

RIBA Competition

New Royal London Children's Hospital Internal Play Space and Exterior Roof Garden

Preliminary Briefing Paper

Expressions of interest are invited from architect-led multi-disciplinary teams for the design of an external roof garden and dedicated internal children's play space at the new Royal London Children's Hospital, part of the new Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel which opens in 2012.

The client is Vital Arts which is the arts and health organisation for Barts and The London NHS Trust and the competition is being managed by RIBA Competitions.

Background

Barts and The London NHS Trust has appointed Capital Hospitals PLC to redevelop its' historic hospitals serving the residents of east London and beyond – The Royal London Hospital in Whitechapel and Barts in the City.

The Royal London will become Britain's biggest new acute hospital, providing district general hospital services for Tower Hamlets and the City, and specialist tertiary case services for patients across London and beyond. The hospital will include London's leading trauma and emergency care centre, Europe's largest renal service and the capital's second biggest paediatric service - The Royal London Children's Hospital.

Barts, Britain's oldest hospital, will become a Cancer and Cardiac Centre of Excellence. The historic listed Georgian buildings will be refurbished and restored to their former glory alongside a state of the art new clinical building finished in Portland stone to blend into the historic setting. The famous Barts Square will be cleared of vehicles, becoming a pedestrian civic space and focal point for way finding. The hospitals have been designed by HOK International and built by Skanska.

The Royal London Children's Hospital (RLCH) has 130 beds within the main Royal London Hospital and has London's busiest paediatric Accident & Emergency department. RLCH is one of the leading children's hospitals in the UK, caring for more than 40,000 children and young people each year from London, Essex and across the UK and Europe.

Vision / Aspirations

There are two prominent spaces within the new Children's Hospital;

The Play Space which is a double-height area between the 7th and 8th floors and the Children's Roof Garden, also between the 7th and 8th floors. As two of the few open circulatory areas in the new hospital as a whole, the Play Space and Roof Garden have the potential to become key facilities for the Children's Hospital. Both areas are dedicated spaces for young patients (aged 6 months – 18 years) and their families. This project offers the opportunity to create dynamic spaces that would dramatically improve the well being of patients and staff.

The Internal Play Space will need to accommodate a wide range of activities and needs. The area will be used for group activities and by children and young people independently. It will be an area for spectacle with performances and events as well as for quiet time and solitary activities.

The Children's Hospital Roof Garden is the only outdoor garden space in the new hospital and is therefore an essential therapeutic resource for the 40,000 paediatric patients, their visitors and staff. The therapeutic benefits of gardens has long been recognised and recent scientific research by the Wellcome Trust has proven the connection between attractive and well maintained gardens and courtyards in hospitals and the accelerated recovery rate and general well being of patients who have access to or views of nature.

We are looking for practical yet dynamic designs to suit the multiple needs of patients. Much of the new hospital design is constrained by being part of a very large PFI-financed building programme. These two spaces, as they are on a smaller scale and outside the building design contract, offer design teams the opportunity to create spaces that are contemporary, beautiful and innovative. They will be signature spaces for the Trust and high profile.

The proposed budget for the work is between £700,000 and £1 million.

Proposed Brief

Internal Play Space

The Internal Play Space will be a space for patients to feel and behave in a different way. It is essential that the environment is inviting and appealing to children and young people without being age-specific or patronising to young adults.

The design scheme needs to allow for the following activities / experiences

- active play (football etc.)
- soft play (for very young patients)
- gatherings (parties, games, workshops)
- performances (concerts, talent shows)
- intimate / independent space (areas for young patients to be alone)
- cinema / screening area

Requirements:

The design scheme must use:

- indestructible materials that can be future proofed
- elements and components that are stand alone and that do not require securing or attaching to the walls and floor
- Flexible and adaptable design solutions
- Security controls on elements so that usage can be effectively managed

One of the recurring themes of consultation workshops with patients was the importance of a balance between open and energetic spaces and quiet, solitary spaces. There was also a strong interest in technological infrastructure to enable gaming, screenings and dynamic interaction. The design solution should be practical and workable whilst also create a dynamic sense of escape and wonder. It should be a place young patients want to go into to feel elsewhere and to feel well.

External Roof Garden

The garden design brief is to connect patients and their visitors to the sights, textures and sounds of nature and in marked contrast to most other parts of the hospital interior. It will provide a sense of escape and connection to the ‘normal’ outside world for young patients, whilst allowing for reflection and restoration for families and carers.

The garden will contain planting that stimulates the senses, provides year round interest and is constructed out of high quality natural materials. The garden will be both beautiful and flexible. It will contain spaces for individual quiet relaxation and areas for use by clinical and play staff for patient rehabilitation and stimulation.

Eligibility

The competition is open to architect-led, multi-disciplinary teams.

Competition Format

The competition will be run as follows:-

Stage One – Expressions of Interest / Selection of Shortlist

- a) Expressions of Interest (EoI) and PQQ invited from architect-led teams
The PQQ will be subject to an independent check by the St Barts and Royal London Hospital Procurement team and in order to proceed further, teams will need to meet the criteria outlined in the PQQ.
- b) Using the ‘Criteria for Selection’ to assess the EoI’s, a shortlist of five will be selected and invited to the design stage of the competition.

Stage Two – Submission and Presentation of Design Concepts

- c) Five teams invited to the design stage, which will involve an organised visit to the site and briefing session
- d) Submission of design proposals, to include cost plan
- e) Final judging will involve an interview with each shortlisted team

Each shortlisted team invited to proceed to the competition phase will receive an equal honorarium of £4,000 + VAT.

Criteria for Selection

The selection panel will be looking for architects with the following skills:-

Stage 1

- Ability to demonstrate creative design and flair (30)
- Experience of designing within a similar context (20)
- Collaborative approach to involving clients and users in the design process (30)
- Response to and compliance with this briefing paper and the PQQ (20)

Stage 2

- Ability to work in partnership with the client team (30)
- Response to brief – demonstrable architectural quality (40)
- Ability to deliver a scheme which meets the clients' expectations and aspirations within the available budget (30)

Jury Panel

The panel is likely to comprise the following:-

Renato Benedetti, McDowell + Benedetti, RIBA Adviser, Chair of the Panel
Anne Mullins, Vital Arts, Barts and The London NHS Trust
Debra Day, Procurement Manager, Barts and The London NHS Trust
Head of Children's Services - tbc
Crispin Walkin Lea, Clinical Advisor, RLCH
Skanska Representative - tbc
HOK representative - tbc

Registration / Documentation Charge

There is a registration / documentation charge of £35 (plus VAT). Upon payment of this charge RIBA Competitions will issue you with a unique registration number, plus a copy of the PQQ document. Only submissions accompanied by the PQQ will be accepted. See the 'How to Register' section of this paper for more information.

Submission Requirements:-

Submissions should comprise:

- 20 page Expression of Interest (EoI) document
- Completed PQQ

Three hard copies of the EoI document and one copy of the PQQ (separate, duly completed copies) must be provided along with an electronic version of all documentation in pdf format on a CD.

Expressions of interest should be submitted on a maximum of 20 single sided A4 pages in total. The information should include the following:

- Full contact details of the architectural practice
- CVs of key people within the architectural practice proposed for this project
- An introduction to the team, reason and motivation for applying
- Details of relevant projects, including images
- Names of proposed consultants ie: quantity surveyors, artists, landscape architects etc.
- Three client referees for the architectural practice (contact details only are required – architects will be notified in advance if references are to be taken up)

Images featured within the submission should be clearly annotated to explain which projects refer to which member of the team. The submission should also identify which projects have involved proposed team members working collaboratively. The distinction should be made between completed projects, on-going projects and competition entries.

The PQQ document is available from RIBA Competitions upon registration.

Please note:

- Only teams responding in accordance with the submission requirements will be considered. The EoI and PQQ must be annotated with the unique registration number which should be placed on the top right hand side of the front cover of each document and the CD.
- Overseas competitors should note that for customs purposes, no commercial value should be assigned to the submission. Failure to do so may result in your submission being delayed and/or returned to you unopened, as the RIBA will not be liable for any charges otherwise incurred.
- Late submissions will not be accepted and it will not be possible to submit entries via e-mail.

Submissions should be submitted to RIBA Competitions to arrive **no later than 2.00pm on Wednesday 15 September 2010.**

Competition Timetable

The timetable, which may be subject to change, is as follows:-

Competition Launch	9 August 2010
Expression of Interest & PQQ Deadline:	2.00pm – 15 September 2010
Selection of Shortlist:	w/c 4 October 2010
Shortlist notified / Stage 2 brief issued	w/c 18 October 2010
Site Visit / Briefing Session	w/c 1 November 2010
Submission of Stage 2 material	2 December 2010
Final Interviews / Presentations	w/c 10 January 2011

Enquiries

The competition is being managed by RIBA Competitions. Any enquiries should be addressed to the RIBA. Members of the jury panel and the client team should not be solicited for information as this may lead to disqualification from the competition.

RIBA Competitions
6 Melbourne Street
Leeds
LS2 7PS
T: ++44 (0) 113 2341335
F: ++44 (0) 113 2460744
riba.competitions@inst.riba.org
www.architecture.com/competitions

How to Register

There is a registration/documentation charge of £35.00 (plus VAT).

Registrations can be made online via the website www.architecture.com/competitions. Please go to the Live Competitions page where you will be required to sign in to make your payment. If you have not used the website before you will need to go through a short sign up process before proceeding to the payment area.

Once your payment has been processed you will automatically receive confirmation of your registration. RIBA Competitions will send your unique registration number and a copy of the PQQ to the e-mail address provided within 2 working days.

For alternative payment methods please contact RIBA Competitions.