



**South Yorkshire
Housing Association**
Delivering quality local living

Slingsby Place Public Art Commission



The brief at a glance....

SYHA has a modest budget of £5,000 to commission an Artist to work with our residents at Slingsby Place, SYHA and Green Estate to deliver a public art project by June 2019. We are seeking an Artist skilled in using art to facilitate engagement and participation. Our focus is on the quality of participatory experience and process of engagement with and between our residents, and with Green Estate. The outcome is flexible and could for example take the form of a happening or include production of small pieces of artwork that residents could use or display in and around their homes. The commission must be sufficient to discharge the public art planning condition attached to Slingsby Place. The chosen Artist will be required to submit an initial proposal to the Planning Officer for approval and document the project over the duration of the commission.



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Contents

1. Slingsby Place
2. Public Art Planning Condition
3. Green Estate
4. Public Art Budget
5. SYHA's aspirations for this commission
6. SYHA's resident engagement event
7. Green Estate Discovery Event
8. Background to the name 'Slingsby Place'
9. Artist selection process
 - 9.1. Submission requirements
 - 9.2. Evaluation criteria
 - 9.3. Selection panel
 - 9.4. Interview
10. Timescales
11. Contact for enquiries
12. Site visits
13. Copyright

Appendix

1. Slingsby Place

Slingsby Place is a new affordable housing development of 20 x 3 bed houses and 8 x 2 bed flats on the Manor, Sheffield, developed by South Yorkshire Housing Association. The scheme, designed by Proctor & Matthews Architects, was completed in September 2018.

There is a mix of families with young children, older single residents and couples living on the estate. There are currently 35 adults and 44 children of which:

- 7 households with 3+ children
- 8 households with 2 children
- 6 households with 1 child
- 7 households with no children.

2. Public Art Planning Condition

One of the conditions of the Slingsby Place planning approval relates to public art. This was initially to be completed during construction of the scheme. South Yorkshire Housing Association obtained permission from the Local Authority Planning Officer to extend the deadline for completion of the public art to allow our new residents to be involved in shaping the commission. We recognise the opportunity to add value as residents get to know each other and create community ownership of the public art.

The commission will need to be sufficient to allow SYHA to discharge the public art planning condition attached to Slingsby Place.

3. Green Estate

Green Estate, Sheffield Manor Lodge and the Discovery Centre are located just a couple of hundred metres away from the Slingsby Place housing development.

The site offers a wealth of attractions, facilities and family activities which our new residents will be able to enjoy. Sheffield Manor Lodge is a unique heritage attraction and wedding venue with Tudor Turret House and grounds, 1940's cottages, farm, café, artist studios and more. The site includes extensive landscaped grounds with Pictorial Meadows wildflower meadows and sculptures.

Green Estate is a not for profit organisation which has been working to improve the quality of life in the Manor & Castle wards of Sheffield since 1998. Green Estate's main purpose was to create and manage local greenspaces in ways that turned them from liabilities into assets. Over time they have established a mix of commercial services and social initiatives that not only help to sustain these now beautiful places, but which also deliver much greater and longer term local benefit.

From the early stages of development of the Slingsby Place scheme, South Yorkshire Housing Association and Green Estate have worked closely together. We commissioned Green Estates to install Pictorial Meadows perennial wildflower turf to the landscaped

areas at the Slingsby Place scheme, tying in with the existing wildflower meadows in the area. Jon Bradley from Green Estate is working closely with us to assist in developing the public art commission.

Going forward we are keen to support and encourage our residents to take advantage of the facilities and activities Green Estate and Sheffield Manor Lodge has to offer.

4. Public Art Budget

The budget for the public art is £5,000 which includes the artists fee, materials, expenses and VAT. The total cost of this commission must not exceed £5,000. No fees will be paid for the initial submission of ideas.

5. SYHA's aspirations for this commission

We recognise the modest budget may restrict what can be achieved, particularly in relation to the traditional large physical sculptural type art installation.

Our focus is on the quality of participatory experience and process of engagement with and between our residents, and with Green Estate. The outcome is flexible and could for example take the form of a happening or include production of small pieces of artwork that residents could use or display in and around their homes.

We are keen for our residents, with the guidance of an artist, to shape the brief so that the result is meaningful to them. The level of involvement and numbers of residents will depend on the level of interest and uptake by our residents, and what the budget will allow.

As a guide, we have set out some of the broader aims and outcomes we would like to achieve through the process of developing and delivering the public art:

a) What do we want for our residents?

- engagement opportunities to help residents settle in their new homes and area;
- the opportunity to get to know neighbours and work on something collectively;
- the opportunity to shape the public art brief and create something meaningful for their area/home/garden;
- raise awareness of all that is on offer at Green Estate and facilitate access to this;
- something for children and adults to do, fun, hands on;
- engagement in wellbeing.

b) What do we want for the development?

- promote a sense of identity and community;
- connect residents with the wildflower meadows;

- engage residents with their gardens and outside space;
- deliver a public art commission within budget that will enable SYHA to discharge the public art planning condition.

6. SYHA's resident engagement event

A pop-up style welcome party was organised by SYHA for the new residents once they had moved in. This took place at Slingsby Place on the evening of Wednesday the 17th of October. Several SYHA staff from various departments went along to meet residents.

30 SYHA residents came to see us and enjoyed soup and a sandwich, played the raffle, had fun playing games, found out about the great things Green Estate have on offer and gave us some valuable feedback. Many residents met each other for the first time and spent time together chatting and getting to know each other. We had some great conversations with residents.

We had the following aims for the event, which we believe were met and the event was a great success:

- Welcome everyone to their new home, encourage people to meet their neighbours for the first time and start building relationships;
- Provide a fun and accessible event with activities and refreshments for people to take part in;
- Introduce people to Jon Bradley and let them know about Green Estate;
- Offer customers a free ticket to the Green Estate Halloween event;
- Get to know people and let people know who we are and encourage them to attend a future 'Discovery Day' event we're organising with Green Estate;
- Create a fun and safe environment for residents to share their views;
- Find out what people's home/neighbourhood means to them and feed this info into the public art.

We did not want to bombard residents with information about the public art commission as the event had broader aims and we felt it may have put residents off getting involved if we overloaded them at that stage. Instead, we simply made residents aware that there is a public art project coming up and they would have the opportunity to get involved if they wanted to. We gathered customer voice on the community blackboard by asking people if they had "something to tell us" and we also asked for feedback on "what does home/ neighbourhood mean" by handing out post cards for residents to fill in and return. This is **available in the Appendix** to inform the public art commission.

Jon offered free Halloween tickets for the upcoming event at Manor Lodge and talked to our residents about what other things Green Estate have to offer. At least one family attended the Halloween Event.

7. Green Estate Discovery Event

Slingsby Place residents were invited to a Discovery Event at Green Estate on 11th December. Residents were taken on a guided tour of Manor Lodge and the Discovery Centre to introduce the site and raise awareness of what is on offer now, but also of the history of the site. This included explaining who used to live at the site and what they did, a tour of the 1940's farm and market garden, the Manor Village - artisan and coal-miners hamlet, the views over Sheffield and towards Manor Fields Park, the Deer Park, telling the Tudor Story – Mary Queen of Scots, Bess of Hardwick, and George Talbot the 6th Earl of Shewsbury.

Residents were encouraged to collect items of natural interest along the way and used these to create collages, combined with drawing and painting, back at the Discovery Centre. The theme was *"What I want to discover next"*.

Six adults and five children from three family groups attended. All the children and some of the adults engaged enthusiastically in the craft activities. An older couple without children spent quite a bit of time exploring the exhibition displays in the Discovery Centre.

During the event, residents were asked a series of questions to gauge interest in getting involved in an arts and crafts project (public art) in the New Year. Please see the write up in the Appendix for full details.

8. Background to the name 'Slingsby Place'

Slingsby Place is named after Dorothy Slingsby. Dorothy has been described as a local hero for her work volunteering well into her 90's. She helped with the youth group, luncheon clubs, Manor Tenants' and Residents' Association and Manor Assembly. She had worked as a live-in maid until she was given the role of crane driver at English Steel during World War Two. Dorothy was one of the leading forces in Sheffield's bid to get official recognition for the women who kept the steelworks producing during the wars. Dorothy was said to have danced in the street with joy when the woman of steel statue was unveiled in June 2016. She died in her sleep on Christmas Eve 2016, aged 95.

The background to the name has been publicised quite widely within SYHA and to the public through our intranet and the publication of the following article (see link below). However, we have not yet communicated this directly to residents.

<https://thetab.com/uk/sheffield/2018/11/17/a-sheffield-housing-estate-has-been-named-after-a-woman-of-steel-37477>

9.0 Artist selection process

9.1 Submission requirements

We would like a submission of no more than 4 x A4 pages of text and no more than 2 x A4 of photos/images that set out your initial response to our brief, covering the following:

- Describe your experience in using art to facilitate engagement and participation, how you like to work and how you propose working with our residents.
- Set out your initial ideas and methodology, outlining what you propose can be achieved within the budget and timescales.
- Provide up to three examples of relevant past projects that demonstrate how you have approached similar projects, ideally of a similar budget. For each example, please outline the outputs and outcomes achieved.

3 x hard copies of the submission are to be sent to arrive no later than **3pm Monday 11th February 2019** to:

Clare Oliffe
Project Coordinator
South Yorkshire Housing Association
43-47 Wellington Street
Sheffield
S1 4HF

An electronic copy is to be sent to: c.oliffe@syha.co.uk by the same deadline.

9.2 Evaluation criteria

Submissions will be evaluated using the following criteria:

Criteria	Weighting
1. Evidence of experience in using art to facilitate engagement and participation.	15
2. Evidence of ability to identify, understand and satisfy SYHA's needs and aspirations.	15
3. The level to which proposed ideas and methodology satisfy SYHA's needs and aspirations.	20
4. Evidence of ability to provide value for money and meet the project brief within budget.	10
5. Evidence of experience of similar commissions and the level of this experience	20
6. Evidence of experience of submitting successful proposals to a Local Authority Planning Department.	10
7. Quality and clarity of presentation and communication.	10

9.3 Selection panel

The selection panel will consist of:

Some of the residents of Slingsby Place

Miranda Plowden – SYHA Business Development Director

Jon Bradley – Green Estate Discovery and Access Manager

James Smith – SYHA Engagement Officer

Clare Oliffe – SYHA Development Project Coordinator

Selection of an Artist will be undertaken in consultation with the Local Authority Planning Officer and Public Art Officer.

9.4 Interview

We may also hold brief informal interviews with for example the top three scoring artists. The date for the interviews is shown in ‘Timescales’ section below.

10. Timescales

Expressions of interest, including submission of initial ideas for the shortlisting are to be submitted by	3pm Monday 11th February 2019
Shortlisting to 3 artists by	Wednesday 27th February 2019
Interviews on	Wednesday 6th March starting from 11:00am
Formally select artist by	Wednesday 13th March 2019
Submit detailed proposals to SYHA by	Wednesday 3rd April 2019
Submit detailed proposals to Planner by	TBC
Commission complete by	June 2019

11. Contact for enquiries

If you have any queries relating to this brief, general questions, or would like to request further information, please contact:

Clare Oliffe
Project Coordinator
South Yorkshire Housing Association
43-47 Wellington Street
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S1 4HF

0114 2900329
c.oliffe@syha.co.uk

Please note that SYHA’s answers to written queries may be circulated to all applicants.

12. Site Visits

If you would like to visit Slingsby Place, please contact Clare Oliffe on 0114 2900329 or c.oliffe@syha.co.uk.

If you would like to visit Green Estate (opposite Slingsby Place), please contact Jon Bradley on 0114 276 2828.

13. Copyright

Copyright in all designs lies with the Artist. However, SYHA reserve the right to photograph and /or film all designs, including drawings, and the finished work and use these for publicity or educational purposes only.

APPENDIX

1. Slingsby Customer Voice document
2. Discovery Event feedback

APPENDIX 1

Slingsby Customer Voice document

Home/my neighbourhood/my garden means...

- Somewhere I can be me. Somewhere to feel love and it's a home because family is there. Thank you very much for giving us somewhere to call home 😊
- My new home means to me I have lots of space in my room. It means that we can finally make a proper home for me and my children. My garden means me and brother and sister can play. I am also close to my sister living on this street
- A safe, warm, and cosy place to protect my daughter and bring her up. To create memories just as special as the ones I made growing up. My favourite place is the kitchen especially because I can call it my own
- Lovely place and safe to bring my children up. Feeling comfortable where you are. Home is where the heart is. Feeling safe. House proud. (all comments around a picture of a heart)
- Family
- A safe and secure environment. Plenty of room for our children as they grow up. Spacious rooms so my daughter's medical equipment can fit in safely. People that represent different ethnicities, a vibrant range of cultural and racial backgrounds. "That's our Slingsby Place". Large gardens and private, ideal for young children
- What I love most about my home is "who I share it with". The utility is a big advantage with the downstairs toilet, the kitchen is really spacious and the stairs are really wide. I can look out of the door/window from the kitchen or living room and keep an eye on the kids
- Safe environment, neighbours nice.
- A lot to me. I share it with my mum, brother, and my sister. My home only means a lot to me because of the people I share it with.

APPENDIX 2

Slingsby Place Public Art Project Discovery Event

Sheffield Manor Lodge Discovery Event
Tuesday 11th December 5.30—7.30



GREEN ESTATE

**A special family event for the festive season.
Discover Sheffield Manor Lodge through the
seasons, through the ages.
Tuesday 11th December
5.30: Meet at Slingsby Place.**

- Walk through the Sheffield Manor Lodge landscapes: night-time winter views; stories of times gone by.
- Discovery Centre: hot chocolate; get hands-on with inspired-by-the-season crafts; inside the Turret House; meet the Tudors
- Walk back to Slingsby Place
- 7.30: Event ends

Breaking News: SYHA and Green Estate (who look after Sheffield Manor Lodge) are planning an arts and crafts project with Slingsby Place residents in the new year. We'd like to know what you think of our ideas so far. We can have a chat about this at the event.

For further information about the Discovery Event contact:
Jon: 07807 241512; j.bradley@greenestate.org
Or James: 0114 2908 356; J.Smith@syha.co.uk

SYHA South Yorkshire Housing Association



Feedback

Tuesday 11th December

5.30: Meet at Slingsby Place.

Walk through the Sheffield Manor Lodge landscapes: night-time winter views; stories of times gone by.

Discovery Centre: hot chocolate; inside the Turret House; meet the Tudors; get hands-on with inspired-by-the-season crafts; Thoughts for the public art project (see feedback below)

Walk back to Slingsby Place

7.30: Event ends

Staff and volunteers: James Smith (SYHA), Jon Bradley (GE), Chris Gale, Andy Heath, Stephanie Jack (GE volunteers)

Participants: 3 x family groups: 6 adults, 5 children



SYHA and Green Estate (who look after Sheffield Manor Lodge) are planning an arts and crafts project with Slingsby Place residents in the new year. We'd like to know what you think of our ideas so far. We can have a chat about this at the event.

What do you want to know more about? What of our stories do you get inspired by? (the site, history, nature, the people...)

- Anything to do with Manor Castle – inspiring
- History – interested in the Tudor period. What made them tick?
- The view from Colliery Hill – a very good memory

What do you want to do? What do you want to make? Something for your home? Something to share/show with others (e.g. at Slingsby Place. e.g. on the Green Estate site?)

- Creative
- An artist who paints patterns
- Clay. Haven't done clay, but like the look of it.
- Dress-up day

What day of the week, what time of day is good for you, for how long?

- Afterschool
- Monday evening
- Saturday - no
- Weekends better

About you. Adult, family, kids?

- Adults and children

Jon Bradley observations: Most of the group if not everyone were interested in the stories introducing the Sheffield Manor Lodge site - today and in the past. What you see today, what's happening, who used to live here, what they did – 1940s, Victorian farm/market garden, the Manor Village – artisan and coal-miners hamlet, the views over Sheffield and towards Manor Fields Park, the Deer Park, the Tudor Story – Mary Queen of Scots, Bess of Hardwick, George Talbot the 6th Earl of Shrewsbury. Much of this was new to people.

All of the children and some of the adults engaged enthusiastically in the craft activities. An older couple without children spent quite a bit of time exploring the exhibition displays in the Discovery Centre.

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