

Overview

The BID Fort William is commissioning a mural on the gable end of [129 High Street](#), a prominent wall that faces one of the main entry points to the town centre. This mural will serve as a welcoming landmark, reflecting the town's identity and encouraging footfall along the High Street.



Project Aims

- Design and deliver a visually impactful mural that **captures the character and spirit of Fort William**. The artwork should contribute positively to the local environment without creating visual distraction for passing traffic.
- Enhance the **town centre environment** and support the local economy by increasing dwell time and foot traffic.
- Celebrate **local identity, history, culture, or natural surroundings** in a way that resonates with both residents and visitors.

Wall Details

- **Location:** Gable wall of Chalmers, 129 High Street, Fort William.
- **Visibility:** Highly prominent at the entrance to the pedestrian High Street.
- **Surface:** Rendered masonry (to be cleaned and prepped before painting).
- **Access:** Via scaffolding or mobile platform (to be arranged).

What We're Looking For

We are seeking proposals from professional artists (individuals or collectives) with:

- A strong mural or public art portfolio.
- Experience working at scale.
- Ability to deliver a high-quality piece that engages a broad audience.

We welcome bold, vibrant concepts that:

- Are **culturally sensitive and inclusive**
- Avoid overt commercial, political, or religious messaging
- Are **original**, rooted in place, and visually cohesive from a distance

Scope of Work

- Develop an initial concept and final design.
- Liaise with Project Manager on design approvals and feedback.
- Deliver the mural on-site within agreed timescales.
- Provide recommendations for long-term care (e.g. protective coating).

Budget

Please include a detailed breakdown of all costs in your proposal, including artist fees, materials, equipment, and any other relevant expenses. This financial information will form part of our external funding applications. The project is being led and part-funded by BID Fort William, with additional external funding currently being sought to support delivery.

Project Timeline & Process

The proposed timeline for this mural project is as follows:

- **Application period:** Open until **30 September 2025**. Artists are invited to submit proposals that include concept, costings, and relevant experience.
- **Consultation phase:** October 2025. Shortlisted proposals will be subject to consultation with key stakeholders, including local businesses, community, the local authority, the property owner and tenant, and the BID Fort William Board.
- **Selection & decision:** Final decision will be made by the BID Fort William Board in November, taking into account community feedback, feasibility, and fit with project aims.

- **Funding applications:** November–December 2025. Once a final artist is appointed, BID Fort William Project Manager will submit funding applications to external bodies to support delivery. This process typically takes **6–12 weeks**, depending on the funder.
- **Projected start date:** Subject to funding, the project is expected to commence in **spring 2026** subject to funding.

To Apply

Please submit to manager@bidfortwilliam.co.uk by **30 September 2025**:

- A short proposal (max 2 pages) including your concept idea, approach, and any links to your past work.
- A draft visual or moodboard (optional but encouraged).
- Artist CV or bio.
- Your estimated fee and breakdown of costs.