

# LifeArc

Appointment brief

Appointment of Chief Technology Officer

May 2023

Reference: FAQACE

## 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: <u>LifeArc-Strategyto2030</u>

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

## Our Principles

We are driven by our <b>Purpose</b>	<ul> <li>Doing the right thing</li> <li>Being open and transparent</li> <li>Going above and beyond expectations</li> </ul>
We foster <b>Innovation</b>	<ul> <li>Staying Curious</li> <li>Always Learning</li> <li>Thinking creatively</li> </ul>
We're powered by collaboration	<ul> <li>Engaging &amp; valuing others</li> <li>Enjoying our work</li> <li>Sharing successes</li> </ul>
We act with Commitment	<ul> <li>We hold one another to account</li> <li>Embracing ambiguity</li> <li>Being adaptable and agile</li> </ul>
When we get it right, we achieve <b>Excellence</b>	<ul> <li>Excellence is about quality, not quantity</li> <li>Excellence demands the highest standards</li> <li>Excellence means working efficiently</li> <li>Excellence requires a longer-term approach</li> </ul>

## Role Description/ Person Specification

Job Title:	Chief Technology Officer	
Department:	IT	

#### Job Purpose:

LifeArc now wishes to appoint its first Chief Technology Officer. This is an outstanding opportunity for a strategic and dynamic leader to make a significant impact on the future direction of the charity. Starting from a strong operational base, we anticipate that the appointed candidate will build and transform technology within our organisation, bringing it to the heart of all we do and as a result enabling it to make a vital contribution to our outcomes.

Candidates will bring substantial experience and a track record of success in a CTO or equivalent role within one or more organisations where technology is a key driver and across a wide range of technology platforms. They will be proactive and strategic and naturally embrace and deliver change. A commitment to outstanding customer service and broad leadership credentials will be essential. A genuine interest in science is sought.

This strategic role will lead and develop the IT organisation by partnering with the Science and Enabling functions to provide fit-for-purpose technology platforms and tools to enable and boost the delivery of the LifeArc strategy. It will provide seamless support to deliver the operational and strategic IT demands of LifeArc, with inspirational leadership and demonstration of LifeArc's commitment to purpose and principles. The role will require extensive interactions and collaboration with a range of internal and external stakeholders. It will also be a key thought partner to LifeArc's scientific leaders to develop the Translation 2.0 digital vision.

A competitive remuneration package will be negotiated with the preferred candidate. We work flexibly, but visibility within our offices will be key so candidates should be willing to be office-based in London, with some travel to Stevenage required for meetings. A passion for and commitment to the mission of LifeArc and what it is trying to achieve will be essential. This role represents the opportunity to be a part of a charity that is transforming medical innovation and having an impact on the lives of patients.

**Reports to:** Chief Financial Officer

### **Key Accountabilities:**

Principal Accountabilities:	<ul> <li>IT strategy and roadmap</li> <li>Development of a strong and experienced IT team</li> <li>Seamless Science and Enterprise IT offerings</li> <li>Effective partnership with key LifeArc functions</li> <li>Provision of strong and effective user experience across IT needs for all functions</li> <li>Change journey to implement the new strategy</li> <li>Consistent, high quality and innovative deliverables</li> </ul>
Complexity:	<ul> <li>A robust IT strategy and roadmap in a fast-changing environment of scientific translation delivery, with an increase in digital and data science to solve Translational Challenges</li> <li>Fit-for-purpose, enabling technology solutions with attention to demands of LifeArc stakeholders</li> <li>Navigation of the internal matrix organisation to deliver change</li> </ul>
Impact:	<ul> <li>IT as a key enabler to deliver the LifeArc Strategy</li> <li>IT functions operate as a key, safe and inspiring window on the world of LifeArc from internal to external and vice-versa</li> <li>IT a key enabler to deliver the Science agenda</li> </ul>
Influence:	<ul> <li>Strong partnerships with the Executive Team and Senior Leaders</li> <li>Ability to operate in a matrix – a solution provider with strong collaborative capability</li> <li>A trusted partner and recognised domain expert</li> <li>An innovator able to appreciate, devise and implement solutions according to changing demands of LifeArc</li> </ul>
Resources:	<ul> <li>Flexibility to develop team and resources if impact can be demonstrated</li> <li>Skillful use of internal resources to drive external collaboration where required</li> <li>Strong leadership to develop excellence in internal resources</li> </ul>

#### **Person Specification:**

#### **Expertise:** Experience at Director-level (or equivalent) in an organisation where technology is viewed as a critical success factor Proven track record in developing technology strategy and implementing successful digital transformation Passion about creating societal impact through science and technology Ability to navigate complex requirements and apply deep technical expertise to guide the creation of novel platforms and solutions Ability to act as trusted partner for Executive and Senior Leaders Able to demonstrate breadth and depth of expertise and implementation familiarity across a wide array of technologies, with particular emphasis on cloud infrastructure (both laaS and PaaS), software engineering, modern data solutions (warehousing, data-mesh, streaming analytics) Familiarity with high performance computing an advantage Strong leadership skills with demonstrated track record of leadership and team building Excellent interpersonal and communication skills Ability to appreciate customer demands and needs and to offer solutions that demonstrate LifeArc's leadership in technologies to underpin our advice, science and funding offerings with strong connection to patients and the broader community **Qualifications:** Degree, ideally in a STEM subject Additional scientific qualifications preferred but not essential



"Our work transforms medical innovation into patient benefit."

## Terms of appointment

Standard hours are 36 hours per week - Monday to Friday. The core hours of work are 10.00am to 4.00pm. The post holder is required to work such reasonable additional hours as the needs of the post demands.

31 paid days' holiday (plus bank holidays) in each complete Holiday Year during your employment. The Company reserves the right to nominate up to three days of your holiday entitlement to be taken during office closures in the Christmas/New Year period.

Salary will reflect the seniority of the role and will depend on skills and experience.

Probationary period is three months.

Pension:- The post holder will be enrolled at the rate of 3% (with a 6% contribution from LifeArc) to meet the automatic enrolment legislation. You may contribute more into the pension plan.

## How to apply

Saxton Bampfylde Ltd is acting as an employment agency advisor to LifeArc on this appointment.

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

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 Wednesday 31st May 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

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