

## **Edible York**

### **Self-employed contract opportunity: Abundance worker**

#### **About Edible York and Abundance**

Edible York (charity number 1158779) encourages and promotes the collective growing of food and the sharing of local harvests. In doing so, we bring communities together and support local residents to enhance their day-to-day lives and health.

The Abundance project involves harvesting local fruit trees, and redistributing the fruit across York to places where it can be put to good use instead of going to waste. It is a fun and uplifting fruit project, which also has community, environmental and health benefits for the city. The extent of community involvement is a key measure of success. People can join in with picking sessions, or with events that use the fruit.

#### **About this opportunity**

Edible York wishes to contract a self-employed practitioner who can deliver our goals in summer-autumn 2026.

The contractor must have a full driving licence and access to a vehicle. They must also take out their own public liability insurance for this work, and ensure their vehicle insurance covers business usage.

The contractor must be able to climb ladders, and lift and carry crates of fruit.

This will be for up to 15 hours a week, for up to 19 weeks, beginning in mid-late July or August. The value of the contract is based on £15.50 an hour. Actual days and times for attending will be agreed with the Abundance coordinator, in accordance with weather, delivery appointments etc.

The contracted person will:

- Organise and lead groups of volunteers to harvest fruit from local trees.
- Temporarily store fruit in the Abundance container (Leeman Road area).
- Arrange for distribution of fruit to community cafes, food banks, children's centres, schools, and other organisations that can use the fruit.
- Work in partnership with Edible York trustees, local community centres, and other organisations to enable at least five community events to take place, bringing people together to use the harvest. (EG juicing sessions, cookery, apple dehydrating, tasting events etc).
- Frequently check and maintain the Abundance email and social media inboxes, and respond promptly to donors and receivers of fruit.
- Keep on top of project admin, including maintaining an up-to-date log of offers, picks and deliveries, including weight and varieties, and gathering comments or other evidence to enable an end-of-year evaluation by trustees.
- Risk-assess activities and train volunteers to ensure safe, ethical and happy practice

- Help to recruit new volunteers, who can lead on picks and help with the picking and distribution of fruit.
- Promote Abundance to residents of York, including through handing out flyers during events, and particularly to people who may have surplus fruit to give away.

We need the contracted person to operate flexibly, using their own initiative as well as collaborating with existing Abundance volunteers and Edible York trustees.

### **Distribution of harvested fruit**

The fruit needs to be delivered to organisations who can put it to good use. The network of organisations can be expanded. Simple records are to be kept of where fruit is taken to.

### **Accountability and support**

The contractor will report to Ruth Jennaway, Edible York trustee, who will provide support, guidance and practical help from other trustees whenever possible.

### **Scheduling of work**

The hours worked will be agreed between the contractor and Abundance coordinator. There could be some irregular schedules and potentially variable hours, including some weekend and early-evening picks. It is anticipated that there will be some core hours but some flexibility, to include a combination of weekday, weekend and evening working. Hours can also depend on weather conditions, householder and volunteer availability and other commitments. Depending on when fruit fully ripens, there can be busier and less busy spells.

If weather in a particular week makes picking impossible, there will still be work to do, such as maintaining and delivering apples from the container, responding to emails and arranging future picks.

### **Payment**

Payment will be made monthly upon the submission of invoices. Each month's payment will cover the hours undertaken in that month, and for the mileage of car use in that month.

### **Expenses**

Any purchases for day to day use at activities will be reimbursed, as long as they are agreed in advance with the Abundance coordinator.

The mileage allowance for cars is 55p per mile for all essential travel, in line with HMRC rates. Mileage for cycling is 20p per mile. Please keep and submit weekly notes for mileage.

### **Confidentiality and safeguarding**

Names, addresses and contact details will be acquired and logged onto the Abundance Sharepoint IT system, which the contractor will be trained to use. This data must only be used for the purposes of Abundance and not shared to other parties at any time. This can be done via a smartphone during the day.

The contractor will at times be visiting householders' gardens to pick fruit, and must act with integrity at all times and will be asked to undertake basic safeguarding training.

**Termination of contract**

either party can give notice in writing of one month that they are withdrawing from the contract