

## **Tender for the production of a linen sculpture for Ligoniel Village**

The Belfast Hills Landscape Partnership and Ligoniel Improvement Association are seeking quotations for the design and installation of a bespoke sculpture to represent the linen heritage of Ligoniel Village. The art piece will be located in the Ligoniel Dams area and should be easily visible by passing pedestrians, it should be original, and made from materials reflecting the linen industry and natural environment of the hills that powered the mills. Information on the location of the dams is found at <http://belfasthills.org/visiting/ligoniel/>

### **Background**

Ligoniel lies on the slopes of Wolf Hill in the heart of the Belfast Hills. These slopes were the focus of the linen industry throughout the 19th and 20th centuries with a number of important works, such as the Mountain Spinning Mill, Emerson's Spinning Mill and Wolf Hill Mill, located along the Ligoniel Road. The concentration of linen manufacture in this area was largely due to the power of the Forth River running down from the Belfast Hills and the village was important in the industrialisation of Belfast.

Concepts developed during initial community consultation workshops should be worked up ensuring a sense of community ownership and pride.

We would like a sculpture or art piece that will provide interpretation of the rich linen heritage of this village.

### **Aims & Objectives**

- To highlight and celebrate Ligoniel's important and fascinating linen heritage.
- To create artwork that will generate pride and enhance community ownership of this local landscape feature.
- Encourage Tourism NI to consider Ligoniel as an area worthy of being included in the tours of Belfast, given its connection with the Linen Industry.
- Promote the natural environment and encourage the public to enjoy the splendour of the Belfast Hills.

### **Tender purpose**

- Provide information on the design, production and installation of a sculpture / piece of public art. The piece must be well designed, durable and reasonably vandal proof.
- In addition, the art work must be of a dimension that is visible to passing pedestrians.
- The proposed design must fit in with the outcome of the Community Consultation.

## Outcomes of Community Consultation

Initial community responses to consultation:

- Create a visual focus that could be seen from a distance
- Be very robust and long lasting
- Use locally sourced materials, colour and reflective surfaces
- If possible the piece should tell a story, engage with local heritage or be informative in some way

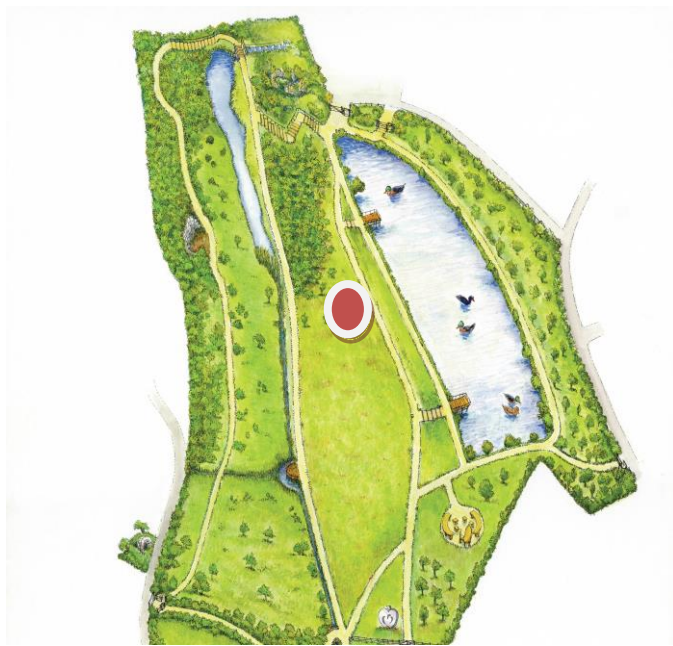
Key themes emerging from consultation:

- History of the linen industry in terms of the mills: spinning, jobs, machinery, process
- The natural environment: hills, rivers, and wildlife, fishing and ducks, farming
- The local heritage: old cornmill, flax dams, origin of the name Ligoniel (hollow of the lime)
- Migrating swans

## Location of Artwork

The artwork will be located within Wolfhill Environment and heritage site. The site is a public access site comprising several hectares of grassland, a forest walk, a network of dams and mill race. The site has an outdoor classroom, a pond dipping platform and a large sculpture of an apple at the top end of the site.

It is envisaged that the artwork will be located on an area of grassland between the two dams. The grass is on a slight slope which levels out to create a natural platform, although there is flexibility regarding location, it was felt that this platform area would be highly visible on the site, while still encouraging people to explore the rest of the site. See map below.



### Stage 1: Expression of interest and suitability:

Submissions must demonstrate how the organisation satisfies the following 2 mandatory criteria. Failure to demonstrate how you meet all the criteria will result in your quotation being eliminated from the selection process.

- 30% - Personnel undertaking this project must demonstrate that they hold the relevant experience. This should be in the form of a CV including samples/photographs of artwork / community project photographs previously undertaken i.e. your own expertise.
- 70% - Submissions **must** include details of at least **3 examples** of the proposed personnel having carried out similar work with communities groups within the last 3 years. Examples given must include, but is not limited to, information on the nature of the work, duties carried out by the concerned team member, the client involved and the project completion date, i.e. your experience of working with groups.

**From applicants to Stage 1 a short list of up to three artists will be selected for interview. They will be given a budget of £500 to further work up the design concept for Stage 2. From this an artist will be selected who will work further with the local community to produce and install the final art piece.**

### Stage 2: Fully worked up tender in response to the particulars of the project

At this stage we do not require a fully worked up tender. If successful in stage 1 we will require the following information:

- Methodology describing and illustrating how the sculpture will be produced. This should include details of working up ideas with the community group, through to design and production of the finished project.
- A detailed timeline of the project.
- Details of previous experience of carrying out work of this nature including **three** specific references and photographs of work done.
- Details of key personnel and their individual qualifications to enable them to carry out this work.
- Detailed breakdown of all costs including VAT if applicable (up to a maximum of £16,000 including VAT is available to create and install the final piece).

- We would ask that all prices are valid for 120 days subsequent to submission.

### Award Criteria

Individuals who have satisfied all of the above requirements will be assessed on the following award criteria:

40% - Design/style/materials of examples provided - Submissions should include examples/photographs of previous projects produced by groups as a result of your expertise

30%- Outlined methodology – Include relevant details of the planned sessions with the local school or community group.

30% - Full Breakdown of Cost –The cost for providing all services under this quotation are to be included. Costs for this contract should include workshop leadership, travel, installation and all materials/equipment required.

### Time Period –

Item	Date
Tender document out	5 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
Return of completed quotation applications	23 <sup>rd</sup> November 2015
Panel meet to mark tender docs	25 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
Appointment of up to three artists	26 <sup>th</sup> November 2015
Stage 1	
Artists submit worked up design concept	4 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
Stage 2	
Panel meet to mark tender docs & Interview artists	6 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
Appointment of successful artist	7 <sup>th</sup> January 2016
Completion of art piece	4 <sup>th</sup> April 2016
Launch date	15 <sup>th</sup> April 2016

**All applications must be submitted by 15.00 on 25th November.**

Return quotations to:

Lizzy Pinkerton  
 Belfast Hills Landscape Partnership  
 9 Social Economy Village  
 Hannahstown Hill  
 Belfast, BT17 0XS  
 E-mail [lizzy.pinkerton@belfasthills.org](mailto:lizzy.pinkerton@belfasthills.org)  
 90603466

## Notes to Applicants

- The selection panel will be made up of a representative from the Belfast Hills Partnership (project coordinator), the Ligoniel Improvement Association (local community) and independent professional artist.
- Agreement and acceptance of the quotation will be by email to the successful applicant.
- Applicants shall treat the details of this document as private and confidential.
- Evidence of public liability and employer's liability insurance will be sought if successful.
- All costs should be provided with a full breakdown in the pricing schedule provided
- Applicants will not be entitled to claim from the BHP any costs or expenses which may be incurred in preparing their quotation whether or not it is successful.
- Applicants must not make assumptions that the BHP has experience of their organisation or their service provision even if on a current or previous contract. Applicants will only be evaluated on the information provided in the quotation response.
- Successful applicants will be expected to supply a risk assessment of all activities.
- Applications are open to artists at any stage of their career or experience level.
- The Belfast Hills Partnership reserves the right not to accept the lowest or any of the quotations.



Supported by  
**The National Lottery®**  
through the Heritage Lottery Fund

