



RSUA



#MyBelfastIdea Design Competition for Early Career Architects 2018

Challenge

The RSUA/JP Corry #MyBelfastIdea Design Competition challenges Early Career Architects to react to the fall-out from the devastating fire at Bank Buildings/Primark in Belfast city centre by generating ideas for a temporary intervention or interventions to the built environment which will help attract people to the surrounding area.

The challenge is to develop the ideas over a three week period on the basis that any proposed intervention could be completed on the site within a further 6 week period. Time is the overriding constraint in this ideas competition.

The competition aims to encapsulate the ambition set out in [The Belfast Agenda](#) of a city re-imagined, beautiful, culturally vibrant and a place of innovation and creativity. In particular it seeks to:

- Gather ideas on how to quickly create a place and space that both locals and visitors want to experience – something of beauty, intrigue or inspiration – maybe all three.
- Generate debate and discussion about what interventions will have the best impact on the area
- Explore what role architecture can play in helping to respond to major events like this
- Consider the circular economy for temporary interventions in the built environment – how can elements be designed with re-use, repurposing and recycling in mind
- Unleash and showcase the creative talents of early-career architects from the island of Ireland

In parallel RSUA will seek the public's views on what they want for the area and beyond via social media using #MyBelfastIdea. This is open to anyone including architects at any stage of their career. Architecture students will be encouraged to participate.

Eligibility

This competition is open to early career architects either living or born on the island of Ireland.

‘Early career architect’ is being defined as any architect who has been actively in work as an architect for less than 15 years. This is in recognition that for many people, especially women, the journey after qualifying as an architect is not a straight run of employment without any interruptions.

The competition is open to early career architects working in all sectors not just those in private practice. Early career architects can collaborate with each other to enter the competition.

Brief

As this competition is focused on supporting creativity and imagination we have aimed to keep the brief very open.

The intervention(s) should be designed on the basis of...

- **Goal:** Drive footfall to the area, encourage dwell time and create a distinctive Belfast experience
- **Delivery timeframe:** Your project must be deliverable within six weeks after submission of concept. You are to presume for the purposes of the competition that a full design and construction team are already appointed and ready to start.
- **Budget:** You are to propose a budget and justify how it delivers value for money considering the short timeframe allowed for delivery and its temporary nature.
- **Location:** Royal Avenue, Belfast. From junction with North Street to junction with High Street (See map below)
- **Temporary:** The intervention(s) should be designed to be in place for 3 months from 30th November
- **Circular economy:** How will the elements of your intervention(s) be re-used, repurposed or recycled when no longer needed in Royal Avenue
- **Practicalities:** Your design should take account of the weather at this time of year, the risk of injury, the risk of vandalism and minimising disruption during the delivery phase. For the purposes of this competition you should work on the assumption that the cordon will be reduced by 30th November to allow some degree of pedestrian flow from Royal Avenue into Donegall Place.

Location

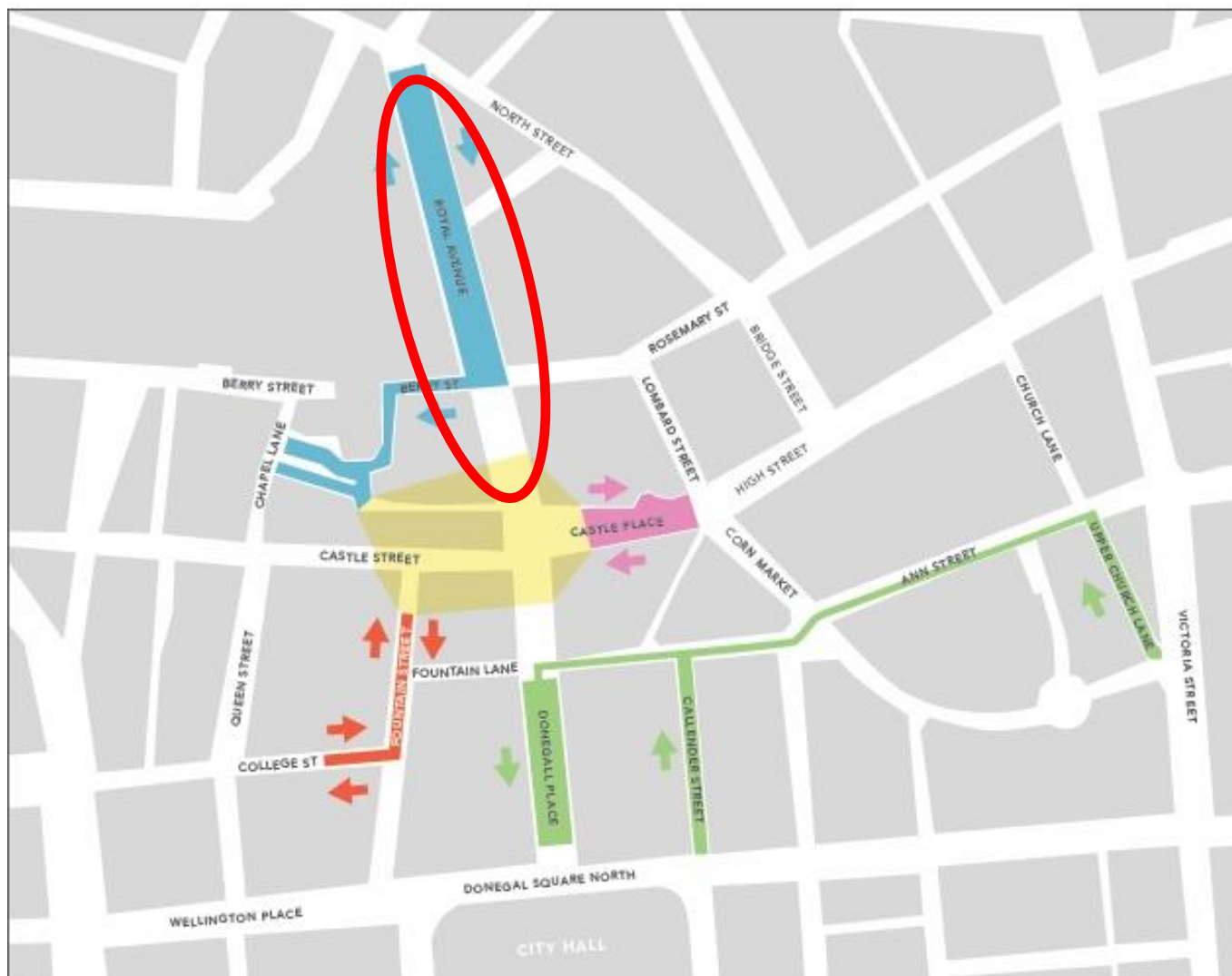


Image courtesy of the Department for Infrastructure

Submission

To enter the competition you must submit your concept design and provide a written statement as follows:

1. **Visual** - Submit a range of images/drawings to best convey your idea/concept for an intervention(s) that meets the brief.
2. **Explain** - In less than 1,500 words propose:
 - a name for your project
 - how your project will meet the brief
3. **Display** – Identify a lead image plus two supporting images for display at the showcase and provide a 100 word summary of your proposal.

Competition Timeline

The competition is being run on a tight timetable as follows:

- 20th September 2018 – competition launch
- 12th October 2018 – submission deadline
- 19th October 2018 – Architecture Night 2018 (showcase of entrants and announcement of winner) Competition entrants ticket reduced to £20.

Judging

The judging panel is to consist of:

- Architects from the [RSUA Peer-Approved Design Quality Panel](#) created in 2018
- A representative from JP Corry
- A representative from RIAI
- Other stakeholders

Prize

The winner will win a luxury trip to Paris for two with a value of £1,000 courtesy of JP Corry. All entrants will be showcased at Architecture Night and through the media.

Registration

To register, please email Julia Leaker (Julia@rsua.org.uk). You will be issued with a unique registration number.