



Active Essex

Board Recruitment
Role Brief



Welcome

Azeem Akhtar,
Chairman of Active Essex

Active Essex is the driving force in our county to increase levels of physical activity and sport, working to hard wire this into the systems around us, creating significant change in our attitudes and behaviours, and making regular activity part of our daily lives. Everyone benefits from being active - for our personal physical and mental health and wellbeing.

I am therefore delighted to be able to offer the opportunity for 3 to 5 individuals, with the required skill sets and drive, to join the Active Essex Board on our journey. We are coming to the conclusion of our strategy consultation process and will look to launch a new strategic plan in the spring of 2021 as our current strategy "Changing 1 million lives to get Essex active" is coming to an end.

We recognise the challenges we face to increase activity levels and the need to work across our Eco system to do this.

We need to set ambitious goals and have a strong vision to provide leadership for our sector. Where we want to be in 2030 will require a step change in behaviours so that regular physical activity becomes part of the everyday lives of children and adults. Twenty years ago the health challenge for our nation was to make our lives smoke free. Today it is to increase physical activity.

If you want to make a difference to the lives of people in Essex, have a passion for physical activity and sport and feel you have the skills to support our mission - we would like to talk to you so please read on for more information and how to apply. Applications are encouraged from all sections of the community to help ensure that the Active Essex board is representative of the diverse society it serves.

About Active Essex

We want to increase people's participation in and enjoyment of activities that benefit their physical and mental health and wellbeing.

Active Essex is uniquely placed as the strategic lead for Physical Activity and Sport across the county and is supported by Essex County Council and Sport England.

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Our vision is to get **one million** people active in Greater Essex by 2021.

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Our Values

Active Essex values are about:



Effective **collaboration** and delivery with partners and localities



Being **innovative** in how we work



Making positive, **measurable impacts** in what we do



Using our insight, passion and **commitment** to make a difference

Our Current Strategic Priorities

2017-2021

- Drive and sustain participation
- Improve health and wellbeing
- Develop individuals and organisations
- Strengthen localities, communities and networks

Locality Partnerships



Local Active Essex networks in each local authority area who allow us to work dynamically with partners across the Greater Essex ecosystem to create and active, healthier county.

We do this through:

- Promoting physical activity across all age groups and abilities
- Developing sport
- Partnering with the Active Essex Foundation
- Essex Local Delivery Pilot

For more information on our vision, mission and priorities, click [here](#).

Key Elements

Active Essex board priorities are:



Developing strategy - board members should actively and constructively contribute to and challenge the development of the strategy



Delegated authority - ensuring the board operates within the set parameters



Decision making - monitoring and evaluating against priority aims and ensuring risk is managed appropriately



Overseeing results - ensuring the delivery of planned results by monitoring performance against agreed priority aims and outcomes



Championing and leading - on specific areas of work which maybe in liaison with sub groups and/or project groups



Partnerships - promote, improve the regional networks and help the board reach sound decisions



Integrity - we have a code of conduct that all board members are required to sign and adhere to.

The board play a key role in the governance, operations and strategic direction of Active Essex. This is skills based, voluntary group, with a terms of reference.

We operate and adhere to the Sport England 'Code of Good Governance' standards and principals.

The Nolan Principals of public life are central to our values. We publish our key documents online [here](#).

View our existing board [here](#).



Role Profile



The current Chair and Board have identified the following sector experience, insight and connections, at the highest possible decision making level, as key for the new Board members.

Successful applicants will have expertise in one or more of the below:

Areas of expertise:

- Education
- Public Health
- Local Government
- Community Development
- Planning
- SME Business Community
- Elite Sport

We require a range of background skills from the list below:

Background skills:

- Political awareness
- Digital
- Finance
- Influencing
- Collaboration
- Campaigning
- Legal
- Data, evaluation, impact
- Marketing
- Communications
- HR and people development

For more information on the role and to apply, please click [here](#).

Interviews: Week commencing 22nd February and 1st March onwards

Active Essex are looking for individuals who are able to operate at a senior strategic level, with experience of successful partnership working. It is important for this individual to take lead in driving forward participation in physical activity and to widen the sporting opportunities across Greater Essex.

Being passionate about sport and physical activity is important, but it isn't enough. Active Essex Board members will provide strategic leadership, advocacy and management accountability for the partnership. Along with the Chair, you will act as 'champions' within various spheres of influence by opening doors and creating links.

You will have the mindset to be able to challenge as well as support, be creative and divergent thinkers but also the ability to get things done.

Person Specification

An understanding and empathy of the current sporting landscape with a passion for sport and physical activity will be needed for the successful candidate.

Essential skills:

- Can command confidence and respect, and exercise influence across Greater Essex and nationally
- Good communication and presentation skills
- Experience of media and public speaking
- Ability to build relationships with a wide range of partners
- Skills in strategic leadership and negotiation
- Skills in team work and diplomacy
- Skills in managing people and resources
- Personal integrity with commitment to maintaining high standards
- Strategic thinker and engaging.

Term of Office/Time Commitment:

- Board members are appointed for 3 years (1 term) and can serve a maximum of 3 terms
- Board members may be required to represent Active Essex at county, regional and national events as required
- Board members are asked to attend quarterly board meetings each year
- The time requirement is likely to be a minimum of 1 day a month (on average) although there will be periods of greater engagement with the Chair and Director.

Active Essex are determined to ensure that no applicant or successfully appointed board member receives less favourable treatment on the grounds of gender, age, disability, religion, belief, sexual orientation, marital status, or race, or is disadvantaged by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable.