

Committee(s): Culture, Heritage and Libraries – For Decision	Dated: 27/03/2023
Subject: City Arts Initiative: Recommendations to the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	3, 7 and 10
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	n/a
What is the source of Funding?	n/a
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	n/a
Report of: Damian Nussbaum, Executive Director, Innovation & Growth (IG)	For Decision
Report author: Tania Harrison, Destination City Curator, Innovation & Growth	

Summary

This report presents the recommendations of the City Arts Initiative (CAI) which met on 23 February 2023. At this meeting CAI considered public art proposals 1 and 2 and had an update in relation to the Folio400 Memorial.

1. **Folio 400 – William Jaggard – Permanent Memorial**
2. **London Festival of Architecture – Urban Playground**
3. **London Festival of Architecture – Seats at the Table**

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:
 - **Folio 400 – William Jaggard – Permanent Memorial** – update on ongoing consultation.
 - **London Festival of Architecture (LFA) – Urban Playground:** approve subject to accessibility consultation, and consultation with Highways and Planning with regards to location, maintenance, safety & liability. Further clarification on how installation is interpreted also recommended.
 - **London Festival of Architecture (LFA) – Seats at the Table:** approve subject to clarifications on timeline, location and accessibility.

Main Report

Background

1. The 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.

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. 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.

4. In May 2022, Members reconfirmed that those occupying the roles of Chairman and Deputy Chairman on the Culture, Heritage and Libraries Committee should have permanent seats on the CAI. They also reconfirmed the permanent seat for the Chair of the Sculpture in the City Partner Board (CAI is currently being Co-Chaired).

Current Position

1. The CAI met on 23 February 2023 to consider the proposals outlined below.

2. Further background information is circulated electronically with this report and is available in appendix 1 and 2. Full details of all the applications to the CAI are available on request from the Destination City Curator.

Options

3. N/A

Proposals

1 – Folio 400 – William Jaggard – Permanent Memorial – Update

4. The CAI received an application from Folio400 for a permanent memorial to the printing of Shakespeare's first folio at a site nearby the Barbican Estate.

5. In July 2022 CAI recommended the application of William Jaggard by Folio400 for approval subject to planning permission and engagement with Barbican Renewal, Barbican residents and the Barbican Estates Office.

6. In the February CAI meeting, the Co-Chair confirmed ongoing conversation is taking place with Folio400 to progress the project for the proposed November 2023 installation and about the potential of involving a contemporary artist. The Co-Chair and Folio400 have now spoken with Barbican Estates and looked at Lauderdale Tower and feel confident there would not be opposition from residents in this location.

2 - London Festival of Architecture (LFA) – Urban Playground

7. The CAI received an application from *London Festival of Architecture* for an Urban Playground installation across two proposed sites on a temporary basis.
8. In partnership with Eastern Cluster BID, the LFA have commissioned designer and architect studio Mcloy and Muchema to develop this project.
9. The Installation will be placed at one of two proposed sites in the City of London Boundary
 - a. Fen Court
 - b. Fen Church Avenue
10. Installations will be in situ throughout the London Festival of Architecture in June 2022. Installation will take place end of May.
11. CAI recommended LFA speak to an accessibility consultant to ensure the structure is accessible and safe. It was further highlighted that the diversity of local people needs to be represented and schools included in the project.
12. CAI recommended LFA speak with planning to determine whether planning permission or temporary planning consent would be needed and ensure the installation doesn't obstruct pedestrian flow.
13. CAI recommended that LFA should also clarify how the installation will be interpreted by the public and recommended a publicly displayed synopsis of the project.
14. The CAI recommend this application be approved in principle subject to ongoing consultations with an accessibility consultant, maintenance and permissions from highways and planning.

3 – London Festival of Architecture (LFA) – Seats at the Table

15. The CAI received an application from LFA for an installation called Seats at the Table.
16. This project is a joint commission by City of London, Culture Mile and Foundation for Future London. It will be developed and delivered in partnership with Re-fabricate and DisOrdinary Architecture who won LFA's 'Co-designing Equity in the Public Realm' competition.
17. The installation location is confirmed, the current proposal is to place it at Postman's Park. CAI recommend if it is to be placed here, LFA make Open Spaces aware as well as talking to planning about any potential issues with accessibility and heritage assets in the vicinity.
18. CAI recommended LFA talk to CAI Operations Officer regarding other potential locations, the location should be close to Smithfield in the eastern part of the city.

19. The installation will be in situ for London Festival of Architecture in June. LFA propose the installation is in place by 1 June for 28 days. It was noted by CAI that the timeframe for installation in June does not leave a lot of time to get planning permissions.

20. The CAI recommend this application be approved in principle subject to confirmation of location and accessibility, clarification of timeline and permissions from highways and planning.

Key Data

21. N/A

Corporate & Strategic Implications –

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.

Financial implications - none

Resource implications - none

Legal implications - none

Risk implications - none

Equalities implications – officers from Planning sit on the CAI where they provide access advice within their feedback to applicants.

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.

Security implications - none

Conclusion

This report summarises the discussions of the City Arts Initiative. It presents recommendations in relation to the public art applications considered on 23 February 2023.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – LFA Urban Playground Supporting Documentation
- Appendix 2 – LFA Seats at the Table Supporting Documentation

Background Papers

Full details of the applications received by the City Arts Initiative are available on request from the Destination City Curator.

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