

<b>Committee(s)</b>	<b>Dated:</b>
<b>Culture, Heritage and Libraries – For Decision</b>	16 May 2022
<b>Subject:</b> City Arts Initiative: recommendations to the Culture, Heritage & Libraries Committee	<b>Public</b>
<b>Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?</b>	<b>3, 7 and 10</b>
<b>Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?</b>	N
<b>If so, how much?</b>	N/A
<b>What is the source of Funding?</b>	N/A
<b>Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?</b>	N/A
<b>Report of:</b> Damian Nussbaum, Executive Director of Innovation and Growth	<b>For Decision</b>
<b>Report author:</b> Nick Bodger, Cultural and Visitor Development Director	

### Summary

This report presents the recommendations of the City Arts Initiative (CAI) which met on 10 February 2022. At this meeting, the CAI considered public art proposals 1 and 2:

- 1. Sculpture in the City – 11<sup>th</sup> Edition**
- 2. London Festival of Architecture - Mobile Arboretum**

### Recommendation(s)

Members of the Culture Heritage and Libraries Committee are asked to:

- Ratify the City Arts Initiative's recommendations in relation to proposals 1 and 2 above as follows:
  - **Sculpture in the City – 11<sup>th</sup> Edition:** approve subject to ongoing consultation and permissions from landowners, Highways and Planning.
  - **London Festival of Architecture - Mobile Arboretum:** approve subject to ongoing consultation and permissions from Highways and Planning.

## **Main Report**

### **Background**

1. The City Arts Initiative (CAI) was established to improve the management of public art in the City. It provides advice to your Committee on proposals for new public art. Included in its remit is the maintenance of the City's existing public art and decommissioning. Applications for City of London Blue Plaques are also peer reviewed by the CAI.
2. The CAI comprises elected Members drawn from your Committee and relevant officers across Planning, Highways, and Open Spaces. Officers with specific expertise in the visual arts are also included.
3. At your Committee in June 2021, Members reconfirmed that those occupying the roles of Chairman and Deputy Chairman on the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee (CHL) should have permanent seats on the CAI. They also reconfirmed the permanent seat for the Chair of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board. The appointment of new Members to represent CHL on the CAI for 2022/23 committee year will take place at your 16 May meeting.
4. All applications are funded by external sources unless otherwise stated. Apart from officer time handling enquiries and managing the installations, there are no resource implications other than where specifically noted.

### **Current Position**

5. The CAI met on 10 February to consider the proposals outlined below.
6. Further background information is circulated electronically with this report and are available in appendix 1. Full details of all the applications to the CAI are available on request from the Director of Innovation and Growth.

### **Proposals**

#### **Sculpture in the City – Aldgate Commissions**

7. The CAI received a presentation from *Sculpture in the City* for its 11<sup>th</sup> Edition, scheduled for June 2022 to May 2023.
8. *Sculpture in the City* is an annual sculpture park that uses the City's urban realm as a free, rotating gallery space. It is delivered in partnership with several City-based organisations, including the City of London Corporation.
9. The 11<sup>th</sup> Edition will comprise of 19 artworks around the City's Eastern Cluster. Six artworks from the 10<sup>th</sup> Edition will remain in situ. The new artworks be installed at locations used for previous edition. There is also one potential new location being introduced.

10. Further information on artworks and locations can be found in appendix 1.
11. Sculpture in the City has a successful track record of delivering public art in partnership with City Corporation teams.
12. **The CAI recommended this application be approved subject to ongoing consultation and permissions from landowners, Highways and Planning.**

#### **London Festival of Architecture (LFA) - Mobile Arboretum:**

13. The CAI received an application from the LFA for an urban forest installation across two sites in the City of London on a temporary basis.
14. In partnership with the Cheapside Business Alliance and Aldgate Connect, the LFA have commissioned Wayward to create a series of 3D greening sculptures. Further information can be found in appendix 1.
15. The installations will be placed at two sites in the City of London boundary:
  - a. Bow Church Yard
  - b. Middlesex Street
16. Installations will be in situ throughout the London Festival of Architecture in June 2022. Installation will take place end of May.
17. Since the CAI reviewed the application in February, a site visit has taken place. The LFA are working with relevant officers in Highways to ensure exact locations are appropriate and relevant permissions are secured.
18. Feedback from the CAI highlighted that the installations should not interfere with any existing street infrastructure or activity around both locations.
19. **The CAI recommended this application be approved in principle subject to ongoing consultation and permissions from Highways and Planning.**

#### **Corporate & Strategic Implications**

20. **Strategic implications** – The City Arts Initiative was formed to support the City's management of public art. New public art in the City can enable the City and its public realm to become more vibrant, enticing and fun. This supports the delivery of the Destination City. The City Arts Initiative also aligns and supports delivery of the corporate plan by shaping outstanding environments, notably through inspiring enterprise, excellence, creativity and collaboration. Public art also supports the City to become a global hub for innovation in culture.

21. **Financial implications** - none
22. **Resource implications** - apart from officer time handling enquiries and managing the installations, there are no resource implications other than where specifically noted.
23. **Legal implications** - none
24. **Risk implications** - none
25. **Equalities implications** – officers from Planning sit on the CAI where they provide access advice within their feedback to applicants.
26. **Climate implications** – public art applications are often submitted to the CAI after the design and build of artworks. However officers promote transport and installation methods which incur smaller carbon footprint.
27. **Security implications** - none

## **Conclusion**

28. This report summarises the discussions of the City Arts Initiative. It presents recommendations in relation to the public art applications considered on 10 February 2022.

## **Appendices**

- Appendix 1: CAI Application Notes and Images, 10 February 2022.

## **Background Papers**

Full details of the applications received by the City Arts Initiative are available on request from the Executive Director of Innovation and Growth.

### **Nick Bodger**

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