

CALL
FOR
ARTISTS

BACKGROUND

Newham is a borough in east London with a diverse population of 350,000 people. It is a place which inspires and supports creativity, attracts artists and cultural businesses, and has a long history of making. Community creativity is at the heart of an ambitious programme of work to make Newham an even better place to live, work and create in years to come.

Newham Council are investing £1.5m into imaginative and original public art to enhance eight of the borough's town centres. The public art improvements for Shape Newham will create more attractive places for residents and help to support the high street, its businesses and the delivery of the Mayor's Community Wealth Building agenda.

SITE SELECTION

The local community is nominating the spaces in their neighbourhood that they want to see transformed. Shape Newham Project and Design Team have been developing briefs and making final decisions on which sites to put forward for Shape Newham. The list of sites includes high streets, squares, parks, street corners and footpaths. A community led social narrative has developed the brief through intergenerational engagement; this input has been incorporated into the Site Information document, in the 'Suggestions for Approaches' section.

NEWHAM SOCIAL BROADCAST

As part of our engagement strategy, the 'radio' workshops will train community members in oral research so they can reach the groups and voices that remain outside of formal consultation forums. This more personal approach to the understanding of place is proposed as an antidote to more formal 'consultation' exercises.

Residents trained in interviewing and recording will be an integral part of the project research, helping to identify potential themes and concepts, key places and needs, as well as help identify and select the artists commissioned and what they might produce and where. The 'citizen' researchers and the information gleaned from this process will assist the designer/artist and the Design Committees and help to steer the project from the outset; it is this research and input that will inform the development of the projects and its outcomes. As an engagement strategy this creates a sense of ownership and participation at every stage of the project.

CO-PRODUCTION

The making element of this project (co-production) will be enabled by a series of prototyping and fabricating workshops with members of the community. The aim is for local people to have the chance to be involved in the realisation of designs, interventions and art works. Through sharing building craft and making techniques with a variety of stakeholders and providing specialist workshops for standard trades people, we hope to ensure legacy in the local community and economy.

The research phase has begun, mapping and analysing local history, land use and the social and cultural characteristics of Newham. This work has helped to identify local suppliers and materials that could become the palette from which to design new elements for the project. Artists will have access to a compendium of materials and makers that has been created specifically for this project. It will detail vernacular materials, crafts, waste streams, current material producers and makers within Newham and the immediate surroundings. This should be used alongside the information gleaned from the radio workshops and engagement to inform artworks.

Artists will be expected to work closely with the co-production team to ensure that artworks, or elements of them, can be fabricated by workshop participants of varying ages and abilities. We will support the artists in developing simple processes or modular designs that will ensure meaningful outcomes for stakeholders. The future maintenance of all projects is key to their success and therefore artists will also be expected to work with council officers to understand the maintenance scope of existing contracts. The co-production workshops will provide building material for a proportion of the artist led projects.

CALL FOR ARTISTS

We are now looking for creative proposals for projects to take place at these sites through an open call.

Artists and other creative practitioners with an interest in working in the public realm are invited to propose ideas to transform sites nominated by the communities of Newham as part of the Shape Newham project.

The open call is for creative practitioners to propose and develop an idea with a local community group for one or more of the nominated sites resulting in a long-term physical installation or intervention. We are particularly interested in receiving responses from artists who live and work in Newham.

This call for Shape Newham is open to all kinds of creative practitioners, primarily artists. We welcome proposals from individuals, groups, organisations and partnerships and applicants should have experience in delivering public realm and public art works, preferably with experience of community design.

No.	Location	Place	Type	Budget Type
1	North	Maryland	Artist	Small
2	North	Forest Gate	Youth artist	Small
3	North	Forest Gate	Artist	Medium
4	North	Manor Park	Artist	Small
5	East	East Ham	Artist	Small
6	East	East Ham	Artist	Medium
7	East	Beckton	Youth artist	Small
8	West	Green Street	Artist	Small
9	West	Green Street	Artist	Medium
10	West	Plaistow	Youth artist	Small

Small: project likely to be 2D. A mural or surface treatment of paving.

Medium: project likely to be 3D. A sculpture or piece of street furniture.

Large: project likely to be defined by a public use or function and will likely be spatial. A pocket park, a kiosk or a combination of small and medium interventions.

Costed proposals will be considered and the winning commissions will be installed by Winter 2020. Projects will need to have a minimum lifespan of five years and require minimal or low-cost maintenance. All proposals will need to be weather and fire resistant, accessible and consider possible anti- social behavior issues. Proposals within proximity of roads should give regard to highway design guidance and requirements. Proposals should be site specific and respond to the issues raised and suggestions made by communities as outlined in the Site Information. Ideas for projects might include murals, lighting installations, street furniture, growing spaces, sculptures, play equipment or other interventions which will revitalise and improve the site and surrounding area.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

The successful artist or designer will be selected through a three-part process:

Stage 1: Open Call for Artists. Interested parties submit summary portfolios of relevant past work and a short text briefly outlining their design approach (submission deadline 21 October 2019).

Stage 2: Shortlisted artists will be issued the community themes w/c 21 October 2019 and invited to interview w/c 18 November 2019 (snapshot of shortlist submissions to be shown in event 2)

Interviews	South:	7 November 2019
	East:	14 November 2019
	North:	21 November 2019

Stage 3: One winner per project will be selected from the shortlist based on their design approach and be awarded the commission by 22 November. (Successful winners to present and refine brief in event 3 from w/c 25 November 2019)

EVALUATION CRITERIA

The final winners will have been judged on the following criteria during the course of the selection process:

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| • Newham resident or business/studio based in Newham | 20 % |
| • Quality of proposal design approach and track record | 25 % |
| • Local engagement approach and benefit to community | 25 % |
| • Value for money | 15 % |
| • Ease of maintenance and project legacy | 10 % |

We will aim to let applicants know if they have not been shortlisted for interview by 25 October 2019.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Should you wish to be considered for a Newham Neighbourhood commission please send a PDF of no more than 10 pages A4 and a maximum 10mb that includes:

- Three relevant commissioned projects described in text and photos – including details of timelines, budget and present status
- A biography of no more than 300 words, outlining relevant qualifications and recent exhibitions. Please include details of where your studio is located.
- A maximum 300-word text outlining your approach to the commission including community engagement.

Please send your submission by 20 October 2019 to mail@shapenewham.co.uk with the subject line ‘Shape Newham Open Call’. We are happy to accept submissions from collectives or collaborative teams, however, please note that the artist fee cannot be scaled to reflect multiple team members.

A developed community brief will be issued to shortlisted artists for the second and third stages of the selection process.

TIMELINE

Open Call launched		16 September 2019
Deadline for submissions		20 October 2019
Shortlisted applicants informed		26 October 2019
Interviews	South:	7 November 2019
	East:	14 November 2019
	North:	21 November 2019
Artist appointed	South:	8 November 2019
	East:	15 November 2019
	North:	22 November 2019
Briefs refined		w/c 25 November to w/c 9 December

SELECTION PROCESS

Shortlisting will take place in October 2019 and proposals will be judged by a panel of community members and creative experts. The judging panel will include:

- Local community residents (up to 3)
- Council officer
- Designer
- Fine Artist

Interviews will take place in November 2019 and will be judged by the same panel for each area.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Additional information and supporting documents will be produced as the Shape Newham assemblies make their decisions. They will be found in the 'Opportunities' section of the Shape Newham website. These will include:

- Sites Information Pack after Assembly 1. You will be emailed upon successful bid to shortlist.
- Invitation to Tender (ITT). You will be emailed upon successful bid to shortlist.

If you have any questions relating to this Open Call please send them to mail@shapenewham.co.uk by 17 October 2019.

In order to ensure a fair and transparent process, questions and answers that are relevant to all will be added to the Shape Newham website: www.shapenewham.co.uk by 18 October 2019.

Please do not contact any of the Shape Newham partners, rather direct all queries via the email above.

SITE VISITS

The sites are all located within the public realm and interested parties are invited to tour the sites in their own time.

BUDGET

A total budget is envisaged for realising the final artwork is detailed below. These budgets include all artist fees, production costs and installation. Any permission fees and the fees of the consultant design team who will assist through technical design are covered under a separate budget. Depending on the nature of the work, artists will need to provide insurance cover for public indemnity.

Artist fee – example mural work

Artist fee £3,000 + VAT, Construction Budget £8,000 + VAT

Artist fee – example art intervention

Artist fee £5,000 + VAT, Construction Budget £65,000 + VAT

Please note that the commission is required to be complete by June 2020 and will be installed July–December 2020. It is possible that the art commission will require planning permission; this process will be managed by the consultant design team in collaboration with the winning artist and Newham Council.

BECKTON



EAST HAM



FOREST GATE



MANOR PARK



GREEN STREET



PLAISTOW



MARYLAND



LITTLE ILFORD



SHAPE

NEWHAM

Improving public spaces together



People at the Heart
of Everything We Do

