

Active Suffolk

Governance Statement 2019/20

Active Suffolk (rebranded on 1st April 2019: formerly Suffolk Sport) is one of 43 Active Partnerships across England. Working with a wide range of local partners, we provide the strategic lead for physical activity and sport across the county, and support Suffolk's collective ambition to be the Most Active County in England.

Active Suffolk is hosted by the newly created East Suffolk Council but operates under its own independent Board made up of up to 12 individuals who direct the affairs of the organisation in accordance with its priorities and objectives. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction and leadership of Active Suffolk.

The Board is led currently by a Chair, supported by a Vice-Chair and a Senior Independent Board Member. In addition, there are two subgroups covering Finance Audit and Governance, and Business Development and Marketing. The Finance and Governance Subgroup is Chaired by the board member holding the Finance Portfolio. The Business Development and Marketing Subgroup meets as a 'task and finish' group as required.

The Board is committed to progressing towards achieving gender parity and greater diversity in respect of Board composition. 50% of current Board Members are female. Two new Board members were recruited during 2019/20. All Board members are required to undertake a formal induction process and have access to ongoing training and development. In January 2020 Board Members received update training on the local health system. Further information in respect of Board member profiles and governance documents is available on the Active Suffolk website.

The Board held 4 scheduled meetings during 2019/20 and its annual 'away day'. One additional Coronavirus update meeting was also held at the end of March 2020. Board Meeting minutes can be accessed via the Active Suffolk website. The Finance Audit and Governance subgroup met on 4 occasions. The Business Development and Marketing subgroup did not meet in 2019/20. The Chair and Board Members were subject to an annual appraisal process. As part of its review cycle, the Board undertook an annual review of its Internal Control Systems and Risk Management Processes in January 2020. Active Suffolk's Risk Register is available on the Active Suffolk website.

The audited financial accounts are presented as part of the overall statement of accounts for East Suffolk Council, our host organisation. A link to the full audited statement of accounts is published on the Active Suffolk website alongside a summary which identifies Active Suffolk's income and expenditure only and also provides disclosure on the income received from public investors and the expenditure of that funding.

This Governance Statement should be read in conjunction with the East Suffolk Council Council Annual Governance Statement 2019/20, published on the East Suffolk Council website.

Active Suffolk operates to the Sport England / UK Sport Code for Sports Governance and is compliant at the highest level – Tier 3.

NOTE:

The Annual Statement of Accounts and Governance Statement from East Suffolk Council will be published later than usual as Government has delayed publication due to Coronavirus. Draft accounts will be published by 31st August 2020 and the Governance Statement by 30 November 2020.