

City Arts Initiative: Delegated Authority Criteria

Following CHL approval, a set of criteria has been developed in consultation with City Arts Initiative Members for how delegated authority will be used to make decisions on applications for public art in the City of London and will be reviewed annually. All delegated decisions will regularly be reported for information to CHL Committee.

The following criteria will be used to decide whether a CAI proposal will be sent to CHL for decision or if the decision will be made under delegated authority.

1. Installation Duration – the length of time that an installation is in place for.

Proposal

Applications for public art which are temporary are made by delegated authority. Applications for artworks which are permanent and applications for blue plaques will still go to CHL for decision. Installations that are in place for 1 year or less will be defined as temporary.

If an application is temporary but presents a reputational risk, it would still be referred to CHL for decision as outlined below.

Previous examples that would still go to CHL for decision.

- Keats Memorial Bust (permanent)
- Worshipful Company of Parish Clerks Blue Plaque (permanent)
- Sculpture in the City

Previous examples that would not go CHL for decision.

- London Festival of Architecture
- Gillie and Marc 'Wild About Babies'

2. Reputational Impact – applications which are considered contentious and/or conflicts with the City of London's Corporation's public image.

Proposal

Applications for public art which are contentious and may pose a reputational risk to the corporation are referred to CHL for decision. Reputational risk can include (but is not limited to):

- Political reputation – an application which conflicts with, puts into question or biases the City of London Corporation’s politically neutral stance and public image.
- Contested heritage – an application which has multiple conflicting viewpoints, interpretations and/or perspectives on a historical subject.
- Stakeholder relationships – an application which may damage the City Corporation’s relationship/s with its key stakeholders.

Previous examples (would still go to CHL for decision)

- SHIZO – Alexei Navalny’s prison cell
- Hoare’s Bank Blue Plaque

3. Timeliness – the speed at which a decision is needed, driven by the date the proposed artwork is to be installed.

Proposal

Temporary applications which need a decision to be made before the next CHL committee meeting and have an urgent timeline where no reputational impact of the installation had been identified but a lack of decision poses a financial or reputational risk will be made under delegated authority.

The urgency procedure may still be used if it is felt that a quick decision is needed but the whole committee should be consulted with.

Previous examples

- Purple Hibiscus (**would be made under delegated authority**)
- Gillie and Marc ‘Wild Table of Love’ (**would be made under delegated authority**)

Proposed date for delegated authority process to be implemented: 6th June 2024 (the date of the next CAI meeting after May CHL).

N.B

- *All City Arts Initiative applications are signposted to gain the necessary permissions and sign off with environmental health, building control, highways and planning.*

- *The CAI assesses applications based on artistic merit and feasibility; it has no regulatory authority. The approval from CAI and CHL gives the initial green light, but the project can only go ahead if all necessary relevant permissions are obtained. It is the applicant's responsibility to ensure all sufficient approvals are gained.*