



NEWSUBSTANCE



Guitar Park - COOP Live Stadium

Design & Access Statement

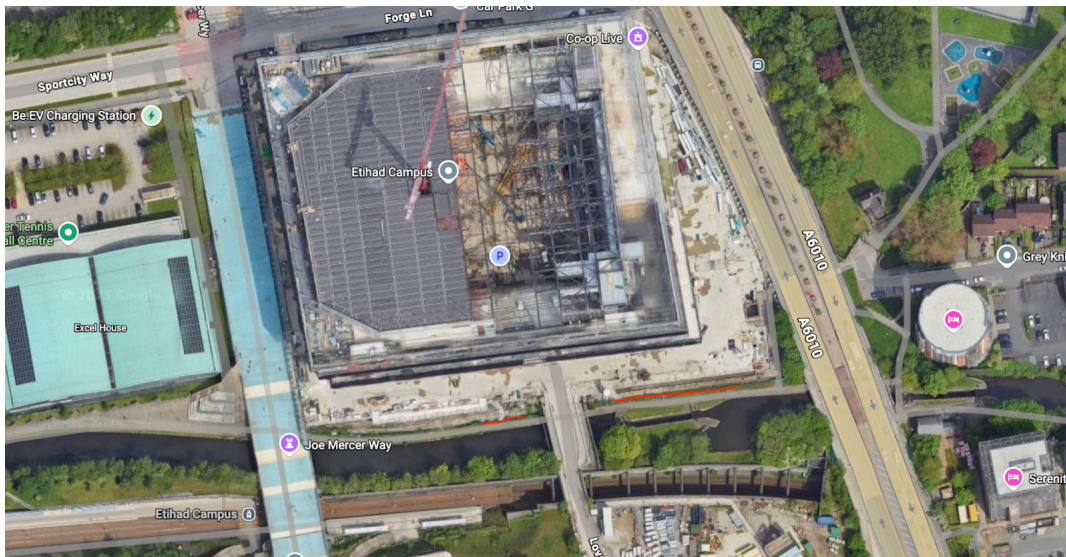
June 2025

Purpose

As part of ongoing works to build upon the success of the Co-op Live arena complex and further activate the outdoor spaces, the proposed addition of a series of sculptural guitars, representing key musical artists is proposed. The purpose of these installations is to both celebrate musical icons linked to the venue, and provide general beautification of and generate visitor interest in an otherwise under utilised area of land in the immediate vicinity of the venue's courtyard and outdoor areas.

By day, the structures serve as eye-catching engagements that draw attention to the venue and invite curiosity from passersby, encouraging greater engagement with the local music scene. At night, they transform with illumination, adding atmosphere and excitement to the area while improving visibility and safety along the canal. Whether it's a family strolling by during the day or concertgoers arriving after dark, these installations help create a dynamic, music-inspired space that's active, inviting, and inclusive around the clock.

This Design and Access Statement has been prepared by NEWSUBSTANCE for the installation of eight sculptural works which make up the "Guitar Park", located in immediate vicinity to the venue's courtyard and outdoor programmable spaces along the canal path corridor.

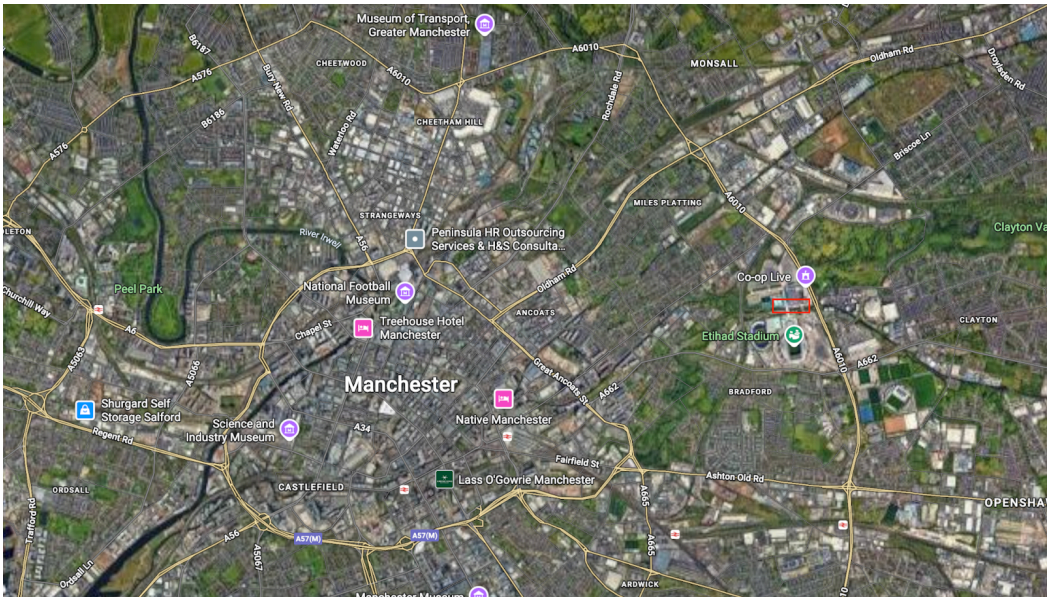


This Planning Application will provision the eventual erection of a series eight artist specific guitar sculptures based on a common design language, materiality, size, shape, style and height. Further details can be found below from the first series of three guitars to be installed from August 2025. The purpose of this document is to explain the primary design principles and overall design approach to the sculptures and discuss elements relating to Location, Siting, Scale, Access and Ecology.

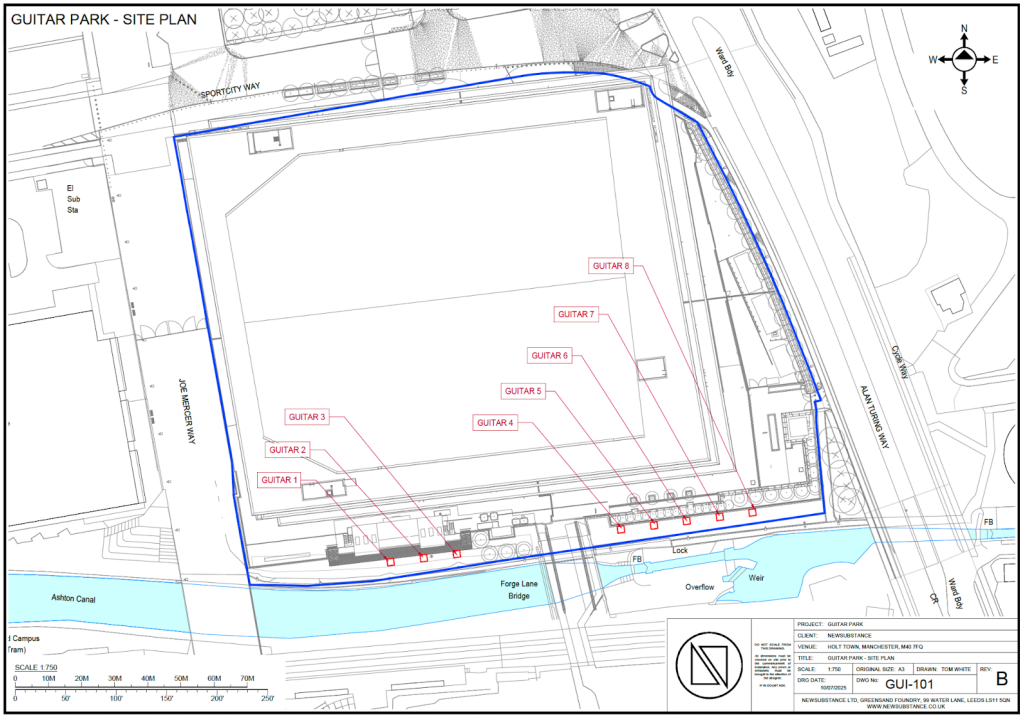
Eight installations will be added to the grass bank along the canal path. For a General Arrangement plan please see document GUI-101 - GUITAR PARK - SITE PLAN. For details of each installation please refer to the following table:

Site	Installation	Title	Easting, Northing (approx)	W3W (approx)	Drawing Number
A	GUI_01	Guitar 01	386803 , 398795	crop.horn.belts	NS2515_02_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
A	GUI_02	Guitar 02	386823 , 398797	priced.else.crisis	NS2515_03_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
A	GUI_03	Guitar 03	386879 , 398809	rate.towers.remedy	NS2515_01_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
B	GUI_04	Guitar 04	386883 , 398810	finds.always.voter	NS2515_04_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
B	GUI_05	Guitar 05	386890 , 398811	wheels.slowly.heavy	NS2515_04_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
B	GUI_06	Guitar 06	386900 , 398812	sheets.cycles.falls	NS2515_04_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
B	GUI_07	Guitar 07	386910 , 398814	trim.range.lights	NS2515_04_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A
B	GUI_08	Guitar 08	386916 , 398815	begins.scrap.chose	NS2515_04_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A

The Location



Indicative location of the Site



Site Plan

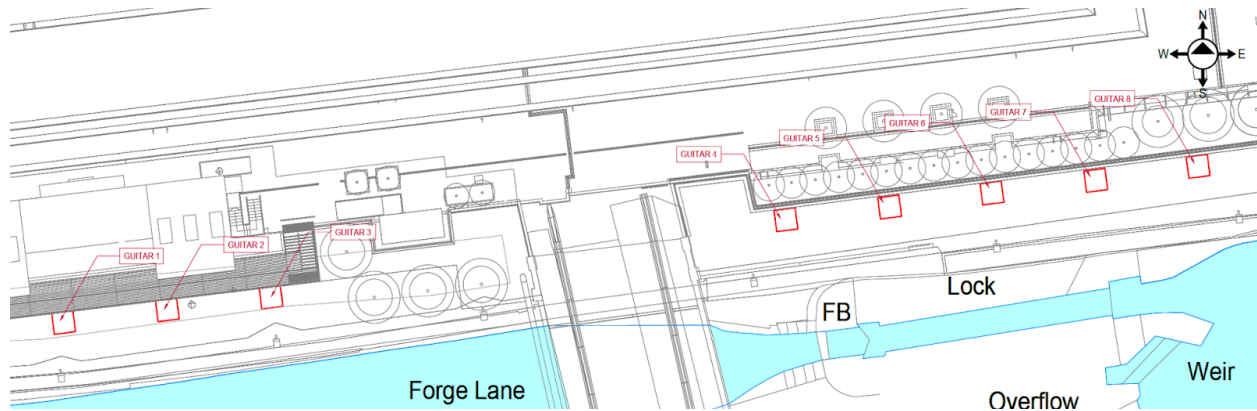
The new installations will be located in various sites alongside the canal path which is located just outside the Coop Live venue. Detailed plans are attached to this application detailing the location of each installation and their relative location to each other.

Amount

Site	Installation	Title	Location
A	GUI_01	Guitar 01	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
A	GUI_02	Guitar 02	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
A	GUI_03	Guitar 03	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
Site	Installation	Location	
B	GUI_04	Guitar 04	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
B	GUI_05	Guitar 05	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
B	GUI_06	Guitar 06	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
B	GUI_07	Guitar 07	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.
B	GUI_08	Guitar 08	On the canal path, on the venue side of the canal, outside the COOP live venue between Joe Mecer way and Alan Turing way.

See drawing GUI-101_REVB_GUITAR PARK_SITE PLAN for further information on these locations.

The Proposal



Proposed Installation Locations

The design principle carried throughout the installation along a footpath adjacent to the COOP live venue is based around strong geometric shapes defined by clean lines and coloured edge details achieved via lighting.

This methodology provides a bold yet light-hearted contrast against the surrounding architecture along the path be that concrete, or softer natural features of grass verges and tree lines.

Wherever possible the intention is to connect the public to the nearby venue and to spark the idea of music and celebrate the artists that have performed at the venue

General Design Principles

Structures shall be designed and assessed to the following applicable standards - Principally;

- Eurocode 0: Basis of structural design (EN 1990)
- Eurocode 1: Actions on structures (EN 1991)
- Eurocode 3: Design of steel structures (EN 1993)
- Eurocode 7: Geotechnical design (EN 1997)
- Eurocode 9: Design of aluminium structures (EN 1999)

As detailed in EN 1990 core structural elements should be designed with an indicative design working life as shown:

Table 2.1 - Indicative design working life

Design working life category	Indicative design working life (years)	Examples
1	10	Temporary structures ⁽¹⁾
2	10 to 25	Replaceable structural parts, e.g. gantry girders, bearings
3	15 to 30	Agricultural and similar structures
4	50	Building structures and other common structures
5	100	Monumental building structures, bridges, and other civil engineering structures
(1) Structures or parts of structures that can be dismantled with a view to being re-used should not be considered as temporary.		

To achieve an adequately durable structure, the following will be taken into account during detailed technical design and structural analysis:

- The intended or foreseeable use of the structure
- The required design criteria
- The expected environmental conditions
- The composition, properties and performance of the materials and products
- The properties of the soil
- The choice of the structural system
- The shape of members and the structural detailing
- The quality of workmanship, and the level of control
- The particular protective measures
- The intended maintenance during the design working life
- Human behaviour factors

Design Intent

The sculptures are designed to actively engage the public and celebrate the cultural significance of the venue. They are configured to respond dynamically to environmental conditions—such as changes in light and weather—resulting in a continuously evolving visual experience. Their scale and form are carefully considered to promote public interaction through spatial exploration and tactile engagement, while also meeting functional and safety requirements.

Material and fabrication choices have been made to meet performance requirements related to durability, quality, safety, and maintenance. All materials are selected for their resistance to corrosion, weather exposure, and environmental wear, ensuring long-term performance. Public safety is addressed through the use of smooth, non-injurious surfaces and structurally robust detailing that complies with applicable standards. Surface treatments are specified to resist graffiti and facilitate cleaning, while anti-vandalism measures are integrated into the design to reduce the risk of intentional damage.

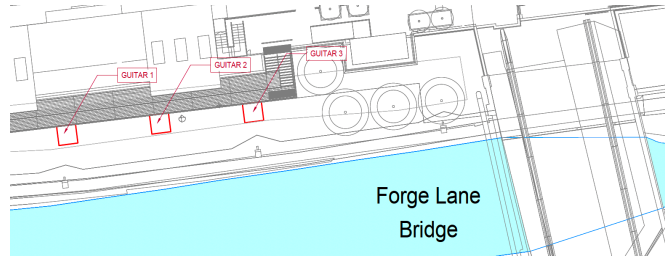
Detailed designs are available for guitar reference GUITAR 01, GUITAR 02, and GUITAR 03. Further design development is ongoing for the other 5no. guitars (with references GUITAR 04, GUITAR 05, and GUITAR 06, GUITAR 07, GUITAR 08) in line with the parameters set on drawing NS2515_04_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A, and their detailed design will be submitted to the Local Planning Authority for approval by way of a Planning Condition.



Render of the Initial three guitars

Proposed locations:

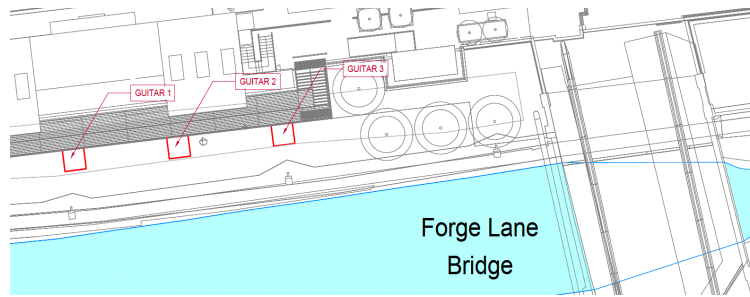
On the following pages are the image refs of the first three guitars that have been designed and their locations as per the site plan.



Guitar 1 - Bruce Springsteen

Drawing REF: NS2515_02_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A

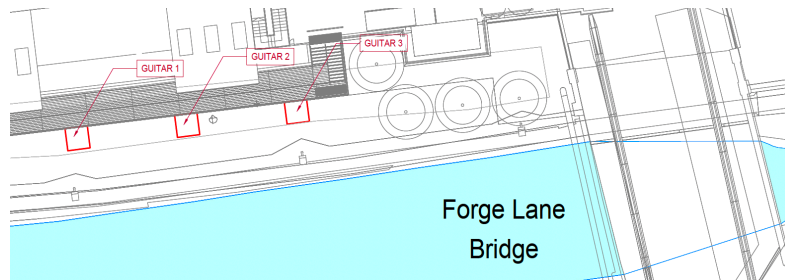




Guitar 2 - Liam Gallagher -

Drawing REF: NS2515_03_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A





Guitar 3 - Billie Eilish

Drawing REF: NS2515_01_CONSTRUCTION_DETAIL_REV_A



Siting

- The programme has been designed with accessibility in mind - each of the installations is located in a manner which allows for access for all.
 - Plinths and bases will be installed below ground level meaning that where an installation is designed to be approachable, flat, level access has been designed into the offering
 - Some elements are designed to be viewed from a distance
 - Where installations are located on uneven ground (i.e. grass) and are designed to be approached, level bases and shallow gradients will be provided to allow for access to those unable to climb steps.
- The route makes use of existing areas which surround or form part of the pathway / verge / grassed area, requiring limited clearance of trees, shrubs or ground fauna is required
- Works will include the reinstatement of the verge / grassed area and inclusion of wild flower seeding where required.
- Installations are visible from outside of the boundary of the project and where they are, the overall visual impact is limited.
- All installations have been designed to be viewed from the existing walking path, adjacent campus and co-op live buildings and grounds
- Installations have been distributed along the pathway to provide continued interest along the user journey from start to finish
- Installations are designed such that in almost all locations the next installation is visible, leading the pedestrian traffic forwards and avoiding bottlenecks
- Installations have been positioned away from the pathway / canal edge as far as reasonably practicable to ensure there is no restriction to the pathway capacity and sufficient space for viewing the installations

Lighting

The following table shows a breakdown of each installation, along with if it contains any architectural lighting.

Reference	Name	Location	W3W (approx)	Lighting
GUI_01	Guitar 01	See site plan	crop.horn.belts	Yes
GUI_02	Guitar 02	See site plan	priced.else.crisis	Yes
GUI_03	Guitar 03	See site plan	rate.towers.remedy	Yes
GUI_04	Guitar 04	See site plan	finds.always.voter	Yes
GUI_05	Guitar 05	See site plan	wheels.slowly.heavy	Yes
GUI_06	Guitar 06	See site plan	sheets.cycles.falls	Yes
GUI_07	Guitar 07	See site plan	trim.range.lights	Yes
GUI_08	Guitar 08	See site plan	begins.scrap.chose	Yes

All the sculptures which include lighting, will be supplied with a Pharos architectural lighting controller that can be managed, operated and integrated within the venue's content management system.

This system has the ability to run playback of pre-programmed states either on a regular schedule or to be programmed on an ad-hoc basis. The system will be fitted with an ambient light sensor allowing real-time adjustment in response to local conditions and to minimise energy consumption

General lighting activation is expected to follow the default schedule as follows:

Lighting Start	Lighting End
16.00	23.59

However it is expected that the timings of use will vary according to the schedule of events in the Etihad Campus including Co-op Live events, match days, other sporting events in MCC venues, and community engagement events.

All of the features are supplied with remote access, allowing lighting to be altered in response to any issues identified by any stakeholders.

Scale

Site	Installation	Easting, Northing (approx)	Height (mm)	Base (mm)	Footprint (mm)	Construction
A	GUI_01	386803 , 398795	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
A	GUI_02	386823 , 398797	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
B	GUI_03	386879 , 398809	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
B	GUI_04	386883 , 398810	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
B	GUI_05	386890 , 398811	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
B	GUI_06	386900 , 398812	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
B	GUI_07	386910 , 398814	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements
B	GUI_08	386916 , 398815	4300	1500 x 1500	1800 x 1600	Fabricated steel construction of steel plate and a CHS central column. And sculptural elements

Further information about each artwork can be found in the supporting documents and drawing.

Access

Access to the guitar park is via the existing pedestrian access route along the canal side footpath, and can be accessed from adjoining pathways from both the Alan Turing and Joe Mercer Ways, that connect to the venue courtyard area.

During the proposed construction phase materials and machinery will be transported to the site via suitable vehicles (and carried, by hand, where required) using the existing road and footpath access routes. For further information please refer to the Logistics Plan.

Where vehicle or material movements along or alongside the pedestrian walkways are required, suitable planning, pedestrian protections, risk assessments and approvals will be sought from the council.

Ecology

The client has instructed relevant ecological and habitat surveys to be carried out as part of wider development plans to the adjacent courtyard areas. The results of these are appended to this document.

The area proposed has not been classified with any legally restricting designations such as Sites of Special Scientific Interest.

Landscaping

After the installation of the sculptures is complete, topsoil and seed will be added around the sculptures to enhance the visual appeal and integration of the artworks within their surroundings. This will ensure easy maintenance, long-term sustainability and harmony with the overall aesthetic of the venue.

Design Evaluation

GUI_01 GUITAR 01	
	

Name:	GUI_01 Guitar 01	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground electrical mains connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impact
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_02 GUITAR 02	
	

Name:	GUI_02 Guitar 02	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground electrical mains connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impact
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_03 GUITAR 03	
	

Name:	GUI_03 GUITAR 03	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground mains electrical connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impact
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_04 GUITAR 04	
	

Name:	GUI_04 GUITAR 04	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground mains electrical connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impact
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_05 GUITAR 05	
	

Name:	GUI_05 GUITAR 05	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground mains electrical connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impact
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_06 GUITAR 06	
	

Name:	GUI_06 GUITAR 06	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground mains electrical connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impact
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_07 GUITAR 07	
	

Name:	GUI_07 GUITAR 07	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground mains electrical connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impacts
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

GUI_08 GUITAR 08	
	

Name:	GUI_07 GUITAR 08	
Anchoring:	Below ground reinforced Concrete pad foundation with captive bolt cage to installation	
Fuel/Power:	Below ground mains electrical connection	
Impacts:	Landscape	No perceived negative alteration to landscape
	Ecology	No impact on canal adjacent; potential for slight increase in ambient light level
	Archeology	No perceived impacts
	Buildings	No impact on nearby venue COOP LIVE

Conclusion

- The installations will connect the venue COOP LIVE with communities, creating shared moments of wonder and joy as families and friends explore the canal path along the public footpath.
- The eight installed elements will work together to create moments for all whilst visiting the COOP live venue or surrounding areas
- Little to no impact on the existing footpath, with minimal ecological impact.
- Accessibility has been considered at the design and installation stage.
- Construction programming has considered all elements of the safe delivery of the project with details of the Logistics planning to be found in the attached Logistics Plan document.