

INVITATION TO TENDER FOR FELIX ROAD ADVENTURE PLAYGROUND, BRISTOL

DESIGN AND BUILD PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT

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Summary

Commissioned by: Eastside Community Trust

Timescale: Submission of tenders: Noon – Thursday 19th Nov 2020

Appointment: Monday 30th Nov 2020

Budget: Tenders invited from £5,000 to £80,000 (including VAT)

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Section 1 – The Project

1. Introduction to Eastside Community Trust

Our journey so far

Felix Road was founded in 1972 by local people offering a unique and playful space for approximately 900 children and families a year. Felix Road operates with a strong values based child-led play ethic providing a mix of targeted and universal children's services.

Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Management (also known as Up Our Street) was the successor of Community at Heart which was founded in 2000 as the resident-led, government funded New Deal for Communities regeneration programme. Up Our Street brings 20 years' experience delivering Asset Based Community Development, communications and research projects supporting local people to participate in civic life.

Easton Community Centre was built in 1989 by local residents and runs as a busy hub open seven days a week offering affordable meeting and office spaces with a café, nursery and community radio station.

In 2020, Eastside Community Trust was created as a merger of these three long standing local organisations. Over the next three years we want to build on our solid foundations to create an anchor organisation that has real impact while maintaining the services that we do well and ensuring a legacy long into the future.

Our focus

Our organisation is built on mobilising people to social action and the involvement of local people in the place where they live. We will use our fixed assets and our engagement, research and communications teams – combined with the assets of cultural diversity and collective community knowledge to bring about change. Our work focuses on four key thematic areas.

1. Inclusion and integration: our place is incredibly diverse, economically, religiously and ethnically. This brings huge positive benefits to the neighbourhood and we have a good track record of building community relations. According to Bristol City Council's Quality of Life report, only 49% of people feel they belong and we need to continue to support social mixing, welcome and belonging, shared values and celebration of difference.
2. Adverse childhood experiences: in parts of the neighbourhood, almost 50% of children live in low income households (data only available from 2016 so this figure may be higher). We recognise and seek to address the poverty of opportunity and children's access to rich and unique childhood experiences - the recreational, social and educational opportunities available to wealthier families.

3. Inequality and social justice: we give voice to the inequality experienced by many people in this neighbourhood and advocate for those with less power. We aim to challenge the power imbalance by increased local decision making and influence.

4. Place making: our place is a densely populated urban environment with poor quality green space, litter, congestion, traffic pollution, inconsiderate planning and poor quality housing (see Lawrence Hill ward profile 2019). We empower resident agency, to reclaim the spaces that matter most, to challenge strategic developments and ensure positive local impact.

Our vision is to create a place of possibility for everyone.

Our purpose is to connect people, open up opportunities and inspire action.

Our aims

Community hub for all - To enhance Easton Community Centre to be a thriving public space meeting the needs of our local community.

Participation and action in the neighbourhood – To promote active involvement in civic and cultural life where local voices are strengthened through access to good quality information, empowering events and community knowledge.

Inclusion and belonging where we live – To cultivate and nurture a sense of belonging, where people can understand, respect and celebrate difference.

Children and play at its heart – To create a playful and child friendly neighbourhood which is home to an inspiring and free adventure playground.

Caring for the environment around us – To improve our urban environment and respond to local challenges created by climate change, austerity, rapid physical developments and economic inequality.

Champion for the area and its people – To be a catalyst for equality by promoting social justice and challenge systemic disadvantage with policy makers.

Fit for the future – To create a financially robust, resilient organisation which uses community wisdom and an evidenced-based approach to decision making.

For more information visit: www.eastsidecommunitytrust.org.uk

2. Project Background



Felix Road is run by the community for the community in Bristol. It was established in 1972 as a children's adventure playground and over 40 years has worked with generations of children and families. It is located on the site of a former colliery in the Lawrence Hill ward, an area characterised by cultural diversity, social deprivation and some of the most disadvantaged children, young people and families in the UK. Since securing a Community Asset Transfer in 2016 and a 30 year lease from Bristol City Council the board of trustees at Eastside Community Trust with the local community have developed a new vision, to make Felix Road a *Place of Possibility* for all



Felix Road is a green oasis in this area, a place that supports and improves the life chances for children, young people and families locally. We offer targeted and universal services, adapting services based on need and changing demographics. Our playground offers opportunities for memorable and unique childhood experiences which provide a strong basis for growth and development into a happy and resilient adulthood. Through our range of programmes children and young people are able to share positive and valuable time with their friends and peers away from the stresses of their often chaotic home environments.



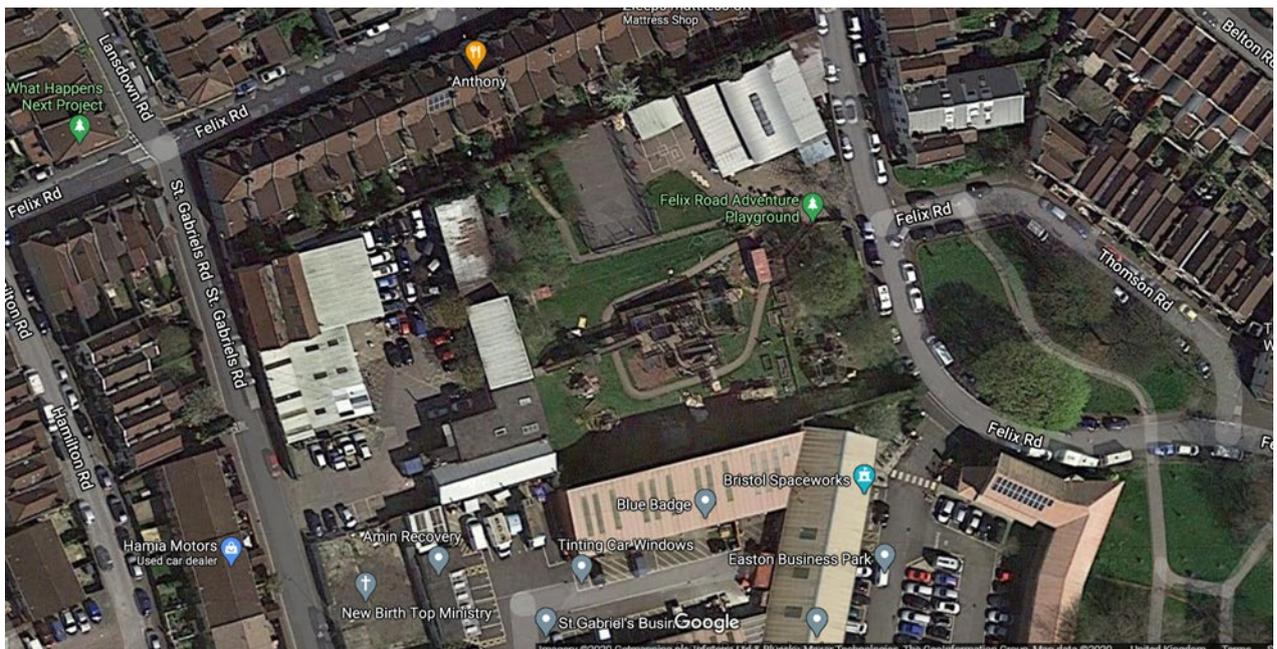
The primary function of Felix Road is to provide a rich inclusive play environment for children to thrive in. Age, gender, social class and ethnic background is rarely a barrier to how children interact at the playground, and the evidence supports this strongly. Felix Road is a busy and vibrant space open a minimum of five days a week, after school, at weekends and during school holidays. Felix Road is primarily a highly inclusive play space for children and families, full of possibilities for children to play, learn, meet friends, make and eat food, come together as a community and co-produce the services they need.

For more information visit: www.eastsidecommunitytrust.org.uk

3. Project Brief

Eastside Community Trust invites tenders for a series of design and build projects at Felix Road, covering the development of the whole site. Over the summer staff have been consulting with children, young people, parents and other stakeholders on a series of proposals that we have successfully raised capital funds for. These include: a sensory garden, a vegetable allotment, a hanging garden, a outdoor classroom/adventure play nursery, the design and rebuild of our main play structure. Details of the master plan for the whole site are detailed in appendix 1. Each component of this tender must take into consideration the playground as a whole

Felix Road is an adventure playground and we'd like the new additions outlined in this tender document to reflect this fact; we are therefore looking for proposals that encourage 'risky' and 'adventurous' play whilst also meeting ROSPA adventure playground safety standards. Felix Road is only open for supervised play sessions by qualified playworkers and private hire.



The specifications below outline the changes we would like to make to the playground. This information has been collated from our successful funding bids and consultation over the summer.

4. Project descriptions and specifications

Item	Description	Budget guide
Sensory Garden	A sensory garden for children and adults. A series of interesting play structures, seating and raised beds that reflects the overall feel of the playground. Combined with an exciting array of sensory plants that are tactile, smell nice, bright colours, and are transportive to other worlds.	£10,000
Vegetable allotment	A vegetable allotment for children to grow vegetables and fruit in a network raised beds. All of the things needed to help achieve this. A potting shed, a good compost system, water recycling, a small polytunnel etc	£5,000
Hanging garden	Either a scaffolding or wooden structure that creates a high viewpoint across the playground with opportunities for children to climb. The front of this structure could be a wall of cascading plants and vegetation, a sheet waterfall, or a wall of scented bright flowers.	£20,000
Outdoor classroom/adventure play nursery	Access to nature and forest school activities are not available to vulnerable children living in inner city Bristol. This new space on two levels will provide a focus for the delivery of a range of new activities and new experiences for children all year round no matter what the weather. An open sided barn/classroom, a covered fir pit, a secluded wooded area.	£10-£25,000 tbc
Main wooden structure	Rebuild of the main wooden structure in the centre of the playground. There are a number of options for this rebuild outlined in appendix one. We see this particular project as a longer project that might require several stages and further funding. But we are looking for ways we can make significant changes now without losing an	£20,000 initially

	important aspect of the playground for a long period of time.	
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5. Key Considerations

We would welcome designs that encompass all the separate projects or just focus on particular projects of interest to those completing this tender. We are interested in a mixed economy of contractors that include adventure playground builders, playworkers, equipment installers, carpenters, landscapers and gardeners. We are particularly interested in tenders that can collaborate with other specialists and that are able to work with the playground staff and children, teaching them new skills and building their site maintenance expertise.

The successful organization/s will be expected to hold a community open day consultation to ensure the proposals meet with local user expectations. This will be done in partnership with Eastside Community Trust who will invite local children, young people, residents, partners and other contacts.

Eastside Community Trust is an environmental and community regeneration charity and would be particularly keen to work with an organisation with similar environmental and ethical values and with experience working in the charity and adventure playground sector.

Additional considerations – bike track:

Recent changes to the playground have resulted in the loss of a circular path that was popular with children on bikes. We would be interested in ideas to restore this aspect or use the large amount of topsoil we now have on site to make a BMX track. See Appendix 1. We do not have funding for this consideration at this point but would be interested in ideas that could be used as a basis for future applications.

6. Budget

The budget for playground development, encompassing all elements of the above specifications and key considerations ranges from £5,000 to £80,000 (inclusive of VAT) depending on the proposed work. We welcome tenders for 1, 2,3, 4 or all 5 projects described.

The quoted tender price in any submission should include:

- Design options for the different projects, the supply of appropriate plans, drawings and explanations;
- Supply and installation of all equipment, site furniture, fencing, and safety surfacing;
- Any hard or soft landscaping as agreed in the design;

- Reseeding and making good any ground in the surrounding area of the new safety surface and re-seeding and making good any damage caused to the ground by the movement of heavy equipment or otherwise;
- Delivery, staff welfare, security fencing and similar costs;
- We expect organisations to set aside their own contingency

7. Site Visits

Eastside Community Trust recommends that the tenderer should visit the site to assess the work required, the access and security of the site, and the topography and layout of the area, before the tender is submitted. Site visits are available by contacting Ollie Fournier

ollie@upourstreet.org.uk / 07810506980.

8. Timetable

Set out below is the proposed timetable for the tender process. This is intended as a guide, and while we do not intend to depart from the timetable, we reserve the right to do so.

Stages	Dates
Issue of Invitation to Tender documents	22nd Oct 2020
Closing date and time for tender submission	Noon – 19 th Nov 2020
Expected notification of tender outcome	30 th Nov 2020
Expected build completion	End of March 2021

9. Selection criteria and process

- Understanding of the project and the aims (25%)
- Concept and Design (25%)
- Track record (25%)
- Budget and other financial details (25%)

10. Tender Submission:

Tender submissions must be in PDF format, and will need to include:

1. A budget for the work to include a breakdown of the costs (including VAT) for the design, build and installation of play equipment detailed in the project brief. Please include proposed charging arrangements and payment schedule.
2. An overview of the key personnel undertaking the work including their experience and past work.
3. Case studies of similar projects completed by the person/organisation submitting.
4. Evidence of Public and Employers liability
5. The name and contact details of two independent referees.
6. Timescales of project
7. If you are a member of any design or landscape associations such as Landscape Institute or Association of Play Industries, please let us know.

Contact details and Submission

Email: ollie@upourstreet.org.uk

Tel: 07810506980

To submit tenders, either email to ollie@upourstreet.org.uk or post to:

Ollie Fournier

Eastside Community Trust

Easton Community Centre

Kilburn Street

Bristol BS5 6AW

If you have any questions in advance of submission, please contact Ollie at the email address above or on 07810506980 for clarifications and questions.

Please note:

- The deadline for submissions is: Monday 31st Oct 2020. We can only accept proposals received by email or post by the deadline above; late submissions will not be accepted. For a detailed timeline see Section 8.
- We will send email confirmation of receipt to all who submit a proposal and will then follow up with a shortlist of selected organisations.
- Proposals may be rejected if information asked for in this Invitation to Tender is not provided at the time of submission.

- You will not be entitled to claim from Eastside Community Trust any costs or expenses which you may incur in preparing your proposal, whether or not it is successful.
- Your capability to perform the contract will be evaluated using a simple scoring system, weighted according to the essential or desirable nature of the requirements. The process will be conducted in a fair and transparent manner by at least two members of the Eastside Community Trust team.
- Following the award of contract, brief feedback will be included in the communication sent to unsuccessful applicants.
- The specification above will form the basis of the contract, between the successful organisation and Eastside Community Trust, alongside our standard terms and conditions and any special requirements. This contract will be sent once the successful organisation has informally accepted the appointment and must be signed before work can commence.
- While every endeavour has been made to give interested parties an accurate description of the project's requirements, you should make your own assessment about the methods and resources needed to meet those requirements.
- By issuing this Invitation to Tender, Eastside Community Trust is not bound in any way and does not have to accept the lowest proposal or any proposal at all, and reserves the right to accept a portion of any proposal, unless the interested party has expressly stipulated otherwise in the proposal itself.