

My Time Aberdeenshire

Cultural Activities
for Carers Aged 50+

Creative Practitioner

Application Pack

Join Our
Team!

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1. Background

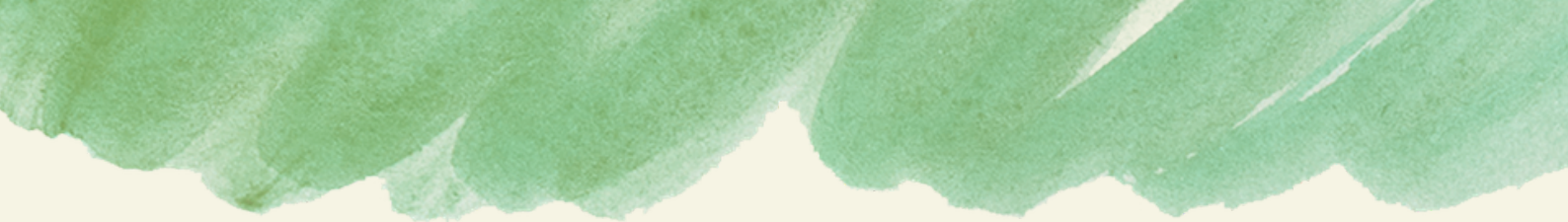
Live Life Aberdeenshire Arts Team is seeking two freelance Creative Practitioners for My Time Aberdeenshire, a creative wellbeing programme for unpaid carers aged 50+ across Aberdeenshire.

Following a successful pilot in summer 2025, a second pilot phase will run from December 2026 to March 2027. During this phase, carers will be able to take part in creative and cultural activities designed around their needs. The pilot will help us better understand how people engage during the winter months and explore whether a different delivery approach can help us reach and support more carers.

We are seeking Creative Practitioners with experience in community-based or participatory arts to develop and deliver high quality, accessible creative activities. The activities will be informed by unpaid carers and take place in community settings across Aberdeenshire, as well as online and as self-directed at-home activities.

The role will be supported by a Project Coordinator who will lead of project logistics and the Cultural Development Officer who holds overall responsibility for the programme.





2. Context & Vision

There are 24,785 unpaid carers in Aberdeenshire, with 64% aged 50 or over. The number of older residents is expected to grow significantly over the coming years, increasing the demand for care and in turn, the number of unpaid carers. While caring can be rewarding, many carers experience challenges to their own health and wellbeing, including stress, exhaustion, poor mental health, loneliness, and fewer opportunities to participate in community life.

My Time Aberdeenshire provides opportunities for carers to take time for themselves, connect with others and improve their wellbeing through creative and cultural activities.

This second phase of the programme will run from December 2026 to March 2027, building on learning from the first phase. Two artists will deliver twice-monthly in-person sessions, one in North Aberdeenshire and one in Central and South Aberdeenshire. We will explore how seasonal factors affect participation and test a relationship-based approach, with the same artists working with carers throughout the programme. This will help us understand whether familiarity and continuity help build trust, encourage repeat attendance, and support sustained engagement from a wider range of carers.

Activities will also include monthly online sessions, and a range of flexible at-home creative opportunities. Artists will use a range of creative approaches and adapt activities to participants' interests, confidence levels and needs, helping carers take part in ways that work best for them.

The programme aims to:

- Meet the unique needs of unpaid carers aged 50+ living in Aberdeenshire
- Improve mental health and wellbeing
- Reduce loneliness
- Strengthen connections between services and communities



To achieve this, the programme will:

- Offer a mix of in-person, online, and at-home activities
- Be informed by carers, including previous participants
- Be delivered in partnership with VSA, Aberdeenshire Health & Social Care Partnership (AHSCP), libraries, and health and wellbeing services
- Provide accessible and flexible activities suitable for a range of needs and confidence levels.

The programme aligns with Aberdeenshire Council priorities, the Aberdeenshire Adult Carer Strategy (2025-30), and the Aberdeenshire Council Cultural Strategy.

3. Role

We are seeking Creative Practitioners with at least three years' experience in community engagement, participatory arts, socially engaged practice, or equivalent.

You may have experience as a creative practitioner, writer, or artist, or another similar role delivering creative workshops.

Responsibilities

The Creative Practitioners will:

- Familiarise themselves with learning from the first pilot phase
- Foster welcoming, inclusive environments to deliver activities
- Using feedback from unpaid carers - design and deliver accessible, high-quality in-person, online and independent at home activities
- Work in partnership with relevant teams and organisations
- Monitor and report on project aims, outcomes and impacts using agreed evaluation framework
- Collaborate on marketing and communications
- Contribute to the final project report
- Ensure good practice in safeguarding, health and safety, and inclusion

Skills and Experience

Applicants Must Demonstrate

- At least three years' relevant experience
- Excellent skills in planning and delivering workshops, events and activities
- Multidisciplinary arts practice and/or creative writing practice with experience using a variety of creative approaches to engage diverse communities
- Ability to contribute to monitoring and evaluation processes
- Confidence adapting creative approaches for different audiences and settings
- Cultural sensitivity and understanding of diverse needs

4. Location and Access

This role will be mainly delivered in person and will involve regular travel across Aberdeenshire, primarily to Fraserburgh and Inverurie, with the potential for travel to an additional location in the south of the region.



5. Timescale

November 2026

- Induction and familiarisation with the project
- Initial development and preparatory work
- Promote the programme

December 2026 to March 2027

- Deliver in-person, online and independent activities
- Capture data on participation and engagement
- Contribute to evaluation against outcomes



6. Finance & Contractual

Contract Type: Freelance

Contract Period: November 2026 to March 2027

Time Commitment: Approximately the equivalent of 2 days per month, delivered flexibly in accordance with project needs. Some evening and weekend work may be required.

Fee: The role is freelance with a total fee of **£2,724.80**

Includes 22h planning & development, 8 × 3h in-person workshops, 2 x 2h online workshops & 6h for development of 2 self-directed activities.

Hourly rate: £45.80

This also includes 8h of evaluation, admin and training.

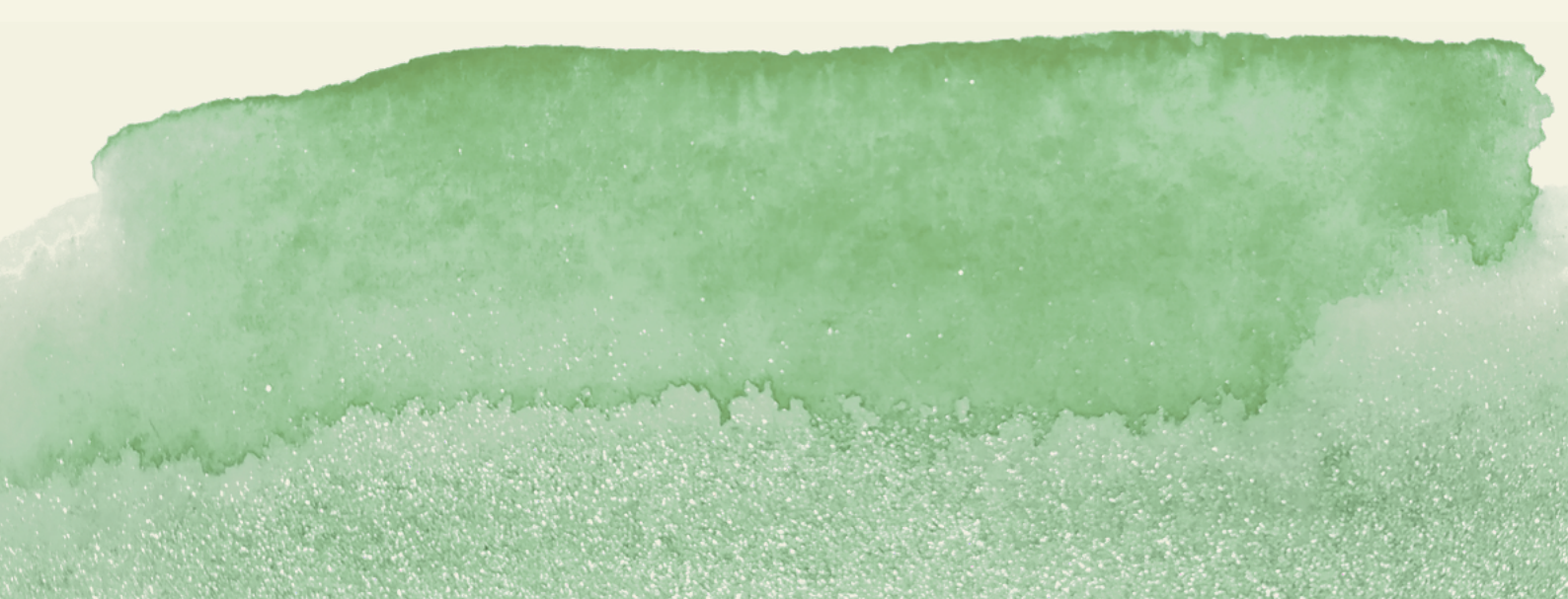
Hourly rate: £20.00

The fee(s) will be paid in stages, according to the proposed programme delivery.

Travel expenses will be reimbursed, subject to agreement.

Essential Requirements

- Professional Indemnity Insurance



7. Application Process

To apply, please send:

- A CV showing your relevant skills, experience and creative practice
- A cover letter explaining why you are suitable for the role including what creative approaches you would take to deliver on project outcomes
- Details of two referees, including their name, contact information and how they know you
- An outline of any existing work commitments for the duration of the project

Applications should be sent to:

Ane Smith
Cultural Development Officer
ane.smith2@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

8. Tender Process

Application Deadline:

12 Noon on the 8th of October 2026

9. Selection Process

Interviews will be held online via Teams the w/c the 26th of October 2026

Please read our guidance on:

- [Requesting Reasonable Adjustments at Interview](#)
- [Alternative Formats and Communication Support](#)

10. Project Contact

For informal enquiries, accessibility support, alternative formats, or communication support, please contact:

Ane Smith
Cultural Development Officer
ane.smith2@aberdeenshire.gov.uk

11. Appendix

Further Information:

- [My Time Aberdeenshire participant film \(Pilot 1\)](#)
- [Requesting Reasonable Adjustments at Interview](#)
- [Alternative Formats and Communication Support](#)
- [Privacy and Data Protection Notice](#)

A Privacy Notice explaining how personal data is used and shared under GDPR is available through Aberdeenshire Council or by emailing askhr@aberdeenshire.gov.uk.

