

# Annual Governance Statement

## April 2022 to March 2023

### Background

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This Governance Statement details how Yorkshire Sport Foundation's Board of Trustees have practiced good governance within the year April 2022 to March 2023, it also details compliance with the requirements of Tier 3 of Sport England's A Code for Sport Governance.

### Board Updates

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The Board provides a robust check and challenge on the governance of YSF, a number of standing items are discussed at every meeting such as finance, HR, health and safety, as well as performance reports detailing the progress of the work being carried out. An evaluation takes place at the end of every meeting reviewing the documents tabled, the items discussed and the general feel of the meeting. A full evaluation of the Board and its members has also taken place, this was managed by the Chair.

During the year the Board appointed one new Trustee, Sarah Muckle, this brings the total of Trustees on the Board to nine. Two Trustees, Rashida Salloo and Gwen Smith, were appointed for their second term. We have also started the process of recruiting a new Chair as the current Chair, Paul Reid, is due to complete his maximum allowed time on the Board in August 2023. [Biographies for all YSF Trustees](#) can be found on the YSF website.

Four full Board meetings were held during the year with several, additional, virtual catch-up sessions, these are shorter sessions where Trustees can be updated with progress on ongoing projects. In addition, the Board held an annual 'away day' to give time to assess the strategic direction of the organisation and to recommend changes accordingly. [Approved minutes](#) for the full Board meetings can be found on the YSF website. Two of the quarterly meetings were held in community facilities that YSF has worked in over the last few years. These meetings included an update from a local community representative explaining the impact the work YSF has had in the local area. The Board found these sessions very engaging, it helped to illustrate the work YSF does.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee (FAR Committee) provide a detailed check on several areas such as finance and risk. They also provide support on ad-hoc projects where necessary. They are ultimately accountable to the Board and provide a summary of discussions that have

taken place to the full Board meeting. The FAR Committee has also held four full meetings with two additional meetings being held for specific project support.

Attendance at the full Board meeting is as follows;

Board member	Full Board Meetings Attended/ Eligible to attend	FAR Committee Meetings Attended/ Eligible to attend
Paul Reid	4/4	
Caroline Back	4/4	
Helen Gauden	3/4	4/4
John Williams	1/4	3/4
Gwen Smith	4/4	4/4
Rashida Salloo	2/4	
Jim Lord	1/4	
Ben Smith	2/4	
Sarah Muckle (from May 22)	3/3	

## Strategy Updates

At the very end of March 2022 YSF launched a new strategy, [Our Strategy, 2022 and beyond](#). We hit the ground running in April working towards achieving the aims detailed underpinned by the eight themes – Active Communities, Active Design, Health and Care, Active Travel, Active Workplaces, Public Campaigns, Active Schools and Sport.

This strategy was developed over a 12-month period and includes collaboration and consultation with many of our partners from across the area. Each Board member has been designated a ‘Board Champion’ for each of the strategy vision pillars.

We have refined our Learning and Performance System in line with the new strategy to enable the key indicators of performance to be presented to the Board at each meeting. For those areas not meeting expectations, specific remedial action plans are drawn up to ensure recovery.

This year we have progressed in achieving our vision, more information on our achievements will be available in the Annual Accounts and Impact Report.

## A Code for Sports Governance

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During the year we have been continuing to improve our governance procedures and compliance with the revised [A Code for Sports Governance](#) requirements. We have been focusing on the new elements including devising a People Plan, working on the Diversity and Inclusion Action plan and ensuring good Environmental Social Governance in line with the code.

We have completed a self-assessment against the code to ensure compliance.

## Next Year

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We will continue to work towards achieving our charity vision backed up by robust governance processes and procedures. Next year these will also be tested by an external audit.