

Title of meeting: Cabinet

Date of meeting: 23rd July 2024

Subject: Look Up Art Festival 2024 (Permission to use PCC assets)

Report by: James Hill - Director for Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services

Author: Andrew Malbon - Principal Architect

Cabinet Member: Councillor Steve Pitt, Leader

Wards affected: Paulsgrove, Cosham, Charles Dickens, St Thomas, St Jude, Central Southsea, Baffins

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

1.1 To seek confirmation that the walls identified in the Appendix 1 can be offered for inclusion in the 2024 Look Up Portsmouth paint festival and that the consultation process established in the report dated 13.07.2023 can be implemented, link to report included below.

2. Recommendations

2.1 That the Cabinet approves the use of the consultation process established in 2023 for the inclusion of the walls across a number of PCC assets identified in the attached appendix 1 for inclusion in the 2024 Look Up Portsmouth festival.

2.2 Cabinet note that PCC directorate teams who operate the assets proposed for inclusion have been consulted and subject to cabinet approval, Adult Social Care, and Culture and Leisure have agreed, Environment and Transport agreed with the principle and requested more details.

3. Background

3.1 The Design Service has a track record of providing innovative and imaginative projects for clients across the City Council, recently this has included involving local artists to contribute to the interior decoration of the developments. Many of our young people have been able to enjoy these pieces through the Council's recent expansion of secondary school places.

- 3.2 The successful staging of the 2023 Look Up Portsmouth Festival was made possible by support given by the City Council across the Directorates. Articulate Sage have secured Arts Council funding and are now organising the 2024 festival. HNBS have been approached with a list of walls and structures for potential inclusion in the 2024 festival.
- 3.3 The full list is given in Appendix 1 and includes areas in the north of the city for the first time.
- 3.4 Further information on the 2024 festival and images from the 2023 festival are available on the Look Up Portsmouth web-site and across their social media channels: [LOOK UP Portsmouth \(lookup-portsmouth.co.uk\)](http://LOOKUP Portsmouth (lookup-portsmouth.co.uk))
- 3.5 The 2024 festival is due to take place on 14th and 15th September.

The Look Up Art Festival 2023

- 3.6 The 2023 event was very successful, approximately 200 murals were delivered over the weekend of 9th and 10th September with an overwhelmingly positive response from local people. Examples of feedback are included in Appendix 2.
- 3.7 Reviewing those comments and how the art work has been respected since the festival HNBS are satisfied that this is a positive activity to be engaged with and are therefore seeing approval to proceed with the consultation and artist selection using the processes agreed at the July 2023 meeting and noted below:

Consultation process & engagement principles

- 3.8 Consultation process & engagement principles (applied as appropriate and adapted depending on the PCC asset):
- The residents in a block must be engaged and will have the final say on any proposal.
 - Buildings and sites will be surveyed by the buildings service team for suitability with consideration given to future maintenance.
 - Culture and Leisure are engaged to check the fit of a project with other city-wide initiatives.
 - The scheme is self-funding or budget neutral.
 - Estate Services (HRA sites) will be consulted to ensure that any proposal is in keeping with the local area and any environmental improvement plans.
 - Any communication plans for a project include links to the ward Members.
- 3.9 In order to capture more feedback and opinions than was possible in 2023 and to ensure that the principle of putting our residents first in the decision making is continued, the following consultation will take place:
- Updated letter to be delivered to addresses local to the proposed walls mid-July.
 - Resident Engagement to have a presence at Somersfest on 27th July.

- Members of the team to attend the following CYP events over the summer with the styles options sheet to get feedback on the proposals.
 - Hilsea forest school 27th July
 - Charles Dickens family event 29th July
 - Aspex Gallery family event 6th August
 - Exploria family event 12th August
 - Paulsgrove Community Centre family event 21st August

3.10 An example of the letter delivered to residents including the 'styles' matrix is included in Appendix 3.

4. Reasons for recommendations

4.1 To enable more communities, especially those that are seldom heard, to access and experience the positive benefits of public art including positive impacts on mental health, pride in the local area and increasing the sense of ownership to spaces that are undervalued.

4.2 To build stronger relationships within these communities through working with artists.

4.3 To understand the constraints and opportunities available to local artists when seeking to deliver large scale public art on Council owned property. To ensure that all connected parties have the opportunity to input into any projects that might be brought forward.

5. Integrated impact assessment

5.1 An Integrated Impact Assessment has been completed and no adverse equality implications were identified.

6. Legal implications

6.1 Legal implications will be considered nearer the date of the festival. The City Solicitor was satisfied that it was within the City Council's powers to approve the recommendations of the 2023 report.

7. Director of Finance's comments

7.1 The consultation process & engagement principles, as described in the report, seek to ensure that the installation, as well as any ongoing maintenance, of any public artwork remains cost neutral for the Housing Revenue Account (HRA) and the City Council's General Fund. Financial Services will be engaged to confirm that the scheme is self-funding. Officers will seek to support the initiative through 'in kind' support, to avoid any draw upon HRA revenue or capital budgets.

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 Signed by: **James Hill**
Director for Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
Public Artwork – PCC Housing Blocks and Estates 13 th July 2023	Public Art Street 05.2023 002.docx final.pdf (portsmouth.gov.uk)

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/ rejected by on

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 Signed by:

Appendix 1:
 List of PCC assets proposed for inclusion in the 2024 festival
 (revised to include location plans of the proposed PCC walls)

Appendix 2:
 Feedback from the 2023 festival

Appendix 3:
 Example of consultation documents used for the 2023 festival

Appendix 4:
 Integrated Impact Assessment Ref: IA630057336