

## Annual Governance Statement 2021-22

### 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 WG** is intended to help the Alliance develop diverse revenue streams and manage its relationships with corporate partners and sponsors. In addition, the IG WG 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 WG and Remuneration Committees are chaired by one of the Directors and the Nominations Committee is chaired by the Alliance Chairman.

In 2021, following a review of the existing Awards Panel, a Queens Nominations Panel was established. This Panel will consider those nominations submitted to the Awards Panel that may be suitable for a National Honour to be submitted by the Alliance and is chaired by the Alliance Chair.

The Board met six times in 2021-22, 20 April 2021, 13 July 2021, 7 September 2021 [Strategy], 2 November 2021 [Strategy], 14 November 2021, and 1 February 2022.

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 SUPPORT. RECOVER. ACHIEVE. These are reviewed and updated regularly by the Senior Management Team (SMT).

The Finance and Audit Committee reviews the risk register at their meetings and submit any recommendations or issues to the Board for consideration or back to the SMT to take forward accordingly.

Since February 2020, the Board reviews all strategic risks, any high-rated operational risks and debates new risks and reviews current risks at each of their meetings.

#### **4 Governance issues**

Since 2017, the Board has been made up of over 25% independent Directors and has not considered 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.

The 2021 Board Recruitment cycle saw the re-election of Helene Raynsford for a second term and a newly Appointed Director, Dave Strain. Dave would shadow Adrian Ruth who was in his final year on the Board as Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee, to ensure a smooth transition of the financial knowledge at the Director level. This year also saw the unexpected resignation of Cathryn Moses-Stone from the Board.

The Alliance also announced the retirement of Andrew Moss as Chair of the Alliance and started preparations to find a suitable search company to help with the recruitment of a new Chair to commence the role in 2022.

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



LISA WAINWRIGHT  
Chief Executive



ANDREW MOSS  
Chairman