through local culture contributing to the creation of a strong identity for the locale and the network as a whole.

There should be a consideration of:

- The Artworks Strategy as a whole, along with Landscape, Signage and Interpretation
- Themes relating to Heritage and Culture
- Art as a Vehicle for Wayfinding and Navigation
- Public art as part of 'Placemaking'

Public consultation, communication and engagement will be key elements of the Artworks Programme. The resulting work should be engaging, accessible, enhancing and celebrate the distinctive factors that make Kilmarnock and its communities unique.

At Artworks Strategy concept stage, the project has identified various groups of public artwork across the full KGIL network:

- i. Linking art for Wayfinding and Navigation
- ii. Integrated artwork
- iii. Large scale feature artwork
- iv. Medium scale interpretive artwork e.g. along a trail
- v. Painted art or mural
- vi. Performance art

Whilst the concept stage of the project suggested these groups as well as some locations and an indicative budget, this is a guideline concept and will be progressed in detail in Phase 1 - Artworks Programme: Design Development in consultation with stakeholders. Phase 1 will be followed by Phase 2 - Artworks Programme: Delivery for Routes 1 & 2.

The indicative full project budget for the completed KGIL Artworks Programme for Routes 1 & 2 is £1.5million.

LEAD ARTIST/ CONSULTANT / DESIGNER ROLE

The role of the Lead Artist/ Consultant / Designer is to work with the steering group on Phase 1 of the KGIL Artworks Programme in consultation with stakeholders and the design team (SWECO). Maintaining an overview of the full KGIL Artworks Programme will ensure that a cohesive creative vision for the project is realised and that the Artworks Programme is integrated into the KGIL from the outset.

Phase 1 key outputs are the detailing of the full KGIL Artworks Programme and Initial Designs for artwork groups i. Linking Art and ii. Integrated Artworks for Routes 1 & 2, so that these integral elements feed into KGIL 'Stage 4 - Detailed Design' and are taken into account as part of the construction contractor tender process currently in progress by SWECO.

Phase 1 - Artworks Programme: Design Development

I. Detail a unified, overall plan in response to the Vision for the KGIL Artworks Programme.

- Identify artwork uses and types across sites.
- Identify artwork locations, considering existing public artwork.
- Work with the steering group, stakeholders, design team (SWECO) and community representatives in the preparation of a written plan highlighting specific objectives for the number, scale, type and positioning of artworks across groups i. to vi.
- Create a detailed artworks map in conjunction with the development of the detail route and green space design.
- Develop a cohesive artistic vision for the town centre as a whole.
- Present KGIL Artworks Programme plan including a progressed indicative programme budget to steering group.
- Supply technical and visual information for SWECO preparation of tender documents

for KGIL contractor tender process with required info including artwork locations, groundwork and any known technical specifications as required as per project timeline below.

- Contribute to the steering group's delivery plan for subsequent project Phase 2 - Artworks Programme: Delivery identifying an approach and opportunities for new artist commissions for groups of works iii. – vi. and respective community engagement approaches.

2. Initial Design for artwork groups i. & ii. of the KGIL Artworks Programme for Routes 1 & 2

- i. Linking Art for Wayfinding and Navigation
 - ii. Integrated artworks
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- i. Artwork group i: Linking Art for Wayfinding and Navigation
Prepare Initial Design proposals for Routes 1 & 2 of KGIL with indicative costs and timetable.
 - Work closely with the steering group and SWECO, engaging with local users and communities of interest to explore potential wayfinding functions and opportunities guiding people along routes and providing a sense of identity to spaces and aiding orientation.
 - Identify a public art design approach whether that be recurring theme or motifs, colour, lighting as art, signage, directional sculptures, linking line in the form of a physical line on the ground.
 - Prepare plan, visual materials, indicative costs and approach to community engagement to present to steering group.
 - Supply technical and visual information for SWECO preparation of Tender Documents for KGIL contractor tender process with required info including artwork locations, groundwork and technical specifications required as per project timeline below.
 - ii. Artwork group ii: Integrated artworks
Prepare Initial Design proposals for Routes 1 & 2 of KGIL with indicative costs and timetable.
 - Collaborate with SWECO engaging with local users and communities of interest to develop Initial Design artwork incorporated into seating, cycle racks, signage and interpretation (this is separate from and additional to the basic design & supply of these items for the project which SWECO are commissioned to deliver). This may extend to street furniture such as bollards and ground surface works.
 - Identify a design approach whether that be recurring theme, motifs, colour etc.
 - Contribute to SWECO detailed design providing a plan of all elements, visual materials, indicative costs and approach to community engagement to present to steering group.
 - Supply technical and visual information for SWECO preparation of Tender Documents for KGIL contractor tender process as per project timeline below.

PROJECT STEERING GROUP

A steering group is identified to take responsibility for Phase I. This group will comprise of representatives from following organisations:

- East Ayrshire Leisure: Geraldine Greene & Anneke Freel
- East Ayrshire Council: Councillor Elaine Cowan
- David Ross, East Ayrshire Leisure Trustee
- Ayrshire College representative

DESCRIPTION AND CRITERIA FOR SELECTION PROCESS

- Interested parties should submit a statement of interest along with a CV and visual evidence of past work demonstrating relevant experience, by the defined closing date 12pm 26th June 2024.
- Please send files to Geraldine.Greene@eastayrshireleisure.com via WeTransfer <https://wetransfer.com/> file sharing platform only.
- Full proposals are **not** required at this stage.
- Short-listed applicants will be invited to attend interview for selection, and will be asked to present a full proposal including their approach to delivering the commissions, a basic project plan and timeline, breakdown of budget and approach to stakeholder and community engagement.
- If shortlisted, artist/s will receive a £350 development fee to progress a full proposal to bring to interview.

PHASE I DESIGN FEES

Lead Artist / Designer / Consultant design fees for Phase I:

- I. Detail a unified, overall plan for the KGIL Artworks Programme **£7,000 (20 days)**

2. Initial Design of artwork groups i & ii of the Artworks Programme
 - ii. Linking Art for Wayfinding and Navigation **£3,500 (10 days)**
 - iii. Integrated artworks **£3,500 (10 days)**

Upon appointment a programme timetable with timeline, key milestones and progress review meeting schedule with the steering group will be finalised. A contract will be issued with fee payment schedule and trigger points.

KEY DATES

Dates	
29th May 2024	Lead Artist/ Consultant / Designer brief release Call for expressions of interest open
12pm, 26th June 2024	Call for expressions of interest close
Wk com 8th July 2024	Shortlisting and invited interview candidates notified
End July 2024	Interviews with short-listed applicants, candidate selected
Aug – Dec 2024	Phase I - Artworks Programme: Design Development (In tandem with KGIL Stage 4 - Detailed Design currently in progress by SWECO)

