



COMHAIRLE | CLARE
CONTAE AN CHLÁIR | COUNTY COUNCIL



Per Cent for Art Scheme Cuan an Chláir Public Art Project Updated brief for artists – 19/6/2020

General Information

Concern for an ageing population and the vulnerability of the elderly in the Ennis rural and urban was the prime driver behind a group of people from a diversity of backgrounds coming together in 2007 to form Cuan an Chláir. Those involved had the wellbeing of the elderly as a common focus and the provision of appropriate care and support to that sector as a shared ambition.

15% of the population (approx 3075 people) in Ennis are over 65 and in the next 30 years this figure will double so the demographics clearly show that we have an ageing population and a dramatic increase in life expectancy due to medical advancements and improved housing.

In 2015 Cuan an Chláir built a multi-purpose Community Day Centre for 50 people and twelve two bedroom sheltered houses for the elderly of Ennis and surrounds.

2020 sees the next phase of development take place. On the site of a farmhouse and farm yard, Cuan an Chláir are restoring farm outbuildings and the farmhouse at a cost of €2.3m. The new layout will see a courtyard with 10 dwellings, the renovation of the existing coach house and 4 new dwellings in a terrace, providing 15 new accommodation units in total.

As part of this development Cuan an Chláir now wishes to commission an Artist to develop a new public art project as part of this development. The commission is funded through the Department of Environment & Local Government percent for art scheme and is coordinated by Clare County Council Arts Office on behalf of Cuan an Chláir. The contract for the commission will be issued by Clare County Council.

Background to the Project

How a society cares for its older people is a real measure of how civilised that society is. When the need was identified for housing for the elderly and a new day centre in Ennis, the Killaloe Diocesan Trust donated 2.42 hectares to Cuan an Chláir Care for those in need.

The original development is located on the Diocesan land at Cahercalla More, Ennis adjacent to Cahercalla Community Hospital. The houses were funded by the Department of the Environment whilst the Day Centre was funded by Cuan an Chláir at a cost of 1.3 million. The total project cost was €3.3million.

Having acquired an adjacent farmhouse and farm yard, Phase 2 of the development is now underway. 13 buildings are being renovated / adapted as homes with a terrace of 4 new homes under construction also on the site. The heritage of the older buildings is being respected with the reuse of stone where possible.



It is envisaged that the quality of life of the residents will be enhanced through their continual living in their own community rather than other scenarios such as nursing homes. The local shops are 3 minutes away and a Church and Coffee Shop are located in the adjacent Community Hospital complex which is next door.

Vision for the Artwork

As part of Phase 1, artist Lewis Goodman was commissioned through the Per Cent for Art Scheme to create a piece / place that would reflect peace and tranquillity in the harvest time of life. The notion of community is also intrinsic to the development – the creation of a new community of a similar generation to support and enhance each other as they age.



Pic: Lewis Goodman piece

It is the commissioners intention to commission another project that would compliment this ethos. The notion of the harvest time of life is particularly apt in Phase 2 with the redevelopment of the old farmhouse, farm yard and out buildings.

The broader setting for the project location, in the hospital grounds, sees the old farmyard sited next to a ring fort and bat sanctuary. In the context of the overall development particular attention has been given to these features along with the restoration of the old stone walls and farm buildings and the preservation of the mature beech and oak trees and hedgerows.

Site of Art Work

There are three proposed locations for the completed artwork

- a) On the right hand side (green area) of the site as you enter against the backdrop of the field / fairy fort. This is the main vehicular entrance to the development.
- b) On either / both of the green areas in the Courtyard section of the development
- c) Within / against the covered area at the bottom of the Courtyard – an area envisaged for social outdoor gatherings such as BBQ's etc.

Artist Commission Process

Artists will be shortlisted and selected through an open competition process. It is envisaged that this will be a one stage commissioning process. However, if the selection panel deems it necessary to do so, the option to go to a two stage competition will be exercised and artists will be paid a sum of €500 to supply further information / develop their brief.

The commission budget for the artwork is €21,000 incl VAT.

Artists Budget

| Detail | Detail | Amount |
|--|--------|--------|
| Artists Budget including; | | |
| Materials, fabrication, supply and installation – if appropriate | | |
| Travel and transport | | |
| Insurance | | |
| Engineering design – if appropriate | | |
| Health & Safety statements | | |
| Research and development | | |
| VAT | | |
| Any other associated costs | | |
| 5% contingency [as per the National Guidelines on Public Art] | | |

Requirements from Successful Candidate

The successful artist(s) will be required to provide Clare County Council with supplementary materials such as

- tax clearance certificates
- evidence of public liability insurance
- health and safety certificates
- any other information that the commissioners deem necessary

prior to signing of contracts.

These are not required at submission stage but in making a submission the candidate agrees to produce all necessary documentation required by Clare County Council.

Site Visit

Due to Covid 19, the planned site visit to Cuan an Chláir has been cancelled. In its place, we have developed a short film of the site showing

- a) the entrance towards Cahercalla Hospital leading into the first housing development and the development of the Day Care Centre
- b) To the right of the first shot of the building site will be a green area (not currently visible due to building materials). This can be better ascertained through the drone footage.
- c) The rectangular area of the site is the proposed courtyard area as highlighted on the map.
- d) The covered area at the end of the courtyard also features in the film.

The film can be viewed at <https://vimeo.com/429258377>

Questions arising from the film should be sent to arts@clarecoco.ie and questions and answers (without indicating who submitted them) will be posted on our website.

http://www.clarelibrary.ie/eolas/cominfo/arts/public_art_commissions.htm

The closing date for receipt of questions is July 3rd, 2020.

Timeframe

The deadline for artist(s) submissions is no later than **Friday July 10th, 2020**.

No late applications will be accepted. The overall timeframe for the commissioning process is as follows:

| | |
|--|---|
| Closing date for registration for Site Visit | Cancelled |
| Site Visit to Cuan an Chláir will take place | Cancelled but questions pertaining to the site can be submitted up to July 3rd, 2020. |
| Closing date for Artists Submission | Originally April 24th, 2020. Postponed to July 10th, 2020. |
| Selected artist (s) informed by | July 28th, 2020 |
| Commission target completion date | TBC – Dependent on proposals received |

Selection Procedure & Selection Panel

The selection panel will comprise of 2 Directors of Cuan an Chláir, an engineer / site foreman and an independent artistic advisor. It will be chaired by a representative of Clare County Council Arts Office.

Criteria for selection:

- Track record or potential of the artist
- Quality of the idea presented including originality, impact, scale and connections made to its context
- Suitability and feasibility of the proposal to the context
- Durability and implications for future maintenance, where appropriate

Artists' Submissions

Please submit 5 no. of copies of the following: (one copy per person on the panel)

- A brief and simple description of the proposed public art project (not more than 1A4 page)
- A typed CV [maximum 3 pages]
- Examples of previous work in the form of photographs and / or digital images [jpegs on USB sticks]. Note: No more than 10 images in total should be submitted.
- Detailed explanation of the proposed project including dimensions [preferably in metric], materials, etc.
- One set of visual representation of the proposed public art project in situ, using – for example, drawings, computer generated images, photographs. **Models / macquettes are not required at this stage**
- Details of the technical specifications, construction, installation process, etc. for the public art project, where appropriate.
- Timescale for realisation.
- Required ongoing maintenance for the public art project – if appropriate

Please ensure that all submitted materials are clearly marked with the artist's name and contact details.

A stamped addressed envelope should be included to guarantee safe return of proposals, if artists wish proposals to be returned to them. Clare County Council takes no responsibility for proposals submitted without an S.A.E.

Due to COVID 19, if artists prefer to email applications they should be emailed to arts@clarecoco.ie no later than 12 noon on July 10th, 2020. Emails and all attachments should be no more **than 4MB in total**

Additional Information

All reasonable care will be taken with each submission. However, Cuan an Chláir or Clare County Council will not take responsibility for any loss or damage, which may occur in transit, storage or packing.

Completed submissions must be returned no later than 12 noon on July 10th, 2020.

Completed proposals must be returned to:

Cuan an Chláir - Public Art Commission
c/o The Arts Office, County Library, Mill Road, Ennis
Co.Clare V95 FX32

Further queries should be addressed to Siobhán Mulcahy at the address above:

Tel: 065 6899091

smulcahy@clarecoco.ie