

EAST ST ARTS

Additional Information

Studios and temporary spaces

East Street Arts offers affordable workspace to artists across various sites in Leeds that we view as long-term venues. The charity owns one of the venues, is in the process of purchasing another and rents the others from Leeds City Council and Unity Housing Association. These buildings hosts approx. 200 studios alongside project spaces and meeting spaces.

There is a clear system in place for applications and selection for these spaces and they are managed by our Studio Manager.

Over the last six years the organisation has also developed a UK wide Temporary Space Programme harnessing unused spaces for artists and creative events (approx. 100 leases). Every building negotiated is different in how the organisation can make use of it, what the financial transaction is, how we decide to manage it and how long we have occupancy for. Some of the venues within our Temporary Space Programme have been occupied by artists for five-six years, others we lose after several months. Within this programme there are about 100 studios and 25 artist partners that have responsibilities for looking after a number of the venues. The Temporary Space Programme is supported by a staff team that is evolving and is ready for further development.

East Street Arts is at an interesting time of development regarding its ambitions for spaces for artists with the studio and space offer ready for a review and new vision.

This includes:

Guild

In 2018 -2022 the organisation will deliver a programme across England supported by Arts council England, Guild, that will focus support and development programmes on artists spaces. This will impact and support the organisation's plans for studios and the use of temporary spaces moving forward and will have a dedicated staff team.

Capital ambitions

The organisation is currently negotiating the purchase of a building next door to Patrick Studios and plans to develop a new studio and making space that includes traditional and new technologies.

Over the next 4-5 years the organisation will explore the purchasing and developing of other capital assets including a new building for the Art Hostel and explorations into housing schemes for artists.

Business planning and resilience

The development of capital assets is part of the organisation's long-term business plans to become resilient and increase its self-generated income and reduce dependency on external funding.