



Blues Scotland SCIO

Trustees' Annual Report

02 April 2025 to 01 April 2026

Charity contact information

Blues Scotland SCIO

Scottish Charity Number: SC049154

c/o Stables Cottage, Hendersyde, Kelso, TD5 7ST

Telephone number: 07809244712

Email address: bluesscotland@outlook.com

Instagram: @BluesScotland

Charity Trustees

Blues Scotland's Trustees are:

1. Doug Smith, Founder and Principal Trustee
2. Stuart Blackwood, founding Trustee
3. Kazik Walusiak, founding Trustee
4. Annette Smith, w.e.f. 01 December 2025
5. Layla Smith, w.e.f. 18 March 2026
6. Neil McFadyen, w.e.f. 26 March 2026

Objectives and activities

- Blues Scotland was incorporated to provide a voice and support for, and improved accessibility to, the Blues music genre (including its family tree). The aforementioned is to ensure that Blues musicians and non-musicians alike are recognised and included as part of a wider community.

Blues Scotland's main aims (purposes) are:

- the advancement of the arts, heritage, culture or science by promotion and development of the Blues genre of music and derivatives thereof by means of affordable events and festivals incorporating Blues music throughout the year;
- working towards the advancement of education through regular free workshops, both within local communities and nationally, to teach and encourage Blues-based musical skills, incorporating the use of Blues-specific technology;
- working towards the provision of recreational facilities (or support for existing frameworks thereof), or the organisation of recreational activities with the object of improving the conditions of life for the persons for whom the facilities or activities are primarily intended. For example, community-based and national events designed to bring people together in groups to help combat feelings of isolation and enable social interaction in a positive setting.

Structure, governance and management

Type of governing document

Blues Scotland is governed by a constitution.

Trustee recruitment and appointment

The founding Trustees (all of whom are musicians and current or former performers) have appointed three further volunteer Trustees who represent non-musicians - these appointments will boost Blues Scotland's ability to effectively meet its aims and charitable purposes going forward through the addition of their individual skillsets and combined love of the genre.

Given this is a small charity (with no plans to remain otherwise), which is still in its formative stages, currently there are no plans for external organisations to be seated on the Board of Trustees.

Financial Statement

With the charity on extended hiatus, Blues Scotland has no bank account and has received no income or financial donations to date.

Achievements and performance

2025-2026 saw Blues Scotland regroup after a hiatus resulting from the COVID pandemic and personal illness, and successfully appointed three volunteer Trustees with the desired skills and love of music, to represent nonperformers to bring real benefit and diversity to the organisation.

The main focus involved taking stock of the Blues genre at National level, including the boom that the genre was experiencing country-wide and being mindful that this maybe somewhat of a temporary

state, and reviewing the best direction for the Charity to best support the genre in the future.

Future plans

The focus for the coming year will be:

- To further recruit, to bring the Board to a full quota of seven Trustees;
- To facilitate banking capabilities in line with OSCR recommendations, and to seek fundraising opportunities for the SCIO.
- To facilitate a digital presence via web and social media.
- To seek membership of appropriate organisations to provide collaboration with the Third Sector within Scotland.

This will enable the Trustees to have a viable platform to allow the furtherance of the Blues genre and its exponents in 2027-2028, being mindful of current financial and geo-political pressures.

Declaration

Signed on behalf of the charity trustees:



Print name

Douglas Smith

Designation

Principal Trustee

Date

27 September 2026