



## Coventry Artspace Curatorial Statement

Diversity is at the heart of what Artspace does, and with this in mind we are committed to ensuring space is available for artists that may face barriers based on factors including (but not limited to) their race, gender identity, ability or sexuality.

We are also invested in providing a platform for art that is socially engaged, and helps to break down these barriers within Coventry and the wider community.

Alongside these priorities we consider the quality and standard of artwork when reviewing applications for use of our spaces.

After these considerations we will also take into account how use of our spaces will benefit the artist's own practice and the Artspace community more generally.

When considering proposals for exhibitions we will also consider:

- How the activity contributes to the location
- The number of hours/days that the exhibition will be open to the public
- Any support needed by the exhibiting artist
- Financial factors (including the practicality of the applicants' budget and Artspace business imperatives).

When reviewing applications for studio space, the Advisory Group will consider:

- How appropriate the space is to the artist's practice
- How much the artist plans to be actively using the space

### **More about Coventry Artspace**

Coventry Artspace is a charity supporting the development of artists and the visual arts in Coventry. We run arts projects and events and provide services to visual artists from across the region that live or work in Coventry and the surrounding area. We make use of temporary spaces to offer affordable studio and exhibition space to local artists. Through The Artspace Exchange we offer peer support opportunities and when funding allows we provide networking and artist development activities.

We receive many applications from local artists to use our available studio and exhibition spaces; the aim of this statement is to help clarify the criteria by which applications are prioritised. Applications are reviewed by members of The Artist Advisory Group. Final decisions are made by the Artspace Director and Space Co-ordinator. Appeals are managed by the Artspace Board of Trustees.

### **More About the Artist Advisory Group**

The Artspace Artist Advisory Group was set up to manage and advise on aspects of Coventry Artspace activity, as required by the Director and the Board of Trustees. The Artist Advisory Group is composed of at least 5 artist members including artist studio holders, members of the Artspace Exchange and artists working with cultural partners, as well as the Artspace Director and Space Co-ordinator. In the interests of fair representation, special consideration around the diversity of the Group is taken when appointing new members. The group meets bi-monthly, usually on-line and occasionally in person.

Once applications for exhibitions and studios have been received they are forwarded to the Group for assessment and a decision on whether to offer use of the space is made.

Members of the Artist Advisory Group usually serve the group for 2-3 years. Artists can apply to serve on the Artist Advisory Group via The Artspace Exchange.