



LifeArc

Appointment brief

Appointment of Two Trustees

January 2023

Reference: ZAQACD

LifeArc

LifeArc is a UK registered and self-funding charity, with a 25-year legacy of collaborating with scientists on diagnostics and therapeutics focused on improving the lives of patients through medical innovation. As a self-funded charity, LifeArc can reinvest any income generated into furthering medical research. We drive medical innovation through our own research and work with a range of partners from industry, charities, universities, research organisations and others involved in improving lives for patients.



LifeArc has dedicated laboratories in Stevenage and Edinburgh, where we conduct our own translational research as needed to accelerate the progress of discoveries and technologies to find treatments for diseases such as cancer and dementia.

The charity is undergoing a transformative change following the £1.3bn monetisation of a royalty interest from LifeArc's work some years ago to humanise the antibody-based therapy now marketed as Keytruda® (pembrolizumab). The resources generated from this work have given LifeArc a tremendous opportunity to significantly enhance our activities aimed at advancing promising science into new health interventions for patients.

In addition to its involvement in Keytruda® (pembrolizumab), since launching in the 1990s as MRC Technology, the charity's expertise has helped bring a number of new innovations to market. Through our knowledge and expertise in antibody humanisation, LifeArc have contributed to three other widely marketed humanised antibody drugs:

- Tysabri® (natalizumab), for the treatment for multiple sclerosis and Crohn's disease,
- Actemra® (tocilizumab), for the treatment of rheumatoid arthritis,
- Entyvio®(vedolizumab), for the treatment of ulcerative colitis and Crohn's disease.

LifeArc's expertise in diagnostics has also enabled us to develop the Carbaplex assay, a rapid diagnostic test for the detection of carbapenem antibiotic resistance, in collaboration with Renishaw Diagnostics Ltd.

The Keytruda® royalty stream has also enabled LifeArc to commit significant funds for investment in the translation of promising mediscience, initially done via a £25m Seed Fund, and a £5m Philanthropic Fund, and with additional significant further deployment planned in this area.

LifeArc recently published its new strategy, *Making Life Sciences Life Changing* - to read it please click on the link: [LifeArc-Strategyto2030](#)

More information on LifeArc can be found at www.lifearc.org.

Our Board

As a UK registered and self-funded charity, we focus on improving the lives of patients. Our Board of Trustees offer expertise in biomedical sciences, biotech and pharma, finance, law and medicine. The board governs our functions within our constitution and the achievement of our charitable objects.

Articles of Association

Our charitable objects, as set out in our Articles of Association, are:

- To promote the public benefit by improving human health and medical research, in particular by assisting the progress of the scientific discoveries and new technologies arising from research into therapeutic treatments, drugs, diagnostics, other technologies or information resources.
- To work with industry, charities, universities, the health service and other relevant bodies as well as conducting its own research and development as needed to accelerate the progress of these discoveries and technologies to the stage at which they are (i) capable of being made generally available to the medical profession and the public for practical application for the improvement of health and/or (ii) are transferred or licensed to a third party to progress development of such discoveries or technologies towards such goals.

Our performance and achievements to fulfil our charitable objects are published yearly. To read our latest annual account, please click [here](#).

Management team

The Executive Management Team is responsible for the day-to-day running of the charity under authority delegated by the Board of Trustees. The team, under the leadership of the CEO, proposes to the Board where the charity should invest its time, money and expertise. It is also responsible for developing the financial and operational plans for Board approval and monitoring financial performance.

For profiles of the full LifeArc Board of Trustees and Executive Team and further information please click [here](#).

Funding

LifeArc funds aim to progress promising medical research. Our charitable model allows us to invest in risky projects or where commercial returns may be low.

You can find out more about our funding [here](#).

You can find out more about LifeArc by visiting our social channels:





“Our work transforms
medical innovation
into patient benefit.”

The Roles

In light of the evolving LifeArc Strategy and due to a skills gap created by the recent departure of a trustee as well as near-term retirements, LifeArc now seeks to appoint two new Non-Executive Trustees who will join LifeArc's existing experienced committee of Trustees.

We are looking to appoint Trustees with two skillsets to join the Board.

Profile One: A Pharmaceutical, Biotech, Diagnostic or Medical Device company senior R&D professional; or Pharmaceutical, Biotech, Diagnostic or Medical Device company senior R&D professional with expertise in Medical Informatics, Data analysis, medical AI.

- Diverse and practical experience of the translation of medical innovations into clinical and regulatory development.
- Experience of representing industry R&D opportunities to (e.g.) Government, UKRI / Research Councils and Academia.
- Strong record working with University and Charity collaborations and partnerships, especially in translation and technology transfer.
- Demonstrable and successful track record of managing, growing and changing international R&D organisations, and the career development of scientific professionals.
- Passion for scientific research and discovery in a wide range of fields especially where these can combine to improve human health.

Profile Two: Experienced third sector leader/executive with deep understanding of third sector medi-science research funding landscape

- Experience of representing third sector positions to (e.g.) industry, Government (UKRI / Research Councils) and Academia and associated policy considerations.
- Experience of University and Charity collaborations and partnerships, especially in medi-science translation and technology transfer.
- Committed to new opportunities to enhance patient care and advance ground breaking approaches in critical areas of unmet patient need through LifeArc interventions and funding.
- Passion for the power of scientific research and discovery in a wide range of fields especially where these can combine to improve human health.

Person specification

The successful candidates for these roles will be able to demonstrate the experience and skillsets listed for the two profiles above as well as all or most of the following:

- Biomedical sector leadership professional (e.g., academic, industry, commercial, financial, public or 3rd sector etc background).
- Ideally, proven experience of effectively supporting the successful growth, development and transformation of a rapid evolving life-science based organisation (pharma/Biotech/MedTech/research charity etc).
- Independent and confident contributor, both within and outside the Board.
- Ability to bring constructive challenge to support but also hold the executive team and board to account.
- Motivated by the opportunity presented by LifeArc to make a major impact.
- Respected in their own field and possessing demonstrable personal network.
- Able to commit time and energy to the role and to challenge the status-quo.
- Demonstrates ability to think strategically and to contribute operationally in their own field while recognising the distinction between an executive and non-executive role.
- High personal standards and committed to enhancing diversity and inclusion.
- Comfortable with the opportunity to be an ambassador for LifeArc and represent the Charity.
- Ideally previous experience of non-executive Board role/s or otherwise capable of demonstrating they are “board ready.”
- High potential candidates will be those with Chairmanship experience of small or large boards including leading Boards of Trustees for a charity.

LifeArc is committed to the principles and practices of equal opportunities and to encouraging the establishment of a diverse workforce and Board of Trustees. It is our policy to employ individuals on the basis of their suitability for the work to be performed and their potential for development, regardless of age, sex, race, colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin, disability, marital status, pregnancy or maternity, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion, or belief. This includes creating a culture that fully reflects our commitment to equal opportunities for all.

Terms of appointment

Trustees are appointed to the Board of LifeArc for terms of 3 years, renewable for 3 terms.

The envisaged time commitment for these roles is between 1-1.5 days per month.

How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to LifeArc on these appointments.

Candidates should apply for these roles through our website at www.saxbam.com/appointments using code **ZAQACD**.

Click on the 'apply' button and follow the instructions to upload a CV and cover letter and complete the online equal opportunities monitoring* form.

The closing date for applications is noon on **Tuesday 31st January 2023**.

** The equal opportunities monitoring online form will not be shared with anyone involved in assessing your application. Please complete as part of the application process.*



LifeArc

Saxton Bampfylde

LONDON

9 Savoy Street
London WC2E 7EG

EDINBURGH

46 Melville Street
Edinburgh EH3 7HF

saxbam.com

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