

Kingston Riverside Public Realm Design competition

Brief to procure design study
April 2021



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MAYOR OF LONDON



The area covered by this brief provides a unique opportunity for the area of Kingston Riverside and provide a space for animation, activity and joy.

It needs to relate and respond to two new initiatives in locations that border the area - The Factory of Futures and a space for start ups; The Knowledge Exchange.

We want to see creative responses that take account of:

- Its position by the Thames and within the Kingston riverside
- Connectivity between the north and south of the Kingston riverside
- Its heritage relating to Kingston Bridge
- The need for a flexible and animated public space.

This competition is open to anybody interested in urban design. You may be an established architectural practice or you might be a start-up design studio or a student with great ideas about how our riverside space can be more animated, fun and interesting. We are keen to hear from locally based practices/individuals as well as underrepresented groups.

Ideally you will be able to produce a RIBA stage 1 study for your scheme but the really important thing is the ideas you have for this space.

The limited budget means we aren't looking for a wholesale renewal of the landscaping. The focus is on practical improvements to power, lighting and landscaping in order to transform the appearance and use of the area.

Creative public realm/landscaping which re-uses existing materials and introduces greening would be welcomed.

Background

This project forms part of the Kingston Riverside programme [our invest site](#), which consists of three projects:

- Public realm improvements
- The 'Factory of Futures' Creative Space in the undercroft basement of the John Lewis department store, run and curated by Creative Youth
- South London Knowledge Exchange Affordable workspace Hub - new opportunity site for SME businesses



The public realm element includes the John Lewis department store riverside frontage and Kingston Bridge underpass, part of the [Grade II Listed Kingston Bridge](#).

The two are situated to the north west of Kingston, framed by the River Thames to the west and John Lewis to the east.

The two form part of the riverside route from north to south Kingston, with the underpass connecting the two sides under the bridge.

The route south of the bridge, which has an array of restaurants and numerous easy access points into the town centre, enjoys high usage throughout the year (especially in the summer months) but, due to a lack of activation, this particular area sees much less footfall.

As part of the [Reimagining Kingston Town Centre's Streets and Spaces strategy](#) carried out in 2019, this area and neighbouring sites were identified as providing key opportunities to changing the dynamic of the town centre and broadening the offer.

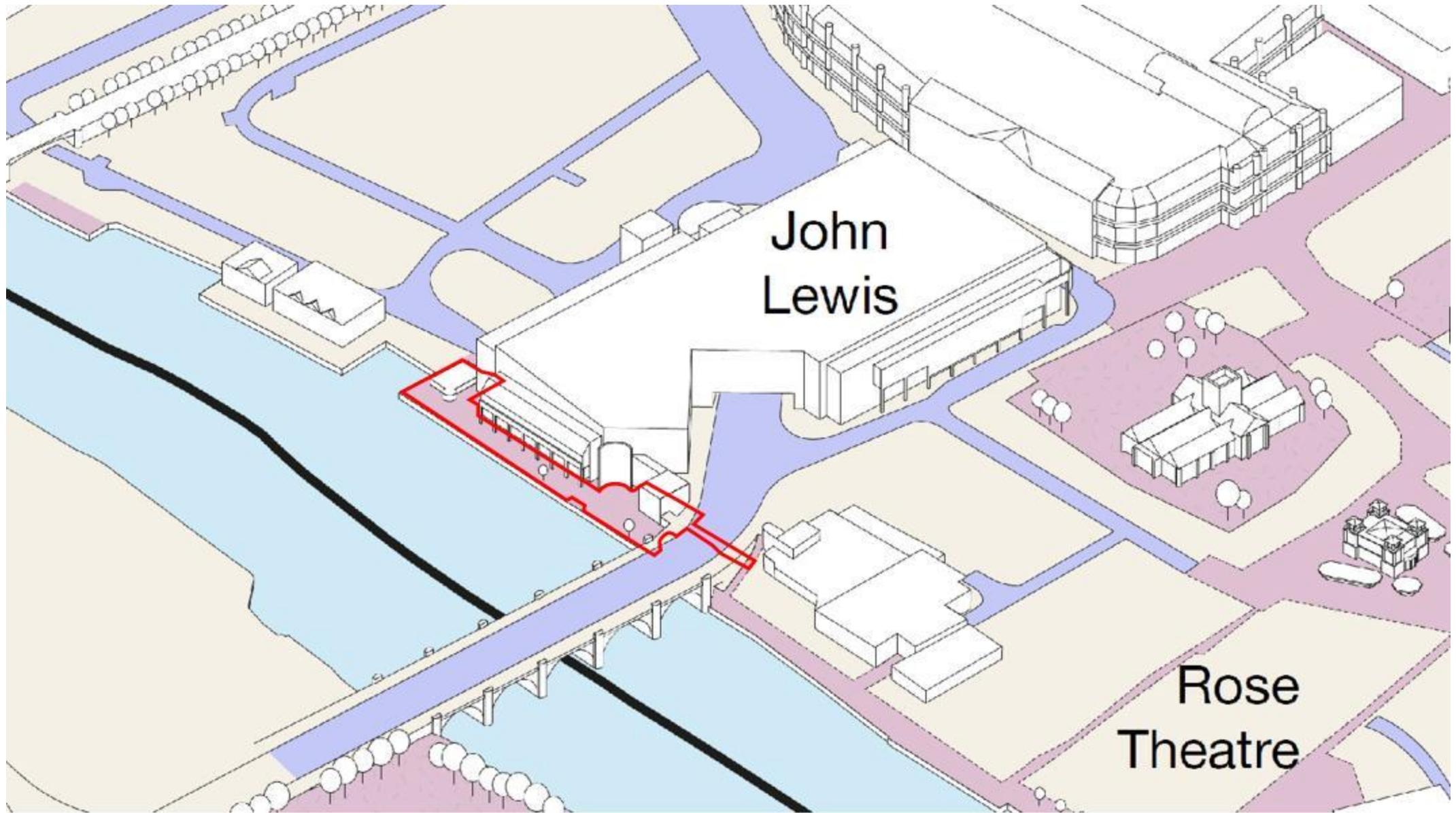


In Autumn 2020 a partnership of Kingston Council, Kingston University, Kingston First and the charity Creative Youth were successful in obtaining £200,000 from The Mayor of London's Getting Building Fund specifically for these public realm improvements.

Although the creative space and workspace will bring new life to this area, there is an opportunity for the public realm to be redesigned and repurposed to offer new potential space for creative community activity and enticing gateways into the two new premises.

This is a real opportunity to provide a visual progression to and from the green spaces of Canbury Gardens and the town centre. The aim is that it becomes an attractive and engaging public space for enjoyment, activity and relaxation, making the most of its location next to the Thames.

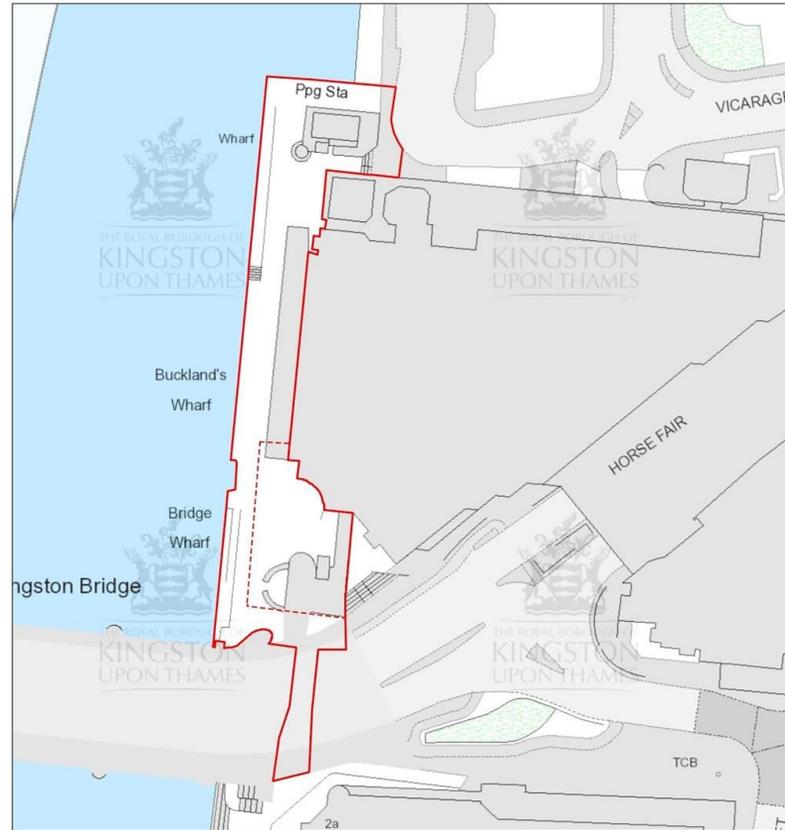




John
Lewis

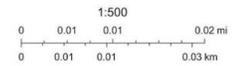
Rose
Theatre

JLP Riverside and Kingston Bridge underpass red line boundary



19/01/2021, 08:58:45

- JLP Riverside and Kingston Bridge Underpass
- Draft overspill area for CY Factory of Futures



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Our vision for the riverside public realm

The aim is to create a space that:

- Enhances both the pedestrian links and awareness of activity and active frontages to the north of Kingston bridge
- Encourages exploration and appreciation of the area – riverside and town
- Supports and enables activation and animation across a range of cultural and creative activities
- Is conducive to and complements the range of work and creative spaces emerging in the area
- Is designed to accommodate pop up activity such as markets, workshops, performance and displays
- Incorporates design elements to make licensing for varied use easier
- Celebrates the first crossing of the Thames outside of London
- Works during day and night time
- Is environmentally sustainable and an eco-asset



Something Wonderful is
about to happen

Governance

This work will be commissioned by the project's Strategic Partnership, and will be overseen by a Client Board which will help facilitate, provide advice, sign off design options and will issue instructions to proceed to the next stage.

It will meet at key stages during the course of the commission and approve strategic decisions.

The Client Board will be made up of members from Councillor Representative, senior management from Kingston Council, the Kingston First Board, Creative Youth and John Lewis Partnership and representatives from other strategic organisations such as Kingston University and GLA.

This design commission will be managed by Creative Youth, with maximum input from the Client Board and Strategic Partnership

Scope of works

- We're looking for your design ideas to transform the space within the £200,000 budget indicated and responding to our vision for the space.
- If you are our winning submission, we will then commission you to either develop your ideas to RIBA stage 1 or find a practice for you to partner with to develop your ideas.
- The commission to RIBA stage 1 or beyond, will attract a fee commensurate with the work stages we can take forward with you

Competition submissions

Competition submissions should be no more than 4 x single A3 pages

Milestone	Date
Deadline for receipt of Proposals	21st MAY 12 noon
Evaluation of Proposals	w/c 24 th May
Interviews	w/c 7 th June
Award of contract	w/c 14 th June

Please submit your competition bid to:

Andy Collins: andy@creativeyouthcharity.org

Please use the subject title in your email: **RKTC Kingston Riverside Public Realm Competition Bid**

If you require any clarifications, please email your query to andy@creativeyouthcharity.org no later than 3pm Friday 14th May 2021

Final date for competition entries is **12 noon 21st May 2021**