

British Gymnastics Foundation

Board of Trustees – Public Summary

Meeting held on Monday 16 March 2026, Birmingham

The Board of Trustees of the British Gymnastics Foundation (BGF) met to review the charity's strategic direction, financial position, programme delivery, governance arrangements and future resourcing.

Governance and Board Matters

The Chair welcomed a new trustee, Andy Dodd, and noted that this was Dave Marshall's final Board meeting. Trustees confirmed that there were no conflicts of interest or declarations of gifts or hospitality.

The Board reflected on discussions held with British Gymnastics as part of its strategy development. Trustees noted that BGF's role and charitable impact are now clearly understood within the wider British Gymnastics strategy, and work is underway to update and renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the two organisations.

Trustees reviewed progress against previous actions and confirmed that the majority had been completed, with a small number of actions carried forward to the next quarter.

Strategy, Staffing and Leadership

The Board discussed a significant period of transition for the Foundation, aligned with British Gymnastics' five-year strategy. Trustees considered proposals for an updated staffing structure to ensure BGF has sufficient capacity to deliver its programmes, grow income and respond to increasing demand.

It was agreed in principle to explore a revised staffing model, subject to confirmed external funding, including the creation of a project management role to support delivery, fundraising and operational sustainability. This was recognised as an important step in securing the long-term resilience of the Foundation.

Financial Position and Forward Planning

Trustees received a financial update and reviewed high-level five-year budget projections. The overall financial position was reported as stable, with a clear intention to reduce reliance on British Gymnastics funding over time and increase income from diverse sources.

Key points discussed included:

- A guaranteed Sport England grant for the coming year
- Incremental growth in earned and fundraising income

- Planned increases in Hardship Grant funding to meet rising demand
- The importance of making Love to Move increasingly self-sustaining

Trustees emphasised the need to balance financial sustainability with staff security, noting the value of current employment protections for seconded staff.

Programme Highlights and Impact

Love to Move

The Board welcomed strong engagement in Love to Move, including a new partnership with Parkinson's UK and increased public interest following recent media coverage. Trustees noted challenges linked to income levels but were encouraged by partnership working, positive participant feedback and growing awareness of the programme.

Limitless

The Limitless programme continues to deliver positive outcomes for the cohorts of Learners coming through. Trustees noted progress towards securing a multi-year commercial partnership, which will provide greater stability for the programme.

Hardship Grants

The Hardship Grants programme continues to have significant impact, with over 1,400 people supported since its launch. Trustees reviewed recent grant rounds, confirmed plans for ongoing monitoring of outcomes, and discussed future collaboration with Scottish Gymnastics. Demand for this programme remains high, reinforcing its importance within BGF's charitable objectives.

Inspirational Experiences

Trustees received updates on recent Inspirational Experiences, enabling young people and families to engage with elite gymnastics environments. Further experiences are planned later in the year.

Fundraising, Communications and Partnerships

The Board noted that fundraising income is broadly on track against budget, supported by grants, donations, equipment sales and events. Trustees welcomed improvements to the BGF website and digital communications, as well as increased visibility through social media and events.

A sponsorship and partnerships update highlighted ongoing work to better articulate the value of BGF's programmes to potential corporate partners. Trustees discussed the importance of clear impact data, strong storytelling and alignment with partners' social values.

Risk and Compliance

Trustees reviewed the Foundation's Risk Register and Risk Appetite, agreeing that no changes were required at this time. Updates were also provided on data protection, counter-fraud arrangements and staff wellbeing. The Board confirmed that appropriate systems and controls remain in place.

Policies and Governance Review

A scheduled review of policies was completed, with Trustees approving updated Terms of Reference and changes to Financial Regulations, including clearer authorisation thresholds. Trustees also considered guidance from the Charity Commission relating to charities connected to non-charitable bodies and agreed further work to ensure best practice and independence.

The Board discussed future branding considerations, including whether the Foundation's name continues to best reflect its charitable purpose. Further analysis and stakeholder engagement will take place before any decisions are made.

Looking Ahead

Trustees agreed key priorities for the coming months, including:

- Finalising future funding and partnership agreements
- Confirming staffing capacity to support growth and impact
- Strengthening data, evaluation and reporting
- Continuing strong governance and risk management

The meeting closed with Trustees expressing confidence in the Foundation's direction and a shared commitment to delivering positive impact for individuals and communities through gymnastics.