



The Harbour Master is able to approve small and non-contentious projects e.g those which do not require planning permission and are of two months or less. Larger scale projects, those which require planning permission or those which will last longer than two months will require Harbour Committee approval.

For further information please contact:

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A guide for artists in
Torbay
Harbours



Introduction

This guide is a new approach for the Harbours team - it responds to recent demand for artists to be involved in the harbours future. It has been informed by current policies and strategies, new opportunities and good practice working with artists in the harbour estate. It has been developed through discussions with Torbay Council, Torbay Culture and the Tor Bay Harbour Authority.

The aims of this guide are to:

- Set out a statement on public art.
- Provide local policy links.
- Set out a clear delivery process.

Who is this for?

This guide can be used by anyone involved in making public art projects happen in the harbours.

What is public art?

Public art has been defined as the principle of involving artists in the development and transformation of a place. It can be temporary or permanent, internal or external, standalone features or integrated into the public realm. Opportunities could include:

- Sculpture.
- Landmark.
- Interactive.
- Environmental.
- Water based.
- Lighting.
- Sensory.

What are the benefits?

The Harbour Authority endeavours to be supportive, recognising that in the right location, public art can enhance the public realm and act as a positive contribution to place. We know artists can make a significant contribution to the harbours and their identity. Public art can help create a vibrant waterfront and celebrate the cultural richness of the Bay. Benefits include:

- Providing local artists with opportunities.
- Reflecting and interpreting local references such as heritage, landscape and people.
- Attracting investment.
- Encouraging tourism.
- Improving wayfinding.
- Encouraging people to use spaces and bringing them together.
- Challenge and invite thought and discussion.



“Public art has been defined as the principle of involving artists in the development and transformation of a place.”



...celebrate the uniqueness of Torbay's cultural past, present and future.

Links to existing strategies and policies

This guide has been informed by a range of strategies and policies including:

- Tor Bay Harbour Port Masterplan [July 2013]
- Cultural Strategy [2014-2024]
- Torbay Local Plan [2012-2030]
- Local Transport Plan [2011-2026]
- Post examination Torquay, Paignton and Brixham Neighbourhood Plans.

Scope

This guide applies to all public works of art, other installations, exhibitions or static displays on the Harbour estate. It does not apply to religious or festive installations such as Christmas lights, trees or other traditional commemorative decorations.

General principles

The Harbour Authority will assess proposals against the following general principles:

- The works should not neither pose a Health and Safety risk to the public, nor pollute the environment, nor create an annoyance i.e not be unduly noisy or illuminate neighbouring properties.
- The works should be commemorative in nature, rather than memorial.
- They should not be commercial or for the primary purpose of raising money, or otherwise advertorial.
- They should neither impede safe passage around the estate nor hinder harbour operations.
- The Harbour Authority will generally not contribute to the works either financially or non-financially eg through the provision of materials or labour etc.
- The Harbour Authority will not financially underwrite projects.
- The Harbour Authority will generally not accept liability for upkeep or maintenance.
- Ownership of the works will remain with the exhibitor and not transfer to the Harbour Authority.

Permitted locations

There are no designated locations around the harbour estate for artworks however placement should not impinge upon or impair existing permanent works, such as Vanishing Point on Beacon Quay.

In general only one artwork or exhibition will be permitted in any one location. In exceptional circumstances a maximum of two may be hosted concurrently if it can be shown that each enhances and complements the other.

Duration of exhibitions

Exhibitions will ordinarily be of a temporary and seasonal nature and not ordinarily more than 6 to 8 months. Requests for permanent artworks may be considered, but these may require planning and other approvals before they are installed.

Quality, durability and construction

All works should be of high quality and durable with sustainability (e.g reduce, reuse, recycle) considered across all stages of its life cycle. The use of non-recyclable materials such as plastics should be minimised wherever possible and there should also have an identified disposal plan which ideally does not include land-fill.

Process

Organisations or individuals who wish to create public works of art, other installations, exhibitions or static displays on the Harbour estate should first liaise with the Harbour Master to agree the scope of their project and identify what documentation and permissions may be required. There is a two stage process:

Stage 1

- The project's aim and objectives.
- Background including context, maps, plans.
- Scale, scope and duration.
- Desired location(s) and site description.
- Description of installation and medium (eg sculpture, photography, etc).
- Identifiable constraints/restraints and safety issues.
- Funding, ownership and maintenance responsibilities.

Should this first stage be successful, the Harbour Master will require the following additional information:

Stage 2

- Any necessary permissions e.g planning permission.
- A plan which covers the entire project life-cycle from installation to removal.
- A comprehensive risk assessment and intended control measures.
- Proof of Public Liability Insurance (if appropriate).
- Evidence of consultation (e.g Town Council, local communities and potentially neighbouring properties).
- A construction plan which includes the logistics from installation and removal.
- Proof of financial arrangements covering from concept to removal.



“
...reinforce the
strong identity
for being the
English Riviera.”