

Option 1



This design is the WWII Memorial Bench which matches the design of our Holocaust Memorial Lectern.

Option 2



If Council would prefer for the bench to convey a message of peace without the imagery of war as depicted in the previous design, the above design would tie in with the dove image included on the lectern.

Option 3

This option is not for a bench, but is for artwork we could install in the park. The concept has been designed for the train station, which is not what was requested, but could be altered for installation into Kensington Gardens instead.



Kindertransport commemorative artwork concept for Lowestoft Station

As discussed on the phone, having given the initial idea of a memorial bench with laser cut figures some serious thought and looked into the history and stories of the kindertransport and those who came to Lowestoft, I have developed an alternative concept for an artwork that will draw poignantly and sensitively on this period of history, providing a sense of story and a link to the personal stories and location.

My proposal is to create a number of children's suitcases in metal to be positioned in a few choice locations around the station. Each suitcase would have a metal luggage tag that would have the name of the city a refugee child came from and Lowestoft as the destination. Through these luggage tags, we create a link to the personal stories of the individuals who came to Lowestoft as children. We could also include a metal (ideally Bronze) teddy bear against one of the suitcases as this conjures powerful connotations of childhood and vulnerability. The suitcases would be made either of galvanised steel (which has an old-lead look to it) or in bronze if budget allows (which would allow for a selection a patinas).

If you are particularly keen to include a bench, rather than laser cut silhouettes (which, as discussed, I don't feel translate well into an iconic or easily understandable image in the same way that the commonly seen Tommy figure does), I propose a simple or minimalist bench design, for example an all metal bench made to a design of the appropriate era, with a metal suitcase and the cast bronze child's teddy bear sitting at the end of the bench. As a central point to explain the history/artwork, I would recommend a plaque or signboard.

A signboard with images of the original Lowestoft journal news articles could sit alongside other signboards currently at the station that outline the history and heritage. Alternatively, if a bench is included, a plaque could be placed on the bench as a central point of the sculptural work. I feel that with such a sensitive subject, this less direct but thought-provoking artwork would be well received and impactful.

With regards to costings for this project, I would need to fully cost up depending on the options that are of interest (materials, bench inclusion, number of suitcases etc). I am used to working within a budget and so can adapt the finished piece to fit within your available budget. To give an indication, I could produce the work within a budget range of £2 - 5k, though if the preference is for bronze suitcases that price might rise.