

ARTISTS BRIEF FOR PUBLIC ARTWORK

Reimagining Hackington Place Tunnel

September 2025



BACKGROUND

Canterbury City Council is exploring creative ways to enhance the user experience of Hackington Place Tunnel, a 17.5 meter pedestrian tunnel located on St Stephen's Walkway.

This opportunity would particularly favour a work that is site-specific, environmentally sustainable (in terms of materials or theme) and enables the residents to better understand and connect to their location in an interesting, thought-provoking and engaging way.

The artwork should aim to be ambitious and create a contemporary landmark whilst being achievable within the time frame and budget.

We are looking for an artist or collective who is open to collaborating with the community that uses space and we are particularly keen to hear from artists who live, work, or study locally in East Kent.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

This commission will put the local community at the heart of its design and implementation. A series of three community consultation sessions will be delivered with local groups to ensure local voices and views are considered in the final designs for the work/mural.

PROJECT AIMS

- Increase visibility and public awareness of the pedestrian tunnel.
- Enhance the user experience through a welcoming, visually engaging design.
- Improve perceptions of safety, particularly during low-light hours.
- Reflect the identity of the local area and community.

DESIGN REQUIREMENTS

- The work must be site-specific, taking into account the tunnel's dimensions (approx. 17.5m long, 1.8m high).
- Proposals should have a positive visual impact and foster a greater sense of care and safety.
- Community engagement is essential: designs should be informed by input from tunnel users, youth groups, local schools, or community stakeholders.



INDICATIVE TIMETABLE 2025

| | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| Opportunity live | Monday 15 September |
| Deadline for proposals | Monday 13 October, midnight |
| Notification of shortlist decision by | w/c 27 October |
| Interviews of shortlisted artists | w/c 3 November |
| Decision and appointment of a successful artist by | w/c 10 November |
| Submission of detailed project proposal and first payment by | w/c 24 November |
| Installation | w/c 8 December |
| Project completion and final payment | w/c 22 December |

THE BUDGET

The appointed artist will receive £ 8,000 to cover the artist's fee, community meetings, materials, and installation. The fee will be paid in two instalments, on the signature of the agreement and completion of the work.

CONSIDERATIONS

- The artwork must be minimal in maintenance
- Canterbury City Council would give a minimum of two weeks' notice period for the removal of the artwork if necessary
- The subject matter of the artwork must be appropriate and relevant to its surroundings

MANAGEMENT

The artist will be commissioned and contracted by Canterbury City Council. The council's Culture Development Officer will support the artist during the design process, introduce them to key stakeholders, and oversee milestones for delivery such as concept, detailed design sign-off, installation and handover.

The artist will be expected to hold public liability insurance to a minimum value of £5m and public indemnity insurance to a minimum value of £5m.



APPLICATION PROCESS

To apply for this opportunity, you will need to provide:

- An outline of your idea and relevant previous experience using the [online application form](#). Any questions should be sent to **michelle.butler@canterbury.gov.uk**.
- Links to your previous work that are most relevant to this project.

- All applications will be assessed by a selection panel formed by the council's External Development Team.
- Where indicated, your answers will be marked 0 to 5, with 5 as the highest mark.
- If you do not complete all sections of the application process, your application will not be considered.

The deadline for proposals is **midnight Monday 13 October 2025**

SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

The selection panel will review all submissions received by the deadline midnight Monday 13 October and determine a shortlist of artists/artist collectives.

The panel will conduct online/in-person interviews with the shortlisted artists.

Please note that the council reserves the right not to appoint any of the applicants if none of the submissions are considered suitable, and may approach others to submit proposals.



SELECTION CRITERIA

CRITERIA 1

Evidence of capability to produce high-quality projects

Assessment:

Written submission and images, online profile, references

.....

CRITERIA 2

Suitability of the artist's approach to this commission

Assessment:

Written submission, initial proposal, interview

.....

CRITERIA 3

Originality of ideas

Assessment:

Written submission, initial proposal, interview