



## Rise 2022-2023 Annual Governance Statement

### 1. Introduction

This Annual Governance Statement documents the Board's application of good governance practice during the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023, in compliance with the requirements of the Sport England Code for Sports Governance.

### 2. Summary of Governance Highlights

- 2.1. The Board approved a second term of office for Matthew Cormack, who came to the end of his first four-year term during the year.
- 2.2. Four Board meetings were held (May, September and November 2022, and January 2023) all of which were fully quorate, and the minutes of which are available on the [Rise website](#). The Board contributed to the strategy oversight of Rise through its Board meeting process.
- 2.3. Three meetings of the Audit Committee were held (April and October 2022 and March 2023). These meetings included the following key items:
  - 2.3.1. Reviewing and recommending the draft 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 budgets;
  - 2.3.2. Discussing and agreeing appropriate investment approaches for the charity's reserves;
  - 2.3.3. Reviewing the 2021-2022 financial audit with the external auditors, Tait Walker;
  - 2.3.4. A review of the charity's Reserves Policy, Financial Procedures, Internal Controls and Risk Management Strategy;
  - 2.3.5. Reviewing and approving the charity's Whistleblowing Policy;
  - 2.3.6. Discussing the removal of the existing auditors and their replacement with new auditors; and
  - 2.3.7. Reviewing its own performance as a sub-committee and its terms of reference.
- 2.4. Three meetings of the Nominations & Remuneration Committee were held (May and November 2022 and January 2023). These meetings included the following key items:
  - 2.4.1. Reviewing and updating the role profiles for the Chair, Vice Chair and Trustees;
  - 2.4.2. Reviewing the succession plan for the Chair, SID and CEO;
  - 2.4.3. Establishing the process for the annual trustee reviews to take place;
  - 2.4.4. Staff remuneration and wellbeing.
- 2.5. One meeting of the EDI Sub-Group took place (August 2022). Subsequent meetings were delayed due to a delay in details regarding the support for the development of Rise Diversity & Inclusion Action Plan (DIAP) being made



available by Sport England. The groups reviewed progress against the existing EDI Action Plan.

2.6. The Board reviewed the following governance documents for suitability:

- 2.6.1. Risk Register;
- 2.6.2. 2022-2023 Balanced Scorecard;
- 2.6.3. Health & Safety Policy & Statement;
- 2.6.4. Safeguarding Children & Young People and Safeguarding Adults at Risk policies;
- 2.6.5. Matters Reserved for the Board;
- 2.6.6. Business Continuity Plan; and
- 2.6.7. Environmental & Sustainability Policy.

2.7. The Board, supported by the Audit Committee, reviewed the following areas of governance:

- 2.7.1. Reserves Policy;
- 2.7.2. Financial Procedures; and
- 2.7.3. Risk Management Strategy.

2.8. The Board reviewed the Sport England Code of Governance requirements which were updated in December 2021 and approved the submission of the charity's Continued Compliance Statement and 2023 Factcheck Questionnaire at the March 2023 Board Strategy Day. (Both of these documents were submitted to Sport England for review in April 2023.)

2.9. The Board appointed its inaugural Safeguarding and Welfare Lead Trustee (Adam Pilkington).