

# SALISBURY CITY COUNCIL

## Report

**Subject** : Participatory Art in the Public Realm - Project Report  
**Committee** : Community Services  
**Date** : 5 October 2022  
**Author** : Sarah Gregson, Communities Manager

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### 1. Report Summary:

1.1. This report outlines the progress made on the Council's first participatory art in the public realm project.

### 2. Background:

2.1. In June 2022 the Community Services Committee approved a participatory public art in the public realm project for the city, along with a project brief and context document for publication.

2.2. These documents were published as an open call for local, socially engaged artists in early July 2022 with a deadline for application of 1 Aug 2022.

2.3. The project is called – "Turning Point".

### 3. Project Update:

3.1. Seven enquiries were received by and discussed with the Communities Manger. These conversations resulted in the receipt of 4 strong artist proposals, all of whom were invited to present to a panel of Councillors on the 31 Aug 2022.

3.2. The Panel consisted of Cllrs Riddle, King, Stanway and Corbin.

3.3. The panel of councillors selected Sue Martin as their preferred artist.

3.4. Sue Martin is a locally based artist with wide ranging experience of community arts with a wellbeing focus. In recent years Sue has worked with Salisbury Museum, Arts Together, Salisbury Cathedral, Safer and Supportive Salisbury and a range of local schools, as well as the Salisbury City Council's Communities Team, to engage participants with no art background and who experience barriers of participation.

3.5. Sue was the main artist involved in the development of the Well-City arts programme in Salisbury. She now delivers courses for people with mental health needs as part of that programme and developed her own mental health art group from this work.

3.6. With the Council's Communities Manager, a list of local groups of varying ages, backgrounds and ward locations across the city have been identified. Initial contacts have been made to a number of these groups. 5 groups are currently interested in taking part.

- 3.7. All group responses will be collected, and groups will be selected with reference to the brief requirements, to represent a range of Salisbury Residents.
- 3.8. Workshops will be delivered between October 2022 and February 2023. This project consists of 3 participatory workshops per group, using journalling and mapping to capture ideas, themes and reactions to spaces in the city which will be used in workshop to generate a creative response to the key questions of the brief. Both journals, maps and creative outcomes will become available for display at the end of the project.
- 3.9. Once the participant groups are in place an SLA will be put in place for Sue Martin to direct deliver the project in the Council's behalf for the agreed fee of £8500.
- 3.10. Sue Martin is currently working with the Communities Manager to devise creative events/interventions in public spaces as part of this project, to engage the public of Salisbury in the question "What should public art be saying in our city at this turning point?"

#### **4. Recommendation:**

It is recommended that

- 4.1. The Committee note the report.

#### **5. Wards Affected: All**

#### **6. Background papers:**

- 6.1. Participatory Art in the Public Realm – Artist Brief– Doc86577
- 6.2. Participatory Art in the Public Realm – Context Document – Doc86650

#### **7. Implications:**

- 7.1. **Financial:** £8500 expenditure of Public Art Budget
- 7.2. **Legal:** None in relation to this report.
- 7.3. **Personnel:** None in relation to this report
- 7.4. **Environmental Impact:** None in relation to this report
- 7.5. **Equalities Impact Statement:** To be completed when participatory groups are confirmed.