



MSP Board Recruitment

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Welcome to our recruitment pack for MSP.

We believe movement, sport and physical activity have a big role to play in improving the physical and mental health of our local population, reconnecting communities and rebuilding a stronger society and economy for all.

For too long, people with the most to gain from being active have been the least able to take part. As a result of the huge disruption COVID 19 has caused, and the inequalities it's reinforced or for some, exacerbated, our drive to do things differently and confront these inequalities head on is stronger now than ever.

This is why there has never been a more exciting time to join us! I'm delighted that you're interested in taking an influential role in helping our organisation succeed. As a Board Member you will shape, with our team, the systemic approach to tackling the stubborn inequalities that exist across Merseyside.

We'd love to hear from you; this is a challenging role and at the moment we particularly keen to hear from potential Board Members with professional or lived experience and skills in the following areas:

- Gender equality.
- Cultural equality.
- Disability and inclusion.
- Health.
- Community.
- Education.

You'll find all the key information about the role and how to make an application here in the pack, but if you need any further information after reading it please get in touch. You can read our governance framework here: <https://merseysidesport.com/about-us/governance-board/> After reading if you have any questions then our Director, Tom Douglas, will be happy to talk this through with you. You can get in touch with him at t.douglas@merseysidesport.com

I'll leave you to work your way through the recruitment pack. We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,



Cameron Jones
Chairperson, MSP.

What to expect

We're big believers that you get out what you put in. This is a very exciting time for us and you will have an opportunity to influence, create and drive us towards a more active, collaborative, diverse and inclusive future.

As a hosted Active Partnership, we are part of Liverpool City Council, so your role as Board Member will be on MSP's Advisory Board.

An important part of the role is being present and proactive in Board meetings but also helping the team to achieve our vision. The integration between our Board and team provides Board Members with the opportunity to build deep and meaningful relationships across the Board and with the MSP Team; which allows us to really shape the future of our organisation together.

We recognise and respect that the time you'll be giving up is precious so we always aim to be flexible and schedule meetings for times that best suit all Board Members jointly wherever possible. We will use your time sparingly, but we do ask that you give your ability to commit to the role serious consideration and that you ensure you can be released from your other daily commitments from time to time to fulfil your obligations to this role.

This is a mutually beneficial opportunity and it should be a rewarding experience for you as well; providing you the value from making a difference in the world and using your valuable experience to better other people. As a Board Member you'll be at the heart of taking people on that crucial journey towards improved wellbeing using sport, physical activity and movement, whilst helping to create a more active Merseyside. In the process of making that difference you'll have the opportunity to enhance your career, grow your network, or, alternatively, make a valuable contribution in retirement.

Role Descriptions

As a Board Member you'll be passionate about tackling our stubborn social inequalities to get people moving so that everyone can benefit from living an active life. You'll also be attuned to our values, our vision, mission, and key themes. You'll have the energy and drive to make a difference in Merseyside at a strategic and systemic level. In addition, each Board Member will:

- Ensure that the organisation pursues its standard against 'A Code for Sports Governance' (Tier 3), as defined in its governing document.
- Ensure the organisation maintains the highest standards in safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion.
- Ensure that the organisation applies its resources exclusively in pursuance of its objectives for the benefit of the public.
- Ensure that the organisation defines its goals and evaluates performance against agreed targets.
- Safeguard the good name and values of the organisation.
- Support the financial stability of the organisation.
- Show a willingness to devote the necessary time and effort needed for the role.
- Be a strategic thinker and visionary.
- Offer strong, independent judgement.
- Demonstrate an ability to think creatively.
- Comfortable in speaking your mind and calling out social injustice.
- An ability to work effectively as a member of a team.
- Follow the seven Nolan principles of public service: Selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership.

We'd also expect that each Board Member uses any specific skills, knowledge or experience they have to help the MSP Board reach sound decisions. This may involve scrutinising board papers, leading discussions, focusing on key issues, providing advice, guidance and support on the development of new initiatives or within the Board Member's area of specialism.

As a MSP Board Member, you'll also demonstrate our MSP values:

- **We are bold and agile:** We value ambition and welcome new challenges, whilst striving to keep things as simple and accessible as possible.
- **We work towards our vision as a connected team:** We know that when we listen to understand, communicate in an open, truthful way and collaborate, we achieve more.
- **We always want to learn:** We value what goes well and what doesn't go well, learning from both and sharing what we discover.
- **We value diversity and we're committed to inclusion:** We recognise that peoples' differences can take us from good to great.
- **We strive to do the right thing:** Using compassion and constructive challenge in equal measure we create a respectful, vibrant environment where we can all do our best work.

About MSP

There are forty-three Active Partnerships across England who work collaboratively with local partners to create the conditions for an active nation, using the power of sport and physical activity to transform lives.

MSP is the Active Partnership for Merseyside, hosted by Liverpool City Council, primarily funded by Sport England and driven by Uniting the Movement: We are a locally based strategic organisation that recognises activity levels are affected by a complex system of influences and no single organisation or programme creates sustainable change at scale. By adopting a collaborative whole system approach, MSP seeks to make active lifestyles the social norm for everyone and address the worrying levels of inactivity in society.

Together with our team and network we're busy planning for the next decade. We know that through our mission of 'working together to improve the quality of life for all people of Merseyside through sport and physical activity' we can complement the work of the system. By convening partners, facilitating discussion and driving system change we can serve Merseyside to tackle our most stubborn inequalities and create the opportunities for all people to be active. Doing so will drive us towards our vision 'to inspire all people to be active everyday'.

Our new strategy development is underway and will be ready by April 2022. Early emerging themes of our strategy are

1. Tackling inequalities, focussing especially on deprivation and equality, diversity and inclusion.
2. Embedding physical activity strategically across the whole system to tackle a range of health, societal and economic issues.
3. Help our children and young people to have the right opportunities to benefit from being active and move more
4. Support capacity building for the physical activity sector and our communities.
5. Build on positives identified through the pandemic: like community spirit, volunteering, digital adoption, the great outdoors and connection to local place

As you'll no doubt agree, there has never been a more exciting time to join us.

How to apply

It's important that the fit is right between you and the organisation, we want your experience to be enjoyable.

We therefore ask that you take a little time to include some detail in a covering letter in addition to your curriculum vitae. Your covering letter should include:

1. What drives your passion about improving wellbeing through sport and physical activity?
2. Why are you interested in the role?
3. The key reasons you think you are suited to the role
4. What you can bring to improve our organisation, our Board and our team.

Please ensure the following documents are completed and added to your application:

- Board Member Skills Matrix.
- Declaration of Interests Form.
- Equality Profile Form.
- Good Character Form.

Please send your completed applications via email with the subject line 'MSP Board Member Application' to admin@merseysidesport.com

Key Dates:

Closing date for applications: **5pm. Wednesday 19th January 2022.**

Interviews and decisions: **w/c 24th January 2022.**

MSP Board induction **1st February 2022.**

Attendance at first MSP Board meeting: **February 2022 exact date TBC**