


The logo for Suffolk Artlink, featuring the text 'suffolkartlink' in white lowercase letters on a red rectangular background that tapers to the right.

suffolkartlink

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 Suffolk.Artlink
 @Suffolk_Artlink

Chair of Trustees Recruitment

Suffolk Artlink is seeking a dynamic and committed Chair of Trustees (or Co-Chair) to lead our Board of Trustees. We are a charity with 20+ years' experience improving the quality of life for people of all abilities through participating in professional artist-led creative activities.

This is an exciting time to join Suffolk Artlink; we have a strong staff team, established and experienced board and are about to begin a period of transformation supported by three-year unrestricted funding agreements with The Linbury Trust and The Limbourne Trust.

We are looking for a Chair with:

- A strong interest in the wellbeing benefits of being creative
- An inclusive and open approach to leadership
- A strategic vision and an enthusiasm for getting the best out of a group
- Knowledge, insight or connections to the people we work with (people traditionally excluded from mainstream creative opportunities).

Individuals who are interested in joining the Board are invited to send an email (to DamianHebron@hotmail.com) before having an informal conversation with some of the current trustees to find out more about the role.

We would then invite people to submit a CV and expression of interest by **Monday 23rd June 2025** to DamianHebron@hotmail.com and then meet more of the team to decide if the role is a good fit.

Suffolk Artlink is committed to ensuring our organisation is as diverse and representative as possible of the population of Suffolk and Norfolk. We believe diversity strengthens our organisation and drives innovation. We specifically encourage individuals from under-represented communities including global majority, Gypsy, Roma, Traveller, Showmen and Boater (GRTSB), d/Deaf, disabled and neurodivergent (DDN), LGBTQIA+ or who are from less affluent socio-economic backgrounds to apply.

If you require this information in large print or audio file, please call 01986 873 955 extension 1 or email admin@suffolkartlink.org.uk

About Suffolk Artlink

We are a participatory, community arts charity. We develop and deliver inclusive arts programmes that support peoples' health and wellbeing through quality artist-led activities in a rich variety of art forms. You can read about our work and its impact last year here:

<https://www.suffolkartlink.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/Suffolk-Artlink-Annual-Review-2024-Interactive-Version-1.pdf>

Suffolk Artlink is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee.
Charity No: 1110898 / Company No: 05354844.

You can meet our current trustees and staff team here:
<https://www.suffolkartlink.org.uk/about-us/>



Trustee responsibilities and role description

Our trustees oversee the overall management and administration of the charity. They also ensure that we have a clear strategy and that our work and goals are in line with our vision.

Just as importantly, they support the staff acting as critical friends and lending their skills and expertise as required. Board members have a collective responsibility. This means that trustees always act as a group and not as individuals.

Trustees:

- Support and provide advice on Suffolk Artlink's purpose, vision, goals and activities.
- Oversee Suffolk Artlink's financial plans and budgets and monitor and evaluate progress. Review and approve financial statements.
- Approve operational strategy and ensure that key risks are identified, monitored and controlled effectively.
- Use independent judgement, acting legally and in good faith to promote and protect the interests of Suffolk Artlink and its wider community of staff, participants and partners.
- Keep abreast of the environment within which Suffolk Artlink is operating and contribute to the broader promotion of Suffolk Artlink's aims and reputation by applying your skills, expertise, knowledge and contacts.

As we are a small charity, there are times when trustees are encouraged to be more actively involved beyond board meetings. We work creatively together at Suffolk Artlink, and we like to get creative and have fun together too! Trustees regularly attend our projects and events and contribute their ideas and time to making these a success.

You can read more about the role of trustees on the Charity Commission's website:
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/charity-trustee-whats-involved>

What we are looking for from our Chair

We want a Chair who will work with the trustees and the team, bringing the best out of the people who work for and support this vibrant community charity. The Chair should be a good listener, an active questioner and offer sound judgement and support.

Our new Chair should embody the qualities we look for from all our trustees:

- A commitment to the mission, aims and objectives of Suffolk Artlink
- Ability to meet the time requirement (more on that below)
- Integrity and good judgement
- An ability to think creatively
- An understanding and acceptance of the responsibilities and liabilities of trusteeship
- Ability to be an effective member of a team.

What you will gain from being a Trustee at Suffolk Artlink:

- Make a significant difference to the lives, health and wellbeing of our beneficiaries and communities across the East of England; contribute to the professional development of our artists and to our influence upon the wider, national agenda around the arts and wellbeing.
- Use your existing skills, knowledge and networks to support Suffolk Artlink, while improving your own skills, knowledge and networks. Training and development provided as needed.
- Work alongside a committed and varied team of trustees who are all committed to maintain and grow Suffolk Artlink's impact.
- Feel great by giving back!

But don't just take our word for it!

'In the 12 years that I have been fortunate to be part of this amazing organisation I have seen many changes. It has carefully and successfully evolved, adapted, improved and grown the much needed services it offers and its reputation has rightly grown accordingly. It has achieved this through the talent, creativity, professionalism and commitment of the people who work here.

The culture of care, consideration and mutual support is unrivalled in any organisation I have worked in and has been an inspiration to me.' Mike James, stood down during 2022.

Time Commitment

We usually meet for board meetings quarterly in Halesworth (currently weekdays, early evening 6 pm to 7:15pm.). Meetings are currently blended, in person and virtual.

We have several board subcommittees and establish action groups as required.

Sometimes individual trustees lend their professional skills to staff.

The Board's policy is for trustees to serve a maximum of two terms of three years. Trustees undertaking the role of Chair, Vice Chair or Treasurer may serve a third term of three years.

Out of pocket and reasonable travel expenses are reimbursed.