

## Artist Brief

**Kingshurst Brook/Queen's Garden** Commission  
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council

### Project Summary

Solihull Council wishes to commission an artist to develop graffiti murals on 2 underpasses along the Kingshurst Brook in Chelmsley Wood.

Underpass underneath Chelmsley Road:

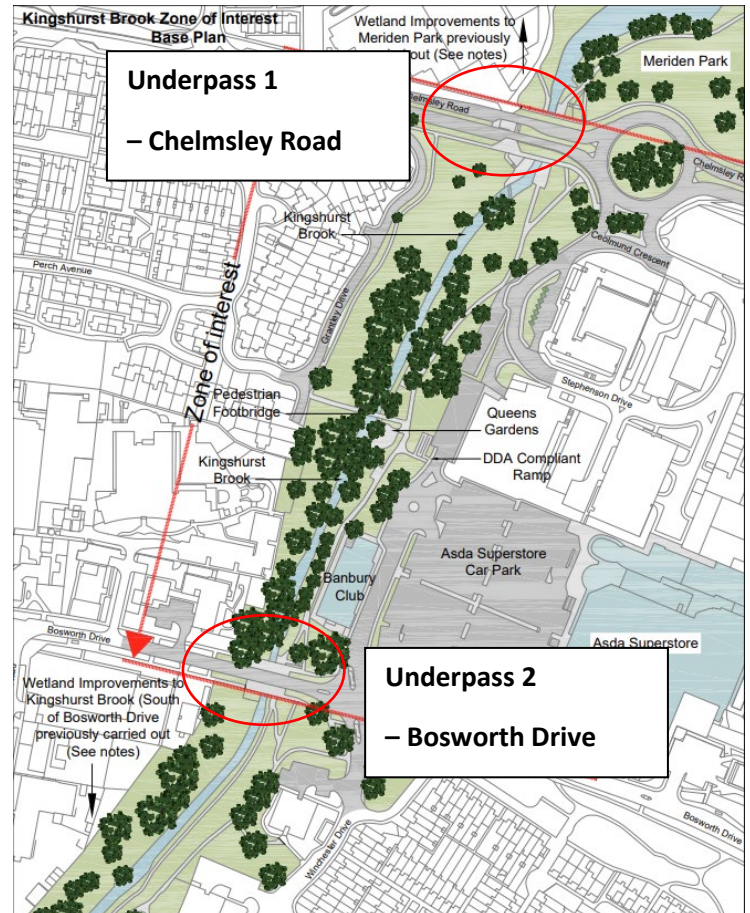
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/XmgbfCE9eTxXHU4E9>

Underpass underneath Bosworth Drive:

<https://maps.app.goo.gl/o9eKQcMAjW7Zd52w8>

The commissioner seeks for these murals to complement public realm and natural environment improvements taking place in the area.

The Kingshurst Brook/Queen's Garden redevelopment project is part of a wider initiative called Your Future Chelmsley Wood, which is designed to enhance residents' health and wellbeing through sustainability and community-driven improvements. The project prioritises access to green spaces, allowing the community to help shape improvements in local open spaces and natural areas.



For more information see: [About Your Future Chelmsley Wood | Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council](#)

### Commission Methodology

Solihull Council seeks to commission an artist to produce graffiti murals on 2 underpasses underneath Chelmsley Road and Bosworth Drive, in Chelmsley Wood. The murals should appeal to the Youth of Chelmsley Wood and should prompt community engagement with culture and positive interaction with spaces, whilst discouraging graffiti and anti-social behaviour.

The commission offers an opportunity for a professional artist to design, develop and deliver a finished artwork that will form a permanent part of the public realm. The artworks should provide focal and discussion points increasing dwell time along the Kingshurst Brook, enhancing the public realm and increasing civic pride.



The commissions are open to the theme for the murals – but artist should produce work that will appeal to people living in Chelmsley Wood.

Themes could include:

- Famous landmarks in the area
- Famous people from Chelmsley Wood
- Words that are synonymous with Chelmsley Wood e.g. 'The Wood'
- Local Art, Music, Culture
- The history of Chelmsley Wood
  - [Chelmsley Wood history | Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council](#)
  - [Chelmsley Wood - Wikipedia](#)

### Project Specifics

There is no lighting in the underpasses, which can become very dark. To make the most of the artists work the Council seeks for the artist to consider the colours used inside the underpass and consider how the outside edges of the underpass can be used to greater effect.



Artists should also produce an information sheet about themselves and the project to be presented on the community notice board in the area.

### Application Process

To be considered for the commission, artists must provide a proposal (expression of interest) in response to this Artist Brief, to be submitted by email to [lisa.cleaver@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:lisa.cleaver@solihull.gov.uk)

Outline proposals must include a CV, examples of past work and a short statement of interest in response to the brief. Artists should specify the amount of wall space they propose to work on, the theme and style the work will take and general concept, alongside the materials they would use to realise the work.

The expression of interest should be no more than 800 words.

**Deadline for submission: 5<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

### Commissioning Process

Stage 1 – Proposals submitted

Stage 2 – Proposals shortlisted

Stage 4 – Shortlisted artists invited to present their ideas to a selection panel which will award the final commission to the successful artist/s.

Stage 5 – The successful artist/s will be contracted to realise the artwork in further consultation with the commissioners to deliver the finished piece.

**The fee for the full commission is £12,000**

All costs for realising the work (including materials and any associated realisation costs) must be budgeted for within the £12,000.

#### **Artist Selection Panel:**

The artist selection panel will include:

- Solihull Council staff including staff from Your Future Chelmsley Wood Project Team and Culture

#### **Selection Criteria**

Artists will be selected on the basis of their past work and on the response to the brief.

We will also consider the following:

- Ability to generate creative art works of uncompromising quality
- Ability to work collaboratively with the project team and commissioners
- Ability to understand and work with a diverse range of stakeholders
- Proven ability to meet established budgets and work to a schedule

This opportunity is open to all visual artists, although links to Chelmsley Wood or the local area would be preferable.

#### **Artist's Role**

The artist will seek to understand the context of the commission and generate a piece of exceptional artistic quality

- To work with the commissioners and other stakeholders (including WMG Academy) to familiarise themselves with the overall project objectives to inform the artwork
- To develop concepts, ideas and proposals for the artwork
- To ensure the work can be realised within budget and timescale
- On completion, agree to input into a short evaluation report
- Attend meetings with the commissioners, and make presentations in relation to the project as appropriate

#### **Timeline and Schedule**

Stage 1 – Proposals submitted

**5<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Stage 2 – Selection Panel which will award the final commission to the successful artist/s.

**w/c 13<sup>th</sup> April 2026**

Stage 3 – The successful artist/s will be contracted to realise the artwork in further consultation with the Commissioners to deliver the finished piece.

Stage 4 - Work realised by

**End of July 2026**

Stage 5 – Evaluation

**August 2026**

#### **Budget**

1 x Commission Fee of £12,000 for the successful artist to design and deliver the final artworks.

The above fee is exclusive of any VAT, and this should be added if applicable.

#### **Intellectual Property and Copyright**

The artist shall retain copyright of the artwork, however the copyright and any other intellectual property right in any materials produced during this commission shall belong to commissioner including reproduction rights.

### **Ownership**

The commissioned artwork shall on completion, become the property of the commissioners, and maintained by the commissioners.

Further copies of the work may not be made by the artist for sale or via commission without the permission in writing of the commissioner (permission not to be unreasonably withheld).

### **Practicalities**

Permissions - all work will be subject to relevant permissions prior to implementation.

Equal opportunities – Solihull Borough Council's Equal Opportunities Policy will be applied to this Commission.

### **Maintenance**

The maintenance of artwork and removal of any graffiti will be the responsibility of the commissioner.

### **Decommissioning**

The art works will be reviewed on a yearly basis and decommissioned when upkeep is no longer feasible. Although this decision will lie with the commissioners the artist will be consulted and kept abreast of all decisions around decommissioning.

### **Evaluation**

Solihull Council and will support the artist in producing an evaluation, including gathering feedback from the selection panel and community. A detailed record of the project will be produced for future reference to include a project overview, successes, challenges/lessons learned and a photographic record of the project process and completion. This information will be made available on request to help promote the successes of the project and share learning from the process.

### **Contracts**

Artist contracts will set out:

- definition of involved parties, names and addresses
- details of the commission, the design stages and the artist's brief
- confirmation of budget, fees and methods of payment
- overall timetable stages and schedule of work
- agreement of roles and responsibilities of both parties
- delivery of work and insurance requirements
- ownership
- risk of loss or damage and maintenance of work
- decommissioning policy
- copyright, reproduction rights, credits and moral rights
- termination of agreement
- disputes procedure

### **Contact**

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