

## Annual Governance Statement 2018-19

### 1 Scope of Responsibilities

Our ambition is to demonstrate that we have the necessary governance to maintain a sound system of internal control and support our policies, objectives and strategic priorities.

The Alliance was an early signatory to the Voluntary Code of Good Governance, produced in 2011, and the Board, at its meeting in June 2017, reaffirmed the Alliance as a signatory to the new *Principles of Good Governance for Sport and Recreation* ("The Principles") which has replaced the Voluntary Code. The Alliance also made sure that it was fully compliant with Tier 3 of *A Code for Sports Governance* ("Code") by the end of October 2017. This annual governance statement is prepared to provide you with an update on our work to date.

### 2 The governance framework of the Alliance

The Alliance Board has four sub-committees:

- **Finance and Audit Committee** to take delegated responsibility on behalf of the Sport and Recreation Alliance Board for overseeing all financial and audit aspects of the Sport and Recreation Alliance and the Sport and Recreation Ventures Ltd [the wholly owned subsidiary of the Alliance] so as to ensure short and long-term viability and integrity and report back – and make recommendations - to the Alliance Board accordingly;
- The **Income Generation Committee** replaced its former Commercial Committee in 2018 to help the Alliance develop diverse revenue streams and manage its relationships with corporate partners and sponsors. In addition, the IG Committee will look wider than its CPs and sponsorship towards Trusts and Foundations for areas of additional income;
- The **Remuneration and Staffing Committee** is established to make recommendations to the Alliance Board on all aspects of the remuneration and terms and conditions of service of the Chief Executive and senior management, maintaining an overview of policy in relation to other members of staff;
- A **Nominations Committee** has the responsibility to ensure that there is an open and transparent process for the selection and recruitment of the Sport and Recreation Alliance Directors, Chair and for 2019 a new Chief Executive.

The Terms of Reference for all these committees can be found on the website. The Finance, Income Generation and Remuneration Committees are chaired by one of the Directors and the Nominations Committee is chaired by the Alliance Chairman.

The Board continues to undertake an annual review of its performance and discusses the results; this took place at the January 2018 meeting and the 2018/19 results will be discussed at the April 2019 Board meeting.

In Autumn 2019/20, an external board evaluation will be conducted as per the Code requirement. The Board hopes that the external evaluation will contribute to the next 5-year strategy 2021-2026.

The Board met seven times in 2018: 6 February, 21 March, 27 June, 4 September [Strategy Meeting], 6 November and 18 December.

In 2019, they have met on 5 February and will also meet on 2 April, 25 June, 3 September [Strategy], 15 October and 17 December.

Summaries of the Board meetings remain available on the members' area on our website following the meetings, these will include an update on membership, strategy, finance and areas of compliance.

### 3 Risk Assessment

The Alliance has identified both strategic and operational risks following the production of its new Strategy 2017 – 2021. These are reviewed and updated monthly by the Senior Executive Team (SMT).

The Finance and Audit Committee reviews the strategic risks at their meeting every quarter and submit any recommendations or issues to the Board for consideration or back to the SMT to take forward accordingly.

The Risk register is reviewed at least annually by the Board and the last review was carried out in December 2018. The Board reviews the risk register in its entirety and debates new risks and reviews current risks. A new Risk Register has just been established following a new Operational Plan for 2018-19 being written by the Managers and SMT.

### 4 Governance issues

Following the 2017 recruitment process the Alliance Board achieved gender parity and had members who reflected a range of the protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010 including disability, sexual orientation, race, religious belief and age.

The Board was made up of over 25% independent Directors and did not consider any of its Elected Directors as 'independent'. The Nominations Committee has been tasked to ensure that both the diversity of the Board and 'independence' of individual members is taken into account during Board recruitment to ensure compliance. It was pleasing to note that following the 2018 Board recruitment the Alliance retained its 2017 position.

The key challenge for 2019 and ongoing years will be to improve on the diversity in all forms including thought and social economic background, among the Directors. We will continue to increase the range of places and channels we use to advertise Non-Executive positions knowing that this already helped increase the number and diversity of candidates that applied for the positions.

Finally, the Board regularly reviews its policies to ensure they remain up-to-date and we have made several of these available on the website. These include, among others, our Conflicts of Interest, Board Remuneration and Code of Conduct.

Signed on behalf of the Alliance



EMMA BOGGIS  
Chief Executive



ANDREW MOSS  
Chairman