

1. **ABOUT US**

We believe that everyone’s quality of life is enhanced by involvement in and access to the Arts. We know that many disabled people continue to face huge barriers to their involvement, and we are here to help overcome those barriers.

We are a company limited by guarantee and a Scottish charity. We are funded by Creative Scotland, Edinburgh, Mid and West Lothian Councils East Lothian, NHS Lothian Charity and several foundations and trusts, including Baring Foundation, RS Macdonald Charitable Trust and Stevenson Charitable Trust

We have 12 staff, 137 sessional artists and 107 dedicated volunteers and work in community, social care, health, and education settings across the whole of Edinburgh and the Lothians.

Among a range of programmes we support are:

* Arts Access, which finds volunteers to support disabled and older people to access Art in many forms, including live theatre, exhibitions, and cinema.
* The Socialites in Midlothian, which creates bespoke projects for young people as a bridge to skill, school, or social life.
* Artlink Hospital Arts work across three main hospital sites of NHS Lothian as part of the NHS Lothian Charity Tonic Arts participatory programme.
* Curious Routes connects the creative skills of individuals with mental health difficulties to people and organisations who share a common interest.

You can read more about us and our work at [www.artlinkedinburgh.co.uk](http://www.artlinkedinburgh.co.uk)

We are proud of the difference we make, and we are dedicated to sharing the good practice we develop. We do this through publications and by hosting various events and exhibitions.

Last year, our Human Threads exhibition and associated events in the Glasgow Tramway was the fruit of many years of collaboration with people with profound and multiple disabilities who use the Cherry Road Centre in Midlothian. We worked with the people who use the Centre to create an exhibition which brought, through touch, sound, sight and smell, something to everyone who experienced it. It was an incredibly potent demonstration of how much we have in common as human beings.

See more about Human Threads here: <https://www.artlinkedinburgh.co.uk/human-threads/>

1. **ABOUT YOU**

Artlink is a Scottish Charity and a company limited by guarantee. As well as being non-executive directors of the company limited by guarantee, Board members are also trustees of the charity. Board members have the duties of directors under general company law and the law which relates to charitable trustees.

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The Board is made up of all the non-executive directors of the limited company, but others, such as members of staff and funders' representatives, attend.

The Board meets at least four times a year, but more often if necessary.

The Board may decide it would help them in their work to set up sub-committees. and/or working groups which include Board members and may also include senior staff and others whose skills or knowledge may be useful.

The general purpose of Board members is to take an active part in:-

* Tsetting the strategic direction of Artlink
* setting overall policy for Artlink
* setting objectives for Artlink and evaluating progress in relation to these
* being the guardians of the values and the reputation of Artlink

Board members are expected to:

* Attend Board and other relevant meetings, having done any necessary preparation to help them to take full part in the business of the meeting.
* Play their part in sub-committees, working groups and training and development events.
* Work as a team
* Attend Artlink functions, such as exhibitions and events.
* Be enthusiastic advocates for the work of Artlink
* Take part in fundraising

Take part in regular appraisals of how they are doing and whether there is anything getting in the way of them doing their job as a Board member.

Board members have various legal duties. In practice this means they must make sure that Artlink always works in accordance with charity, company, and the general law. Artlink always works in accordance with its founding documents.

In particular Board members must make sure that Artlink:

* does work compatible with its objects.
* uses its resources for activities relating to its objects.
* is being managed efficiently.
* is financially stable.
* property is protected and managed well and that any funds are properly invested.
* complies with the rights of staff, volunteers and other people using Artlink’s buildings and services in relation to Health and Safety, safeguarding, data protection, employment law and anti-discrimination law.
* has a Risk Register which is regularly reviewed.

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