

# GREATERSPORT

## **Governance Statement 2020/21**

## Governance framework/structure

GreaterSport is a high performing charity passionate about changing lives through movement, physical activity and sport. We are a leader of and contributor to the ambitions of [GM Moving](#) and work closely with a whole range of system wide partners to support and enable the people of Greater Manchester to lead more active lives.

The [Code for Sports Governance](#) sets out the levels of transparency, accountability and financial integrity that are required from any organisation in receipt of public funding. GreaterSport are wholeheartedly committed to ensuring we operate to the highest standards of governance and in doing so comply with all requirements of a Tier Three organisation.

We have a clear and appropriate governance structure, led by a Board of Trustees whose core purpose is to:-

- Make high quality decisions to allow GreaterSport to grow its value.
- Be the ultimate decision-making body and accordingly exercise all of the powers of the organisation.
- Be responsible for setting the strategic direction of the organisation and maintain the vision, purpose and values.
- Provide leadership in developing, approving and monitoring the implementation of the '[Changing Our Lives Together](#)' strategy.
- Ensure that the company operates to the highest standards of governance and risk management.
- Complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- Agree strategic priorities for funding and investment and ensure that financial information is accurate and that controls, monitoring and reporting systems are robust and defensible.
- To provide scrutiny and constructive challenge with regard to operational matters (delivery plans, policies, performance)
- Fully support child protection and safeguarding issues.

The statutory duties of GreaterSport Trustees are:-

- To ensure that GreaterSport complies with its governing document (Articles of Association), Charity law, Company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- To ensure that the GreaterSport pursues its charitable objectives as defined in its governing document.
- To ensure the GreaterSport uses its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives.
- To contribute actively in giving firm strategic direction to the GreaterSport, setting overall policy, defining goals and setting targets and evaluating performance against agreed targets.
- To safeguard the good name and values of GreaterSport.
- To ensure the effective and efficient administration of GreaterSport.
- To ensure the financial stability of GreaterSport.
- To protect and manage the property of the Charity and to ensure the proper investment of the Charity's funds.
- To appoint the Chief Executive Officer (on recommendation of the Nomination/Remuneration Sub-Committee) and monitor their performance.

As of 31st March 2021, membership of the Board is as follows. Biographies are available [here](#).

<b>Member</b>	<b>Role and representation</b>	<b>Sub-committees</b>
Mike Perls	Chair	Nominations & Remuneration Committee
Warren Heppollette	Senior Independent Director and Health/Public Sector	
Jen Mossop-Scott	Digital & Commercial, Data strategy, Welfare Lead	Nominations & Remuneration Committee
Rob Mukherjee	Digital/Data strategy Commercial, Safeguarding Lead	
Rob Young	Policy and strategy, workforce development	Nominations & Remuneration Committee
Sarah Brown-Fraser	Inclusion, Marketing	Nominations & Remuneration Committee
Richard Roe	Local Authority, Finance	Audit & Risk Committee
Marilyn Comrie*	Voluntary Sector	Nominations & Remuneration sub-committee
Katy Calvin-Thomas	Health	
Dan Cropper	Legal	Audit & Risk Committee
Sanjay Bhandari	Finance/Risk, Enterprise	Audit & Risk Committee
Cllr Leanne Feeley	Greater Manchester Combined Authority	
Justine Blomeley	Attends as an observer	
Graham Whitham	Attends as an observer	

\*Appointed September 2020

Paula Dunn stepped down from the Board in September 2020.

The board meets 4 times a year and has an annual Away Day. There are two sub-committees: Nominations & Remuneration and Audit & Risk. Each meets twice a year. Terms of References for both can be found [here](#). In 2020/21 Board and sub committees met on:

#### **Main Board**

19th June 2020  
 18th September 2020  
 10th December 2020  
 11<sup>th</sup> February 2021 (Away Day)  
 18<sup>th</sup> March 2021

#### **Nominations & Remuneration**

14th May 2020  
 19th November 2020

#### **Audit & Risk**

26th May 2020  
 24th November 2020

All Trustees receive an agenda and board papers at least one week in advance of meetings to help them make an effective contribution at the meetings. Minutes and actions from all meetings are recorded by the Company Secretary and circulated to Trustees after each meeting. Redacted versions of then minutes can be accessed [here](#).

## **Financial Audit**

GreaterSport undertakes a financial audit on an annual basis. The feedback from the report in 2020/21:

*"We are pleased to report that your record keeping is generally accurate and efficient, and that you are carrying out the controls that are indicated in your financial procedures. You can be confident that your financial records give you a good picture of the income and expenditure of the charity, and of its assets and liabilities."*

## **Equality and diversity**

GreaterSport is committed to providing equal opportunities and promoting diversity, irrespective of ethnicity, age, gender, sexuality, disability, religion or personal circumstances. The GreaterSport Board, in line with our [Diversity Action Plan](#), has an aim to achieve gender parity and become more ethnically diverse.

## **Evaluation**

The Board, led by the chair, undertakes and maintains in writing a record of, an annual evaluation of its own skills and performance and of individual Trustees. The Senior Independent Director conducts the Chair's annual performance appraisal during this time also. An external evaluation of the board is conducted every four years with the next on due in 2022.

## **Declaration of Trustee Interests**

Trustees, staff and volunteers have a legal obligation to act in the best interests of GreaterSport, and in accordance with GreaterSport's governing document, and to avoid situations where there may be a potential conflict of interest. All trustees are asked to declare their interests, and any gifts or hospitality offered and received in connection with their role in GreaterSport. A Declaration of Interests form is provided for this purpose, listing the types of interest they should declare. This is conducted on an annual basis. Declarations of interest is also a standing agenda item at each main Board meeting.

## **Risk Management Review**

The GreaterSport Risk Management Plan and Risk Log was reviewed in May and November 2020 by the Audit and Risk sub-committee. In light of the Covid 19 pandemic, the plan was reviewed and amended to reflect associated risks in March 2020. The plan is based on guidance from the Charity Commission and includes risks associated with, Strategic, Operational, Financial and Reputational risk, along with Legal & compliance. A copy of the plan can be viewed [here](#).

## **Charity Commission and Companies House**

Greater Manchester Sports Partnership is a Company Limited by Guarantee, registered in England and Wales. The Company number is 3258930. GreaterSport is also a registered charity (1059115). Both Companies House and the Charity Commission have the Trustees of GreaterSport listed in accordance with legal requirements. The Articles of Association are the constitution by which the company is governed.