

Lanarkshire Carers Centre



THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE AND NOT HAVING A SHARE CAPITAL

ARTICLES of ASSOCIATION

of

LANARKSHIRE CARERS CENTRE LTD

SENSCOT LEGAL

24 George Square, Glasgow, G2 1EG

0141 332 8084

www.se-legal.net

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CONTENTS		
GENERAL	constitution of the company, defined terms, objects, powers, restrictions on use of assets, limit on liability, general structure	articles 1-14
MEMBERS	qualifications, application, minimum number subscription, register, withdrawal, expulsion, termination/transfer	articles 15-28
GENERAL MEETINGS (meetings of members)	general, notice, special/ordinary resolutions, procedure	articles 29-55
DIRECTORS	number, eligibility, election/ retiral/re-election, termination of office, register, office bearers, powers, personal interests	articles 56-81
DIRECTORS' MEETINGS	procedure, conduct of directors	articles 82-92
ADMINISTRATION	sub-committees, operation of bank accounts, secretary, minutes, accounting records and annual accounts, notices	articles 93-105
MISCELLANEOUS	winding-up, indemnity	articles 106-109

GENERAL

Constitution of company

- 1 The model articles of association as prescribed in Schedule 2 to The Companies (Model Articles) Regulations 2008 are excluded in respect of this company.

Defined terms

- 2 In these articles of association, unless the context requires otherwise:
 - 2.1 "Act" means the Companies Act 2006;
 - 2.2 "charity" means a body which is either a "Scottish charity" within the meaning of section 13 of the Charity and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005, or a "charity" within the meaning of section 1 of the Charities Act 2006, providing (in either case) that its objects are limited to charitable purposes;

- 2.3 “charitable purpose” means a charitable purpose under section 7 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005 which is also regarded as a charitable purpose in relation to the application of the Taxes Acts;
 - 2.4 “electronic form” and “electronic means” have the meanings given in section 1168 of the Act;
 - 2.5 “OSCR” means the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator; and
 - 2.6 “property” means any property, heritable or moveable, real or personal, wherever situated.
- 3 Any reference to a provision of any legislation (including any statutory instrument) shall include any statutory modification or re-enactment of that provision in force from time to time.

Objects

- 4 The company is established for charitable purposes only and to provide benefit to unpaid adult carers residing in North and South Lanarkshire.

An adult carer is an individual who provides care for another person. An adult carer is at least 18 years of age. The care may be provided to a friend, relative (including a child with additional support needs) or a partner. The person requiring care may have an illness, disability, poor mental health or substance misuse issues.

The company’s objects are the prevention or relief of poverty, the advancement of education, the advancement of health, the advancement of citizenship or community development, the promotion of equality and diversity and the relief of those in need by reason of age, ill health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage.

In furtherance of these objects the company shall:

- 4.1 educate, empower and promote the equality of unpaid carers
 - 4.2 provide services which provide practical and emotional support
 - 4.3 provide recreational facilities and services
 - 4.4 promote the rights of carers locally and nationally
 - 4.5 do other such things considered by the directors to be conducive to achieving the company’s charitable objects.
- 5 The company’s objects are restricted to those set out in article 4 (but subject to article 6).

- 6 The company may (subject to first obtaining the consent of OSCR) add to, remove or alter the statement of the company's objects in article 4; on any occasion when it does so, it must give notice to the registrar of companies and the amendment will not be effective until that notice is registered on the register of companies.

Powers

- 7 The company may carry out any activity and do all such lawful things as may further the company's objects and, in particular, but, without limitation, may borrow or raise and secure the payment of money for any purpose including for the purposes of investment or of raising funds.

Restrictions on use of the company's assets

- 8 The income and property of the company shall be applied solely towards promoting the company's objects.
- 9 Subject to article 11, no part of the income or property of the company shall be paid or transferred (directly or indirectly) to the members of the company, whether by way of dividend, bonus or otherwise.
- 10 No director of the company shall be appointed as a paid employee of the company.
- 11 No benefit (whether in money or in kind) shall be given by the company to any director except:
 - 11.1 repayment of out-of-pocket expenses; or
 - 11.2 reasonable payment in return for particular services actually rendered to the company.

Liability of members

- 12 Each member undertakes that if the company is wound up while he/she is a member (or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member), he/she will contribute - up to a maximum of £1 - to the assets of the company, to be applied towards:
 - 12.1 payment of the company's debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member;
 - 12.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and
 - 12.3 adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

- 13 The directors have certain legal duties under the Companies Act 2006 and Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005; and article 12 does not exclude (or limit) any personal liabilities they might incur if they are in breach of those duties or in breach of other legal obligations or duties that apply to them personally.

General structure

- 14 The structure of the company consists of:
- 14.1 the MEMBERS – service users who are carers registered with the company - who have the right to attend the annual general meeting (and any extraordinary general meeting) and have important powers under the articles of association and the Act; in particular, the members elect people to serve as directors and take decisions in relation to changes to the articles themselves;
 - 14.2 the DIRECTORS - who hold regular meetings during the period between annual general meetings, and generally control and supervise the activities of the company; in particular, the directors are responsible for monitoring the financial position of the company. The directors make up the company's BOARD.

MEMBERS

Qualifications for membership

- 15 The members of the company shall consist of the subscribers to the memorandum of association and such other persons as are admitted to membership under articles 19 to 22.
- 16 Subject to article 18, the membership shall consist of:
- 16.1 unpaid adult carers aged 18 years or over who reside in North or South Lanarkshire and who are current service users of the company; and
 - 16.2 any individual who resides in North or South Lanarkshire who supports the objects of the company and wishes to see them fulfilled, and wishes to be considered for directorship of the company.
- 17 An individual, once admitted to membership, shall cease to be a member if he/she ceases to be eligible for membership.
- 18 Employees of the company shall be eligible for membership and to attend and speak at general meetings, but shall not be eligible to vote. Volunteers shall be eligible for full membership including voting rights. A person who becomes an

employee of the company after admission to membership shall automatically cease to hold voting rights.

Application for membership/directorship

- 19 Any person who is not a current service user of the company and who wishes to become a member must apply for directorship and must sign, and lodge with the company, a written application for membership.
- 20 The board shall consider each application for membership/directorship at the first board meeting which is held after receipt of the application; the board shall, within a reasonable time after the meeting, notify the applicant of their decision on the application.
- 21 Membership/directorship shall not be refused without good cause or explanation and may not be refused on the basis of age (except where minimum age applies), disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion and belief, sex or sexual orientation.
- 22 If an application has been refused, an appeal may be made in writing to the board, who shall consider the appeal at its next meeting after the appeal is received, and who shall respond in writing to the applicant within 21 days of the meeting. The board's decision on such appeals is final.

Membership subscription

- 23 No subscription shall be payable unless voted for by a majority of members at a general meeting.

Register of members

- 24 The directors shall maintain a register of members, setting out the full name and address of each member, the date on which he/she was admitted to membership, and the date on which any person ceased to be a member.

Withdrawal from membership

- 25 Any person who wishes to withdraw from membership shall sign, and lodge with the company, a written notice to that effect. On receipt of the notice by the company, he/she shall cease to be a member.

Expulsion from membership

- 26 Any person may be expelled from membership by special resolution (see article 40), providing the following procedures have been observed:

26.1 at least 21 days' notice of the intention to propose the resolution must be given to the member concerned, specifying the grounds for the proposed expulsion; and

26.2 the member concerned shall be entitled to be heard on the resolution at the general meeting at which the resolution is proposed.

Termination/transfer

27 Membership shall cease on death.

28 A member may not transfer his/her membership to any other person.

GENERAL MEETINGS

General meetings (meetings of members)

29 The directors shall convene an annual general meeting in each year (but excluding the year in which the company is formed); the first annual general meeting shall be held not later than 18 months after the date of incorporation of the company.

30 Not more than 15 months shall elapse between one annual general meeting and the next.

31 The business of each annual general meeting shall include:

31.1 a report by the chair on the activities of the company;

31.2 consideration of the annual accounts of the company;

31.3 the election/re-election of directors; and

31.4 the setting of any members subscription.

32 The directors may convene an extraordinary general meeting at any time.

33 The directors must convene an extraordinary general meeting if there is a valid requisition by at least 5% of the members (under section 303 of the Act) or a requisition by a resigning auditor (under section 518 of the Act).

Notice of general meetings

34 At least 28 clear days' notice must be given of any general meeting.

- 35 The reference to “clear days” in article 34 shall be taken to mean that, in calculating the period of notice, the day after the notice is posted, (or, in the case of a notice sent by electronic means, the day after it was sent) and also the day of the meeting, should be excluded.
- 36 A notice calling a meeting shall specify the time and place of the meeting and indicate the general nature of the business to be dealt with at the meeting.
- 37 If a special resolution (see article 40) (or a resolution requiring special notice under the Act) is to be proposed, the notice shall also state that fact, giving the exact terms of the resolution.
- 38 A notice convening a general meeting shall specify whether the meeting is to be an annual general meeting or an extraordinary general meeting.
- 39 Notice of every general meeting shall be given:
- 39.1 in hard copy form;
- 39.2 in writing or (where the individual to whom notice is given has notified the company of an address to be used for the purpose of electronic communication) in electronic form; or
- 39.3 (subject to the company notifying members of the presence of the notice on the website, and complying with the other requirements of section 309 of the Act) by means of a website.

Special resolutions and ordinary resolutions

- 40 For the purposes of these articles, a “special resolution” means a resolution passed by 75% or more of the votes cast on the resolution at a general meeting, providing proper notice of the meeting and of the intention to propose the resolution has been given in accordance with articles 34 to 39; for the avoidance of doubt, the reference to a 75% majority relates only to the number of votes cast in favour of the resolution as compared with the total number of votes cast in relation to the resolution, and accordingly no account shall be taken of abstentions or members absent from the meeting.
- 41 In addition to the matters expressly referred to elsewhere in these articles, the provisions of the Act allow the company, by special resolution:
- 41.1 to alter its name;
- 41.2 to alter any provision of these articles or adopt new articles of association.
- 42 For the purposes of these articles, an “ordinary resolution” means a resolution passed by majority vote (taking account only of those votes cast in favour as

compared with those votes against), at a general meeting, providing proper notice of the meeting has been given in accordance with articles 34 to 39.

Procedure at general meetings

- 43 No business shall be dealt with at any general meeting unless a quorum is present; the quorum for a general meeting shall be 30 individuals entitled to vote (each being a member or a proxy for a member).
- 44 If a quorum is not present within 15 minutes after the time at which a general meeting was due to commence - or if, during a meeting, a quorum ceases to be present - the meeting shall stand adjourned to such time and place as may be fixed by the chairperson of the meeting.
- 45 The chair of the company shall (if present and willing to act as chairperson) preside as chairperson of each general meeting; if the chair is not present and willing to act as chairperson within 15 minutes after the time at which the meeting was due to commence, the directors present at the meeting shall elect from among themselves the person who will act as chairperson of that meeting.
- 46 The chairperson of a general meeting may, with the consent of the meeting, adjourn the meeting to such date, time and place as the chairperson may determine.
- 47 Every member shall have one vote, which (whether on a show of hands or on a secret ballot) may be given either personally or by proxy.
- 48 Any member who wishes to appoint a proxy to vote on his/her behalf at any meeting (or adjourned meeting):
 - 48.1 shall lodge with the company, at the company's registered office, or such address as may be specified in the notice of general meeting a written instrument of proxy (in such form as the directors require), signed by him/her; or
 - 48.2 shall send by electronic means to the company, at such electronic address as may have been notified to the members by the company for that purpose, an instrument of proxy (in such form as the directors require);providing (in either case), the instrument of proxy is received by the company at the relevant address not less than 48 hours before the time for holding the meeting (or, as the case may be, adjourned meeting).
- 49 An instrument of proxy which does not conform with the provisions of article 48, or which is not lodged or sent in accordance with such provisions, shall be invalid.

- 50 A member shall not be entitled to appoint more than one proxy to attend on the same occasion.
- 51 A proxy appointed to attend and vote at any meeting instead of a member shall have the same right as the member who appointed him/her to speak at the meeting and need not be a member of the company.
- 52 A vote given, or ballot demanded, by proxy shall be valid notwithstanding that the authority of the person voting or demanding a ballot had terminated prior to the giving of such vote or demanding of such ballot, unless notice of such termination was received by the company at the company's registered office (or, where sent by electronic means, was received by the company at the address notified by the company to the members for the purpose of electronic communications) before the commencement of the meeting or adjourned meeting at which the vote was given or the ballot demanded.
- 53 If there are an equal number of votes for and against any resolution proposed at a general meeting, the chairperson of the meeting shall be entitled to a casting vote.
- 54 A resolution put to the vote at a general meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless a secret ballot is demanded by the chairperson (or by at least two persons present in person at the meeting and entitled to vote (whether as members or proxies for members)); a secret ballot may be demanded either before the show of hands takes place, or immediately after the result of the show of hands is declared.
- 55 If a secret ballot is demanded, it shall be taken at the meeting and shall be conducted in such manner as the chairperson may direct; the result of the ballot shall be declared at the meeting at which the ballot was demanded.

DIRECTORS

Number of directors and board composition

- 56 The maximum number of directors shall be 16.
- 57 The minimum number of directors shall be 3.
- 58 The number of directors who are also members (as opposed to those co-opted in accordance with articles 67 and 68) shall form the majority of the board.

Eligibility

- 59 A person shall not be eligible for election/appointment as a director under articles 61 to 66 unless he/she is a member of the company; a person appointed

as a director under articles 67 and 68 need not, however, be a member of the company.

- 60 A person shall not be eligible for election/appointment as a director if he/she is an employee of the company.

Election, appointment, retirement and re-election of member directors

- 61 At each annual general meeting, the members may elect any member (providing he/she is willing to act, has gone through the application and induction process outlined in the Joining the Board document, and is a member of the PVG scheme) to be a director.
- 62 The directors may at any time appoint any member (providing he/she is willing to act) to be a director.
- 63 At each annual general meeting, 2 directors shall retire from office.
- 64 The directors to retire under paragraph 63 shall be those who have been longest in office since they were last elected or re-elected; as between persons who were last elected/re-elected on the same date, the question of which of them is to retire shall be determined by some random method.
- 65 A director who retires from office under article 63 shall be eligible for re-election.

Appointment/re-appointment of co-opted directors

- 66 In addition to their powers under article 62, the directors may (subject to article 58) at any time appoint any non-member of the company to be a director (providing he/she is willing to act) on the basis that he/she has specialist experience and/or skills which could be of assistance to the directors.
- 67 At each annual general meeting, all the directors appointed under article 67 shall retire from office but shall then be eligible for re-appointment under article 67.

Termination of office

- 68 A director shall automatically vacate office if:
- 68.1 he/she ceases to be a director through the operation of any provision of the Act or becomes prohibited by law from being a director;
- 68.2 he/she becomes debarred under any statutory provision from being a charity trustee (within the meaning of section 106 of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005);

- 68.3 he/she becomes incapable for medical reasons of fulfilling the duties of his/her office and such incapacity is expected to continue for a period of more than six months;
- 68.4 in the case of director who is also a member, he/she ceases to be a member of the company;
- 68.5 he/she becomes an employee of the company;
- 68.6 he/she resigns office by notice to the company;
- 68.7 he/she is absent (without permission of the directors) from more than three consecutive meetings of the directors, and the directors resolve to remove him/her from office;
- 68.8 he/she has been convicted of fraud or other crime involving dishonesty or misappropriation of funds;
- 68.9 he/she is sequestered or subject to bankruptcy or insolvency proceedings as an individual or as a company director; or
- 68.10 he/she is removed from office by ordinary resolution (special notice having been given) in pursuance of section 168 of the Act.

Register of directors

- 69 The directors shall maintain a register of directors, setting out full details of each director, including the date on which he/she became a director, and also specifying the date on which any person ceased to hold office as a director.

Office-bearers

- 70 The directors may elect from among themselves a chair and a treasurer, and such other office bearers (if any) as they consider appropriate.
- 71 All of the office bearers shall cease to hold office at the conclusion of each annual general meeting, but shall then be eligible for re-election.
- 72 A person elected to any office shall cease to hold that office if he/she ceases to be a director, or if he/she resigns from that office by written notice to that effect.

Powers of directors

- 73 Subject to the provisions of the Act and these articles, and subject to any directions given by special resolution, the company and its assets and undertaking shall be managed by the directors, who may exercise all the powers of the company.

- 74 A meeting of the directors at which a quorum is present may exercise all powers exercisable by the directors.

Personal interests

- 75 A director who has a personal interest in any transaction or other arrangement which the company is proposing to enter into, must declare that interest at a meeting of the directors; he/she will be debarred (in terms of article 89) from voting on the question of whether or not the company should enter into that arrangement.

- 76 For the purposes of the preceding article, a director shall be deemed to have a personal interest in an arrangement if any partner or other close relative of his/hers or any firm of which he/she is a partner or any limited company of which he/she is a substantial shareholder or director (or any other party who/which is deemed to be connected with him/her for the purposes of the Act), has a personal interest in that arrangement.

- 77 Provided:

77.1 he/she has declared his/her interest;

77.2 he/she has not voted on the question of whether or not the company should enter into the relevant arrangement;

a director will not be debarred from entering into an arrangement with the company in which he/she has a personal interest (or is deemed to have a personal interest under article 77) and may retain any personal benefit which he/she gains from his/her participation in that arrangement.

- 78 No director may serve as an employee (full time or part time) of the company, and no director may be given any remuneration by the company for carrying out his/her duties as a director.

- 79 Where a director receives remuneration for providing services to the company or might benefit from any remuneration paid to a connected party for such services, then

79.1 the maximum amount of the remuneration must be specified in a written agreement and must be reasonable;

79.2 the directors must be satisfied that it would be in the interests of the company to enter into the arrangement (taking account of that maximum amount); and

79.3 less than a quarter of the board is receiving remuneration, or is connected to someone who is receiving remuneration.

- 80 The directors may be paid all travelling and other expenses reasonably incurred by them in connection with their attendance at meetings of the directors, general meetings, or meetings of committees, or otherwise in connection with the carrying-out of their duties.

DIRECTORS' MEETINGS

Procedure at directors' meetings

- 81 Any director may call a meeting of the directors or request the secretary to call a meeting of the directors.
- 82 Questions arising at a meeting of the directors shall be decided by a majority of votes; if an equality of votes arises, the chairperson of the meeting shall have a casting vote.
- 83 No business shall be dealt with at a meeting of the directors unless a quorum is present; the quorum for meetings of the directors shall be one third of the board, subject to a minimum of three individuals.
- 84 If at any time the number of directors in office falls below the number fixed as the quorum the remaining director(s) may act only for the purpose of filling vacancies or of calling a general meeting.
- 85 A director may participate in a meeting of the directors or a meeting of a committee of directors by means of a telephone, video conferencing facility or similar communications equipment whereby all the directors participating in the meeting can hear each other. A director participating in a meeting in this manner shall be deemed to be present at the meeting. A director wishing to use such facilities shall provide at least one week's notice of his / her intention to do so.
- 86 Unless he/she is unwilling to do so, the chair of the company shall preside as chairperson at every directors' meeting at which he/she is present; if the chair is unwilling to act as chairperson or is not present within 15 minutes after the time when the meeting was due to commence, the directors present shall elect from among themselves the person who will act as chairperson of the meeting.
- 87 The directors may, at their discretion, allow any person who they reasonably consider appropriate, to attend and speak at any meeting of the directors; for the avoidance of doubt, any such person who is invited to attend a directors' meeting shall not be entitled to vote.
- 88 A director shall not vote at a directors' meeting (or at a meeting of a sub-committee) on any resolution concerning a matter in which he/she has a personal interest which conflicts (or may conflict) with the interests of the company; he/she must withdraw from the meeting while an item of that nature is being dealt with.

- 89 For the purposes of article 88, a person shall be deemed to have a personal interest in a particular matter if any partner or other close relative of his/hers or any firm of which he/she is a partner or any limited company of which he/she is a substantial shareholder or director, has a personal interest in that matter.
- 90 A director shall not be counted in the quorum present at a meeting in relation to a resolution on which he/she is not entitled to vote.

Conduct of directors

- 91 Each of the directors shall, in exercising his/her functions as a director of the company, act in the interests of the company; and, in particular, must:
- 91.1 seek, in good faith, to ensure that the company acts in a manner which is in accordance with its objects;
- 91.2 act with the care and diligence which it is reasonable to expect of a person who is managing the affairs of another person;
- 91.3 in circumstances giving rise to the possibility of a conflict of interest between the company and any other party:
- 91.3.1 put the interests of the company before that of the other party, in taking decisions as a director;
- 91.3.2 where any other duty prevents him/her from doing so, disclose the conflicting interest to the company and refrain from participating in any discussions or decisions involving the other directors with regard to the matter in question.
- 91.4 ensure that the company complies with any direction, requirement, notice or duty imposed on it by the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005.

ADMINISTRATION

Delegation to sub-committees

- 92 The directors may delegate any of their powers to any sub-committee consisting of one or more directors and such other persons (if any) as the directors may determine; they may also delegate to the chair of the company (or the holder of any other post) such of their powers as they may consider appropriate.
- 93 Any delegation of powers under article 92 may be made subject to such conditions as the directors may impose and may be revoked or altered.

- 94 The rules of procedure for any sub-committee shall be as prescribed by the directors.

Operation of bank accounts

- 95 The signatures of two out of the signatories appointed by the directors shall be required in relation to all operations (other than lodgement of funds) on the bank and building society accounts held by the company; at least one out of the two signatures must be the signature of a director.
- 96 Where the company uses electronic facilities for the operation of any bank or building society account, the authorisations required for operations on that account must be consistent with the approach reflected in article 956.

Secretary

- 97 The directors may (notwithstanding the provisions of the Act) appoint a company secretary, and on the basis that the term of the appointment, the remuneration (if any) payable to the company secretary, and the conditions of appointment shall be as determined by the directors; the company secretary may be removed by them at any time.

Minutes

- 98 The directors shall ensure that minutes are made of all proceedings at general meetings, directors' meetings and meetings of committees; a minute of any meeting shall include the names of those present, and (as far as possible) shall be signed by the chairperson of the meeting.

Accounting records and annual accounts

- 99 The directors shall ensure that proper accounting records are maintained in accordance with all applicable statutory requirements.
- 100 The directors shall prepare annual accounts, complying with all relevant statutory requirements.
- 101 No member shall (unless he/she is a director) have any right of inspecting any accounting or other records, or any document of the company, except as conferred by statute or as authorised by the directors or as authorised by ordinary resolution of the company.

Notices

- 102 Any notice which requires to be given to a member under these articles shall be given either in writing or by electronic means; such a notice may be given personally to the member *or* be sent by post in a pre-paid envelope addressed

to the member at the address last intimated by him/her to the company or (in the case of a member who has notified the company of an address to be used for the purpose of electronic communications) may be given to the member by electronic means.

- 103 Any notice, if sent by post, shall be deemed to have been given at the expiry of 24 hours after posting; for the purpose of proving that any notice was given, it shall be sufficient to prove that the envelope containing the notice was properly addressed and posted.
- 104 Any notice sent by electronic means shall be deemed to have been given at the expiry of 24 hours after it is sent; for the purpose of proving that any notice sent by electronic means was indeed sent, it shall be sufficient to provide any of the evidence referred to in the relevant guidance issued from time to time by the Chartered Institute of Secretaries and Administrators.

MISCELLANEOUS

Winding-up

- 105 If on the winding-up of the company any property remains after satisfaction of all the company's debts and liabilities, such property shall be transferred to such other charity or charities with similar objects to the company as may be determined by the members of the company at or before the time of dissolution (or, failing such determination, by such court as may have or acquire jurisdiction).
- 106 To the extent that effect cannot be given to article 105, the relevant property shall be applied to some charitable purpose or purposes.

Indemnity

- 107 Every director or other officer or auditor of the company shall be indemnified (to the extent permitted by sections 232, 234, 235, 532 and 533 of the Act) out of the assets of the company against any loss or liability which he/she may sustain or incur in connection with the execution of the duties of his/her office; that may include, without prejudice to that generality, (but only to the extent permitted by those sections of the Act), any liability incurred by him/her in defending any proceedings (whether civil or criminal) in which judgement is given in his/her favour or in which he/she is acquitted or any liability in connection with an application in which relief is granted to him/her by the court from liability for negligence, default or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the company.
- 108 The company shall be entitled (subject to the provisions of section 68A of the Charities and Trustee Investment (Scotland) Act 2005) to purchase and maintain for any director insurance against any loss or liability which any director or other

officer of the company may sustain or incur in connection with the execution of the duties of his/her office, and such insurance may (subject to the provisions of section 68A) extend to liabilities of the nature referred to in section 232(2) of the Act (negligence etc. of a director).