

Resource Sheet 3:

The Observatory Design Criteria Planning Grid

Think about the vision and objectives for The Observatory Project. What design criteria would you set for designers for the Observatory structure to help achieve the project aims? Think about the project **concept**, the intended **audience** groups, **materials** and the **sites** that the design will need to respond to.

Below are some of the key questions that designers were asked to answer through the Observatory design competition brief. Are their other questions that the designers should respond to – add your own questions, then see if you can set some clear design criteria to help the designers to answer these questions. An example is given in each of the

	Key Question/s	Proposed Design Criteria
CONCEPT	What is an Observatory? What does 'Look in – Look out' mean to the artist and audiences? How will the Observatory encourage people to look at the landscape and question what they can see? How will the Observatory act as a beacon?	1) The design must allow for views of the landscape. 2)
AUDIENCE	Who is the Observatory for? What sort of environment will the artist need in order to work and display their artwork? How will the Observatory allow for both private and public space?	Appropriate and flexible working space(s) that can accommodate Artists working in a range of media e.g. writer, sculptor, film maker, painter etc 2)



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How will the Observatory be mayed between	
How will the Observatory be moved between locations?	1) The structure has to fit on the back of a flat bed lorry.
How will the Observatory cope in different locations/weather?	2)
How will the landscape in each location be protected?	
	3)
What kind of materials will make the Observatory sturdy enough to cope in different locations / weather conditions?	1) The structure must be robust and withstand the environment and the possibility of vandalism.
What materials can be afforded within the budget of £50,000?	2)
How will the choice of materials be sensitive to the landscape?	2)
	3)
	How will the Observatory cope in different locations/weather? How will the landscape in each location be protected? What kind of materials will make the Observatory sturdy enough to cope in different locations / weather conditions? What materials can be afforded within the budget of £50,000? How will the choice of materials be sensitive to the