



Officer Decision Record

1. Subject and details of the matter (to include reasons for the decision)

This Officer Decision Record (ODR) is to obtain approval to submit a planning application for artwork by Annabel McCourt 'Human Murmurations' to be attached to Wilkinson's Wall at St James' Square. This forms part of the Public Realm artwork contract awarded to Our Big Picture in December 2019, as part of the Cultural Development Fund (CDF) Programme 'Grimsby Creates' in accordance with Cabinet decision DN.7 dated 5 June 2019.

2. Is it a Key Decision as defined in the Constitution?

No, this is not a key decision.

The decision is in accordance with the delegations established in relation to the CDF programme through the Cabinet approval of 5 June 2019 (Cabinet Decision Notice DN.7) and the delegations established in relation to the St James Square Public Realm Project through the Cabinet approval of 11 March 2019 (Cabinet Decision Notice DN.72).

The ODR of 17 February 2020 approves the appointment of the Public Art Consultant for St James Square.

3. Details of Decision

Following the selection and commissioning process for two artists to prepare designs for public art in St James' Square, Grimsby, this Officer Decision Record is for the submission of a planning application for the permanent installation of the artwork 'Human Murmurations' to Wilkinson's Wall adjacent to St James' Square, Grimsby.

The artwork is to be attached to the wall facing the Square. Wilkinson's and the property owner have provided consent for this activity to take place.

The artwork piece is expected to be very low maintenance and taking only a couple of days to install. The artwork comprises of a number of small copper silhouettes (approx. 400 ranging in size from 3x3cm to 18x24cm) attached to a stainless-steel framework. It will be high enough on the wall to discourage vandalism and CCTV will cover the location. A periodic safety inspection may be required to check all fixings remain secure.

Subject to planning the intention is for the artwork to be installed by June 2021 to coincide with completion of capital works, other artwork (etched pathway and benches) and re-opening of the space to the public.

4. Is it an Urgent Decision? If yes, specify the reasons for urgency Urgent decisions will require sign off by the relevant scrutiny chair(s) as not subject to call in.

No this is not an urgent decision.

5. Anticipated outcome(s)

To allow submission of a planning application, the subsequent approval of which will enable key outputs of the scheme to be delivered, including an expected increase in footfall in the area and the positive knock-on effect to trade.

The artwork itself captures the silhouette of hundreds of local people as a flock moving as one in their own unique ways. This additionally demonstrates and enhances local pride, freedom of movement, embracing community and a sense of belonging.

6. Details of any alternative options considered and rejected by the officer when making the decision

Alternative location – At the present time there are no plans for an alternative location. We have been in dialogue with Wilkinson's for several months and they are supportive of the proposal. There are limited alternative options for artwork of this scale and type within the realms of St James' Square.

Do nothing – this would not accord with the ambitions set out in the successful funding applications for CDF and Humber LEP LGF.

7. Background documents considered

Cabinet on 5th June 2019 DN.7 – CDF Programme

Cabinet on 11th March 2019 DN.72 – St James' Square Public Realm

ODR approval 17th February 2020 – The appointment of the Public Art Consultant for St James Square.

8. Does the taking of the decision include consideration of Exempt information? If yes, specify the relevant paragraph of Schedule 12A and the reasons

No

9. Details of any conflict of interest declared by any Cabinet Member who was consulted by the officer which relates to the decision (in respect of any declared conflict of interest, please provide a note of dispensation granted by the Council's Chief Executive)

N/A

10. Monitoring Officer Comments (Monitoring Officer or Deputy Monitoring Officer)

The decision is consistent with the Cabinet decisions and delegations, as well as being in line with the overall scheme and funding requirements, as described above. Legal Services can provide support around compliance with contractual issues and conditionality of grant funding.

11. Section 151 Officer Comments (Deputy S151 Officer or nominee)

The approval of the decision will allow the scheme to progress in line with the external funding requirements timeline. The commissions are to be fully funded through external grant.

12. Human Resource Comments (Strategic Workforce Lead or nominee)

There are no direct HR implications

13. Risk Assessment (in accordance with the Report Writing Guide)

The public art interventions form part of the wider improvements taking place in St James Square. There is a detailed project plan in place to manage the risks associated with delivery of all aspects of the programme.

In the unlikely event that Wilkinson's relinquish the building and a new leaseholder does not want to retain the artwork, The Council would be responsible for the removal and reinstatement of the wall. It is envisaged that the artwork will be attached in several places by drilling and fixing into the mortar joints and the cost of reinstatement would be minimal.

14. Decision Maker(s):

Name: Sharon Wroot

Title: Executive Director Environment,
Economy and Resources

Signed: REDACTED

Dated:01 March 2021

15. Consultation carried out with Leader of the Council:

Name: Councillor Callum Procter

Title: Portfolio Holder – Economic
Development, Housing and Tourism

Signed: REDACTED

Dated:01 March 2021

16. If the decision is urgent then consultation should be carried out with the relevant Scrutiny Chair/Mayor/Deputy Mayor

Name: N/A

Title: N/A

Signed: N/A

Dated: N/A