

Blyth Town Board

Board Member Pen Portrait



Fran Castle

**Chief Executive, Headway Arts, Representative of Arts and Community and
Blyth Culture Network**

Manager, Creative Artist and community ally. Having worked in Blyth for over 30 years I am committed, as a proponent of social justice, to the development of the town.

I arrived in the North East from Yorkshire in 1979, completing a degree in Social Research at Northumbria University. I worked for the Probation Service before setting up Headway Arts almost 30 years ago with the aim of helping people who feel they are at the edges of the community achieve their chosen goals and bring about social change. Currently Chief Executive of Headway Arts I work collaboratively on arts projects with individuals, groups and organisations in a number of ways, but always with their ideas at the centre, engaging, motivating and encouraging them to seek change.

I have a strong managerial and fundraising background with senior level local and international experience and cross sector exposure. Good strategic appreciation and vision and the ability to build and implement sophisticated plans. I am self-driven, self-reliant and lead by example.