



Become a trustee

Information Pack

A vibrant, healthy and prosperous Yorkshire through everyone moving more





A few words from our Chair

Thank you for showing an interest in this role and taking the time to read this information pack.

We know that Yorkshire is a sports mad place. We see this in the crowds that turn out to cheer on the Lionesses and the success that Yorkshire athletes have on the world stage. From the thousands of mass participant runners pounding our city streets to the thousands of volunteers making sure matches take place every week; we know that sport is part of the fabric of our communities. But we also know sport isn't for everyone, some people just like being active, with all the health and wellbeing benefits it brings.

Around 1.7 million people in West Yorkshire and South Yorkshire enjoy sport and physical activity each week. But that is not enough. Around 40% of our population are not active enough to improve both mental and physical health. We want to find ways for everyone to take part and enjoy the health and personal development benefits. We know people in some communities find it harder to play sport and be active. It's our job to make it easier for them by supporting them to design and develop the right activities in the right place and at the right price.

Yorkshire Sport Foundation is one of the 42 Active Partnerships in England which are networks of local agencies committed to working together to increase the number of people taking part in sport and physical activity. We cover the second largest population of all Active Partnerships in England and have a strong reputation regionally and nationally for our work.

But we are not about to rest on our laurels; we know we need to do more. We are entering an exciting period as we develop an ambitious new strategy that will see us set challenging participation and financial targets.

Now we have our new CEO Carl Hawkes in place, this is an exciting time to join the board and accelerate the great work that has taken place so far.

Thank you

Brendan Fatchett

"As a charity running an Active Partnership, our role is to support our partners to promote and encourage as many people across South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire to be physically active."



About Yorkshire Sport Foundation



Yorkshire Sport Foundation was formed in 2011 with the joining of South Yorkshire Sport and West Yorkshire Sport. These were originally formed in 2001 as a result of local authorities working together to plan and deliver sports provision across their counties.

Since then we have grown into an independent charitable company that works with a wide range of local, sub-regional and regional organisations such as governing bodies of sport, universities, schools, colleges, health bodies, sports and community clubs and, of course, local authorities and leisure trusts to promote and provide a well-connected system for high quality sport and physical activity.

We are part of a national network of 42 **Active Partnerships** primarily funded by Sport England who regards us as a major delivery vehicle and **system partner** in their **Uniting the Movement** strategy to get everyone active across the country.

With a combined population size of around 3.5 million we cover the largest population in the country outside of London. We have a dedicated team operating out of our head office and remote offices across the districts.

Our team passionately believe that playing sport and being active can bring huge benefits to people's health and well-being, and strengthen local communities. In particular we know that certain sectors of our communities find it hard to be active, so much of our work needs to be targeted for those people.

Around 70% of our resources are focused on areas with the highest levels of deprivation.





Our commitment to a diverse board

Our **Board members** and **team** are committed to doing things the right way, with high standards of governance, equality and transparency. This isn't about ticking boxes, but about genuine values.

As a minimum, we follow Sport England's highest tier of the Code for Sports Governance and meet all required Safeguarding, Equity and Quality Standards.

Yorkshire Sport Foundation is committed to fairness, diversity and inclusion in our workforce, our partnerships and the programmes we deliver. We do not tolerate discrimination, harassment, bullying or victimisation of any kind, and we meet all our legal responsibilities.

Equality and diversity start at the top. We value the benefits of a diverse Board and see this as essential to achieving our goals. Our Board appointments are made on merit, while seeking a broad mix of skills, experience and backgrounds.

We are committed to improving diversity, including gender balance, ethnicity and disability, and aim to ensure no single group makes up more than 70% of the Board.





What we do

Our role within this sport and physical activity structure is clear:

'To connect, influence and support movement, physical activity and sport to make it an everyday part of people's lives'.

Connect



We recognise there are thousands of people, groups and organisations across South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire who can make a difference in people's lives through movement, physical activity and sport. We are proud to be part of this big picture - a movement building across our local places - and we continue to bring people together to unite our collective purpose.

SPOTLIGHT: PLACE PARTNERSHIPS

We need 'active' included in all policy, process and practice – integrating, enabling and embedding movement, physical activity and sport across all sectors and partners. Sport England's **Place Partnership** funding supports groups that focus local leadership in each of the nine districts in South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire, to inspire and support movement, physical activity and sport.

Influence



We know we need to influence the many to realise our vision – and being influential requires building trusting relationships, a common purpose and shared values. We recognise the strong foundation we have built to do this so we can now be bold where required, listen when needed, step-aside when appropriate and take a leading role in affecting change. This means making movement, physical activity and sport everyone's business.

SPOTLIGHT: MAYORAL COMBINED AUTHORITIES

In 2025 we supported Sport England signing a Memorandum of Understanding with Mayors **Oliver Coppard in South Yorkshire** and **Tracy Brabin in West Yorkshire**. These agreements aim to improve the health of people across the counties by embedding sport and physical activity into everyday life.

Support



We know we are uniquely and strongly placed to kickstart change. Our charitable status, Sport England National Lottery funding and membership of the Active Partnership network enables us to invest through our partners and local communities as and where needed.

SPOTLIGHT: OPENING SCHOOL FACILITIES

A share of £57m investment from the Department for Education helped schools open sporting facilities for community and school users outside the normal school day. Priority groups were young women and girls, disadvantaged communities, culturally diverse communities, supporting special educational needs and people with disabilities or long term health conditions. The 2024-2025 **Impact Report** looks at the success of the third year of the programme, with case studies from across South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire.

Read more in [Our strategy, 2022 and beyond](#), and our [Annual Highlights 2024](#)



Role description

Yorkshire Sport Foundation is a Company Limited by Guarantee (No. 76339990) with charitable status (No. 1143654). Its vision is for a vibrant, healthy and prosperous Yorkshire through everyone moving more.

The Company is governed by a Board of Trustees who also act as members and directors of the Company. The Company implements the highest standards of corporate governance in line with Company and Charity laws and guidelines.

Purpose

To be an active member of the Yorkshire Sport Foundation Board ensuring strong strategic vision, robust governance, and guidance and support to the executive team.

Where appropriate act as an ambassador, spokesperson, advocate and representative for Yorkshire Sport Foundation fostering strong relationships with partners and stakeholders.

Remuneration

All Board members work voluntarily with reasonable expenses being paid.

Skills and knowledge

We aspire to have a broad skills and knowledge set on the Board. At this moment we would be particularly interested to receive applications from those with experience and

knowledge of working within:

- Health
- Communications and marketing
- Sport and physical activity sector, preferably in South Yorkshire

Areas of accountability:

- In collaboration with the Chair, fellow Board Members and the CEO provide leadership, support and strategic direction for our vision and strategy.
- To be a strong advocate for the work of Yorkshire Sport Foundation and for sport and physical activity in South Yorkshire and West Yorkshire.
- To adopt and be fully committed to the vision, purpose, and values of Yorkshire Sport Foundation.
- To play a full part in enabling the Board to arrive at balanced and objective decisions in the performance of its agreed role and functions.
- Contribute and share responsibility for the Trustee Board's decisions, ensuring that there has been full and complete consideration to all options within a context of risk management and sound governance principles.
- To ensure that the organisation complies with its governing document, charity law, company law and any other relevant legislation or regulations.
- To use such personal and professional skills together



Role description (Continued)

with such contacts, experience and judgment as they may possess with integrity and independence to optimise both the short and long term performance of the organisation and in particular the areas of their own portfolio of responsibility.

- Demonstrate an ability to create and maintain positive, professional and trusting working relationships at Board and executive level and with a wide range of private and public sector stakeholders.

Behaviours:

- Act in the company's best interests, contributing fresh perspectives and ensuring all relevant issues are considered.
- Respect the company's constitution and decisions taken under it.
- Staying well informed about Yorkshire Sport Foundation and our external environment. ensuring Be diligent, careful and well informed about the company's affairs.
- Understand the importance and purpose of the meetings and be committed to preparing for them adequately and attending them regularly.
- Analyse information and question, challenge and debate constructively.
- Be able to respect boundaries between executive and governance functions.

- Be able to maintain confidentiality on sensitive and confidential information.
- Be able to make collective decisions and stand by them.
- Use [The Seven Principles of Public Life](#) as a guide to how Board members should conduct themselves

Expected time commitments of the Board members

The Board meets formally, in person, at least four times per year as well as eight informal, online, catch ups.

Board members may also be asked to:

- contribute to specific project groups
- attend a number of events including training throughout the year
- become Board Champion for a specific area of the business such as safeguarding, diversity and inclusion, safety and welfare etc.





Why apply?

As a Yorkshire Sport Foundation trustee you will be able to:

- Provide support to a CEO leading an organisation that is making a real difference to individuals or society as a whole
- Contribute your skills and expertise to a cause that is important to you
- Play a fundamental role in the strategic development of the organisation
- Gain valuable experience and learn new skills within a leadership role
- Challenge yourself, by applying your skills in a different environment
- Gain non-executive board experience
- Learn from other trustees and gain new insights from seeing how others respond to situations and make decisions

How to apply

All you need to do is send us your CV and short covering letter to:

- antoinette.duffin@yorkshiresport.org
- So we can monitor diversity, [please fill in this anonymous form](#)
- For an informal chat, call our CEO Carl Hawkes on 07714 733633

Deadline

- 9am on Monday, 16 February 2026.

Your personal information

Your personal information will be held in accordance with our [data protection guidelines](#).

If you apply for a post, we will share some of the information you provide with the members of the selection panel for the post to which you apply, so that your application form and CV can be assessed.

How we will deal with your application

We will deal with your application as quickly as possible keeping you up to date throughout the process, including acknowledging receipt of your application.

The process involves considering your application against the criteria, taking into account the current skill and knowledge gaps on the Board.

Further discussions will then be arranged with the CEO and Board member representatives as required

If successful, the candidate will be voted on by the full Board at the next available meeting.

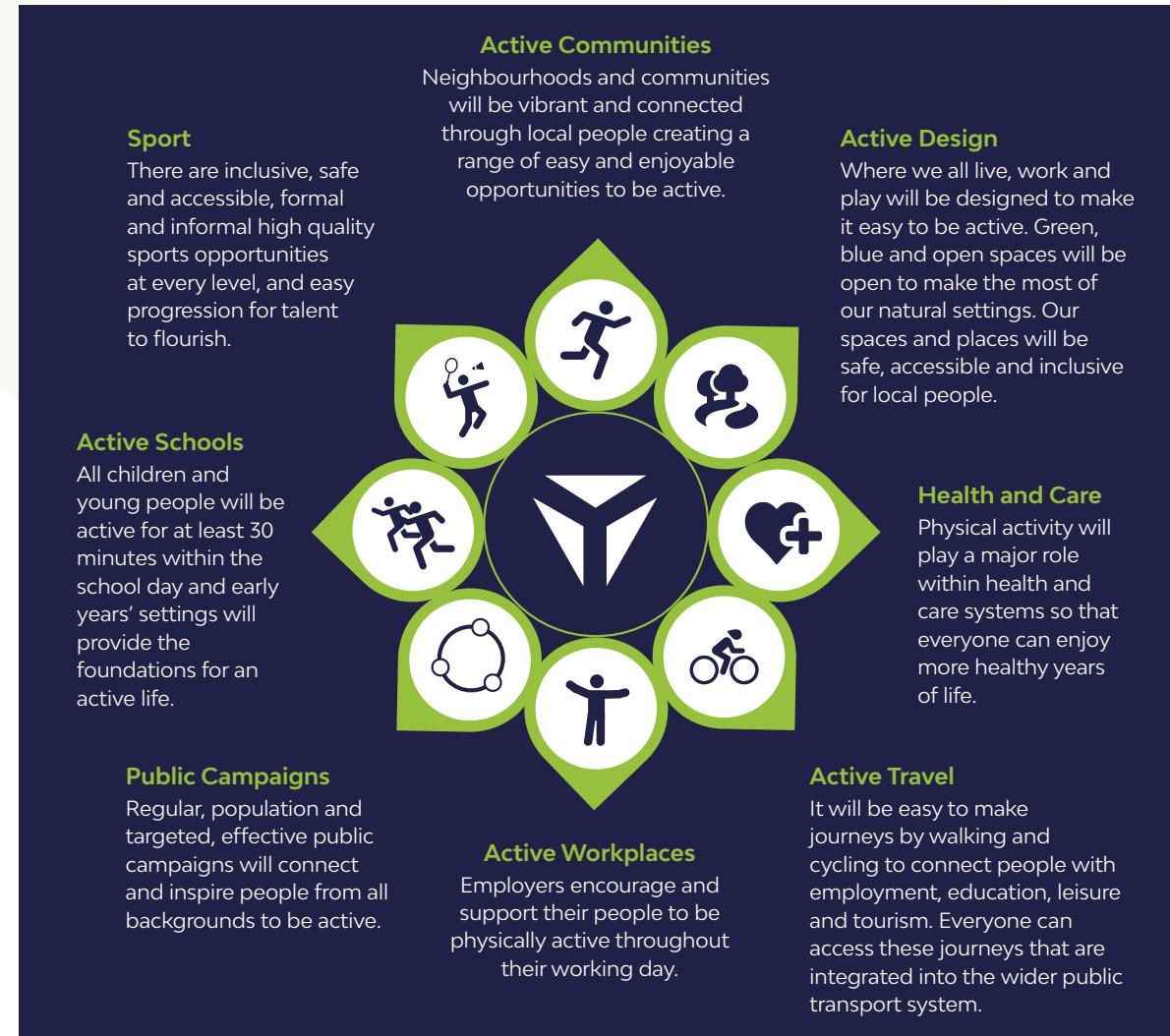


Our Vision

A vibrant, healthy and prosperous Yorkshire through everyone moving more.

Our Vision themes

We believe movement, physical activity and sport has a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of the region, supporting the economy, connecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society for all. All these themes matter, all are interconnected and all require a relentless focus to provide the step change needed to increase activity levels and reduce sedentary behaviours.





Follow us on
Yorkshire Sport Foundation

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Registered charity in England and Wales: 1143654

