

Status update on 19 commitments

Commitment	Progress
Coaching/Workforce Support	
1. UK Sport and Sport England (Joint) - Ensure that an independent representative body is created for coaches which provides them with leadership, representation, and support. We will consult all relevant stakeholders as we develop this body	<p>A Coaches Forum has been established to help shape this work and the first service offer – mental health support, delivered by Sporting Chance – was implemented in 2024 and will be continued throughout the LA Cycle. Further strands of support will be available to coaches in early 2026.</p> <p>Research with the UK Sports Institute and the University of Bath is underway to look at the mental health, wellbeing and burnout of Athlete Support Personnel in the UK high performance community to inform further service requirements.</p>
2. Joint - Working with The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport & Physical Activity (CIMSPA), and its Professional Standards for coaches, better structure the career path of modern coaches, underpinned by a broader curriculum incorporating non-technical skills such as self-awareness, empathy, and listening which complement NGB processes.	<p>Over the last two years, CIMSPA have enhanced the professional standards for sport and physical activity with 40 professional standards now available across elite and grassroots sport and the wider leisure industry. Through the Workforce Governance project, eight common principles are being proposed across NGBs to facilitate a more consistent and holistic approach to developing coaches, driven by professional standards and standards for deployment.</p> <p>Work is also ongoing with CIMSPA to update the process for Chartered Status for Coach Developers with the aim to expand this to high performance coaches by the end of 2025.</p>

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<p>3. Joint - In partnership with CIMSPA and National Governing Bodies of Sport, we will develop a national registration scheme for sports coaches which will include what qualifications they have completed and their suitability for work in specific roles. Acknowledging that this is a complex piece of work, requiring significant input and cooperation from sports, other physical activities and individuals, this will be piloted with a smaller group initially to ensure that it is sustainable and practical for the long term.</p>	<p>CIMSPA have worked with 10 National Governing Bodies including British Gymnastics, to pilot their organisational readiness for a national workforce registration scheme; underpinned by eight principles of effective Workforce Governance. CIMSPA will work with a further 20 pilot sports in 2025 ahead of the proposed implementation of the Workforce Governance principles from 2026 onwards.</p>
<p>4. Sport England - Continue to support and promote the Children's Coaching Collaborative (CCC) a group of people and organisations who are working together already, focusing on providing positive experiences as well as listening to the voices of children and young people. This includes the soon to be launched 'Play Their Way' Campaign which focuses on supporting coaches to sustain the participation of children through a more inclusive approach.</p>	<p>After a successful first investment period, UK Coaching have recently received an award extension (£4m over 3 years) to continue growing the child-first movement, Play Their Way. As a direct result of the campaign, 90% of coaches surveyed are reflecting on their own coaching practices and over two-thirds (67%) surveyed report they are regularly practising child-first behaviours.</p>

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Performance Athlete Support	
<p>5. UK Sport - Ensure athletes have greater input into high-performance policy development and operation, through the advocacy of the British Elite Athletes Association (BEAA).</p>	<p>In 2024, the British Elite Athletes Association re-established the Athlete Advisory Forum (AAF) to provide input on athlete-related policy decisions made by stakeholders across the high-performance system.</p> <p>Ahead of the LA cycle, the AAF were engaged with and consulted during the review of the Athlete Performance Award and will continue to input into athlete support related policies, processes and projects.</p> <p>UK Sport and the British Elite Athletes Association will continue to support the group in their roles and responsibilities. In 2024/25, each member of the forum was offered a Leadership Training Programme and that offer will remain in place throughout the course of their term on the AAF.</p>
<p>6. UK Sport - Ensure that every funded high-performance programme has appropriately integrated athlete voice and representation in its decision-making structures.</p>	<p>Over half (57%) of funded high-performance programmes currently have appropriately integrated athlete voice and representation in their decision-making structures.</p> <p>We are committed to ensuring athlete voice and representation is embedded within all high-performance programmes. We will continue to work with the British Elite Athletes Association to support sustainable and appropriate athlete leadership networks across all Olympic and Paralympic sports.</p>

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<p>7. UK Sport - Athletes, and parents and carers, receive a comprehensive and holistic induction: i) on to; ii) exit from; and iii) life in a high-performance programme, and are signposted to support before, during, and beyond their time in that programme.</p>	<p>Onboarding Athletes: A suite of materials including The Start Line, an online induction module, has been developed to ensure a consistent onboarding experience for athletes joining UK Sport funded high performance programmes. These materials are also available to parents and carers.</p> <p>Exiting the Programme: Several UK Sport policies have been improved to ensure that athlete needs are being met. This includes the Performance Athlete Agreement, which was amended for the LA cycle to include a recommendation for NGBs to co-create an Individual Athlete Development Plan (IADP) and a transition plan with their athletes. These have helped UK Sport to manage the responsibilities and expectations between sports and athletes and should ensure that athletes have a clear understanding of the exit process and what is on offer.</p> <p>While on Programme: The majority of athletes have access to a Performance Lifestyle Practitioner who provides holistic support to athletes, supporting their personal and lifestyle needs whilst promoting and encouraging activity and development that allows them to continue to grow as people as well as sporting performers. In response to a need to expand and enhance resources and education that support athletes' personal development, a suite of online resources have been made available for athletes to access, covering topics such as financial education, leadership development and social media.</p>

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Good Governance	
<p>8. Joint - Ensure all 'Tier 3' categorised organisations – defined as those Sport England and/or UK Sport fund with significant public investment - continue to meet the requirements of the Code for Sports Governance, including the need to appoint a director to take a Board lead on welfare and safety work. Further guidance and material will be developed to support organisations to fulfil and embed this requirement.</p>	<p>Over 70 NGBs (that as a condition of funding need to meet the Tier 3 Requirements of the Code for Sports Governance) have been assessed so far as being compliant with the requirement to have a Board lead for welfare and safety work.</p>
<p>9. Joint - Continue to develop the Code for Sports Governance, to ensure national governing bodies have effective policies and procedures, that are easy to follow, audience appropriate, and set out acceptable standards of conduct and the associated processes for resolving disputes at all levels.</p>	<p>Support via the Sport Governance Academy continues, with ongoing provision of guidance, training and development available. Whilst Code compliance remains a condition of investment, we are focused on continuous improvement, providing advice and support to NGBs on how they can improve organisational policies and processes, as well as how to improve transparency. Equally, LimeCulture working with National Governing Bodies have developed a best-practice guide to support this work.</p>
<p>10. Joint - Review the safeguarding standards and assurance processes used by sport to ensure they are effective in i) guiding the provision of a safe environment for athletes and participants; and ii) providing assurance to funding organisations.</p>	<p>This programme of work has been folded into the cross-sector Safe Sport project. You can find the latest update on that work here.</p>

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<p>11. UK Sport - Review and rationalise UK Sport's assurance processes, including the development of a new framework to guide its assessment of sports' plans and provision to 'win well'.</p>	<p>UK Sport is implementing a more tailored approach to assure performance and organisational health.</p> <p>The planning process is based on a framework that covers organisational health and performance delivery, including governance, culture and athlete welfare.</p> <p>This approach aims to ensure our work with funded partners is well-coordinated, strategic, and includes necessary support and escalation options.</p>
<p>12. UK Sport - Review how capacity and capability can be optimised (and increased where required) across funded high-performance programmes, to enhance access to expert executive advice for safeguarding and integrity.</p>	<p>Sport Integrity (the independent complaints and investigative service) is providing further free support for UK Sport funded World Class Programmes from the 1 April 2025. This includes mediation, legal support for a respondent with an active case and 10 hours of pro-bono legal advice for NGBs with an on-going investigation.</p> <p>The need for further safeguarding capacity, for example education and assurance, will be reviewed on an ongoing basis as part of the Safe Sport project.</p>
Dispute Resolution	
<p>13. UK Sport - All sports in receipt of UK Sport funding will be required to use Sport Integrity, the new independent disclosure and investigations service, to investigate allegations of bullying, discrimination, harassment, or abuse in high-performance programmes.</p>	<p>All NGBs from the Paris Cycle are signed up to use Sport Integrity. We are now supporting new sports for LA2028 to ensure they are signed up to Sport Integrity in 2025.</p>

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<p>14. Sport England - Continue to develop the Safeguarding Case Management Programme in partnership with Sport Resolutions UK and the LimeCulture Community Interest Company. Launched in 2019 to help sporting organisations access expert support in relation to safeguarding concerns and referrals, the programme is now offering support to 43 National Governing Bodies.</p>	<p>Since launching in 2019, the programme provided expert independent support for safeguarding concerns for over 225 referrals from 47 National Governing Bodies. Safeguarding training for 70 Lead Safeguarding Officers has been provided to 51 National Governing Bodies, with case management training available for 11 months (April 2025 until March 2026).</p>
<p>Safer environments for participants/ensuring they have a voice</p>	
<p>15. UK Sport - Consult on the participation of U18 and Adults at Risk in the highest levels of senior international high-performance sport, and the options available to policy makers to ensure a safe environment is provided.</p>	<p>The project is currently out to tender to find a supplier to undertake the research. We are aiming for the work to start in August 2025, and it is expected to run for eight months.</p>
<p>16. UK Sport - Undertake research to explore the relationship between funding and medal targets, and athlete experience</p>	<p>Durham University have been commissioned to lead this work and are engaging current and former World Class Programme athletes. Their findings are expected in early 2026.</p>
<p>17. UK Sport - Enhance guidance for parents, carers, and wider support networks, to ensure a clear articulation of their and the sport's role and responsibilities in supporting high-performance athletes.</p>	<p>Onboarding resources and sport inductions have been introduced to enhance the parents, carers and wider support networks understanding of their and the sports role in supporting high performance athletes.</p>

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<p>18. Sport England - Ensure sporting organisations engage with individuals and groups with lived experience of abuse in sport. Led by Sport England's Advisory Panel, a suite of resources will be developed to support this work.</p>	<p>The NWG Network worked in consultation with the Sport England Advisory Panel and people with lived experience of abuse in sport to create a suite of educational resources. These are available through the Voices in Sport website and have been downloaded thousands of times. The resources include educational videos, podcasts, and information sheets. The NWG Network continues to work with NGB's and other organisations to promote the resources and educate all stakeholders in sport on safeguarding.</p>
<p>19. Sport England - Fund a national network of local and regional welfare officers who will work with National Governing Bodies of Sport and their network of local clubs to promote good practice and safe sport on a local level. We will pilot different delivery models to determine which one is most effective.</p>	<p>A national network of 63 local and regional Sport Welfare officers have been recruited by Sport England's 42 Active Partnerships across the country, funded by the National Lottery until March 2027. The officers support 42 National Governing Bodies of Sport to promote good practice and safe sport at a local level.</p>