



Liontrust launches charitable foundation and reveals first three partners

Liontrust Asset Management Plc has officially launched the [Liontrust Foundation](#) with two objectives. One is to promote Social Mobility and Entrepreneurship and the other is to promote Conservation and Nature Recovery.

The Board of Trustees of the Foundation has selected an initial three charities with which to partner across these two objectives, with a key focus on supporting underserved communities and initiatives committed to diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI).

To promote Social Mobility and Entrepreneurship, the Liontrust Foundation seeks to fund organisations that help establish and develop sustainable micro businesses and support social entrepreneurs based in the UK. These businesses provide employment and income, which in turn will drive social mobility.

To promote Conservation and Nature Recovery, the Liontrust Foundation seeks to partner with organisations to help increase the recovery and conservation of nature – with the further ambition of increasing inclusion in conservation and investing in entrepreneurship as a means of social change.

The first three charity partners of the Liontrust Foundation are Social Ark under Social Mobility and Entrepreneurship, and Growing Well and Sea-Changers under Conservation and Nature Recovery.

Simon Hildrey, Chair of the Liontrust Foundation, said: *“The Liontrust Foundation was set up with the intention of empowering social mobility and preserving and recovering nature in ways that are not available through investments in public markets. Since launch, the Foundation has been seeking partnerships that many others might overlook and through which it is possible to maximise impact.*

“We have been really impressed by the many charities we have met over the past few months as we undertook a rigorous selection process. Social Ark, Growing Well and Sea-Changers are terrific organisations that have a transformative effect on the communities they serve. The Liontrust Foundation looks forward to partnering with them to help strengthen their impact.”

Social Ark

[Social Ark](#) is an award-winning East London charity that works with underserved 18 to 30-year-olds. It provides them with up-to-date learning, one-to-one wrap-around support and expert mentoring, teaching them the skills needed to build sustainable social enterprises guided by their lived experiences. The charity's focus is social mobility and social entrepreneurship.

The Liontrust Foundation project will enable a new cohort of 15 young people set up their own social enterprises. They will take part in the ‘Step into Social Enterprise’ expert-led structured course using a tested programme framework, while accessing mentoring from established business leaders.

Growing Well

[Growing Well](#) is a targeted mental health charity which champions recovery through outdoor activity in Cumbrian market gardens. Growing Well at Tebay Services is launching a groundbreaking native tree propagation initiative that will engage existing mental health beneficiary groups and involve the wider community in shaping the future of domestic tree supply and the expansion of woodland cover.

As one of the core partners, Liontrust Foundation's support will enable the project to reach commercial viability and all proceeds to be reinvested into Growing Well's social enterprise.

Sea-Changers

[Sea-Changers](#) is a marine conservation charity managed by a small team of volunteers who love the UK's seas, shores and wildlife. Sea-Changers provides a place for small, local and grassroots organisations to seek funding. Funded activities are identified by and carried out by some of the most excluded and disadvantaged communities in the country – coastal communities. There is more demand for grants than can be satisfied so there is a need for growth.

Liontrust Foundation's support will enable Sea-Changers to focus on transformational growth, helping the organisation to scale and better meet the needs of the grassroots organisations it supports.

- Ends -

Notes to Editors:

The Liontrust Foundation

The Liontrust Foundation is governed by a Board of Trustees that comprises experts in social mobility and global conservation alongside representatives of the asset management company. Chaired by Simon Hildrey (Chief Marketing Officer of Liontrust), the other Trustees are Mandy Donald (Non-executive Director of Liontrust), Nathalie Richards (CEO of SEO London), Dr Andrew Terry (Director of Conservation and Policy of ZSL), Katy Grant (Liontrust), Sarah Nottle (Liontrust) and Petrina Joseph (Liontrust).

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