

Artist Brief

Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus – Wild Spaces Public Art Commission

The Wild Spaces commission is an exciting opportunity for an artist to work with communities, researchers and partner organisations to deliver a participatory programme and temporary artworks that investigate the natural ecologies around the site of the new University of Bristol Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus (TQEC), next to Bristol Temple Meads Station.

The Brief

Wild Spaces is an eighteen-month commission that will take place alongside the construction of the Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus, which is due for completion in 2026. It will focus on the importance of ecology at the campus and across Bristol, using TQEC's access to the waterfront as a platform for examining the bigger picture of ecologies and wild spaces across the city.

We are looking for an artist who will find imaginative ways to create a dialogue between the communities and the ecology of the site, providing new perspectives on the site's relationship with water and the natural landscape. This artist will explore the waterfront of the Enterprise Campus in collaboration with local communities – partner organisations, residents, academics, students, businesses, and visitors. Through research and participatory events, the artist will develop a programme of enquiry to understand the area's natural landscape and the relationship between people and place.

The artist, together with communities, will create temporary interventions that vividly animate themes of ecology and share this very special aspect of the site with wider audiences.

Process and Temporary Interventions

Considering the relationship between people and nature will inform the temporary interventions. The process could create or utilise temporary environments for learning about habitats and areas of ecological interest, or possibly take the form of discovery trails, audio, digital or outdoor exhibitions. Interventions or activities could highlight and draw attention to the biodiversity around the future campus and the natural ecologies and wild spaces around the city.

During a period of research and development, the artist will work closely with delivery teams to identify suitable partners, opportunities, sites or applications for the interventions or the outcomes.

It will be important to consider the sustainability of activities or temporary interventions – both in terms of materials that minimise extraction and future maintenance or degradation of artworks.

Opportunities and Support

The artist will be supported in their process by a project team: the University of Bristol Public Art Coordinator and the Contemporary Art Society *Consultancy, who manage the University's public art programme. It is also expected that the artist will work with Cabot Institute for the Environment.

The artist will be supported to make connections and collaborate with:

- University researchers from relevant disciplinary backgrounds
- Community organisations and networks engaged with environmental concerns in the local and wider context
- Local communities who may be potential future users of the TQEC

About Cabot Institute for the Environment

The institute brings together a community of over 600 researchers to form one of the largest clusters of environmental researchers in the UK. The institute's mission is to provide knowledge & evidence, education, and solutions that protect our environment and identify better ways to live within our changing planet.

About Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus (TQEC)

Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus is a flagship project for the University of Bristol and the city, providing new opportunities for partnerships, interdisciplinary research, inclusive education and civic engagement to meet the needs of a rapidly changing world.

TQEC will enable a dynamic ecosystem where our academic community can grow their ideas alongside community stakeholders, industry partners, and business connections. Cutting across disciplines at the intersection of digital, business and social innovation, students, researchers and staff will have the opportunity to connect with industry and communities to co-create solutions to the most pressing challenges of today.

With exceptional facilities and publicly accessible spaces, TQEC builds on the University's global civic ambitions, providing further opportunities to connect with Bristol and the wider world. The campus will be car free and the most sustainable part of our estate. The public realm will be an open and welcoming space for everyone to enjoy.

Our new campus sits at the heart of Bristol Temple Quarter, one of the UK's biggest urban regeneration projects. The area will become a world-class gateway to Bristol and the West of England. The new campus will enhance connectivity in the area, with a new entrance from Bristol Temple Meads station opening directly onto University Square and improved pedestrian and cycle paths.

The University of Bristol is working closely with Bristol City Council, the West of England Combined Authority, Network Rail and Homes England to achieve these aims.

Duration

18 months

Lead Artist Fee

£20,000 including travel and accommodation, to be paid in instalments.

Based on 80 days across 18 months at £250 per day.

Separate budget for engagement activities and fabrication of temporary artwork is available as follows:

Temporary outcomes	£20,000
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HOW TO APPLY

Please email an Expression of Interest to public-art@bristol.ac.uk

Please include:

- your name, address and email
- CV (max 2 pages)
- Up to 10 images of current or recent artwork
- Brief description of practice (500 words)
- An outline of your interest in the opportunity (500 words)
- Your approach to collaboration and an indication of partners you would aim to work with (200 words)
- A statement explaining your relationship to Bristol (100 words)

Public art programming for the new Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus will be delivered with a range of artists with local, national and international experience, reflecting the diversity of the University community and the city of Bristol. Wild Spaces is a socially

engaged commission that invites artists to respond to the context of Temple Quarter Enterprise Campus and engage communities in East or South Bristol. A meaningful connection to the city is therefore essential and an understanding of East or South Bristol communities desirable.

Diversity of people and ideas remains integral to our excellence as a global civic institution. We encourage expressions of interest from artists who will bring greater visibility to different backgrounds, perspectives and experiences within the arts and cultural sector.

We are committed to creating an inclusive and accessible environment for the artists and creatives we work with. If you have access requirements that we should be aware of to better support your participation, please let us know.

Timeline

Call Out publicised	19 September 2024
In person information Session at Bristol Digital Futures Institute*	30 September 2024
Webinar information session*	1 October 2024
Closing deadline for expressions of interest	28 October 2024 5pm
Notification of outcomes will be sent by email	November 2024
Interviews	12 December 2024
Commission commences	January 2025

* Information sessions for potential applicants

In Person - Monday 30th September 10 am – 12.30pm

If you are thinking of applying but have questions, please come along to this information session. The public art team will be available for an informal conversation.

*Drop-in any time between 10am - 12.30pm at the [Bristol Digital Futures Institute](#)
65 Avon Street, BS2 0PZ*



Online – Tuesday 1st October 10 – 11am. Sign up information available on the public art website [here](#).

Please note that unfortunately, due to the number of applications we receive, feedback will not be given at EOI stage.

Interviews will be held in central Bristol in person/ online. The selection panel will include a balance of representation from the University of Bristol and arts organisations in Bristol.

Find out more about the University of Bristol's programme of art commissions and collection of contemporary, permanently sited artworks:

Instagram: **@bristol_uni_publicart**

Website: **www.public-art.bristol.ac.uk**



Architect's impression of the new campus, as seen from the waterside. Credit FCB Studios and Secchi Smith.