Public Art Consultant Freelance Opportunity

Contextual Summary - flood affected Herne Hill

During the early morning of 7 August 2013, a water main burst in the business centre of Herne Hill, flooding Half Moon Lane and sections of nearby streets to create a scene described as “biblical” by local residents. A total of 38 business properties were flooded. Thames Water admitted liability and estimated the total cost of the damage to be around £4 million. Although there were individual compensation packages, many businesses remained closed for months or years and several never reopened.

Thames Water agreed in 2015 to contribute an extra £200,000 in addition to the £100,000 initially contributed to the community fund set up by Southwark Council towards the flood-affected area. This was to fund improvements to the shop fronts of businesses, a new lighting and streetscape for the area and a ‘destination piece’ of artwork – all three designed to draw the public back into this part of Herne Hill and to put Herne Hill on the map as a unique destination.

This public realm work is being commissioned and guided by a steering group which consists of:

- Flood affected traders and business owners
- Southwark Council officers
- The Herne Hill forum

Southwark Council has a governance role in this project and holds the funding for the projects.

The opportunity

One identified project which the steering group would like to deliver is a public art project which draws locals and the general public to this area of Herne Hill. The work may be temporary or permanent, pre-existing or commissioned for the site, as it is recognised that either option may enable the steering group to achieve its aims. The steering group are not experienced in delivery of projects of this nature and to this end we would like to appoint a public art consultant to advise and project manage the delivery of our aspirations.

Tasks

We foresee the following tasks as being required, however these are not exhaustive and we ask the applicants to capture the entirety of the role as they see it in their application:

- To work with the steering group to explore the scope of the project within the budget and to enable it to achieve its aims.
- To research and develop a broad long list which should include artists who will enable us to fulfill the brief of attracting people to the area. The works may be existing or commissioned for the site.
To create the commissioning brief if required, or agree a brief for hire of work to ensure all parties are clear.

To create an evaluation framework, allowing Herne Hill Forum to evaluate the impact of the project on local businesses.

To keep clear and open lines of communication with the steering group.

To provide a supporting role at public consultation meetings as part of a panel (two public meetings).

Co-ordination and management of appropriate public consultation with the support of the steering group. This could be in the form of a web page or exhibition.

Liaising with the artist, or arts organisation.

Ensuring that installation and siting of the work is undertaken in accordance to health and safety.

To liaise with the highways, conservation and transport departments as required securing early views on proposals and permissions.

Advising on appropriate insurances.

Advising on maintenance and forward planning for this to be undertaken.

Developing the planning application pack in partnership with the artist and the council.

Support with communications around the artwork installed.

**The role of the steering group**

The flood affected traders - guided by the appointed art consultants, Southwark council officers, the Herne Hill forum and opinions gleaned at the two public meetings - will make the ultimate decision on which artwork is chosen.

This will be done as with the new streetscape designs being prepared by Jan Kattein Architects (the design team appointed by the steering group). A shortlist of artworks will be given to the flood affected traders, 38 in total, and individuals will be asked to choose their first and second preferred option. The option with the most votes will be the one chosen.

**The role of the council**

Southwark Council has a governance role in this project. They will be responsible for the following:

- Support with the planning application
- Contracting the public art consultant or consultancy
- Contracting the selected artist or the arts organisation.
Process and Timescale (outline can be subject to change)

1. Consultant appointed by mid-February 2017
2. Artists long listed by March 2017
3. Presentation to steering group of long listed artists, shortlist created March 2017
4. Presentation of selected shortlisted artists at public event in April 2017.
5. Concept designs presented to the community May 2017, followed by a series of community meetings*
6. Summary meeting with steering group September 2017

*dependent upon direction of project/commission or hire of work.

Making an application

Please respond to the job specification as described including the following:

- CV of consultant/s that will undertake the work
- A statement response to opportunity as set out (no more than 500 words)
- At least 5 examples of past work in commissioning, procuring and managing public art
- At least 3 examples of community consultation
- A daily rate and a break down of time spent on each task outlined and an indicative amount of days required. Fee quoted should be inclusive of all costs incurred.

When making an application please bear in mind that to be appointed you must be able to provide proof that you either have a unique tax reference number for sole traders for payment of tax or that you are a registered company. You must also hold public liability and professional indemnity insurance of 5 Million.

Please send to: liz.gardiner@southwark.gov.uk by the closing date stated. If you have any queries prior to the submission you may also send these by email.

Appointment

Applications will be scored based upon the requested information. The top three consultants shortlisted will be invited to an interview by a panel. References will be called upon.

Due to the level of interest anticipated we are sorry but we cannot provide feedback to those who do not reach interview stage.
Key Dates

- Closing date for applications: 3rd of February at 5pm.
- Interview date: 9th of February at Southwark Council, 160 Tooley Street, SE1 2TZ.
- Presentation of options to Herne Hill steering group, Wed 15 February at 7.30pm, Herne Hill venue to be confirmed.

The Outline for the Commissioning or Hire of Work

Project Budget

Approximately £47,000 of the funding has been allocated towards the project; this is to include all associated commissioning costs (artists’ fee, fabrication (if required), installation, licenses, security, marketing etc). This excludes the consultant fee.

Aim:

- To encourage customers back to the area to see the installation
- To bring new visitors to the area to boost trade and help businesses recover from the 2013 floods
- To improve the look and feel of the public realm throughout Herne Hill
- To create an atmosphere that celebrates creativity, quirkiness and sustainability

Location

The installation/s will be focussed on the areas of Herne Hill that were worst hit by the 2013 flood, Half Moon Lane, and parts of Norwood Road, Herne Hill and Milkwood Road.