



National  
Trust



## Invitation to Tender: Knole Story Sack Project

### Project:

Knole National Trust are seeking proposals from designers, companies or writers for an immersive story sack resource to be used by families directed at an under 5 audience.

The Knole story sack will be a bespoke story written about Knole to engage with our under 5 audience. This immersive story sack should include resources to enable the story to come to life.

The resource should be easily transportable and packable to enable us to move this around our site. A story mat/ rug should be included to promote the immersive experience as well as accompanied with interactive elements.

Queries relating to the Invitation to tender should be addressed in writing by email to: Community Engagement Officer, Jennifer Whiteoak, National Trust, Knole, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 0RP. E-mail- [Jennifer.whiteoak@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Jennifer.whiteoak@nationaltrust.org.uk)

Tender responses to be submitted by post or email by the **20<sup>th</sup> of May 2018**.

Completion of this project and delivery should be on site for **August/ September 2018**.

### Background

Knole is considered to be one of the great noble houses of England and its story spanning over 500 years also makes it one of the most extraordinary. Surrounded by a medieval deer park, Knole is vast in scale. Its remarkable complex of stone ranges around seven courts which, with its turrets and gables has been likened to a medieval town, covers an area of four acres. Though its size suggests long organic growth, it remains largely as it was by about 1610, built by archbishops of Canterbury in the later 15th and early 16th century and dramatically recast by Thomas Sackville (1536-1608), 1st Earl of Dorset, in a few astonishing years from 1605 to 1608. The Sackville family has lived here ever since, with the National Trust accepting ownership and responsibility for its care in 1946. It is physically the largest private home in England and the only one of its scale to remain, retaining all of its accretions and preserving substantial medieval elements.

Knole Park is made up of many different areas. There's acidic grassland, parkland, woodland and ponds. Each is home to a range of flora and fungi as well as a clutch of rare invertebrates. The park has consequently become a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) for invertebrates - bugs - that feed on decaying wood. The park land is fortunate to be home to a 350 strong deer herd of which 80% are fallow deer and the remainder Japanese Sika deer. Sika deer were introduced into the park in the 1860s when it was 'fashionable' for stately homes to have these ornamental deer.

## **Context**

Story sacks can help to make reading meaningful and fun which stimulates language development and communication.

Knole is seeking a designer or writer to interpret this brief and produce an engaging story relating to Knole. The designer in discussion with Knole staff will create a story befitting of Knole's history and parkland. Site visits are encouraged during this development period.

## **What we are looking for:**

- A bespoke storybook written about Knole.
- An immersive opportunity for storytelling with interactive resources included.
- Engaging all senses with sound, smell and sight.
- Instructions to allow this story sack to be self-led by families or a Knole facilitator.
- An imaginative and playful story written and created by the designer or writer.
- Transportable packaging which also fits with Knole's spirit of place.
- Washable and safe resources.
- An element of dress up/ costume to bring the story to life.
- Activities designed to relate to the story.
- Spare items included.
- Consider access, health and safety and safeguarding requirements appropriately for under 5s play.

## **Submission to Tender**

Please submit:

- Images of relevant previous work- stories books or resources created.
- A programme and budget breakdown- Please supply timeline of check in's with Community Engagement Officer.

to: [Jennifer.Whiteoak@nationaltrust.org.uk](mailto:Jennifer.Whiteoak@nationaltrust.org.uk)

## **Budget**

The total budget for the Knole Story Sack Project is **£5,000**. This includes all fees, production and delivery cost. With submission a breakdown of expected costs should also be submitted.

## **Copyright**

The National Trust will retain full copyright over information, reports, plans, and designs and shall have absolute control over the use and/or dissemination of that information and may not be published in any form without NT consent. The National Trust will not unreasonably withhold such consent.

**Health and Safety**

The consultant will take sole responsibility for observing all current legal requirements concerning their or their employees' health and safety. The contractor will supply the National Trust with a copy of their health and safety policy on submission of their quotation.

**Form of Contract**

The design consultant will be asked to enter into a "goods and services below £100k contract".

**Contact details:**

Community Engagement Officer

Jennifer Whiteoak

Knole

Sevenoaks,

Kent

Telephone: 01732 467170

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