

Corporate Policy – Statues, Monuments and Public Art

Report of the Director for Sport and Culture

1 Purpose

- 1.1 The policy gives a process for applicants and decision makers to follow when the Council receives a proposal to install statues, monuments or other forms of public art on land owned by the City Council.

2 Action required

- 2.1 To review the attached policy document, in particular to assess the application form and process outlined for assessing proposals and whether these provide sufficient guidance for both applicants and decision makers.

3 Background information

- 3.1 The Council currently lacks a formal policy by which to assess these types of applications. The policy has been developed alongside a new policy on street naming and numbering and a review of the statues, monuments, plaques and street names which currently exist in Nottingham. The three strands of work have been guided by the same principle that all statues on Council owned land, and all plaques should celebrate or explain the City's heritage and culture in a way that is compatible with life in a modern, diverse City. Developers should be encouraged to adopt the same principles for street naming when proposing street names which relate to the City's culture or heritage.
- 3.2 The policy looks to set out the information required from applicants in support of their proposal. This will include: details of the proposed installation, details of funding both in the creation and installation of the work and its ongoing maintenance and, evidence of public support for the proposal.
- 3.3 The policy also sets out broad criteria by which applications will be assessed, placing particular importance on evidence of public support and issues of inclusion and diversity. It includes a principle that the level of support required will vary according to the size and location of the proposal with proposals in the most prominent locations in the City requiring the highest levels of support.
- 3.4 The Policy outlines the support applicants can expect from officers in developing their proposal and the process by which the key portfolio holders will reach their decision. This will be done in conjunction with relevant Councillors, officers and organisations such as the One Nottingham Board. There is also provision for convening a citizens' panel to help reach decisions on the most significant and/or controversial proposals.

3.5 The Policy and application form take into account similar policies in place in Camden, Leeds, Birmingham and the Vale of White Horse Councils. Advice has been taken throughout the policy's development from various internal meetings with relevant departments and decision makers.

4 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

4.1 The new policy and guidance document and proposed application form are attached as appendices.

5 Wards affected

5.1 The Policy will apply to all City wards

6 Contact information

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