Active Surrey’s Board of dedicated volunteers has been very busy this year. The Board met five times and, as well as undertaking general Board activities to provide ongoing support and constructive challenge to the organisation, a range of other specific actions have been undertaken. The Board has also continued its two sub-committees focussing on commercial development and finance & governance (three meetings each).

The future long-term relationship with the organisation’s host, Surrey County Council, was agreed in principle, with the new Hosting Agreement set to be signed in 2019-20. The host retains overall legal responsibility for Active Surrey but delegates powers to the Board, with Active Surrey using SCC’s internal controls, HR, IT, audit and finance systems. A review of Active Surrey’s strategic relationships took place, as well as a review of the priorities of the Specsavers Surrey Youth Games. The Board also supported the successful Quest assessment during the winter (part of Sport England’s Performance Measurement and Improvement Framework for Active Partnerships) and agreed an organisational improvement plan to build on the good/very good module scores.

The Board was delighted to announce that Richard Gray was appointed as the new Chair of the Board in October 2018 following a rigorous recruitment process by the Nominations Committee. Two other new Board Members also joined during the year – Julie Iles and Ian Burrows – having been nominated (as per the Board’s Terms of Reference) by Surrey’s County and Borough/District Councils respectively. All new Board Members received a thorough induction process. John Cunningham was appointed by his peers as the Senior Independent Board Member (SIBM) and all Board Members were allocated “Board Champion” roles to create stronger links with staff. The Board wishes to express its thanks for the contribution of the four Board Members who stepped down this year: Denise-Tuner-Stewart, John Hubbell, Sue Barham and outgoing Chair, Steven Day. At the end of the year, the gender split of the Board was 63:37 meeting the commitment to have at least 30% of either gender. There were no significant declarations of conflicts of interest.

The Board received regular reports on the progress of Active Surrey’s new organisational strategy which focused significantly more resources on priority groups of inactive residents – the many successes are highlighted in the 2018-19 Impact Report. The Board were also encouraged by the increased diversification in funding that Active Surrey has been able to realise which resulted in an increased total percentage of non-Sport England funding, increasing confidence that the organisation can continue on this sustainable path.

To maintain compliance with the requirements of the UK Code for Sports Governance at Tier 3 (the highest level), the Board: regularly discussed and reviewed practices and procedures relating to risk management, safeguarding and general data protection; undertook training in safeguarding and disability/inclusion; and completed the annual self-evaluation of board effectiveness. The Chair conducted individual appraisals of each Board Member, with the SIBM appraising the Chair. These actions ensured there were no deviations from the Code’s requirements.

Priorities for the Board in 2019-20 include recruitment of two new Board Members (to replace those with terms ending next year), a review of the organisational strategy (to ensure progress is on track and objectives are still relevant), preparing a long-term financial plan and recruiting a new Managing Director.

The following key documents and policies are published online here:

- **AS Board Terms of Reference** is the governing document and includes Board and Committees’ Terms of Reference, governance structure diagram and delegated powers, etc.
- **AS Board Biographies** contains information about each Board Member and their Board role.
- **Diversity Action Plan** is our plan to ensure equality and diversity and links with our equality statement.