

## Artist's Brief

### Art Commission for External Courtyard Areas, Integrated Drug Service, Timmermarket, Aberdeen

**Commissioning Budget: £20,000**  
**Closing Date: Friday 6 August 2010**

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Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) and the Integrated Drug Service Arts Project Group seek expressions of interest from artists/landscape designers wishing to undertake a major commission for the two external courtyards of the new Integrated Drug Service.

#### 1. Background

The new **Integrated Drug Service** premises under construction at the Timmermarket, Aberdeen will provide purpose built accommodation to enable us to bring this community based team together on one site.

**Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT)** is a registered charity which was established in 1985 with the prime aim of using art to enhance the healthcare environment for the benefit of patients, staff and visitors to NHS Grampian. The provision of art and the commissioning of site-specific artworks help to promote relaxation, enjoyment and a welcoming environment throughout healthcare buildings in the North East of Scotland.

#### 2. Vision & Context

**This commission will be to create permanent artistic interventions within the two external courtyards of the Integrated Drug Service.**

**The main aim of this commission is the creation of colourful and engaging outside spaces, incorporating seating and an area for play, which are welcoming and relaxing places for clients, their children and members of staff.**

We believe that art can make a valuable contribution to the creation of a unique and welcoming environment enhancing the working or visiting experience. The commissioned artworks will be integral to and appropriate for this new facility.

## **Aims and objectives:**

- create a welcoming and visually stimulating environment
- be integral to the Integrated Drug Service and the architectural concept
- be of a high artistic quality
- sustain the interest of the special group of users
- enhance the experience of using the building for patients, visitors, staff and with particular note to children. A high proportion of people using the service have been prioritised because they have children. The impact of parental substance misuse can be significant and this development provides us with an opportunity to provide a safe and welcoming environment for engaging with families coping with these problems. We want to generate an optimistic and positive atmosphere that will be stimulating and rewarding for children to be in
- in terms of service development the intention is to use the supervised play area for observation and to have suitable accommodation to develop the service as a community facility for clients, to provide a location for community groups such as Parent and Toddler Groups, relaxation groups, networking groups, public meetings etc.
- be appropriate to and practical for installation in a clinical environment
- promote a positive sense of ease and wellbeing

## **3. Artist's Role**

The Arts Project Group is looking for an artist/landscape designer who has previous experience of working on major public art commissions. The successful applicant will need to have a proven track record in managing, design and fabrication of permanent pieces of public art. The artist will be available for planning meetings, evaluation of design stages as appropriate, and also be available for the final installation of the artwork.

The artist will also be required to:

- Work closely with Integrated Drug Service staff and the Arts Project Group to inform the design
- Make site visits to become familiar with the building and gain understanding of the working environment within the Integrated Drug Service
- Provide initial, interim and final design proposals for approval by the Arts Project Group
- Oversee fabrication, delivery and final installation of the finished artwork
- Produce a maintenance manual and cleaning schedule for the artwork

The following will need to be considered:

- This is a clinical, as well as a community facility and all work must therefore comply with infection control and fire risk assessment.
- All work must be robust, hard wearing and fit for purpose. It must be safe and user friendly (not easily broken or pulled apart/no sharp edges). Health and Safety staff will liaise with the artist in this respect.
- The involvement of staff and patients is a key element of this project.

## **4. Funding & Contractual Details**

A Fee of **£20,000** has been allocated for an artist to carry out this commission. This sum includes all artist's fees, all travel, accommodation, materials, fabrication, delivery and installation costs and any other expenses incurred by the artist in the undertaking of this commission.

The fee of £20,000 will be payable in three instalments:

£5,000 will be paid on commissioning and acceptance of initial design  
£5,000 will be paid on approval of final designs and installation schedule  
£10,000 will be paid on completion and sign-off of installation

## 5. Working Structure

The art commission will be overseen by Grampian Hospitals Art Trust (GHAT) and the Arts Project Group. The detailed design schedule, framework, methodology and key milestones for delivery of the final artwork will be agreed between the artist, the GHAT Curator and the Arts Project Group. The artist will keep in regular contact with GHAT and inform them immediately of any change to the designated schedule.

Following appointment the project will commence with a site visit and introductory meeting with the Arts Project Group. Initial design proposals would be expected to be submitted within one month of this visit, with a view to agreeing an overall vision and final design concept by **December 2010**.

Implementation of the design will take place from final design agreement onwards, subject to internal estate work timings, with a view to final installation and completion by **March 2011**.

## 6. Application Process

Artists are invited to apply **by post or email**, expressing why they are interested in this commission and including:

- A current CV demonstrating evidence of creative and technical skills which would be relevant to this commission
- Visual documentation of previous work which demonstrates their ability to undertake work in public places, or similar relevant projects

Preferred format for visual documentation:

- **CD (NOT DVD) of up to 10 images:** jpegs or PowerPoint presentation.  
(If sending by email, please ensure jpegs are no larger than 1 MB each, for ease of opening files)
- A numbered and titled list of images
- Explanatory notes where appropriate
- Please do not submit original artwork

**Please submit a Stamped Addressed Envelope** if you would like visual material returned. Please note that GHAT cannot accept responsibility for damage, loss or non-delivery of submitted material supporting your application.

Please ensure that your application arrives by the deadline date. Applications which arrive after this date will not be considered.

## 7. Application Selection Process

The closing date for applications is 5.00 pm on **Friday 6 August 2010**

Short listed artists will be informed by the end of August 2010. Up to four artists will be invited for an interview. The interview panel, comprising representatives from GHAT, the Integrated Drug Service and the Arts Project Group, reserve the right not to appoint any applicant.

## 8. Project Contact

Please send applications - to reach us no later than 5.00 pm on **Friday 6 August 2010** - by email to: [amoore@nhs.net](mailto:amoore@nhs.net) or by post to:

Anne Moore  
Curator  
Grampian Hospitals Art Trust  
Aberdeen Royal Infirmary  
Aberdeen AB25 2ZN  
tel 01224 551923

## **INTEGRATED DRUG SERVICE, TIMMERMARKET**

### **SPECIFICATION**

See in conjunction with building plan.

#### **Area 1 – External Courtyard for Children of Clients**

**Description:**

Main Courtyard: Outlined in green on attached plan. This area is 97m<sup>2</sup>. The walls are 4.9m high and it is clad with grey facing blocks. As can be seen on the elevations, the coloured vertical bricks, grey string courses, and wall mounted lights are currently under construction. At present the proposed paving is plain concrete slabs. We are interested in having some planted areas, and think this is still achievable within the dark courtyard light however, low maintenance must be stressed.

**Purpose:**

Provide play and recreational area for clients' children. Should be safe, fun, practical and low maintenance. Areas for consideration: flooring, seating, planting, and playful or decorative artwork that children can interact with. Colour and light should be considered.

#### **Area 2 – External Courtyard for Staff**

**Description:**

This smaller, wedge shaped courtyard is enclosed with 5m wall and 4 story building. This staff courtyard is 33m<sup>2</sup> and is viewed from the Staff Room. Light is poor due to walls/building and building heights. The existing wall of approximately 4.9m, remains with a new build wall of 1.2m with grey facing block, creating a planting area across the long side of the courtyard. This will be a dark space and appropriate low maintenance planting would be required. Current proposed flooring is concrete slabs.

**Purpose:**

Provide a recreational area for staff. Should be safe, relaxing, practical with low maintenance. Areas for consideration: flooring, seating, planting, and decorative artwork. Colour and light should be considered.

Plans/elevations included.