



## Environmental, social and governance policy

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### Introduction

The Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust (BLHT) is a charity (registration number: SCO14915) with education at its heart.

Created in 2010, upon the merger of two existing charities established by the Buccleuch family, the key aim of BLHT remains the advancement of historic, artistic, architectural and aesthetic education. This is supported by the charity's primary objectives;

1. The education of the general public in respect of matters of historic, artistic, architectural and aesthetic interest
2. The promotion of the study and appreciation of agriculture, horticulture and silviculture, and land and estate management
3. The preservation, protection and improvement for public benefit of buildings, chattels of national, historic, architectural or artistic interest
4. The creation, maintenance and funding of grants, bursaries, scholarship prizes and rewards for members of the general public to increase their knowledge, appreciation and enjoyment of such buildings, land and chattels, and for educational and research purposes generally.

A board of trustees oversees the work of BLHT and, working closely with the Buccleuch family, ensure its aims and objectives are met, and that the magnificent historic houses and renowned Buccleuch art collection are accessible today, while being maintained and preserved for future generations to enjoy.

These objectives, with stewardship at their heart, flow into BLHT's Environmental, Social and Governance policy (ESG), which is implemented appropriately within the Trust and reviewed regularly to ensure it remains relevant and ambitious.

### Environment

An appreciation of art and history, as promoted by BLHT, has the ability to inspire and engender an admiration of the natural world. Through the furtherance of this comes not only a response to the climate crisis but the desire to visit the green spaces from which many artists draw their inspiration.

BLHT aspires to do what it can to make positive changes which will help Scotland and the UK meet their net zero ambitions and, through its activities, the Trust enhances the wellbeing of its visitors, together with actively contributing to culture, education, health and environmental management.

To support these outcomes, BLHT will:

- work to become a more sustainable and efficient organisation, minimising the impact of its activities on the natural environment and take advantage of opportunities to enhance it where possible
- adopt low carbon alternatives, where possible
- reduce water usage and waste across its activities
- endeavour to develop inclusive and sustainable ways to engage audiences
- protect the Buccleuch art collection and historic houses from the effects of climate change, which may impact on the collection and its availability for future generations
- protect and enhance the biodiversity across its sites, ensuring this is carried out sympathetically and in keeping with historic values.



## Social

Such an appreciation of the environment, natural, built and created, can only be further enhanced through immersion and education. And this sits at the heart of BLHT's primary objectives, understanding this is an ongoing and iterative process.

To continue this, BLHT will:

- work to encourage people to access the historic houses within its care, and provide educational information to further their appreciation of the houses and the artworks therein
- find ways to encourage new audiences to appreciate the agriculture, horticulture and silviculture, and land and estate management within its care
- promote educational visits, from groups of all ages to the historic houses and to view specific art works
- facilitate an understanding of the national importance of the buildings, artworks and natural environments within its care
- allow access to these green spaces, which are important for health and wellbeing
- maintain accurate archives, which are of wider interest
- promote its maintenance grants and encourage people to apply for these as this can lead to future generations maintaining and upholding the aims of the Trust.

## Governance

As a registered charity BLHT is registered and regulated by OSCR, the statutory regulatory body in Scotland.

BLHT's work is overseen by a board of Trustees, each of whom is a specialist in their field. The Trustees meet bi-annually and are supported by a Finance Committee, which also meets twice a year.