



active

Kent & Medway

**BOARD MEMBER
RECRUITMENT
PACK**

V.APR.26

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Welcome



Derek Lewis
Active Partnership
Board Chair

Dear potential Board Member,

Active Kent & Medway exists to change lives through sport and physical activity. This drives everything that we do and motivates every single person engaged with our organisation. We lead, support and connect people and partners across our county through our shared vision of **More People, More Active, More Often**.

Uniting communities and creating more equal and inclusive places so that people can lead happier, healthier and more fulfilled lives. We can only achieve this by surrounding ourselves with outstanding individuals as we go on our journey.

This is where you come in.

We recognise and embrace the benefits of having a balance of skills and experiences on our Board and see increasing diversity and inclusivity at Board level as an essential element to achieving our stated aims and objectives. As an organisation we believe we should be reflective of the people within our communities and as such we are looking to strengthen our already talented and committed Board. At this moment in time, we are particularly interested in those with a background and experience in Health, HR or Marketing/Communications.

This pack is designed to provide you with the information you will need to make an informed decision about working with Active Kent & Medway and clarity on the expectations of the role. I am more than happy to answer any questions you may have and would encourage you to get involved even if it is your first Board position.

About Us



Active Kent & Medway (formerly Kent Sport) is one of 42 Active Partnerships in England. Our principal funders are Sport England and Kent County Council, whose strategies and outcomes set the direction of our work and activity.

Our vision is 'more people, more active, more often'.

Our mission is to 'change and improve lives through sport and physical activity'.

To achieve this, we aim to increase participation in sport and physical activity with a focus on encouraging the least active of Kent's 1.8 million residents to become more active, and through the promotion of the associated personal and public health benefits. We will target resources where need is greatest, especially at those from under-represented groups, including women, older people, people living with a disability or long-term health condition, ethnically diverse communities and people from lower socio-economic groups.

We engage with partners and networks across Kent and Medway – including those in health, adult social care, community safety, housing, and transport as well as governing bodies of sport, clubs, school sports networks and local authorities, to provide opportunities for everyone to get involved in sport and physical activity for enjoyment as well as wider health and social outcomes.

Active Kent & Medway is an unincorporated partnership is directed and guided by an independent board which sets the strategy and oversees, scrutinises and guides the work of the staff team, making decisions where appropriate. It is responsible for the provision of good governance and overseeing delivery of **Move Together – The Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Kent and Medway 2023 - 27.**

About Us



Everyday Active is Active Kent & Medway's flagship campaign supporting health professionals to promote physical activity and encouraging the least active to move more in their everyday lives.



The Strategy focuses on the following key themes:

- **Connecting Communities:** Bringing communities together and harnessing sport and physical activity's unique ability to make places better to live;
- **Positive Experiences for Children and Young People:** Helping children and young people to enjoy being active and creating the right foundations for a long, active and healthy life;
- **Supporting Sport:** Supporting local organisations to better understand their community and to deliver activities appropriate to people's needs and motivations.
- **Connecting with Health and Wellbeing:** Working in partnership and enabling everyone to benefit physically and mentally from an active lifestyle
- **Active Environments:** Creating and protecting the places and spaces that make it easier for people to be active.

The Active Kent & Medway staff team helps coordinate this work through an annual operating plan which focuses on ensuring that:

- Organisations who work with those who are less active, are embedding sport and physical activity into their services.
- The sport and physical activity sector is inclusive and accessible, and better able to meet the needs of our communities.
- New audiences are reached by prioritising resources to tackle inequalities.

Our Board



Derek Leiws

Board Chairman since Jan 2026. Derek joined the board in Nov 2023. Derek is a Fellow of the Chartered Governance Institute, with over 35 years of corporate governance experience in major international companies, primarily in the financial services sector, as well as having experience in risk management and compliance. Derek has been on the Medway Basketball Association Management Committee for 32 years



Caz Conneller

Board Member - joined May 2025. Founder of Cyclechic, Director at Loud Mobility and International Campaign Manager for Clean Cities.



Chris Morgan

Board Member - joined Jan 2024. Chris is Director of Sport at Tonbridge School. He plays a pivotal role in shaping the sports programs and nurturing athletic talent.



Timothy Oladimeji

Board Member - joined Nov 2025. Timothy is Director of Staff Wellbeing at a Multi Academy Trust, where he has been for the past 15 years.



Claire Shelton

Board Member - joined May 2025. Currently the Director for Health and Wellbeing at Social Enterprise Kent, Claire's whole career has been spent working in the public sector.

Our Board



Barbara Grogan
Board Member - joined May 2025. Barbara is a health communications consultant who most recently worked with global healthcare company Axon Communications.



Nick Jennings
Board Member - joined Nov 2025. Nick is a qualified accountant and finance professional with over 20 years experience in corporate finance, tax compliance, IT and governance.



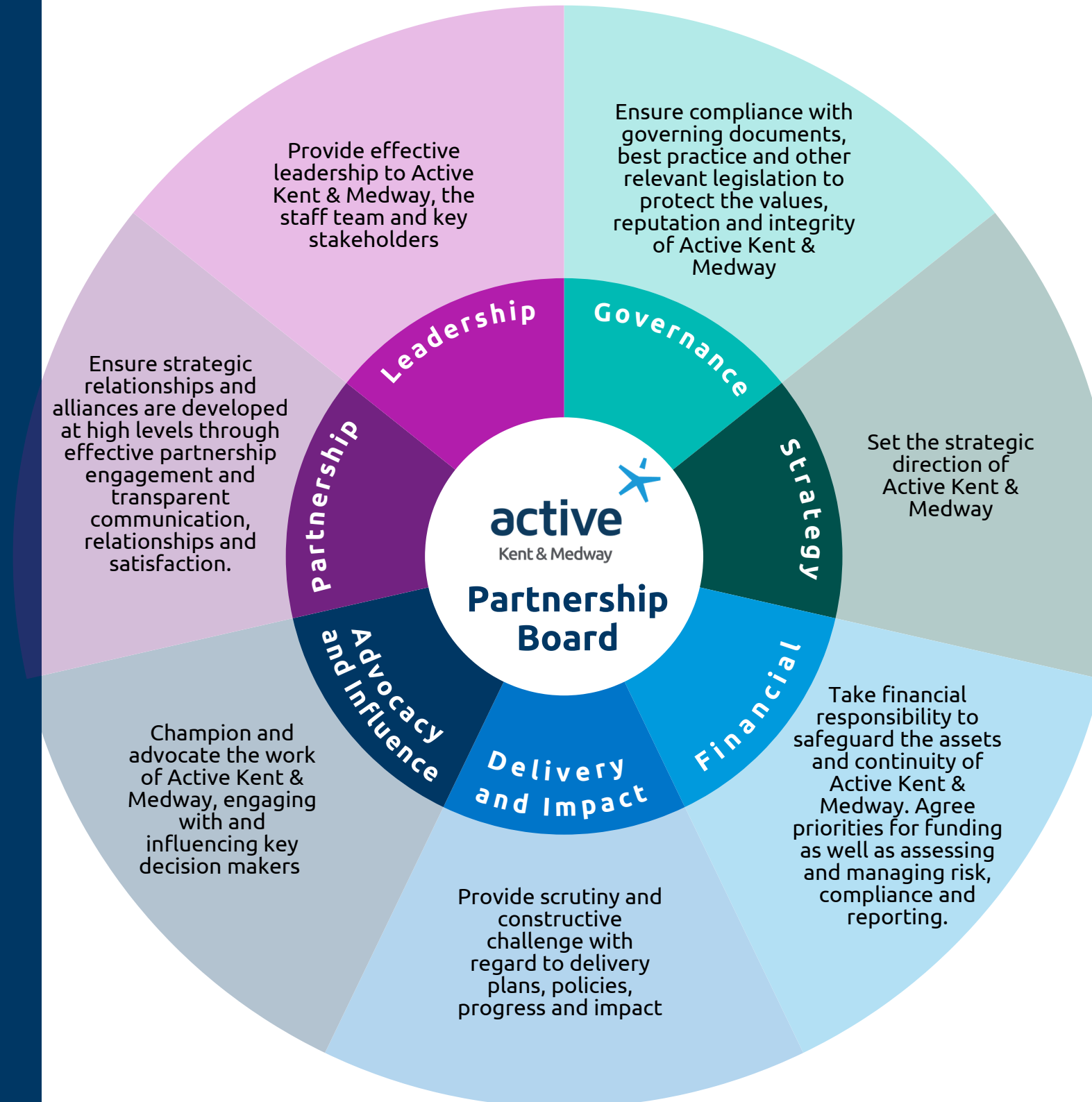
**Tom Marchant
(Ex-Officio Member)**
Head of Strategic Planning and Policy at Kent County Council and the Host Agency Representative on the Board



**Liz Davidson-Kennett
(Ex-Officio Member)**
Active Partnership Director, Active Kent & Medway

The Board's Key Role

Board members may also be asked to support priority areas of Active Kent & Medway's work and to engage with specific committees or working groups. For example, Nominations Committee, Audit and Governance Committee, Board Safety and Welfare Champion, Active Kent & Medway Diversity and Inclusion Group.



Board Recruitment

Active Kent & Medway is seeking to appoint new Board Members to further strengthen its Board.

We are particularly interested in:

- individuals with understanding, skills and/or experience in either **Health, Human Resources and/or Marketing and Communications**
- and appointing a new **Senior Independent Director**.

New Board members should also be able to demonstrate:

- An understanding of the work of the Active Partnership and share our passion for the power of sport and physical activity to improve lives and be committed to tackling the inequalities so intrinsically linked to inactivity and to equality and diversity more broadly.
- Good independent judgement.
- An ability to think creatively.
- A willingness to provide constructive challenge
- An understanding and acceptance of the legal duties, responsibilities and liabilities of Board membership
- An ability to work effectively as part of a team
- A commitment to work to Nolan's seven principles of public life: selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership
- Charity business specific expertise and experiences e.g. HR, Finance, Marketing, Business Development, Legal etc.

Recruitment Information

Commitment

- 4 x main Board meetings per year (2 days).
- 1 x Board Away Day (1 day).
- Both our Sub Committees (for Audit, Risk, Governance and for Strategic Projects and Programmes) meet biannually as a minimum (1 day).
- Undertake a Board Induction training session (0.5 day).
- 1 x annual performance review with the Chair of the Board (0.2 day).
- In addition, Board members may contribute to specific project/steering groups as they arise from time to time and will be invited to a number of optional events throughout the year.

Eligibility

Board Member should, preferably, either live or work within Kent and have an interest in helping people to be active to benefit their health and wellbeing within Kent, (as defined by the Kent County Council and Medway Council area). Board Members must be aged 18 or over and entitled to live and work in the United Kingdom.

Remuneration

This is a non-salaried positions. Travel and other reasonable expenses will be reimbursed.

Location

Board meetings and events will be held either online or at various locations throughout Kent and Medway.

Term

Four years with the opportunity to be considered for reappointment for a second term of four years. (Maximum of eight years).

Induction and Training

An induction programme will be offered to new Board Members and relevant training provided during the term of your appointment.

Recruitment Information

Privacy Notice

The information that you provide as part of your application will be used in the selection process only. All information about you will be securely held and access restricted to colleagues directly involved in dealing with the selection process. Active Kent & Medway is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses data and to meeting its data protection obligations. **[Read our full privacy policy.](#)**

By submitting your application, you are giving your consent to your personal data being stored and processed for the purposes of this Trustee selection process.

Equality Statement

Sport and Physical Activity is an intrinsic part of many local communities, which contributes to the quality of life of many people and fosters community cohesion. It also has the ability to bring people together and to develop teamwork and co-operative skills and can provide a wide range of opportunities for all sections of the community to participate and to enjoy the benefits to their health and wellbeing.

As a lead partnership agency and a provider of services for sport and physical activity, Active Kent & Medway and our Board are committed to promoting equality, valuing diversity, combating unfair treatment and proactively tackling inequalities in sport and physical activity.

We are committed to ensuring that current and potential service users, employees (including volunteer helpers), Board Members and applicants for roles either with Active Kent & Medway or our Board, will not be discriminated against on the grounds of social circumstances or background, gender, gender identity, ethnicity, disability, sexuality, age, religion, pregnancy & maternity or marriage & civil partnerships.

The principles of tolerance and understanding and respect for others are central to what we believe. Active Kent & Medway and the Board are committed to progressing towards achieving gender parity and greater diversity generally on its Board, including, but not limited to disability and cultural diversity.

Recruitment Process

Application either by CV and covering letter to Liz Davidson-Kennett by 31 May 2026 or via **the online application form**.

In your covering letter you should outline your reason for wanting to join the Active Kent & Medway Board, your skills and experience as relevant to the vacancy and more broadly, how you think you could contribute to Active Kent & Medway and our ambition to get more people, more active more often across Kent and Medway.

Suitable Applicants will be invited to have a conversation with the Chair, other Board Members and the Active Partnership Director.

Appointments will be made subject to ratification by Sport England and Kent County Council, receipt of satisfactory references and completion of declaration of interests and declaration of good character forms. References will only be taken up and declarations asked to be completed if an applicant is asked to join the Board.

All Board members are expected to adhere to the Board Code of Conduct. This will be provided if an applicant is invited to become a Board member.

Key Dates

Application closing date: **31 May 2026.**

Interviews: **June/July 2026.**

Further information

If you have any questions or require any additional information, please contact:

Selina Baker
Business Support Officer
selina.baker@kent.gov.uk

or

Liz Davidson-Kennett
Active Partnership Director
liz.davidson@kent.gov.uk