



Consultancy Brief for Architect

Background

Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery is a volunteer-run visitor attraction which is open 6 days a week for 50 weeks a year.

Our museum exists to preserve, record and make accessible the history of Alnwick town and district and to showcase the work of local and national artists within a vibrant, stimulating and aesthetically pleasing environment for the benefit of the community.

As a community museum and one of the largest arts spaces in north Northumberland, we bring cultural opportunities to the most rural county in England. In recent years, this has seen us bring high profile exhibits to rural north Northumberland as well as working in rural and isolated communities where only a few hundred people (or less) may live to celebrate and showcase their unique heritage, traditions and culture.

Each year we welcome 10,000 visitors. Our permanent collection which is displayed across two floors of the museum offers a journey through 10,000 years of history in Alnwick and district. Upstairs in the gallery, we showcase local heritage, traditions and artworks alongside national activity through an ambitious seasonal exhibitions programme. Recently, this has included Illustrating Harry Potter (on loan from Seven Stories, National Centre for Children's Books), paintings from acclaimed artist Stella Vine, and 100 years of Fashion in collaboration with super model, Stella Tennant and featuring designer's gowns and accessories including Prada, Dior and Stella McCartney from her personal collection and a collaboration with Jorvik Museums to bring 'The Vikings' to Northumberland.

We are proud to offer opportunities which enable local people to access cultural experiences and activities not normally available in rural settings. Workshops, talks and targeted activities help to bring local people closer to their heritage and culture. School activities and outreach projects take our collections into communities and help them to discover more about their local heritage and to present it to others through, stories, artefacts and their own voice. Our ambitious programme also ensures we build on our success in attracting visitors from across the world. We support green energy and want to make a sustained contribution to becoming carbon neutral.

Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery is a registered charity and an accredited Museum. We employ one part-time Administrator, and a cleaner. Other consultancy posts include Transition and Programme Manager for the Northumberland Hall project and a Project Manager for our 'This is Alnwick' project together with an administrator. All

other tasks that keep our museum open every day are provided by volunteers with targeted support from external consultants. Main areas of work include Front of House, collections curation, exhibitions, organising events, recruiting volunteers, education, retail, contract management, finance and fundraising, marketing and social media, IT, AV and website development.

We are a membership organisation governed by a board of up to 12 trustees with 11 member representatives (Friends of Bailiffgate Museum) and one trustee nominated by the Alnwick Town Council. Currently we have eleven trustees with one vacancy. The board meets 6 times per year. Each of our trustees has delegated responsibility for an area of our work, to provide a point of contact on the board and facilitate effective links between the board and volunteer teams.

Day to day operations is co-ordinated by our Operational Management Group (OMG) which usually meets monthly. This is chaired by a volunteer and attended by volunteer representatives from different areas of museum operations (education, collections, exhibitions, marketing, retail, website, volunteers etc).

The Museum is recognised for its high standards and professionalism and is well supported by Alnwick Town Council, Northumberland County Council, and Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums.

Our commitment to our Volunteers

Much of Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery's success comes from the strong commitment of our 50+volunteers who bring a wealth of expertise, dedication, loyalty and pride to our organisation. We recognise that volunteering is a two-way process which we try to ensure benefits the volunteers as well as the Museum.

The organisation is committed to using fair, efficient and consistent recruitment procedures for all potential volunteers. We aim to include opportunities for all volunteers who reflect the diversity of the local community and as an organisation we aim to identify appropriate roles to make the most of what volunteers offer, in line with our Strategic aims and objectives. Our Volunteer Strategy is that "Everyone is welcome".

NLHF Project – Northumberland Hall

Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery has been successful in being awarded £189,988 by the NLHF as the Development phase of a major project as part of the Alnwick Place regeneration plan. The project will transform Northumberland Hall, a Grade 1 listed building in the heart of Alnwick into a creative, cultural hub where collections and exhibitions bring to life the past, present and imaginative narratives that celebrate our place and its people.

If the development phase is successful then we will submit our second-round application for the full delivery round which includes reinterpreting our collection and developing an innovative, creative heritage experience for visitors and local people in the heart of Alnwick.

We want to make the most of this unique opportunity to contribute to the economic, cultural and social development of Alnwick and surrounding areas to create an

innovative, community led museum for those who live and work in Alnwick and an outstanding experience for visitors.

Vision

Our ambition is to become a dynamic and inclusive cultural and creative hub in the heart of Alnwick, which builds local skills, pride and confidence and is a catalyst for the regeneration of the town. The experience will share the past, present and imaginative narratives of NE66 and celebrate our place and its people, co-curated by our communities and delivered with our partners.

Relocating to Northumberland Hall, set in the heart of Alnwick's historic marketplace, is an opportunity for our volunteer-run local history museum to reimagine itself as a creative cultural community-led hub for Alnwick and district. The central location and greater space offered by the Hall will provide new programming opportunities to work more effectively with our volunteers, community groups, schools and local businesses, and reach out to new and different audiences, to celebrate local stories and showcase our creativity. We will create a thriving new inclusive, engaging and family-friendly destination with a more sustainable future, by building capacity and new revenue streams that will enable us to develop our team's skills, resources and partnerships as well as generate income.

We will be a new, vibrant and very visible presence in the marketplace, and a catalyst for the regeneration of the town. To achieve this, we want to change what we are, who we work with and how we present narratives of Alnwick and district. We will build new relationships and help grow a strong sense of local pride and ownership through the stories we tell, the collections we showcase and the engaging activities we offer collectively and collaboratively. In particular, we will work with local schools, youth groups and young adults through partnerships, so children and young people can help us shape and deliver our offer effectively. We will also focus on developing our offer to enhance accessibility and diversity by meeting the needs of key groups with special needs, including local home-education families and SEND groups.

Summary of work to be undertaken

The architect and team will further develop the RIBA stage 3 detailed plans, drawings and specifications for the new creative, cultural hub that will house our collection, provide flexible space for a wide range of community events including exhibitions and outreach oral history projects, exhibitions and loans boxes. The development stage of the work will be used to test out and finalise plans for the delivery of the capital project, should Bailiffgate progress to this stage.

Please set out the approach you will take to fulfil the ambitious objectives set by Bailiffgate.

Scope

To provide support to the client and exhibition/interpretation consultant to develop the project to accommodate the final exhibition design. This will typically involve highlighting potential constraints and opportunities for the exhibition designer and working together to help facilitate the optimum design for the client.

This may include amendments to the architectural elements of the building and may require a meeting with the conservation Officer/Planning officer and submission of a single amendment to the current planning approval (which may include several changes as part of the single amendment submission) in relation to the exhibition design.

Scope includes:

- Review of current exhibition design
- Use of existing plans as a basis of what is being proposed
- Comments and suggestions on emerging exhibition design
- Updating architectural drawings to reflect changes – say up to three different options
- Assessment of exhibition design and client comments on options
- Preparation of final revised architectural drawings (in relation to exhibition)
- Consultation with the planners/Conservation Officer on potential changes
- Consideration of any implications on Building Regulations and means of Escape
- Consultation with client & Fire consultant
- Submission of an amendment to the existing planning approval (if required)
- All drawings to be to RIBA stage 3
- Amendments to plans may need for further planning application to be submitted.

Outputs at the end of development stage

A fully agreed and costed plan for capital works that takes full account of the interpretation and design plan.

Contracting processes set out, materials identified, and timescales set out for capital works for submission to HLF as part of the application for delivery of the project
In line with RIBA 4 stage requirements.

Outputs at the end of delivery stage

All work on Northumberland Hall completed to a high standard to the agreed specification

Governance management and staff

Work with Bailiffgate to agree all staffing arrangements and terms of engagement and lines of responsibility and accountability with members of the Bailiffgate Team.

The timescales for this work are important to enable Trustees to meet the expected timetable and standards set by stakeholders and grant funders to open the new hub Bailiffgate@NorthumberlandHall and to ensure maximum publicity, a thrilling launch and to encourage a wide range of visitors.

Payment will be within 10 days of successful delivery of all required outputs.

Indicative Timetable, subject to funding

Work commences: 1st August 2024

Outline programme (all dates tbc)

- August– Appoint design team
- Aug/ Sept /Oct /Nov/Dec – RIBA 4 information prepared – detailed design, specification and preparation of tender documents
- Oct/ Nov – extinguish planning conditions (as far as possible)
- Dec/Jan – Preparation of final Bills of Quantities by Quantity Surveyor (QS)
- Jan – Preparation of ‘pretender estimate’ – by QS
- Jan - Issue of tenders to say minimum of 4 contractors (funders may ask for 6)
- Jan/Feb – Tender period – contractors’ price the RIBA 4 tender documents – 4 – 6 weeks depending on market conditions, queries. 4 would be a minimum.
- March – tender returns, tenders assessed, and a tender report prepared by the QS. Possible interviews of contractors if required, then final selection of contractor by client
- April/May – mobilisation of contractor – preparation to start on site
- Apr – start on site – suggested time period currently in the region of 44 weeks open for late summer /early Autumn 2025

Award Criteria

Your proposal for undertaking the work should include:

1. Detailed methodology for creating final RIBA 3 plans and final arrangements for delivery
2. Outline of the internal responsibilities, resources required
3. Details of any interviews, information, materials required from Bailiffgate
4. Experience and expertise of staff allocated to this project
5. Two references for similar work undertaken within the last five years
6. Backup arrangements if any of the allocated staff become unavailable to complete the work
7. The project manager and lead contact (if different)
8. The allocation of days between members of the team
9. The daily charging rate of individual staff involved
10. A timescale for completing the work and bid with key milestones

All proposals submitted will be evaluated by Bailiffgate against the following criteria:

11. To what extent does the proposal demonstrate an understanding of the issues (including social values) related to this brief?
12. To what extent are the methodology and methods appropriate to the requirements set out in this brief?
13. What degree of experience does the bidder demonstrate in order to successfully complete the work?
14. How well has the bidder structured a team in order to successfully manage the contract and deliver the required work to the budget and timetable required?

Please provide a table showing:

- costs including expenses; including and excluding VAT
- days allocated and day rate per employee including and excluding VAT
- any additional resource requirements

Trustees have set a budget for this work and will be relying on grants and volunteer contributions to complete this project. As a Registered Charity we are keen to use public money wisely and will not be in a position to make any awards outside this financial envelope, even though it spans a five-year period.

The total fee for the development stage shall be £tbc excluding VAT but including any expenses occurred in the performance of the services.

Equal payments will be made on a monthly basis, once the work commences, until the last payment which will be paid on satisfactory completion of the work.

The specialist shall issue an invoice and provide bank details to the Bailiffgate Treasurer and payment will be made in 10 days.

Management of the contract

The contract will be awarded by 1 August 2024, subject to grant funder's award process. Final briefs should be submitted to Bailiffgate by 26 July 2024.

The anticipated maximum for is £7250 Development phase and £328,800 for the Delivery phase to include expenses, but excluding VAT.

The contract will be let by Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery.

Please submit invoices to The Treasurer, Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery.

All other communication should be with the Chair and Company Secretary of Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery/Transition & Programme Manager

Procurement Process

Proposal return deadline: 5pm on 26 July 2024

Clarification meetings: 23 July 2024

Interviews with shortlisted suppliers if appropriate 31 July 2024

Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery will notify bidders by telephone of our procurement decision by 1 August 2024, and this will be followed by email confirmation.

Please submit proposals, marked CONFIDENTIAL Proposal for Consultancy Brief for Architect Services to Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery for the attention of Chair of Trustees.

Email to: companysecretary@bailiffgatemuseum.co.uk

Or post to:

Chair of Trustees

Bailiffgate Museum & Gallery

14 Bailiffgate, Alnwick NE66 1LX

Marked CONFIDENTIAL Proposal for Consultancy Brief for Design & Interpretation

The proposal should arrive no later than 5pm 26 July 2024