

Heritage Plaque Maker

Design Commission

Deadline: 8 March 2026



HAVERING LONDON

About the project

Our Stories celebrates Havering's diverse heritage through the voices of local practitioners and communities. We are gathering 20 community stories, histories and memories that reveal the heart of our borough - its people, places, and connectedness.

Now we're bringing these stories into the public realm through a series of **20 heritage plaques** installed across Havering, each featuring a QR code that connects passers-by to our digital map of local heritage and the diverse stories behind them.

We're seeking an artist/designer/maker to design and produce all 20 plaques.

The Commission

What We Need

One unified plaque design with 20 unique versions (QR code and title variable) that will be replicated across all 20 community stories.

Each plaque must include:

- 'Our Stories' project title
- Individual story title
- 25-word story text
- QR code (scannable by the public)

Technical Requirements

- Weatherproof materials suitable for UK weather conditions
- Outdoor installation - plaques will be mounted outside (e.g. walls, lampposts, fences) across Havering

- Size: Must be large enough for QR codes to be easily scanned by the public
- Durable and vandal-resistant for long-term public display
- Material choice: Open - you propose what works best (metal, composite, ceramic, etc.)

Quantity & Delivery

20 plaques total, delivered in 4 phases of 5 plaques each:

Phase 1: 5 plaques - delivered by June 2026

Phase 2: 5 plaques - delivered by September 2026

Phase 3: 5 plaques - delivered by November 2026

Phase 4: 5 plaques - delivered by February 2027

Budget

£5,000 total fee (inc VAT) covering:

- Design development and template creation
- All materials
- Production of all 20 plaques
- Delivery of plaques in 4 batches (5 plaques per phase)

Note: Installation will be arranged separately by Havering London

Who are we looking for?

We are looking for an artist who has experience producing multiple works, creating pieces for public spaces, and working with durable, weather-resistant materials suitable for outdoor installation.

You should have strong design skills, with good attention to detail and clear, legible outcomes, and be able to work to agreed production timelines, including phased delivery where needed. Experience with heritage or commemorative projects is welcome, as is an understanding of inclusive and accessible design. Familiarity with QR codes, including basic sizing and placement requirements, and previous experience installing work in public spaces would also be an advantage.

What Matters to Us

- Reliability and ability to meet deadlines across multiple phases
- Quality craftsmanship and attention to detail
- Thoughtful, considered design that honours community stories
- Clear communication and project management skills
- Understanding that these plaques represent real people's stories and heritage

Timeline

Application deadline: 8 March 2026 23:59 GMT

Artist appointment: April 2026

Design development: April - May 2026

Production begins: May 2026

Delivery Schedule

- Phase 1: 5 plaques delivered by June 2026
- Phase 2: 5 plaques delivered by September 2026
- Phase 3: 5 plaques delivered by November 2026
- Phase 4: 5 plaques delivered by February 2027

How to apply

Please upload the following documents via [typeform](#). If you need support please contact nompumelelo@haveringlondon.com

1. CV

2. Portfolio

Examples of previous work (PDF or links), that might include:

- Projects created in series or quantity
- Examples showing craftsmanship and durability
- Any heritage or commemorative work

3. Brief Outline of Approach

Tell us:

- Your proposed method and materials
- How you'll ensure weatherproofing and durability
- Your approach to making QR codes scannable and accessible
- How your design will honour community stories

4. Budget Breakdown

Detailed breakdown of the £5,000 fee across:

- Fee
- Materials & production costs
- Delivery costs

About Our Stories

Our Stories is part of 'A Good Life', Havering's cultural strategy (2025-2028). Through gathering and celebrating community stories, we're creating a map of local heritage narrated by residents themselves - preserving memories, honouring experiences, and connecting people to place. The project is about Havering's unearthed heritage programme. These 20 plaques will mark significant stories across Havering, inviting the public to discover the hidden histories and personal narratives that make our borough unique. Each QR code links to our digital heritage map where people can explore the full stories and discover others nearby.

About Havering London

Havering London is a new cultural placemaking organisation, coordinating a public, private, and voluntary sector partnership of strategic organisations and community representatives. We believe in the transformative impact that culture can have on a place, working in new ways with different communities across a changing borough.

Our Stories is part of 'A Good Life', Havering's new 3-year legacy driven cultural strategy (2025-2028) - a transformational approach to the long-term wellbeing of Havering's residents. Through empowering communities, nurturing social connectivity, addressing inequality, and building a sustainable creative ecology, we're creating culture for everyone.

Our Values:

- Relentlessly Optimistic
- Genuinely everyone
- Rigorously creative
- Authentically caring
- Harnessing momentum