

Drogheda Tidy Towns

(East Meath Subgroup – Colpe/Southgate)

Briefing document for Artists

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1. Introduction

Drogheda Tidy Towns would like to invite proposals for a highly visible, art/sculpture piece for the Southgate Roundabouts at Colpe in East Meath. The East Meath areas of Colpe and Southgate on the southern side of Drogheda has expanded enormously over the last 2 decades. There has been significant new residential developments in this area and many more are planned. The new Southgate shopping centre and commercial development has also become a very busy hub of retail and business activity. The population and activity of the area has grown many folds as has the thru traffic from Bettystown, Dublin, and Duleek directions, all resulting in Southgate becoming the major southern gateway to the Boyne Valley area and to the city of Drogheda.

2. Commission Brief

The procurer of this work is Drogheda Tidy Towns. Drogheda Tidy Towns have established an East Meath subgroup who are working with stakeholders to commission this art/sculpture for the Southgate Roundabouts. The art/sculpture should capture the essence of Southgate as the gateway to the beautiful, historic and mythical Boyne Valley as well as to the historic walled and gated city of Drogheda. In overall terms we expect there to be an art/sculpture piece on each roundabout and for them to have a clear infinity /natural connection. We are flexible to look at options including the situation of a more dominant piece on one of the roundabouts and a lesser piece on the other roundabout.

The Boyne Valley and Drogheda has a long and rich legacy of mythical, historical and cultural history and experiences. This commission provides the opportunity to recognise, highlight and celebrate these connections from our past in a contemporary and interesting way today.

This would be the first of potentially three commissions, with additional plans under consideration for similar projects on the North and West approaches to Drogheda. Consideration should be given to this broader scope as part of any submission.

3. Site

The art/sculpture proposal incorporates both roundabouts at the Southgate/Colpe Cross junction on the R132. It should enable us to capture the essence of Southgate as the gateway to the beautiful, historic and mythical Boyne Valley as well as to the historic walled and gated city of Drogheda. It is not envisaged

the proposal will require additional lighting as such services are not available on either of the roundabouts. The expectation is the proposal would leverage the lighting which is already in place for the junction. These roundabouts are on the major routes servicing the Bettystown, Mornington and Donacarney areas of East Meath as well as the local residential areas of Grange Rath with approx. 1,000 residential units, Deepforde with circa 300 units and the many more hundreds of units planned in the Colpe area. The proposal should also take into account the broader vision for the junction where in addition to the art/sculpture commission, a plan will be developed for the planting and landscaping of the roundabouts and the immediate approach roads which can create a visible connection for the complete junction. A key objective is that the result can be a source of pride and connection for residents and the wider community.

The designated site for the sculptures is indicated on the map in **Appendix 2**.

A scaled drawing of the roundabouts is provided in **Appendix 3**. The piece of art/sculpture should leave a minimum 5 metres of clearance from it and the road central verge.

Appendix 4 sets out a list of the drone and ground level photos which are provided in the attached file of photos.

Meath County Council reserves the right to approve the construction.

Artists are welcome to visit the site and if advance notice is given a representative of the selection committee will endeavour to meet you on site.

The brief does not specify the materials to be used, but the artwork is intended to be permanent and of high quality. Therefore, it should be made of durable materials which require minimum maintenance. Note also that no new lighting can be included in the project.

4. Budget

The budget for this commission is Euro 80,000 inclusive VAT, artists fee, all materials and works, engineers' costs for the artworks (where applicable), insurance , installation costs (including plinths where required and all necessary traffic management requirements).

There will be a separate budget for Council charges (where applicable), road closure licence fees and associated costs, foundation works for the artworks, landscaping and planting works.

The proposal should however set out the specific requirements regarding foundations and other works required.

5. Application and Selection process

This is an open submission two-stage competitive process. Stage 1 is open to all artists. It is an initial expression of interest process that will result in the shortlisting of a maximum of 5 artists who will progress to Stage 2.

Application Process - Stage 1

Artists to submit a completed Expression of Interest Application Form per Appendix 1 together with the following additional information:

- Summary of your proposal for the commission (max 100 words)
- Early-stage visualisations/sketch images of proposal.
- Outline of your concept and how you will approach the commission (max 500 words)
- Examples of three previous projects or relevant works with dates and locations (max 150 words)
- An indication of budget breakdown.
- A CV

Applications to be emailed to tidytownsdrogheda@gmail.com. The closing date for submissions is 5pm on Monday, September 18th, 2023. Late submissions will not be accepted.

Selection Criteria Stage 1

The proposals for Stage 1 will be assessed by the selection panel using the following criteria:

- Concept and relevance to the commissioning context (40/100)
- Quality of previous work and relevant experience (30/100)
- Quality and originality of the artistic ideas (30/100)

Application Process - Stage 2

Stage 2 will be a limited competition with a maximum of 5 shortlisted artists. A detailed proposal will be expected at Stage 2. Proposals will be required to provide a more detailed analysis of the concept, research, methodology, technical information, time frame and finances. Visual representation of the

proposed work in the context of the location will be expected (using maquettes, drawings, computer generated images, videos or photographs).

Artists will be paid a fee of €500 inclusive of vat for completing the Stage 2 submission/application process.

Selection Criteria – Stage 2

The proposals for Stage 2 will be assessed by the selection panel using the following criteria:

- Artistic merit and distinctiveness of proposed artwork (25/100)
- Compatibility with the site and brief (25/100)
- Potential to contribute to sense of community and heritage (25/100)
- Adherence to budget, technical and delivery considerations (25/100)

The successful submission will be the one awarded the highest marks. The commissioner reserves the right not to commission any artwork. Artists may be invited to attend for interview before final selection is made.

Selection Panel

The selection Panel for Stage 1 and Stage 2 and are composed of the following:

- Representative from Drogheda Tidy Towns
- 2 representatives from local residential groups
- Director - Droichead Arts Centre
- Meath County Council Arts Officer.

Timeline

Open for Applications: July 26th, 2023

Stage One: Deadline for applications: 5pm on September 18th, 2023

Stage Two: Deadline for Stage 2 submissions: to be confirmed following Stage 1.

Installation to commence early 2024, to be confirmed with the selected artist.

6. Heath & Safety

Artists should consider the Health and Safety requirements of the proposed site for the artwork. In particular, road safety and issues associated with reflective or kinetic components. Proposals should take into account the need for vehicular sightlines, signage and the need not to impinge on traffic movement and safety.

7. Insurance

Artists will be required to have the necessary insurance cover for work that they may have to undertake onsite, and insurance cover for any person that they undertake to bring onsite as part of the design or implementation phase of the project.

8. Originality & Copyright

All applications must contain a statement that the proposed design is of the sole creation of the artist and that no other person has or will have any legal call on the work. Copyright for the works proposed will remain at all times with the artist.

9 Freedom of Information

Drogheda Tidy Towns (DTT) undertakes to use its best endeavours to hold confidential any information provided by you in this submission subject to their obligations under law, including the Freedom of Information Acts 1997 and 2003.

When submitting information, artists should indicate what parts of their submission are commercially sensitive and what parts they consider should be kept confidential should DTT receive an FOI request relating to the submission. DTT will consult with you about this sensitive information before making any decision on any Freedom of Information request received.

10 Queries

Applicants can make enquiries regarding the commission by emailing them to the procurer
tidytownsdrogheda@gmail.com

Appendix 1

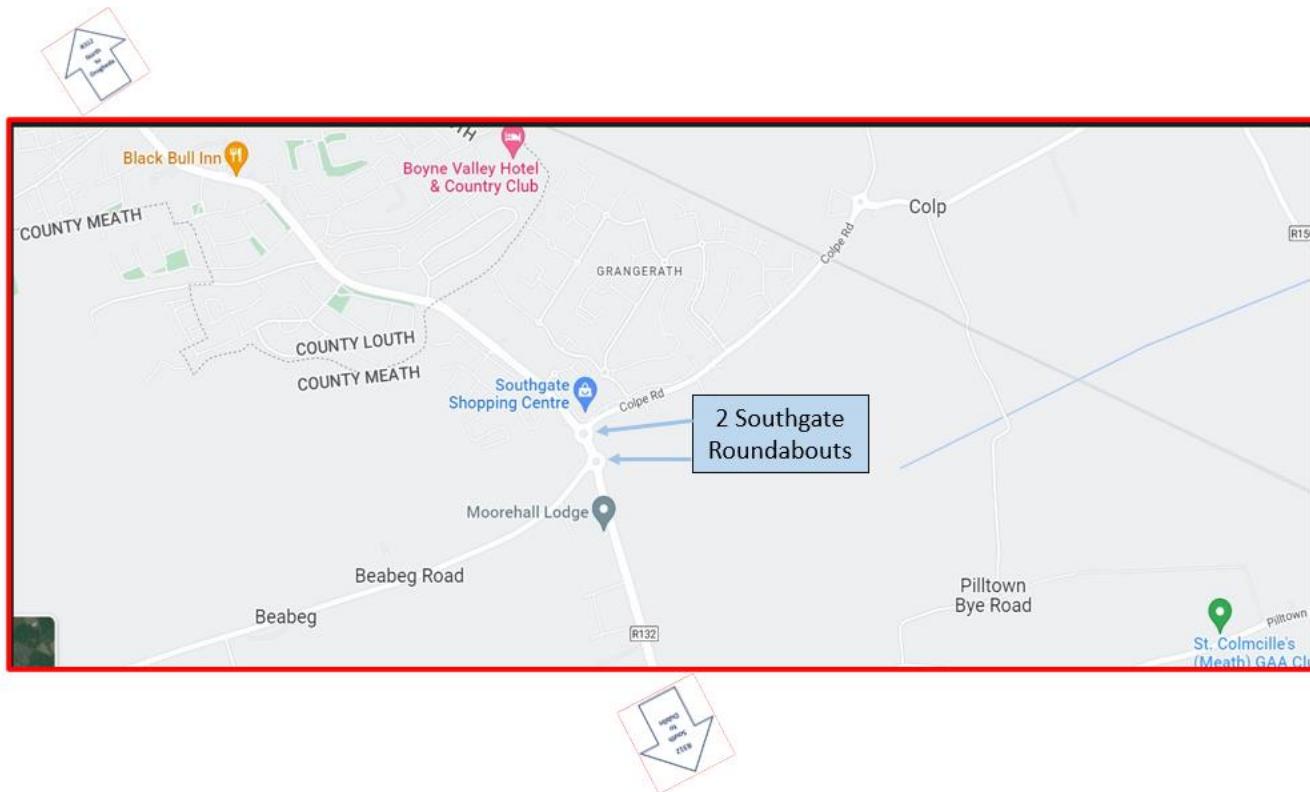
Expression of Interest Application Form

1.0	General Information	
1.1	Name	
1.2	Address	
1.3	Telephone number	
1.4	e-Mail address	
1.5	Originality/copyright statement	

2.0	Finance & Insurance	
2.1	Confirm that you will provide a current tax clearance certificate number with dates of validity if awarded the commission. (Yes/No)	
2.2	Confirm that you will provide a current registered VAT number, if applicable	
2.3	Have you been awarded an Artists Tax Exemption (Yes/No)	
2.4	The successful candidate will be obliged to have the following insurances in place: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employer's Liability €13m • Public Liability €6.5m Please confirm that, if successful, that you undertake to have the necessary insurances in place. (Yes/No)	

Appendix 2

Site Map Location



As per Google maps.

Appendix 3

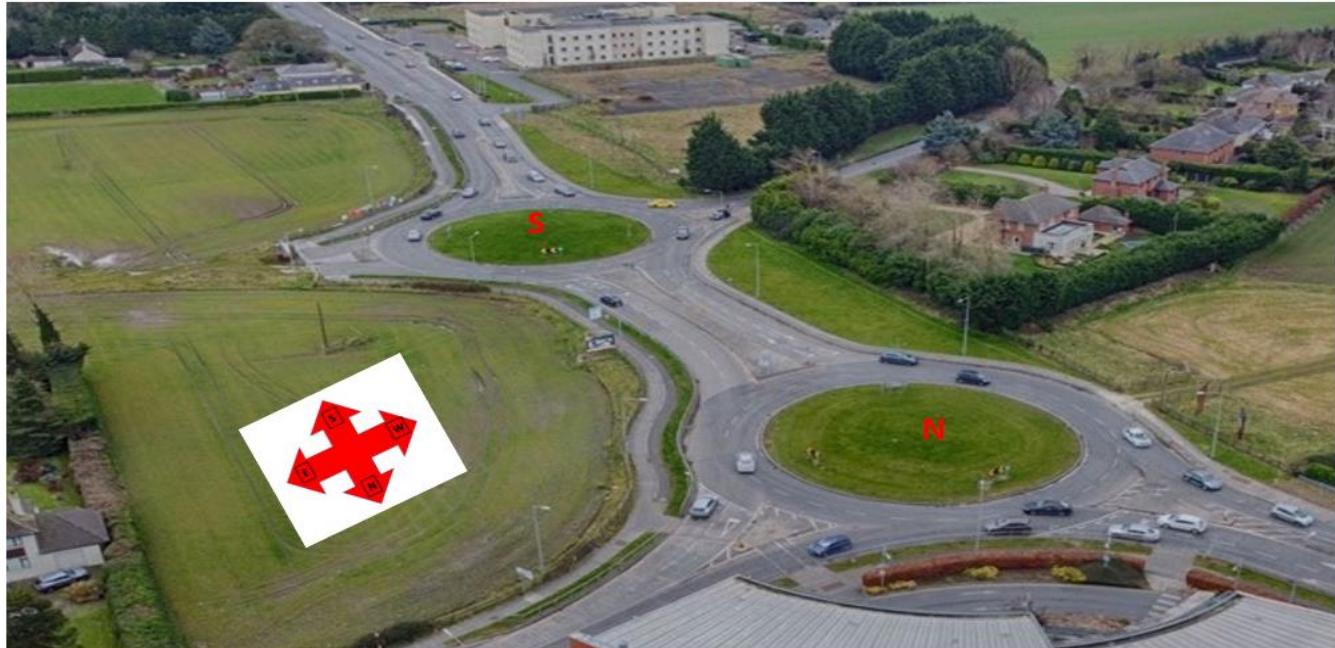
Site Drawing



Appendix 4

Site Photos

Southgate Roundabouts - Aerial Photo

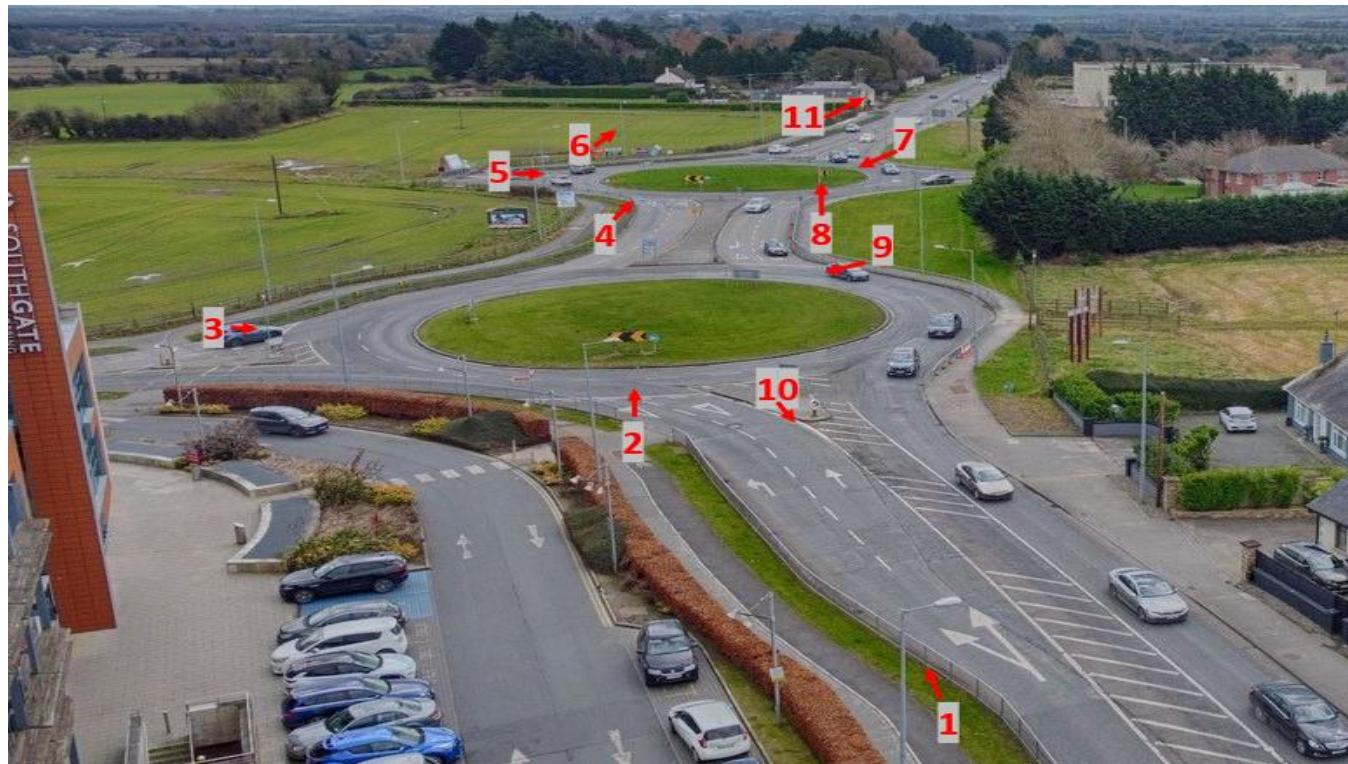


S - Southern Roundabout

N - Northern Roundabout

Three aerial photos are included in the following pages.

Southgate Roundabouts - Ground level photo positions



These 11 individual photos are included in the following pages.

Aerial Photo #1



Aerial Photo #2



Aerial Photo #3



Ground Level Photo #1



Ground Level Photo #2



Ground Level Photo #3



Ground Level Photo #4



Ground Level Photo #5



Ground Level Photo #6



Ground Level Photo #7



Ground Level Photo #8



Ground Level Photo #9



Ground Level Photo #10



Ground Level Photo #11

