

# WORK WITH US IN 2024

HOSPITAL  
ROOMS





Amy McCarthy, Torbay Hospital

## Interested in working with Hospital Rooms?

Hospital Rooms invites NHS Trusts to express their interest to partner with us to undertake transformative art programmes that will culminate in world-class artwork commissions in mental health settings.

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# 1. Details

## Expression of Interest 2024

If you're interested in working with us, complete our [Expression of Interest form](#) and we'll be in touch.

To meet increasing demand we have introduced a new application process, ensuring that NHS Trusts have fair and equal opportunity to work with us. There are currently more requests for projects than we have capacity to undertake and so the process is competitive. All applications are carefully considered and feedback will be given to applicants.

## Project period

We are looking to hear from Trusts who would like to work with Hospital Rooms on a project starting from Autumn 2024-Spring 2025.

## To apply

To apply, please submit the [Expression of Interest form](#)

## Accessibility

If you need any assistance completing this application or require the information in a different format, please contact Léonie at [info@hospital-rooms.com](mailto:info@hospital-rooms.com)

**“It should  
be called Eden.  
It is like paradise.”**

Patient, Eileen Skellern 1, Maudsley Hospital



## 2. Overview

### OVERVIEW OF HOSPITAL ROOMS

Hospital Rooms is an arts and mental health charity that believes all people in mental health hospitals should have the freedom to experience extraordinary art. We commission world-class artists to transform hospital environments in collaboration with patients, clinicians and allied health professionals.

We are a registered charity and part of Arts Council England's National Portfolio.

Hospital Rooms has an excellent track record in delivering high quality projects on time and to budget. We have worked in a range of mental health settings including forensics, Psychiatric Intensive Care, rehabilitation care, dementia care and Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

We have been noted for Outstanding Practice by the CQC for both the environments we create and our patient involvement. We have also featured in a profile for the [New York Times](#) and we were the subject of a 6-minute film on [Channel 4 News](#).

**“I came on the ward the other day and I went into the make believe paradise and I sat there and I could have sworn I was outside.”**

Staff Member, Eileen Skellern 1, Maudsley



Michael O'Reilly, Northside



# 3. Project Outline & Funding

## PROJECT OUTLINE

Hospital Rooms creates ambitious, imaginative and thought-provoking artworks for NHS mental health units by combining the expertise of artists, patients, mental health professionals and people with lived experience of mental health services. Our artworks are fully compliant and fit for purpose (hygiene, safety, security, durability, ligature) for the particular mental healthcare settings we work in, while simultaneously being visually and conceptually engaging.

Our brief to artists is to work closely and collaboratively with patients and staff on wards, and with people with lived experience in the community, to ensure that the artworks they create have an ongoing relationship with and meaning to the people who encounter them.

This is facilitated through a programme of imaginative and adventurous workshops that take place in the first half of the project, providing a space for creations and conversations to unfold that will inform the artworks that are made for the wards. These workshops are designed to be suitable for participants of all abilities. Our aim is to create an empowering model that inclusively enhances the ward environments, while also contributing to learning around and development of psychiatric care environments.

Our staff team and artists work with the utmost sensitivity and follow best practice when coming onto the wards to minimise the risk of confusion, disorientation or unfamiliarity for patients. We pay close attention to requirements identified by patients and staff in the process of designing and delivering workshops and artworks. Health and safety regulations are adhered to at all times and full RAMS provided prior to workshops and installations. We discuss

and schedule our workshop and installation programmes with hospital staff to ensure maximum participation and minimal disruption.

Hospital Rooms has a governing statement that is approved by the Charity Commission and we will adhere to the guidelines outlined in this throughout the project. In addition, we have a strong Equality and Diversity policy and we consciously encourage participation from artists and service users from underrepresented communities. In our workshops and in the artworks that we create, our aim is to promote an environment of mutual respect. We do not tolerate racism, homophobia, transphobia or sexism.

We adhere to safeguarding vulnerable adults regulations including performing DBS checks, adhering to confidentiality and consent protocol in participation and documentation, and recognising that creating art within a mental health setting is not solely related to hope or repair but can involve encountering anxiety or difficult psychological processes.

## SUMMARY OF OUR GENERAL PROJECT CRITERIA:

- Must take place in or around mental health hospitals;
- Meaningful involvement from patients, staff and artists must be facilitated and encouraged throughout, from initial stages to completion;
- Must support a forward-thinking approach to creativity;
- Must be focused on movement to disrupt barriers to arts and culture for people in mental health hospitals;
- Must adhere to the principles of Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion;
- And artworks must be fabricated to a high quality and be maintainable for a minimum of 5 years from installation.



# 3. Project Outline & Funding

## FUNDING

Hospital Rooms asks NHS Trusts to contribute funding towards the cost of a project.

A full budget will be costed after further consultation, however Hospital Rooms projects total costs range between £250,000 and £700,000. We ask that partner Trusts contribute a minimum of 50% of the project budget, depending on project costs and timings.

Hospital Rooms takes responsibility for raising any remaining funds from a variety of sources including Arts Council England, Trusts, Foundations, and other grant-making bodies, corporate partnerships, and our committed Patrons and supporters.

We have an excellent track record in securing funding: we are an Arts Council England National Portfolio Organisation and have received funding from partners such as the Garfield Weston Foundation and the Baring Foundation.

Notable corporate partnerships include:

- **Colart**, which comprises a group of famous art materials companies of complementary character including Winsor & Newton, Liquitex and Conte A Paris. They have committed to making Hospital Rooms their official charity and will supply all the art materials for our upcoming projects
- **COAT** Paints who have committed to supplying high-quality sustainable paint for our upcoming projects

## PAYMENT TERMS

Projects will not commence until the full project budget is met, at which time the NHS Trust's contribution is payable. Contributions from the Trust can be made in instalments as agreed with Hospital Rooms.

“Being involved in a project of this kind is hugely beneficial to our patients and staff and means that museum quality artwork is available to our patients, which greatly contributes to their recovery and care”

Dr Emma Whicher, Medical Director,  
Springfield University Hospital



## HOSPITAL ROOMS COMMITMENT

The following outlines a general brief for our projects and what Hospital Rooms will commit to to make the project a success.

### CREATIVE PROGRAMMING

- to commission a group of high-calibre artists to create brand new permanent, site-specific artworks for designated areas across one or more mental health units within a Trust;
- for those artworks to be created in close collaboration with patients, mental health professionals and people with lived experience of mental health services through a programme of imaginative and adventurous art workshops both on and off the wards;
- to work closely with service-users and staff on the wards to ensure that engagement with creative workshops and the development of artwork proposals is as accessible and open as possible;
- to develop a network of committed artists and cultural organisations and to support the Trust in building relationships with them in order to provide ongoing opportunities for creative engagement after the project is complete;
- to celebrate and raise awareness of the project with a public exhibition, an accompanying series of talks and events, and a book;
- to identify and organise additional opportunities for staff training and networking that ensure a long-term legacy for the project.

## PROJECT MANAGEMENT

- to create a full project plan that details the deliverables, budget and timescale of the project and to review this at regular intervals throughout the project;
- to work together in raising the full project budget;
- to ensure that all artworks are fabricated to the highest quality and with materials and designs that comply with the Trust's policies on safeguarding, health and safety and infection control;
- to ensure that the installation of every artwork has a full Risk Assessment and Method Statement (RAMS) that has been signed off by all relevant parties;
- to ensure that all artworks are fabricated with minimal cost to the environment;
- to install artworks at convenient times and to cause minimal disruption to wards;
- to work in partnership with the Trust's Communications team to generate awareness of the project, including significant press attention project across the health and arts sectors and internal communications across the Trust.

### SAFEGUARDING

- to adhere to safeguarding guidelines for working with vulnerable adults and young people;
- to carry out a standard DBS check on every individual we bring onto a ward;
- to adhere to confidentiality and consent protocols in relation to participation and documentation;
- to adhere to the Hospital Rooms Bullying and Harassment policy.

We welcome feedback on the brief to ensure we align our proposal with your needs.



## 5. Project Criteria

### PROJECT CRITERIA

To deliver a successful project, we ask that NHS partner Trusts commit to:

- Provide at least one key point of contact who is committed to the project and can give sufficient time to support its smooth-running;
- Commit to regular communication across all levels of the Trust, including current and (where appropriate) former patients, staff from a full range of clinical and domestic roles, and senior leadership, aimed at ensuring that the creation of artworks is fully collaborative;
- Provide support with and data for the purposes of project evaluation at the beginning and end of the project and at regular intervals throughout;
- Commit a financial contribution of at least 50% towards the project costs;
- Provide assistance with funding applications if necessary (i.e. providing relevant information on demographics, reach, results);
- Provide support in evaluating the project before, during, and after;
- Commit to maintaining the artwork and environment created with the assistance of Hospital Rooms;
- Provide suitable space and staff support for workshops and participatory projects, which will be agreed formally;
- Adhere to Hospital Rooms' Bullying and Harassment Policy;
- Provide a Trust safeguarding policy and contact, ensure the health and safety of artists and partake in inductions and debriefs for artists;
- Be engaged in implementing the Patient & Carers Race Equality Framework as an accountability framework aimed at eradicating racial bias against Black, Asian, and Minority Ethnic

**“My main reflection sits with how the work is informed by the people who use our service: how the artists have listened to and been inspired by those who have attended their workshops. This ‘reciprocal inspiration’ has allowed for unique creations, each with their own individual stories and provenances.”**

Emily Milton, Occupational Therapist, Beech Unit)

A photograph of a brick building with a tiled roof and a green shed in a grassy area with trees. The building has a white door and a window. There is a small brick structure next to it. The shed is green and has a table and chairs in front of it. The scene is outdoors with a large tree on the left and a cloudy sky.

**“I think the new design is changing the way we all live our lives on the ward. The art has given us all a new way to start conversations with each other and things already seem so much better”**

**(Patient, Phoenix Unit)**



# 6. Application Form

Please submit your application through the form at the following link:

[Expression of Interest Form](#)



**“It’s things like this that make my life better.”**

Student, Recovery College

**"A community was  
created in that room – a  
sense of people coming  
together."**

(Patient, Phoenix Unit)

# HOSPITAL ROOMS

