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Tender

Permanent Public Art Installation e.g. sculpture

Stony Stratford Town Council

F12: Design contest notice

Notice identifier: 2024/S 000-015563

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-045a12

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Section I: Contracting authority/entity

I.1) Name and addresses

Stony Stratford Town Council

5-7 Church Street

Milton Keynes

MK111BD

Email

eo@stonystratford.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1908566726

Country

United Kingdom

Region code

UKJ12 - Milton Keynes

Justification for not providing organisation identifier

Not on any register

Internet address(es)

Main address

www.stonystratford.gov.uk

I.3) Communication

The procurement documents are available for unrestricted and full direct access, free of charge, at

<https://stonystratfordcouncil.sharepoint.com/:b:/s/SSTCOperations/Ef-FT5AVzutAmXI8ALeikrIBXDVqu25unnZmGomgevgODw?e=1nm38l>

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

Tenders or requests to participate must be submitted to the above-mentioned address

I.4) Type of the contracting authority

Body governed by public law

I.5) Main activity

General public services

Section II: Object

II.1) Scope of the procurement

II.1.1) Title

Permanent Public Art Installation e.g. sculpture

II.1.2) Main CPV code

- 92311000 - Works of art

II.2) Description

II.2.4) Description of the procurement

Stony Stratford

Stony Stratford is considered to be 'the Jewel of Milton Keynes'. Whilst part of one of the fastest-growing cities in Britain, it is a mix of old and new with its own style and charm, retaining the character of a lively market town. "Stony" has a long and fascinating history, seen in its many historical coaching inns and delightful Georgian architecture. The High Street is part of the original Watling Street, in existence since the Romans marched from Richborough to Chester. Writers, artists, and musicians are drawn to the town with its colourful history, its mix of traditional and speciality shops, and the wide range of pubs, restaurants and cafés to be found there.

Aims for the Commission

Stony Stratford Town Council (SSTC) is looking to appoint an experienced creative practitioner or collaborative practice to develop and deliver a permanent public art installation, creating a focal point in the vicinity of the High Street that will celebrate the rich heritage of Stony Stratford. The client has an initial preference for a sculpture in a single location (likely to be Market Square) but wants to leave scope for artist creativity - proposals for other forms of installation will therefore also be considered.

Total commission budget is £60,000 excl. VAT. This includes all fees, fabrication/delivery costs, installation, public engagement and publicity. A sum of £3,000 has already been ring-fenced for future maintenance. The client is Stony Stratford Town Council, with overall project management by the Town Clerk, supported by the Town Centre Working Group (TCWG), which consists of councillors, residents, school pupils and local businesses.

Location

Initial investigations have highlighted Market Square as a suitable location. It is the heart of Stony and the site of various gatherings and celebrations throughout the year.

The artist will need to be aware that the work may be in a conservation area and adjacent to Grade II listed buildings.

Considerations:

The artist should explore and respond to all or any of the following aspirations when developing their ideas:

- to be educational and informative about Stony Stratford.
- to reflect on the culture, history and/or geology of Stony Stratford.
- to activate and animate the chosen space.
- to take a cue from a broad range of researched contexts, e.g. Roman era, local wildlife, Stony Stratford as a historical transport hub.
- to take into account the Stony Stratford Neighbourhood Plan.

Their proposal should also:

- provide for all labour, supplies, materials and equipment needed for the design, execution, fabrication, transportation and installation of the artwork.
- consider a variety of media, but the work should be constructed from a resilient, durable, and low-maintenance material as it will be located outdoors.
- consider maintenance, i.e. the finished work should not be easily vandalised and should be straightforward and economical to repair.
- include specifications and details of installation - drawings of the proposed installation and specifications for materials, fixings, measurements, installation techniques and schedules, as well as any required infrastructure surveys or planning permission.

Collaboration - the artist will work closely with Stony Stratford Town Council to ensure that all works and planning requirements fit in with the overall timeline for the project. Permissions will be sought by the Council.

Publicity - sufficient time and resources should be allocated to marketing and publicity so that the project can be shared with the community.

Objectives

- to create an artwork that captures the interest and spirit of the community.
- to create a focal point that is visually pleasing and sensitive to the location.
- to engage the community and encourage interaction with the artwork.
- to celebrate the identity of Stony Stratford and support community development.
- to create a feature with a minimum life expectancy of 25 years.

Deliverables

The chosen creative practice will be required

- to understand the site(s), context and aims of the Public Art Commission and to develop an initial concept and outline proposal.
- to develop and deliver activities with the community to inform and engage local residents and schools.
- to consider how the community will interact with the finished artwork.
- to present ideas and respond to feedback from the TCWG during design development.
- to support any planning applications or other permissions required. This may also include a review by ROSPA and MK Highways.
- to ensure compliance with any regulations and recommendations of highways and planning officers.
- to develop and deliver an artwork that responds to the brief provided by the Town Council and the TCWG.
- to work to the agreed timescales and to the specified budget.

Some useful websites about Stony Stratford include:

<https://www.stonystratford.gov.uk/>

<https://www.mkheritage.org.uk/archive/mkm/stonystratford/docs/history.html>

<https://www.stonystratford.co.uk/history>

There are also several books available from Stony Stratford Library.

Exclusions

We will not accept proposals for existing artworks or for projects that do not meet the timescales or budget, or approaches that do not respond to the local context.

Section III. Legal, economic, financial and technical information

III.2) Conditions related to the contract

III.2.1) Information about a particular profession

Participation is reserved to a particular profession: yes

Indicate profession:

Artists e.g sculptures with experience in creating and installing public art installations

Section IV. Procedure

IV.1) Description

IV.1.2) Type of contest

Open

IV.1.9) Criteria for the evaluation of projects

Assessment criteria

Expressions of Interest (Eols) will be assessed according to the following criteria:

- Approach - response to identified themes and objectives; ability to research and respond creatively to a brief.
- Artistic ability - ability to produce an innovative, creative and attractive design.
- Quality of previous projects - proven track record of high-quality delivery, working with communities and partners to develop and deliver exceptional, innovative and engaging artworks within the public realm.
- Experience - successful completion of projects of a similar scale and budget, experience of collaboration with communities, partners and stakeholders, excellent communication skills.

IV.2) Administrative information

IV.2.2) Time limit for receipt of projects or requests to participate

Date

3 June 2024

Local time

5:00pm

IV.2.4) Languages in which projects or requests to participate may be drawn up

English

IV.3) Rewards and jury

IV.3.1) Information about prize(s)

A prize/prizes will be awarded: no

IV.3.3) Follow-up contracts

Any service contract following the contest will be awarded to the winner or winners of the contest: yes

IV.3.4) Decision of the jury

The decision of the jury is binding on the contracting authority/entity: yes

Section VI. Complementary information

VI.3) Additional information

Selection Process

Stage 1 - Expressions of Interest

The commission opportunity will be openly circulated.

Artists are to submit an Expression of Interest to eoil@stonystatford.gov.uk by 3rd June 2024.

Three artists will be shortlisted and invited to visit the site in the week commencing 10th June 2024. This will allow them to engage with the TCWG and help them to develop a proposal. Each artist will be awarded £1,000 for this phase of work.

Stage 2 - Shortlisted artists develop proposals

Each shortlisted artist will be required to develop their idea and present their proposal to the TCWG during the week commencing 1st July 2024. The proposal should include the following:

- an outline of the idea and inspiration for the design
- information on and details of scale, materials, maintenance needs
- artist's impression of the artwork in situ
- breakdown of costs (design, fabrication, installation)

An initial road safety assessment will be carried out on the proposed design to identify any potential issues. The selected artist will use this information and other feedback to further develop their design.

Stage 3 - Final selection

During the week commencing 15th July 2024, one artist/design will be selected to undertake the commission, based on their proposal meeting the brief and being suitable for the location.

The selected artist will be contracted to develop/detail their design and support the approvals process. Fabrication of the artwork will be contracted once planning approval

has been secured.

Making an Expression of Interest

To submit an Expression of Interest, please send in the following, as one PDF:

- up to three examples of previous relevant commissions (pdf or jpg file types only), including images and indicative budget spends for each, max. 5 x A4.
- a Letter of Interest, explaining why you would like to be chosen for this commission and confirming your availability.
- contact details (email and telephone) for two referees - from recent commissions.
- current Curriculum Vitae or practice profile
- evidence of insurance cover

VI.4) Procedures for review

VI.4.1) Review body

Stony Stratford Town Council

Stony Stratford Library, 5-7 Church Street, Stony Stratford

Stony Stratford

MK11 1BD

Email

office@stonystratford.gov.uk

Telephone

+44 1908566726

Country

United Kingdom