

# Community of Practice for Arts Therapists and Community Artists working in Hospices across Scotland

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**Abbreviated abstract:** In July 2020, a Community of Practice was established bringing together arts practitioners working in adult and children's hospices across Scotland. This poster outlines the underpinnings of this Community of Practice and maps the current hospice arts provisions of its members across the country.

## Related publications:

**Hartley, N.** (Ed.). (2014). End of life care: A guide for therapists, artists and arts therapists. JKP.

**Tsiris, G., et al.** (2011). Music and arts in health promotion and death education: The St Christopher's Schools Project. *Music and Arts in Action*, 3(2), 95-119.

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# Background and some challenges

The arts have a long history in palliative and bereavement care and in recent years they have played a vital role in community engagement and death education initiatives within and around palliative care internationally.

The arts however face ongoing challenges which often pertain to funding, service development and professionalisation issues.

Commonly, arts practitioners:

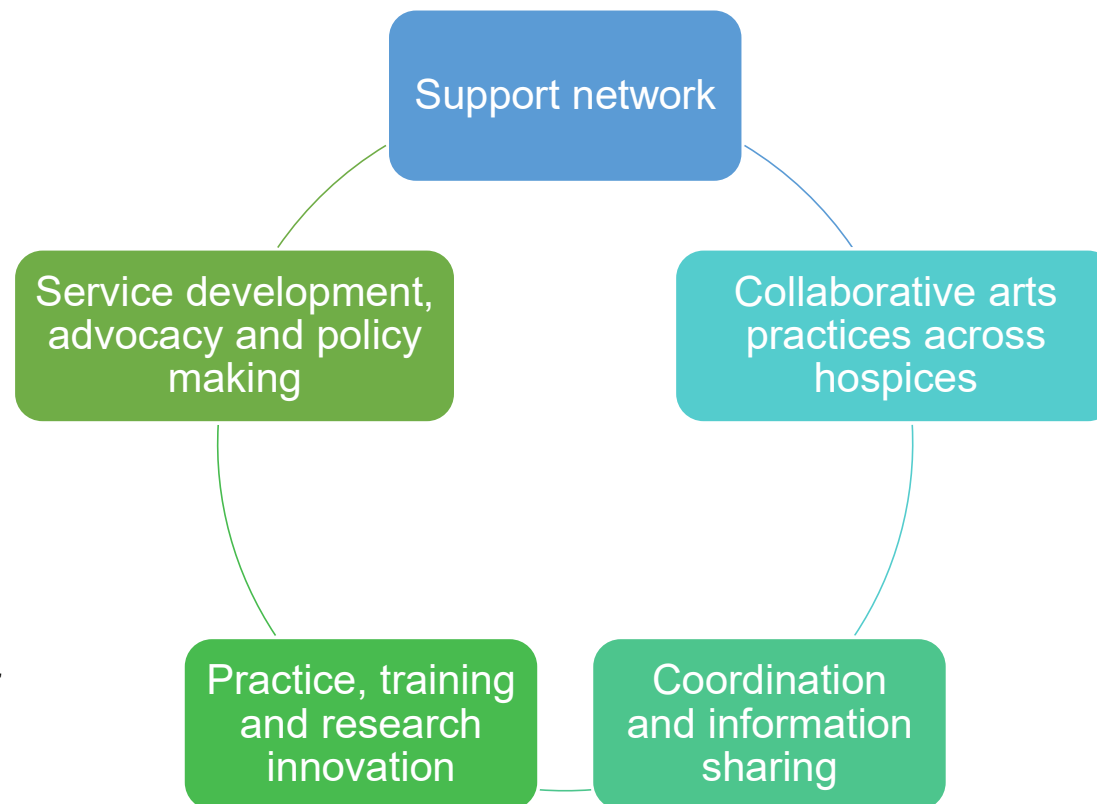
- work on a part-time and funding-dependent basis leading to weak integration of the arts as an integral part of service provision
- have limited opportunities to work as part of an arts team together with other arts practitioners
- have limited professional development and networking opportunities with other arts practitioners working in palliative care

# Towards a Community of Practice

Responding to these challenges, we formed a Community of Practice in July 2020 bringing together arts therapists, community artists and other arts practitioners working in adult and children's hospices across Scotland.

Our emerging aims focus on five areas as shown in the figure.

This Community of Practice aspires to offer a supportive network and source of information about the arts in hospices on a national level with the potential to influence service development and policy making in the field.



# Community of Practice: Current members



## Highland Hospice

Laura Johnston-Scott,  
Therapeutic Arts Co-Ordinator

## Kilbryde Hospice

Anna Ludwig, Music Therapist

## The Prince & Princess of Wales Hospice

Martin O'Connor, Creative Writer  
Jeni Pearson, Artist  
Kirsty Stansfield, Artist

## Rachel House

Rachel Drury, Music Professional

## Robin House

Janet McLachlan, Music Therapist

## St Columba's Hospice Care

Hans K Clausen, Community Artist  
Anna Ludwig, Community Choir  
Facilitator  
Giorgos Tsiris, Arts Lead

## Strathcarron Hospice

Wendy McCormick, Artist  
Laura Neill, Artist

## Victoria Hospice

Amy McNeil, Artist

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This poster is part of the  
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exhibition  
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