

The Highland Council

City of Inverness Area Committee – 28 January 2016

Agenda Item	
Report No	

Inverness City Arts – Governance and Action Plan

Report by Inverness City Area Manager

Summary

This report updates on progress made by the Inverness City Arts Working Group (ICArts) in meeting the criteria set by the City of Inverness Area Committee (the Committee) at the meetings held on [8 October](#), 3 December 2012 and 15 April 2013. Update reports have been given since on funding and Project progress; however this report formally updates on the Action Plan.

1. Background

1.1 At the meeting held on 8 October 2012 the Committee:

'AGREED IN PRINCIPLE' to allocate £250k (plus £30k allocated from revenue spend) from the City of Inverness Common Good Fund (Option One as detailed within the report) – on the basis that the City Manager would meet with the three elected members on the current Steering Group, together with the Leader and Mr K Gowans in order to maintain political balance, to discuss additional governance measures in relation to IOTA which could be put in place with a further report in this regard, also encompassing all of the other issues raised during the debate, being submitted to the next meeting for consideration.

1.2 It was also **AGREED** that any investment proposals in relation to this project should be carefully examined in order to include jobs, training and apprenticeships for young people wherever possible.'

1.3 Council agreed to the formation of the ICArt Working Group at the meeting held on 13 December 2012. Mr G Ross was later confirmed as the Member who would sit as representative of the Independent Group.

1.4 ICArts has met on a regular basis (6 weekly) since inception and reports to the Committee on progress, with ICArts minutes being scrutinised and approved by this Committee. The current Members of ICArts are;

- Cllr Ken Gowans – Chair
- Provost Helen Carmichael
- Cllr Thomas Prag – Vice Chair
- Cllr Elizabeth Macalister
- Cllr Graham Ross

- David Taylor – Creative Scotland (advisory capacity)

Members are supported by a Lead Officer – the Inverness City Area Manager who leads a project management team consisting of;

- Sharon Barrie – Project Manager
- Cathy Shankland – Curatorial Advisor, contracted from Highlife Highland
- Alison MacNeil – Public Relations
- Andy Campbell - Lead Artist

2. Governance and Action Plan

2.1 Members of the ICArts Working Group have expressed agreement that the governance structure has worked effectively, with the attached Budget update (**Appendix 1**) confirming that progress has been made with all funding in place and projects underway, with Community Engagement at the core.

2.2 **Artist Selection and Project Management** - The Committee tasked ICArts to structure the River Connections project programme allowing for Artist Briefs to be drawn up by officers, led by the Inverness City Area Manager as project Sponsor. This was achieved for the component parts of the programme and Artists selected being:

- The Gathering Place – Sans Facon
- The Sculptural Destination - Annie Catteral
- Rest Spaces – Dress For The Weather
- The Trail – Dress For The Weather
- River Connections – Mary Bourne

2.3 In addition, ICArts have used allocated funding to develop a project focused on involving young people and encouraging Children to interact with the River. This is called the 'Children's Riverside Water Feature' and the Artists Brief is being developed in conjunction with Inverness College UHI. The Brief will be drawn up by College students with guidance from a project coordinator.

2.4 As with the existing projects, Artist Selection will be undertaken by an Evaluation Panel consisting of independent experts who are tasked to decide which of the submissions best fits with the Artists Brief drawn up in consultation with ICArts. The Panel members are;

- Professor Jim Mooney
- Professor Ken Neil
- Senior College Lecturer Mark Lomax
- Colin Howell – Head of Infrastructure

2.5 The City Area Manager and the Curatorial Advisor both act as advisors to the Panel. The Panel evaluates the applications and makes recommendations to ICArts.

- 2.6 ICArts then receive a presentation and make the final determination on the Artist to be selected. This process has been endorsed by Creative Scotland as a model which could be utilised by other Councils since it allows for Curatorial aspects to be recognised through the procurement process.
- 2.7 All the Artists have been procured in compliance with Councils Contract Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- 2.8 **Fit with Action Plan** – The process has led to the appointment of Artists in an open and accountable manner and in accordance with governance requirements. Project Management needs are evolving now that we are progressing to the delivery phase for the larger projects and involve the Project Manager working closely with the Curatorial Advisor and Lead artist to deliver the project Programme. The City Area Manager oversees the programme and meets with the Project Team twice per Month, with ICArts meeting on a 6 weekly cycle. This combined with close financial monitoring has delivered the Project programme successfully to date.
- 2.9 **Public Consultation** - This has been undertaken to date on the development of all the projects. River Connections is the furthest advanced with installations in place along the Riverside. Local input has been given by Poets such as Ken Cockburn as well as by other members of the City Community. Further work is focused on the wider project programme, led by the Gathering Place and a major public engagement event will have taken place at Eastgate on 23 January and a verbal update will be given at Committee regarding initial outcomes. ICArts continues to make best use of every opportunity to engage with local communities and involve them in the delivery process wherever possible.
- 2.10 **Fit with Action Plan** – The project programme is consistently being informed by public consultation. The Gathering Place selection of Sans Facon who are internationally renowned, to deliver the project generally referred to as the Ness Pier has certainly sparked Public interest. The selection process was robust and ICArts and the Artist are committed to develop the project with its development being informed by public opinion from as wide a range as possible. This process is delivering on one of the key objectives of the Action Plan,
- 2.11 **Link to Education** – An artist brief has been drawn up for the *Children's Riverside Water Feature* and will follow established procurement and governance mechanisms. The *Children's Riverside Water Feature* is being developed in conjunction with Inverness College/UHI Art students, and secondary school pupils, who will be encouraged to engage with the artist in the development of the commission. They will be supported by an Education Coordinator who will integrate the project in line with their curriculum and learning outcomes. Other opportunities are also being used to ensure that projects are engaging with people of all ages during their development and in particular local Primary School educational and community centred engagement events have been facilitated by artists as part of the River Connections project to date.

2.12 **Fit with Action Plan** - The project programme is making best use of opportunities to involve young people. The inclusion of the Childrens Water Feature within the programme will give the chance for the programme to link with young people within the community sustainably, with several generations of young people developing a close association to the River through interacting with this feature.

2.13 **Synergy with the Councils Public Art Strategy** – The ICArts Action Plan was designed to integrate with the Councils Public Art Strategy. All the projects within the programme fit with the following underlying principles.

- **Develop a Cohesive Public Art Programme**

of temporary and permanent projects which will bring economic, social and cultural benefits to the City of Inverness;

- **Create a Sense of Place**

to create or add to Inverness' identity and sense of place. Public art projects should build upon history, environment and community to create places that respond to and reinforce local distinctiveness;

- **Promote Good Quality Design**

good quality design requires early interaction and engagement with all professionals involved in place-making in order development a process early enough to make best use of existing budgets and to ensure that effective delivery of public art projects;

- **Facilitate Debate and Community Engagement**

all public art initiatives will consider communities and community engagement from an early stage. Community engagement should be a central consideration as this will empower the community to take ownership of the products of public art initiatives;

- **Develop New Audiences for the Visual Arts**

the public art projects should be accessible to everyone within the community and developed/implemented in such a manner as to reach out into communities and actively encourage people's interest in the visual arts, through public events and educational-based opportunities in communities and schools. Allowing people with no specialist knowledge of the visual arts to gain access to contemporary visual art practice;

- **Create Opportunities for Professional Development**

provide opportunities for Highland artists to develop their skills, either through direct involvement in the projects or through shadowing or other indirect methods that engage with contemporary practice from elsewhere in the UK and Europe, to develop their own practice and networks;

- **Raise the Profile of Highland as a Creative Hub**

to ensure that the public art projects contribute positively to the profile of Inverness & the Highlands as a creative region, and thus contribute to the

attractiveness of Highland as a tourist destination. Develop the reach and impact of projects beyond Highland, as well as embedding them in local communities;

- **Leverage in Extra Funds**

fundraising to enabled the city to lever in significant additional resources from public and private sources including Lottery, Creative Scotland and private investors;

- **Expand Access for Children and Young People**

to visual arts and involve young people in the development of public art projects that link into the Curriculum for Excellence;

- **Promote Equality**

to actively enhance access to public art where practicable, for the widest possible sectors of the community and adhere to The Highland Council's Equalities Policy;

- **Promote Sustainability**

to minimise the environmental impact of public art projects and raise awareness of Climate Change through the Flood Alleviation Scheme.

3. Project Updates

3.1 **Appendix 2** contains current Programme reports on the individual projects within the programme. The reports show the programme is on budget, with adjustments being made to delivery timelines to accommodate particular attention to the siting and design of the Gathering Place.

4. Equalities, Climate Change and Rural implications

4.1 The delivery of projects under the governance arrangements identified in this report will be required to meet The Highland Council's Policies. They will also actively enhance access to public art where practicable, for the widest possible sectors of the community.

4.2 Groundwork with local schools, Inverness Access Panel and 'Minding Merkinch' is being done to actively and positively address issues of inclusivity. Additionally it is hoped to engage with other partners.

4.3 The investment made by the Partners is enhancing the Flood Alleviation Scheme which will enable the River to be even more of an attraction for visitors and locals and so promote the economic development of the Riverside. This has been confirmed by an Economic Impact Assessment carried out and is available on request

4.4 There are no known climate change implications as a result of the content of this report.

5. Legal Implications

5.1 There are no known legal implications as a result of the content of this report.

6. Resource Implications

6.1 The Project Programme is fully funded. The funding partners are:

Creative Scotland	£0.305.6m
City of Inverness – Common Good Fund	£0.250 (+£30.75k revenue Funding 2013/14)
Highland Council – ‘Approaching Inverness’	£0.105m
HIE	£0.065m
TOTAL	£0.756m

7. Risks

7.1 All funders remain committed to the Project Programme and are being kept apprised of progress. Budgets are secure and the project is being delivered on budget.

7.2 Corporate Communications are a priority. There is a clear understanding of the sensitivities involved in delivering a Public Art Project programme at a time when public sector finances are under severe pressure. Apart from being informed by Public opinion, Media messages give clarity on how the programme is being funded with the majority of funding coming from budgets held by public sector agencies which are nominated to support public art projects which fit with the strategy set out above.

7.3 The Corporate Communications Plan will ensure that the public continue to be engaged with the development and delivery of the project programme and together with the robust implementation of governance, to ensure that the reputational risk to the Council is managed.

Recommendation

The Committee is invited to scrutinise, comment and otherwise note the Action Plan (and the report), which will continue to be reported on an annual basis.

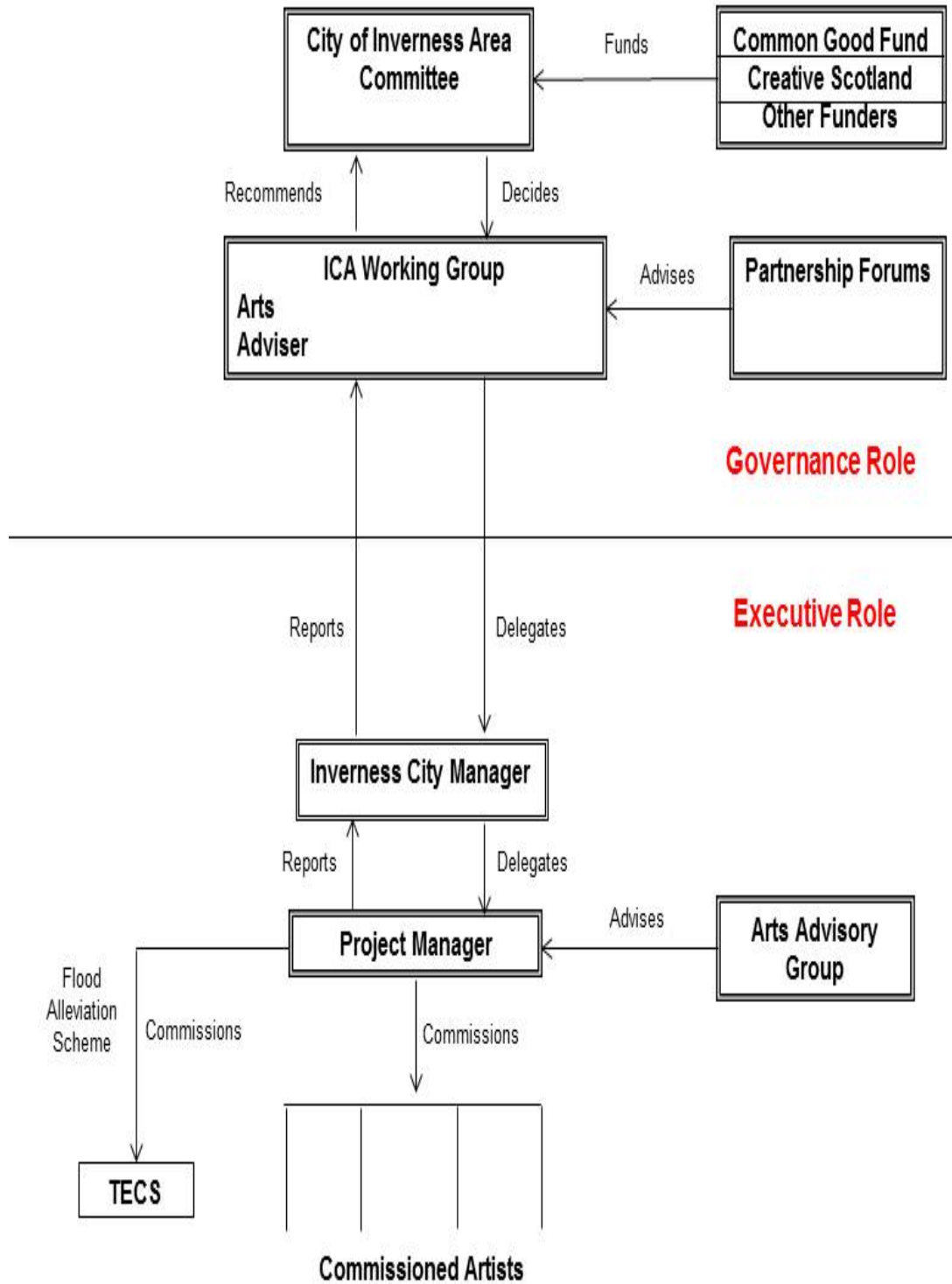
Designation: Inverness City Area Manager

Author: David Haas

Date: 11 January 2016

Background Papers: Report No. CIA/20/13 April 2013

APPENDIX 1



Sculptural Destination - Dashboard Report – Nov 2015

Author: Sharon Barrie	Issue Date: 01 Dec 2015	File Reference:
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Management summary

Summary:	Project Status	Approved Programme (Completion Date)	Approved Budget	Anticipated Final Construction Cost	Risks	Issues
This Report	Programme review required	07 October 2016	£60,000.00	£60,000.00		
Last Report						

1. Executive summary

Original location clashes with Gathering Place siting and revised options being reviewed. Alternative locations may require a revised design which will possibly incur additional design fees.

2. Key actions undertaken in this reporting period

- Liaison with artist regarding alternative site location

3. Key decisions or actions required in next period

- Public consultation commencing 23 Jan
- Risk planning meeting scheduled early Jan
- New site to be determined and possibly revised/new design

4. Summary of key milestones

Item Ref	Completion of Milestone	Baseline	Target	Actual	Variance	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Location approved	Nov 15	Nov 15			Amber	

2	Installation	Oct 16	Oct 16			Amber
3	Launch	Oct 16	Oct 16			Amber

5. Programme Summary

Programme to be reviewed

6. Cash-flow: actual against forecast

Currently on budget but a revised design may result in additional design fee

7. Summary of costs against budget

Ref	Cost Item	Current Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure to date	Forecast Expenditure to date at appointment	Projected final spen +/- against Approved budget	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Construction Cost						

8. Project risks

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner

9. Project issues

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner
01					
02					

Rest Spaces - Dashboard Report – Nov 2015

Author: Sharon Barrie	Issue Date: 01 Dec 2015	File Reference:
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Management summary

Summary:	Project Status	Approved Programme (Completion Date)	Approved Budget	Anticipated Final Construction Cost	Risks	Issues
This Report	Programme review required	14 July 2016	£40,000.00	£40,000.00		
Last Report						

1. Executive summary

Locations for 3 of the 4 rest spaces have been proposed – perch, explore and bask. The 4th location has still to be determined – gather. Outline proposals have been submitted along with costs to progress to detailed design stage. These are being reviewed by the project sponsor.

2. Key actions undertaken in this reporting period

- Locations for 3 of the 4 rest spaces have been proposed
- Outline proposals have been submitted along with costs to progress detailed design

3. Key decisions or actions required in next period

- Public consultation commences 23 Jan 2016
- Final location of 4th space to be determined
- Approval of costs to proceed with first 3 spaces to detailed design
- Risk planning meeting scheduled early Jan

4. Summary of key milestones

Item Ref	Completion of Milestone	Baseline	Target	Actual	Variance	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Initial design	Dec 15	Dec 15			Amber	
2	Technical design	Feb 16	Feb 16			Amber	

3	Fabrication	Jun 16	Jun 16			Amber	
4	Installation	Jul 16	Jul 16			Amber	
5	Launch	Aug 16	Aug 16			Amber	

5. Programme Summary

Programme review required

6. Cash-flow: actual against forecast

Currently on budget - £3k spent to date

7. Summary of costs against budget

Ref	Cost Item	Current Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure to date	Forecast Expenditure to date at appointment	Projected final spen +/- against Approved budget	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Construction Cost						

8. Project risks

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner

9. Project issues

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner
01					
02					

The Trail - Dashboard Report – Nov 2015

Author: Sharon Barrie	Issue Date: 01 Dec 2015	File Reference:
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Management summary

Summary:	Project Status	Approved Programme (Completion Date)	Approved Budget	Anticipated Final Construction Cost	Risks	Issues
This Report	On programme	27 May 2016	£20,000.00	£20,000.00		
Last Report						

1. Executive summary

Work is in progress with the paper trail, digital trail and way-markers.

2. Key actions undertaken in this reporting period

- Costs for GPS approved

3. Key decisions or actions required in next period

- Master-map to be prepared by Lead Artist identifying locations of all artworks
- Public consultation commencing 23 Jan
- Risk planning meeting scheduled early Jan
- Consideration of future upkeep of the trail

4. Summary of key milestones

Item Ref	Completion of Milestone	Baseline	Target	Actual	Variance	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Ph1 Launch	May 16	May 16			Green	
2	Ph2 Launch	Jan 17	Jan 17			Green	

5. Programme Summary

Programme review required

6. Cash-flow: actual against forecast

Currently on budget - £3.5k spent to date

7. Summary of costs against budget

Ref	Cost Item	Current Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure to date	Forecast Expenditure to date at appointment	Projected final spen +/- against Approved budget	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Construction Cost						

8. Project risks

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner

9. Project issues

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner
01					
02					

River Connections - Dashboard Report – Nov 2015

Author: Sharon Barrie	Issue Date: 01 Dec 2015	File Reference:
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Management summary

Summary:	Project Status	Approved Programme (Completion Date)	Approved Budget	Anticipated Final Construction Cost	Risks	Issues
This Report	On programme	01 April 2016	£60,000.00	£60,000.00		
Last Report						

1. Executive summary

Majority of installations have now been completed with the exception of the seating in Bank Street. Some liaison taking place with access officer regarding the siting.

2. Key actions undertaken in this reporting period

- Port holes have been completed

3. Key decisions or actions required in next period

- Public consultation commencing 23 Jan
- Installation of seating commencing Jan 2016 (weather dependant)
- Sign off/approval required – project sponsor
- Launch details/PR to be determined

4. Summary of key milestones

Item Ref	Completion of Milestone	Baseline	Target	Actual	Variance	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Installation completion	Mar 16	Mar 16			Green	
2	Launch	May 16	May 16			Green	

5. Programme Summary

Currently on programme.

6. Cash-flow: actual against forecast

Currently on budget - £32k spent

Artist has advised that there were additional installation costs due to the programme slippage and design changes with the flood defence works. Discussions taken place regarding allocation of costs.

7. Summary of costs against budget

Ref	Cost Item	Current Approved Budget	Actual Expenditure to date	Forecast Expenditure to date at appointment	Projected final spen +/- against Approved budget	RAG Status	Explanation
1	Construction Cost						

8. Project risks

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner

9. Project issues

ID	Description:	Mitigation:	Status	Rag Status	Risk Owner
01					
02					