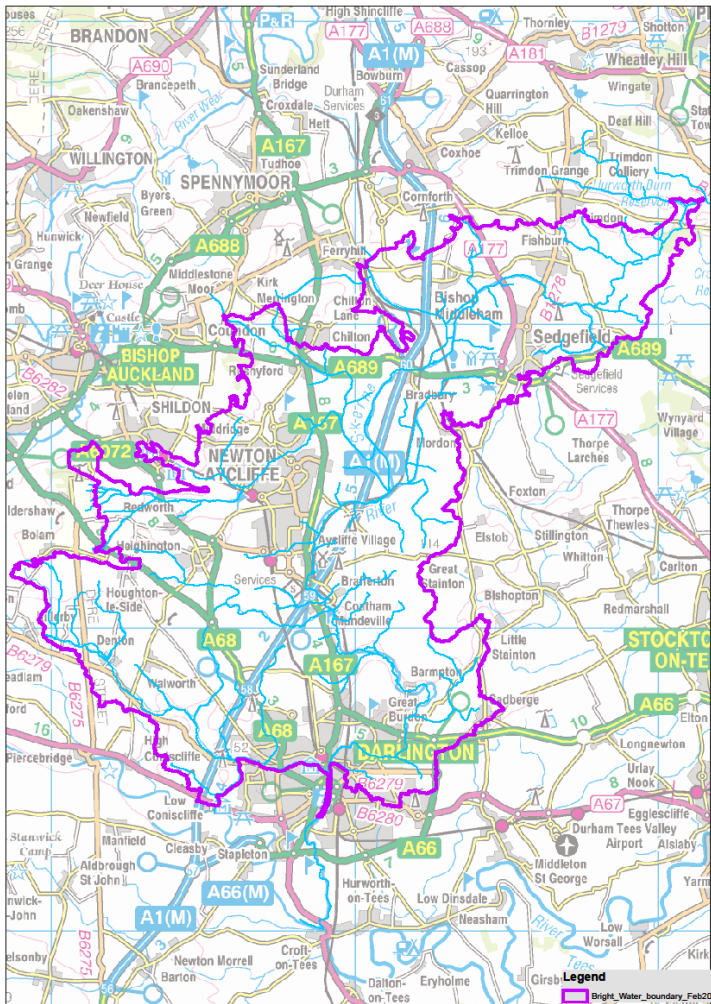


Specification for a Discover Brightwater Sculpture trail around Hardwick Park, Sedgefield.

1 Introduction to the Bright Water Landscape Project

1.1 The Bright Water Landscape Project is a National Lottery Heritage Fund (NHLF) supported venture to restore, reveal and celebrate the natural, built and cultural heritage of the catchment area of the River Skerne in North East England.

1.2 The River Skerne - whose name derives from the Norse word “skirr” meaning ‘bright and clear’ - flows for 25 miles from the Trimdons down through Darlington to meet the Tees at Croft.



The surrounding landscape has changed more dramatically than any other part of the North East over the last 1,000 years. Originally a watery land of fens, “carrs” (Norse word for ‘boggy woods’), and marshes, over the centuries enterprising farmers and industrialists harnessed the river’s power and drained its surroundings. Medieval villages were built and deserted, quarries and coal mines marked its northern edge and engineers floated its early railway lines on bags of shoddy, across its marshy center. The Bright Water project is seeking to restore some of the catchment’s lost features by creating new areas of wetland and restoring canalised sections of the river channel.

1.3 Much of the funding for Discover Brightwater (£2.7 million) has been provided by National Lottery Players via the Heritage Fund. The National Lottery Heritage Fund is the largest dedicated funder of heritage in the UK. Since 1994, the National Lottery

has raised more than £39billion for good causes. Of this, £7.9bn has been distributed to over 43,000 heritage projects, of which £1.9bn has been distributed to 950 projects with a similar remit to Discover Brightwater.





1.4 The Bright Water Landscape Partnership comprises: Durham Wildlife Trust, Groundwork North East and Cumbria, Durham County Council, Darlington Borough Council, the Environment Agency, Durham County Local Access Forum, Tees Rivers Trust, Architectural and Archaeological Society of Durham, Highways England, Northumbrian Water together with local business and community representatives. The Partnership works closely with a range of regional bodies including Visit Durham, Natural England, Historic England and the North East England Nature Partnership.

1.5 The Discover Brightwater Landscape Partnership is delivering 19 individual project work streams between 2019 and autumn 2022. The primary focus of the partnership is around wetland habitats around the River Skerne. The aims of Discover Brightwater is to restore, reveal and celebrate life around the River Skerne. The River Skerne Catchment covers parts of South West County Durham and Darlington.

1.6 The partnerships initial flagship project is the creation of a new wetland nature reserve, Bishops Fen, just to the north of Hardwick Park, which will be managed by Durham Wildlife Trust.

1.7 The Bishops Fen Nature Reserve will be created on approximately 25 hectares of land which can be accessed through Hardwick Park.

1.8 Hardwick Park, run by Durham County Council, lies at the heart of the Discover Brightwater area. The park was refurbished around 15 years ago and has increased visitor numbers to around half a million people each year; making it the Discover Brightwater area's most visited outdoor family attraction. It is a key access point into the Discover Brightwater landscape and the proposed sculpture trail will form part of a series of works to help people enjoy and explore the area.

1.9 Hardwick Park and Groundwork North East and Cumbria have a vision to create a fun and engaging wooden sculpture trail, that will represent the wildlife found both in the park and the nature reserve to help visitors explore the park and lead them into the new reserve. The development of the trail should also help visitors understand how the area's landscape has changed over time and the importance of wetlands to the area's historical development.

1.10 The Sculpture trail should be designed and created with local community participation.

2 The project

2.5 Groundwork North East and Cumbria and Durham Wildlife Trust on behalf on Hardwick Park are seeking to appoint a contractor or consortium to deliver the following;

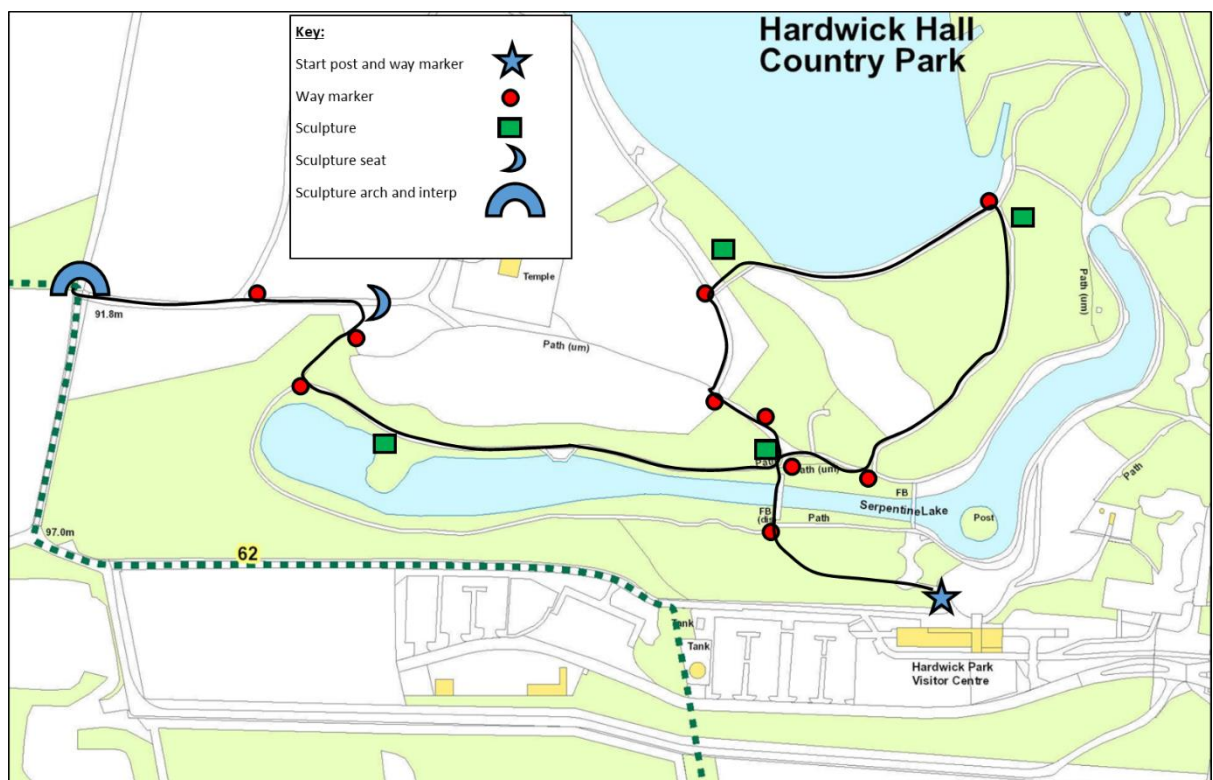
A) The Sculpture Trail

We would like to commission a mixture of carved wooden sculptures. These will be designed to form a sculpture trail for the park and will comprise of:



- 3 individual sculptures of wetland birds/animals
- 1 carved totem pole
- 1 carved, themed seat
- 1 carved, themed archway

Each of the 6 pieces of carved sculpture will represent river or wetland animals, birds or invertebrates that can be found in the local area. The trail would also need to include a carved starting post. Please see below map for more information of proposed layout of the trail:



B) School and community engagement

As part of the process of developing and producing the trail we are seeking a contractor to deliver the following;

- School/community engagement workshops both on and off site - to inform people of the importance of the River Skerne, allow them to learn more about habitats and ascertain what people would like to see as part of the sculpture trail. Find out what water and river themes mean to them. Allow them to have a go with opportunities linked to woodcarving and sculpture design. X 5

- Legacy workshops – Hard to reach groups
Further regular engagement with groups linked to the sculpture trail project. Hard to reach groups to attend workshops linked to woodcarving skills, and printing techniques. X 5

All engagement and legacy sessions need to be run in conjunction and agreement with Hardwick Park education staff. They will help to identify appropriate schools and groups to work with and will assist with marketing and promotion. (how do you want DCC to facilitate this?) Please note that Hardwick Park staff will also be running legacy workshops and other engagement with the public around the sculpture trail development, so good communication and a joined up approach to these aspects are required.

C) Evaluation

To assist Hardwick Park, Groundwork and Durham Wildlife Trust with evaluation of the project by carrying out questionnaires and surveys as part of the project.

D) Timescale

We are seeking a contractor to commence delivery in April 2020, to enable some of the community engagement sessions to take place at Hardwick Park during the School Easter Holiday. We anticipate officially opening the finished sculpture trail to the public on the Discover Brightwater Big weekend, 26th and 27th September 2020.

2.6 The end result

Will be a finished trail delivered on time and to a high quality, designed in conjunction with the local community, park users and park staff. The sculpture trail should be wood carved. It should be produced to a high standard with the intention of being in situ in the park for a minimum of ten years. It will reflect the wildlife in the local landscape and allow visitors to the park to explore it further and to help them discover the new Bishops Fen wetland nature reserve.

Hardwick Park will also include the finished trail in the parks love exploring app.

2.7 Performance indicators

6 interpretative features installed (i.e Sculptures)

At least 100 adults engaged in the process

At least 200 children engaged in the process

3 Notes and observations

3.5 Attendance at a series of timely project meetings will be required by the contractor(s).

- 3.6 All work carried out must be agreed in advance with Hardwick Park Officers and carried out in conjunction with health and safety requirements as stipulated by Durham County Council.
- 3.7 Branding is established for Discover Brightwater, Groundwork North East and Cumbria, The Wildlife Trust, Hardwick Park, Durham County Council and the National Lottery Heritage Fund and contractors(s) will need to comply with these at all times throughout all projects.
- 3.8 Please note the copyright of all original materials produced under this contract will reside with Groundwork and/or Durham County Council on behalf of the Discover Brightwater Landscape Partnership

4 Resource

A maximum amount of £22,000 exclusive of VAT has been allocated
As the project funds sit with two separate organisations the project has been divided as follows for the purposes of invoicing.

Durham Wildlife Trust on behalf of Hardwick Park

£11,000 exclusive of VAT

Anticipated to include

3 individual sculptures

1 totem pole

Starting post

Groundwork North East and Cumbria

£11,000 exclusive of VAT

Anticipated to include

Carved Seat

Carved Archway

Community/schools engagement sessions.

5 Procurement Process

Groundwork North East and Cumbria are leading the tender process in conjunction with Durham Wildlife Trust who are procuring on behalf of Hardwick Park.

Please note that day to day management of the project will need to be carried out in agreement with Durham County Council officers based at Hardwick Park.

5.5 Selection of the provider

The successful provider will be selected on the basis of their written response to the brief and if needed an interview. The decision will be made by the Brightwater Team and Officers from

Durham County Council. A pre-tender submission meeting is available on request before the 14th of February 2020.

5.2 The decision will be made taking the following into account;

- a) Known or past performance 10%
- b) Quality of products or service 50%
- c) Value for money 30%
- d) Environmental implications 5%
- e) Health and safety implications 5%

5.3 Budget – should cover the full period, broken down for spend each quarter and should be inclusive of travel, incidental expenses and VAT. It is anticipated that delivery and finished trail should be complete by the last weekend of September 2020

5.4 Timetable – Below is an indicative timetable for this appointment. This is subject to change.

Brief issued	17 th January 2020
Deadline for submission of quotes	10am 24 th February 2020
Pre-tender submission meetings on an individual basis with consultant	Before 14 th February 2020
Possible presentation of short listed providers	2 nd March 2020
Appointment of provider	By the 6 th of March 2020
Inception meeting and agreement of approach	Before 31 st March 2020
Implementation of programme	Around 4 th April 2020
Project completion date	By 21 st September 2020

5.5 Communication and contact – The lead contact for this project is:

Name and Title: Sarah Barton, Training and Community Manager

Address: Discover Brightwater, Room G22, Flexspace Business Incubation Centre, Durham Way South, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6XP

Telephone: 01325 327341

Email: sarah.barton@groundwork.org.uk

The tender panel will be made up of the following representatives of the key organisations;
 Dafydd Jones, Natural Environment and Access Projects Coordinator, Durham Wildlife Trust
 Lindsay Archer, Parks and Countryside Programme Officer, Durham County Council
 Sarah Barton, Training and Community Manager, Groundwork North East and Cumbria

5.6 All submissions must be returned to the lead contact for this project via post or email clearly marked 'Tender Discover Brightwater Sculpture trail around Hardwick Park', by 10am on the 24th of February.

5.7 Groundwork North East and Cumbria are leading this project in conjunction with Durham Wildlife Trust and payments will be made by Groundwork North East and Cumbria or Durham Wildlife Trust, upon an invoice being provided. Normal payment terms are 30 days following receipt of invoice. (please see section 4 Resource above for details)

6 Submission Requirements

6.1 Providers wishing to quote for this work are asked to submit a proposal outlining the following;

- A description of the approach to the requirements of the brief, highlighting key issues, proposed methodology and a response to the brief.
- The roles and responsibilities of the provider or provider team and any sub-contractors.
- A breakdown of the programme, key stages and areas of work with an indicative timetable for completing the work
- Evidence of previous experience of similar projects to include brief case study and client references
- CV's of key staff
- A breakdown of total fees, costs and VAT, including day/hourly rates and number of days allocated to each element of the work.

6.2 The document should be submitted by post or email to;

Name and Title: Sarah Barton Training and Community Manager

Address: Discover Brightwater, Room G22, Flexspace Business Incubation Centre, Durham Way South, Newton Aycliffe, DL5 6XP

Email: sarah.barton@groundwork.org.uk

6.3 All late submissions after the closing date and time will be disregarded.