

Minutes of the Rise Board meeting held on Tuesday 11th November 2025 at Royal Quays Business Centre

PRESENT

Simon Gordon (SG)	Chairperson
Steven Bell (SB)	Trustee
Joanne Cairns (JC)	Trustee
Nic Erevik (NE)	Trustee
Graeme Nash (GN)	Trustee
Karen Pearce (KP)	Trustee
Adam Pilkington (APilk)	Trustee
Anoop Puri (APuri)	Trustee
Katy Storie (KS)	Trustee
Clare Morley (CM)	Chief Executive Officer
David Marrin (DM)	Chief Operating Officer
Jade Scott (JM)	Strategic Lead for Place
Kaye Scott (KSc)	Finance and Business Support Manager

IN ATTENDANCE

Lara Lill (LL)	Global Active
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APOLOGIES

Matthew Cormack (MC)	Trustee
Keiran Spencer (KS)	Trustee
Debbie Henderson (DH)	Senior Independent Trustee

Item	Discussion	Action
1.0	Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Conflicts of Interest	
1.1	<p>SG welcomed trustees to the meeting. Apologies were received and noted.</p> <p>SG informed the Board that unfortunately, due to personal circumstances, Sarah Campbell has had to resign from the Board following her co-option in April. SG thanked SC for her service and her willingness to support the transfer process of CDS to Rise through the co-option process. CM confirmed that she has updated Companies House, the Charity Commission, and Sport England.</p> <p>There were no new declarations of interest.</p>	
2.0	Re-Connecting to the Purpose	
2.1	Jade Scott, Strategic Lead for Place, gave a presentation on the work of the Place workstream. A copy of the presentation will be circulated with these minutes.	CM
2.2	GN asked how we think political change will affect the direction of our plans? CM responded, if we hold the investment then what we do won't necessarily change, however, if it's held within a local authority then we may well see change that we can't prepare for as it's unclear what that change might look like.	
2.3	SG agrees that we need to be "holding our nerve" to do things right and asked what support the Board can offer to the Place Based work. JS, when the themes emerge from the insight currently being collated, we will be	

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<p>2.4</p>	<p>grateful of the Board's support. KP to link in with two new Medical Directors within Secondary Care, CM/JS to be in contact with KP when the outcome of our funding submission is known in December.</p> <p>KS discussed a potential project connecting current medical students with NHS staff—former medical students—through sports sessions. The aim is to help students understand NHS work demands while supporting staff mental health through physical activity. KP and KS to follow up.</p>	<p>CM/JS KP</p> <p>KP/KS</p>
<p>3.0 3.1 3.2 3.3</p>	<p>Previous Minutes and Matters Arising</p> <p><u>Board Meeting (November)</u> The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be a true record. CM provided a brief update on the two actions not yet started from the last meeting below.</p> <p><u>Link in with Neighbourhood Engagement Teams</u> Michael Ali, Health Strategic Lead, is waiting on the Neighbourhood Plans.</p> <p><u>International PACC Case Study</u> Michael Ali and KS still to connect.</p>	
<p>4.0 4.1 4.2</p>	<p>Previous Sub Committee Minutes</p> <p><u>Audit Committee – October 2025</u> The minutes from the Audit Committee were noted.</p> <p><u>Nom & Rem Committee – September 2025</u> The minutes from the Nom & Rem Committee were noted. The date on the minutes is to be corrected.</p>	<p>CM</p>
<p>5.0 5.1 5.2 5.3</p>	<p>CEO Strategic Update</p> <p>CM presented the report circulated prior to the meeting. The following discussions took place.</p> <p><u>Sport England Investment Post March 2027</u> GN stated that managing the uncertainty in the team is key during this period of unknown. CM confirmed that communicating with the team is a priority.</p> <p><u>New Opportunities to Support Newcastle Uni in the Middle East</u> A discussion took place on the opportunity and the Board resolved to proceed given that it was in the best interests of the charity to generate income through the work that can be reinvested locally.</p>	
<p>6.0 6.1</p>	<p>Gender: Supreme Court Ruling</p> <p>CM presented the report circulated prior to the meeting.</p>	

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<p>6.2</p> <p>6.3</p> <p>6.4</p>	<p>KP added that since the ruling, the main area that has been raised as an issue in the NHS is changing facilities as sometimes these are open rather than cubicles.</p> <p>AP asked if any of our Sport Welfare Managers have undergone any relevant training? DM confirmed they have all undergone training, and they have seen an increase in queries for advice from clubs on this topic.</p> <p>SG asked how proactive do we want to be? CM responded that whilst waiting on the ECHR Code of Practice we will continue to support our Sport Welfare Managers in their work with clubs/groups. SG advised we will continue to talk about this agenda.</p>	
<p>7.0</p> <p>7.1</p> <p>7.2</p> <p>7.3</p> <p>7.4</p> <p>7.5</p> <p>7.6</p> <p>7.7</p>	<p>Q2 Financial Report</p> <p>DM presented the report circulated prior to the meeting. The following points were noted.</p> <p>SG asked, in terms of the commercial offer, do we have an update? CM responded that there are lots of “irons in the fire” but it's proving difficult to convert into actual commitments. Looking to influence organisations to budget for workplace wellbeing in their next financial year and this will be vital for the growth of our commercial portfolio. There will be a full update from Helen Selfridge, Director of Commercial, Marketing and Communications at the next meeting in January.</p> <p>NE asked how we compare against other Active Partnerships in the income diversification space? CM confirmed that it varies greatly with some Active Partnerships not doing anything and some, with more physical resources i.e. facilities, generating more non-Sport England income.</p> <p><u>Flagstone – Charities Aid Foundation Deposit Platform</u> At the request of the Audit Committee, DM presented our approach to using the Flagstone platform highlighting the level of risk involved using the platform. Trustees were asked if they are comfortable for us to invest all our resources via the platform, other than the agreed amount needed for cash flow within our current account. This would enable us to generate more return on our reserves.</p> <p>NE, as Chair of the Audit Committee, is comfortable with this recommendation and the Audit Committee have discussed and approved changes to the Financial Procedures around the use of Flagstone.</p> <p>NE recommended this is revisited in 6 months' time by the Audit Committee to review progress.</p> <p>KP asked what the process is if DM is incapacitated for whatever reason with him being the only person who can make movements. Flagstone have confirmed at least one trustee would need to be involved in authorising the due diligence checks on a new “execution user” if DM was unavailable or left the charity.</p>	<p>NE/DM</p>

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8.0	Q2 Performance Report	
8.1	DM presented the report circulated prior to the meeting. The following point was noted.	
8.2	Trustees were pleased with the improvement in the engagement scores in the Staff Survey.	
9.0	Safeguarding, EDI and Data Protection Update (Including updated DIAP)	
9.1	DM presented the report circulated prior to the meeting.	
10.0	Questions on Out of Meeting Agenda Items	
10.1	<u>CEO General Update for Q2</u> The contents of the report were noted.	
10.2	<u>Policies Etc for Approval</u> Trustees approved the following. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Matters Reserved for the Board & Schedule of Delegation • Reserves Policy (recommended by the Audit Committee) • Succession Plan (recommended by the Nom & Rem Committee) • People Plan (recommended by the Nom & Rem Committee) • Role of the Chairperson • Role of the Vice Chairperson/SID 	
10.3	<u>Risk Register & Opportunities Register</u> Trustees noted the contents of the report.	
11.0	Any Others Business and DONM	
11.1	KS spoke about the excellent reviews of the Safe Sport work at Newcastle University led by Sarah Baylis, Sport Welfare Manager. <u>Companies House ID Verification</u> Trustees were reminded to complete their Companies House ID Verification or share their ID number with CM.	NE, DH, KS, GN
11.2		

Date and time of the next meeting.

29th January 2026, 10:00am.

Action Record Item	Action	Responsibility
2.1	Presentation to be circulated with the minutes	CM
2.3	Connect with new Medical Directors	CM/JS/KP
2.4	Look into potential project with medical students & NHS workforce	KP/KS
4.2	Dates on minutes to be changed.	CM

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5.8	Board to be kept informed of developments with opportunities in the Middle East	CM
6.4	Continue to discuss the Supreme Court Ruling	ALL
7.6	Audit Committee to revisit the processes behind our use of Flagstone in 6 months	NE/DM
11.2	Trustees to complete their Companies House ID verification and share number with CM	NE, DH, KS, GN