



Subject:	Public Art Pilot Project – Belfast Canvas - update
Date:	3 December 2019
Reporting Officer:	Nigel Grimshaw, Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Director of City Services Lisa Toland, Senior Manager: Economy

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sometime in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of Main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on the progress of a public art project that had previously been approved by this Committee.
1.2	Members are asked to note that this report was also presented to City Growth and Regeneration Committee at its meeting on 6 th November 2019.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Committee is asked; <ul style="list-style-type: none">to note the update report.
3.0	Main Report

3.1	<p>At the March meeting of the City Growth and Regeneration Committee, Members agreed to support a pilot public art project that focused on a number of the city centre utility boxes. This was based on a similar project that had been undertaken in Dublin, called the “Dublin Canvas”.</p>
3.2	<p>The “Belfast Canvas” project got under way in early Summer 2019. In line with the Committee agreement, the project has focused on the city’s retail core and the Cathedral Quarter area. To date, 18 utility boxes have been painted by professional street artists. Images from some of the boxes are attached in Appendix 1.</p>
3.3	<p>The Committee also agreed that, following the initial works, the second phase of the pilot would be to engage communities to work with the professional artists in developing designs for a number of additional boxes. Work is to get under way on this element of the programme in the coming weeks. It will involve up to six local community groups across the city. The engagement work will happen in the communities and the artists will then take the designs based on the community input and replicate these on the utility boxes. When complete, there will be a total of 22 utility boxes painted as part of this pilot phase.</p>
3.4	<p>At the March City Growth and Regeneration Committee, Members discussed what the next steps in the process may be, subject to satisfactory progress with the pilot scheme. It was proposed that the phase two of the project might focus on the BRT route, engaging communities from both east and west of the city in the design process, working alongside the professional artists. Officers will give further consideration to this proposal before it comes back to Committee and will set out details of how the engagement might take place and how the project might align with other activities taking place in these areas.</p>
	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p>
3.5	<p>No specific financial implications associated with this report.</p>
	<p><u>Equality or Good Relations Implications/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p>
3.6	<p>Officers will work with the Community Services Team and our community partners to ensure that all equality and good relations issues are considered as part of the community engagement process.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents attached
	Appendix 1- Images of completed utility boxes