

## Record of individual Cabinet member decision

Local Government Act 2000 and the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Meetings and Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2012

<b>Decision made by</b>	Robin Bennett, Cabinet Member for Economic Development and Regeneration
<b>Key decision?</b>	No
<b>Date of decision</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024
<b>Name and job title of officer requesting the decision</b>	Jayne Bolton, Community Wellbeing Manager Report author: Charlotte Cottingham, Didcot Garden Town Programme Manager
<b>Officer contact details</b>	Tel: 07717 271932 Email: Charlotte.Cottingham@southandvale.gov.uk
<b>Decision</b>	To approve the Didcot Public Art Plan as attached at appendix one of this report and the addendum as included as part of this ICMD report.
<b>Reasons for decision</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. While the Didcot Public Art Plan prepared by consultants on behalf of the councils met the agreed brief, following consultation with the Advisory Board, officers added five additional 'welcome commissions', which are identified in the draft Plan on pages 18 &amp; 23. The addendum at the end of the draft Plan explains the additions.</li> <li>2. These extra commissions will add to the future cost of art commissions in Didcot but adopting this plan would not commit this council to any expenditure and any subsequent expenditure for creating and maintaining art on the ground will be subject to appropriate financial procedures.</li> <li>3. The Plan identifies key locations, themes and opportunities for visual arts interventions for implementation in 2024- 2029 including welcoming installations and placemaking in civic and green spaces across Didcot. 20 of the Proposed locations are in South Oxfordshire and four are in the Vale of White Horse who will consider approval of the Plan separately.</li> <li>4. The Plan will enable time limited Section 106 contributions to be drawn down, other grant sources to be applied for, artists to be procured and art works and place making improvements to be delivered on the ground and maintained.</li> <li>5. The consultants worked to ensure that the proposed commissions are well-related to the Didcot Wayfinding Strategy, Didcot Green</li> </ol>

	Infrastructure Strategy, Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP) and Didcot Central Corridor Placemaking Strategy.
<b>Alternative options rejected</b>	<p>The alternative to not approve the draft Didcot Public Art Plan would require the councils to start again to identify locations and themes for art works benefitting from art oriented section 106 funds that will expire.</p> <p>Not approving the Plan would also set back partnership working with other public realm landowners and relationships to other public realm projects such as wayfinding and green infrastructure.</p>
<b>Legal implications</b>	<p>Legal Services support will be requested on a project-by-project basis as required for the procurement of artists and any property or land ownership issues arise.</p> <p>To avoid abortive work and costs, property issues will be identified and addressed before any project progresses to procurement.</p>
<b>Financial implications</b>	<p>Adopting this plan would not commit this council to any expenditure and any subsequent expenditure will be subject to appropriate financial procedures. Funding for creation and maintenance of the public art projects proposed in the draft Didcot Public Art Plan will be sought separately on a project-by-project basis from:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Planning obligation funds such as section 106 agreements</li> <li>• Central government funding</li> <li>• Independent grants</li> <li>• Enterprise Zone related business rates</li> </ul>
<b>Climate implications</b>	<p>As agreed with the Climate team, the Climate Impact Assessment Tool has not been used for the Draft Didcot Art Plan as it covers too wide a range of different projects to represent the impacts effectively. As individual actions or projects from the strategy come forward, these will be assessed using the tool.</p> <p>Didcot's environment has been influential throughout the consultation process and subsequent action plan. Sustainability will be a guiding principle in the procurement of all public art for Didcot and surrounding areas – with the town's green spaces serving as creative inspiration for the artworks, and through the promotion of recycled/repurposed and sustainable materials, as well as potential new planting schemes and habitats that could be commissioned under the different themes.</p>
<b>Equalities implications</b>	<p>Completion of an Equalities Impact Assessment Screening Form showed no impact regarding protected characteristics. Potential impacts will be assessed on a project-by-project basis as individual art works are commissioned.</p>
<b>Other implications</b>	N/a
<b>Background papers considered</b>	N/a

<p><b>Declarations /conflict of interest?</b></p> <p><b>Declaration of other councillor/officer consulted by the Cabinet member?</b></p>				
<p><b>List consultees</b></p>		<p><b>Name</b></p>	<p><b>Outcome</b></p>	<p><b>Date</b></p>
<p>Ward councillors</p>	<p>Mocky Khan</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
	<p>Axel Macdonald</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
	<p>Denise Macdonald</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
	<p>Zia Mohammed</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
	<p>David Rouane</p>	<p>District council addendum added to draft Public Art Plan in response to comments; 'Ladygrove Park' changed to 'Ladygrove'; and 5 additional 'welcome commissions' added.</p>	<p>13/08/2024</p>	
	<p>Ian Snowdon</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
	<p>Andrew Tinsley</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
	<p>Tony Worgan</p>	<p>No comment received</p>		
<p>Didcot Town Council</p>	<p>Chris Jennings</p>	<p>District council addendum added to draft Public Art Plan in response to comments</p>	<p>13/08/2024</p>	
<p>Legal <a href="mailto:legal@southandvale.gov.uk">legal@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Nick Bennett</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>29/11/2024</p>	
<p>Finance <a href="mailto:Finance@southandvale.gov.uk">Finance@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Nicole Tyreman</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>06/06/2024</p>	
<p>Climate and biodiversity <a href="mailto:climateaction@southandvale.gov.uk">climateaction@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Kim Hall</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>09/05/2024</p>	
<p>Diversity and equality <a href="mailto:equalities@southandvale.gov.uk">equalities@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Abigail Witting</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>09/05/2024</p>	
<p>Procurement <a href="mailto:Procurement@southandvale.gov.uk">Procurement@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Ben Watson</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>10/05/2024</p>	
<p>Property <a href="mailto:property@southandvale.gov.uk">property@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Mae Cullen obo Karen Lister, Strategic Property Manager</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>07/05/2024</p>	
<p>Planning Policy <a href="mailto:Planning.policy@southandvale.gov.uk">Planning.policy@southandvale.gov.uk</a></p>	<p>Emma Baker</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>29/04/2024</p>	
<p>Arts Development Officer</p>	<p>Abi Brown</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>22/05/2024</p>	
<p>Community Wellbeing Manager</p>	<p>Jayne Bolton</p>	<p>Commented</p>	<p>06/06/2024</p>	
<p>Senior Management Team</p>		<p>Agreed</p>	<p>12/06/24</p>	

<b>Confidential decision?</b>	No
<b>Call-in waived by Scrutiny Committee chairman?</b>	No
<b>Has this been discussed by Cabinet members?</b>	Yes in April 2024 as part of the Cabinet update on the Didcot Garden Town Delivery Plan.
<b>Cabinet portfolio holder's signature</b> To confirm the decision as set out in this notice.	Signature ____ Robin Bennett _____  Date ____ 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024 _____

**ONCE SIGNED, THIS FORM MUST BE HANDED TO DEMOCRATIC SERVICES IMMEDIATELY.**

For Democratic Services office use only		
Form received	Date: 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	Time: 12:15pm
Date published to all councillors	Date: 29 <sup>th</sup> November 2024	
Call-in deadline	Date: n/a	Time: