

**ARTICLES OF ASSOCIATION<sup>1</sup>**  
**OF**  
**ACTIVE PARTNERSHIPS**

1. Objects

- 1.1 The **Objects** of the **Charity** are for the public benefit to promote community participation in healthy recreation for the benefit of the inhabitants of counties throughout England and in particular to provide, or to assist **Active Partnership organisations** in providing, and to promote:-
- (1) public facilities, amenities, equipment and services for healthy recreation;
  - (2) facilities and services for recreational, sporting or other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare for the public at large or those who by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances, have need of such facilities and services;
  - (3) the improvement and preservation of good health and well-being through participation in healthy recreation;
  - (4) education, training and coaching courses which promote physical health and fitness;
- 1.2 This provision may be amended by **special resolution** but only with the prior written consent of the **Commission**.

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<sup>1</sup> In these Articles words printed on first appearance in bold type are defined in Article 16.2.

## 2. Powers

The Charity has the following powers, which may be exercised only in promoting the Objects:

- 2.1 to represent support and promote Active Partnership organisations;
- 2.2 to provide advice or information to Active Partnership organisations;
- 2.3 to arrange exhibitions, meetings, lectures, seminars and training courses;
- 2.4 to support, administer or set up other charities with similar objects to the Charity;
- 2.5 to acquire, merge with or to enter into any partnership or joint venture arrangement with any other charity;
- 2.6 to accept gifts or grants and to raise funds (but not by means of any **taxable permanent trading activity**);
- 2.7 to make grants or loans;
- 2.8 to borrow money and give security for loans or other obligations (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the **Charities Act**);
- 2.9 to acquire or hire property of any kind;
- 2.10 to let or dispose of property of any kind (but only in accordance with the restrictions imposed by the Charities Act);
- 2.11 to set aside funds for special purposes or as reserves against future expenditure;
- 2.12 to deposit or invest its funds in any manner (but to invest only after obtaining such advice from a **financial expert** as the **Board** considers necessary and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification);
- 2.13 to delegate the management of investments to a financial expert, but only on terms that:

- (1) the investment policy is set down **in writing** for the financial expert by the Board;
- (2) timely reports of all transactions are provided to the Board;
- (3) the performance of the investments is reviewed regularly with the Board;
- (4) the Board is entitled to cancel the delegation arrangement at any time;
- (5) the investment policy and the delegation arrangement are reviewed at least once a year;
- (6) all payments due to the financial expert are on a scale or at a level which is agreed in advance and are notified promptly to the Board on receipt;  
and
- (7) the financial expert must not do anything outside the powers of the Charity;

2.14 to arrange for investments or other property of the Charity to be held in the name of a **nominee company** acting under the direction of the Board or controlled by a financial expert acting under their instructions, and to pay any reasonable fee required;

2.15 to deposit documents and physical assets with any company registered or having a place of business in England or Wales as **custodian**, and to pay any reasonable fee required;

2.16 to insure the property of the Charity against any foreseeable risk and take out other insurance policies to protect the Charity when required;

2.17 subject to **Article** 6.3, to employ paid or unpaid agents, staff or advisers;

2.18 to enter into contracts to provide services to or on behalf of Active Partnership organisations or other bodies with similar objects to the Charity;

- 2.19 to co-operate with Active Partnership organisations or other bodies with similar objects to the Charity;
- 2.20 to establish or acquire subsidiary companies;
- 2.21 to do anything else within the law which promotes or helps to promote the Objects.

### 3. The Board of Trustees

- 3.1 The Board has control of the Charity and its property and funds.
- 3.2 The number of Trustees on the Board shall be at least three and (unless otherwise determined by a special resolution of the Members) not more than twelve individuals who are over the age of 18, being

(1) The **Chair** of the Charity appointed in accordance with Article 3.3 who shall also be the Chair of the Board;

(2) Six **Related Trustees** appointed in accordance with Article 3.4(1);

(3) Four **Independent Trustees** appointed in accordance with Article 3.4(2);  
and

(4) Up to one **Co-opted Trustee** appointed in accordance with Article 3.7.

At least 25% of the Board shall be Independent Trustees.

- 3.3 (1) The Chair shall be appointed by the Board from candidates (who need not be existing Trustees) recommended in writing to the Board by the **Nominations Committee** following an open recruitment process to be determined by the Board. The Board may regulate its proceedings in respect of such appointment as it sees fit.

(2) Each Chair appointed as a Trustee (if not already a Trustee), shall meet the definition of an Independent Trustee, and shall hold office for a term as

determined by the Board of up to three years unless previously removed from office by a 75% majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the Board or unless his or her appointment is previously terminated in accordance with Article 3.8. Each Chair may be re-appointed by the Board for further consecutive terms each of up to three years (as determined by the Board). A Chair who has served consecutive terms of office that are equal to (or would if re-appointed be greater than) nine years in aggregate shall retire and shall not be capable of re-appointment as the Chair under these Articles for a minimum period of four years from such retirement.

- 3.4 (1) Six Related Trustees shall be appointed by the Board from candidates (who need not be existing Trustees) recommended in writing to the Board by the Nominations Committee following an open recruitment process to be determined by the Board. The Board may regulate its proceedings in respect of such appointment as it sees fit. Each Related Trustee shall meet the definition of Related Trustee. At the next General Meeting immediately following their appointment, each Related Trustee shall be ratified by the Members by way of an ordinary resolution. Any Related Trustee that is not ratified by the Members at such General Meeting shall immediately resign as a Related Trustee. If a Related Trustee ceases to meet the definition of Related Trustee during their term of appointment the Board will agree with the Related Trustee (where appropriate) a period of transition (being not more than 12 months). At the end of such transition period the Related Trustee shall resign as a Related Trustee. Any act of a Related Trustee carried out prior to any resignation required under this Article shall be valid and effectual.

(2) Four Independent Trustees shall be appointed by the Board from candidates (who need not be existing Trustees) recommended in writing to the Board by the Nominations Committee following an open recruitment process to be determined by the Board. The Board may regulate its proceedings in respect of such appointment as it sees fit. Each Independent Trustee shall meet the definition of Independent Trustee.

(3) The Related Trustees and Independent Trustees shall not retire by rotation but each shall hold office for a term of up to three years (as determined by the Board on the appointment of each Related Trustee or Independent Trustee) unless his or her appointment is previously terminated in accordance with Article 3.8. Each Related Trustee or Independent Trustee may be re-appointed by the Board (and subsequently ratified by the Members in accordance with Articles 3.4(1) above for a Related Trustee) for further consecutive terms of up to three years (as determined by the Board). A Related Trustee or Independent Trustee who has served consecutive terms of office that are equal (or would if re-appointed be greater than) nine years in aggregate shall retire and shall not be capable of re-appointment as a Trustee under these Articles for a minimum period of four years from such retirement.

3.5 The exceptions to the terms set out in Articles 3.3 and 3.4 above are as follows:

(1) In the event a Trustee is subsequently appointed as the Chair following a period of services as a Trustee on the Board, the Trustee may continue to serve on the Board for the period of such appointment, subject to a maximum term of 12 years on the Board inclusive of their term prior to such appointment.

or

- (2) In exceptional circumstances as may be determined by the Board (for example to assist succession planning), a Chair or Trustee may hold office for a period of up to a further year.
- 3.6 For any individual wishing to be re-appointed at the end of their current term (subject to the term limits set out above) the Nominations Committee shall consider the individual's performance and consider the skills and diversity required before recommending reappointment to the Board but may, where it deems it appropriate, do so without full re-advertisement. Any Related Trustee appointment shall subsequently be ratified by the Members in accordance with Articles 3.4(1) above.
- 3.7 The Board may at any time co-opt any individual who is over the age of 18 to fill a vacancy in their number or (subject to the maximum number permitted by Article 3.2) as an additional Trustee to provide the Board with a specific skill set; but such a Co-opted Trustee shall hold office only for such period as determined by the Board (which shall be not more than two years from the date of his or her co-option), following which he or she may be co-opted for one further consecutive term of up to two years.
- 3.8 A Trustee may not act as a Trustee unless he/she has signed a written declaration of willingness to act as a **charity trustee** of the Charity.
- 3.9 A Trustee's term of office as such automatically terminates if he/she:
- (1) ceases to be a director of the Charity by virtue of any provision in the Companies Act;
  - (2) is disqualified under the Charities Act from acting as a charity trustee;
  - (3) is incapable, whether mentally or physically, of managing his/her own affairs;

- (4) is absent without permission from three consecutive meetings of the Trustees and is asked by a majority of the other Trustees to resign; or
  - (5) resigns by written notice to the Trustees (but only if at least three Trustees will remain in office); or
  - (6) is removed by the Members.
- 3.10 A technical defect in the appointment of a Trustee of which the Trustees are unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.

#### 4. Board proceedings

- 4.1 The Board must hold at least three meetings each year.
- 4.2 A quorum at a meeting of the Board is three Trustees or at least one third of the Trustees (if greater).
- 4.3 A meeting of the Board may be held either in person or by suitable **electronic means** agreed by the Trustees in which all participants may communicate with all the other participants but at least one meeting in each year must be held in person.
- 4.4 The **Chair** or (if the Chair is unable or unwilling to do so) some other Trustee chosen by the Trustees present presides at each meeting.
- 4.5 Unless otherwise stated, any issue may be determined by a simple majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the Board, but a resolution **in writing** agreed by all the Trustees (other than any **Conflicted Trustee** who has not been authorised to vote) is as valid as a resolution passed at a meeting. For this purpose the resolution may be contained in more than one document.
- 4.6 Every Trustee has one vote on each issue but, in case of an equality of votes, the chair of the meeting has a second or casting vote.

4.7 A procedural defect of which the Trustees are unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.

5. Board powers

The Board has the following powers in the administration of the Charity:-

5.1 To appoint (and remove) any person (who may be a Trustee) to act as **Secretary** in accordance with the **Companies Act**.

5.2 To appoint a chief executive officer and other executive staff to manage the Charity in accordance with terms determined by the Board.

5.3 To delegate any of its functions to committees consisting of two or more individuals appointed by the Board. At least two members of every committee must be Trustees and all proceedings of committees must be reported promptly to the Board.

5.4 To make such reasonable and proper rules or bye laws as the Board may deem necessary or expedient for the proper conduct, management and administration of the Charity. Such rules may regulate the following matters but are not restricted to them:

(1) the admission of Members of the Charity and the rights and privileges of such Members, and any fees or payments to be made by Members (other than the Membership Fee which shall be determined in accordance with Article 9.10(5));

(2) the conduct of Members and their authorised representatives in relation to one another, and to the Charity's employees and volunteers;

- (3) the procedure at general meetings and meetings of the Board or of committees in so far as such procedure is not regulated by the Companies Act or by these Articles;
- (4) generally, all such matters as are commonly the subject matter of company rules.

5.5 To establish procedures to assist the resolution of disputes or differences within the Charity.

5.6 To exercise in their capacity as Trustees any powers of the Charity which are not reserved to the Members.

## 6. Benefits and Conflicts

6.1 The property and funds of the Charity must be used only for promoting the Objects and do not belong to the Members but:

- (1) Members who are not Trustees or **Connected Persons** may be employed by or enter into contracts with the Charity and receive reasonable payment for goods or services supplied.
- (2) Subject to compliance with Article 6.4, Members, Trustees and Connected Persons may be paid interest at a reasonable rate on money lent to the Charity;
- (3) Subject to compliance with Article 6.4, Members, Trustees and Connected Persons may be paid a reasonable rent or hiring fee for property let or hired to the Charity; and
- (4) Subject to compliance with Article 6.4, Members, Trustees and Connected Persons may receive charitable benefits on the same terms as any other beneficiaries of the Charity.

6.2 A Trustee must not receive any payment of money or other **material benefit** (whether directly or indirectly) from the Charity except:

- (1) as mentioned in Articles 6.1 or 6.3;
- (2) reimbursement of reasonable out-of-pocket expenses (including hotel and travel costs) actually incurred in running the Charity;
- (3) the benefit of **indemnity insurance** as permitted by the Charities Act;
- (4) an indemnity in respect of any liabilities properly incurred in running the Charity (including the costs of a successful defence to civil or criminal proceedings);
- (5) in exceptional cases, other payments or benefits (but only with the written consent of the Charities Commission in advance and where required by the Companies Act the approval or affirmation of the Members);
- (6) in the case of the Chair, who shall be remunerated for an amount set by the Nominations Committee and approved by the Board.

6.3 No Trustee or Connected Person may be employed by the Charity except in accordance with Article 6.2(5) but any Trustee or Connected Person may enter into a written contract with the Charity as permitted by the Charities Act, to supply goods or services in return for a payment or other material benefit but only if:

- (1) the goods or services are actually required by the Charity, and the Trustees decide that it is in the best interests of the Charity to enter into such a contract;

- (2) the nature and level of the remuneration is no more than is reasonable in relation to the value of the goods or services and is set in accordance with the procedure in Article 6.4; and
- (3) no more than half of the Trustees are subject to such a contract in any financial year.

6.4 Subject to Article 6.5, any Trustee who becomes a Conflicted Trustee in relation to any matter must:

- (1) declare the nature and extent of his or her interest before discussion begins on the matter;
- (2) withdraw from the meeting for that item after providing any information requested by the Trustees;
- (3) not be counted in the quorum for that part of the meeting; and
- (4) be absent during the vote and have no vote on the matter.

6.5 When any Trustee is a Conflicted Trustee, the Trustees who are not Conflicted Trustees, if they form a quorum without counting the Conflicted Trustee and are satisfied that it is in the best interests of the Charity to do so, may by resolution passed in the absence of the Conflicted Trustee authorise the Conflicted Trustee, notwithstanding any conflict of interest or duty which has arisen or may arise for the Conflicted Trustee, to:

- (1) continue to participate in discussions leading to the making of a decision and/or to vote, or
- (2) disclose to a third party information confidential to the Charity, or
- (3) take any other action not otherwise authorised which does not involve the receipt by the Conflicted Trustee or a Connected Person of any payment or material benefit from the Charity or

(4) refrain from taking any step required to remove the conflict.

6.6 This provision may be amended by special resolution but, where the result would be to permit any material benefit to a Trustee or Connected Person, only with the prior written consent of the Commission.

## 7. Records and Accounts

7.1 The Board must comply with the requirements of the Companies Act and of the Charities Act as to keeping records, the audit or independent examination of accounts and the preparation and transmission to the Registrar of Companies and the Commission of information required by law including:

- (1) annual returns;
- (2) annual reports; and
- (3) annual statements of account.

7.2 The Board must also keep records of:

- (1) all proceedings at meetings of the Board;
- (2) all resolutions in writing;
- (3) all reports of committees; and
- (4) all professional advice obtained.

7.3 Accounting records relating to the Charity must be made available for inspection by any Trustee at any time during normal office hours and may be made available for inspection by Members who are not Trustees if the Board so decides.

7.4 A copy of the Charity's **constitution** and latest available statement of account

must be supplied on request to any Trustee. Copies of the latest accounts must also be supplied in accordance with the Charities Act to any other person who makes a written request and pays the Charity's reasonable costs.

8. Membership

8.1 The Charity must maintain a register of Members.

8.2 **Membership** is open to any Active Partnership organisation (including ones which are unincorporated associations) interested in furthering the Objects and approved by the Board.

8.3 The form and the procedure for applying for Membership and the terms of the annual Membership Agreement (other than the Membership Fee which shall be determined in accordance with Article 9.10(5)), are to be prescribed by the Board.

8.4 (1) The Board may only refuse an application for Membership if, acting reasonably and properly, it considers it to be in the best interests of the Charity to refuse the application.

(2) The Board must inform the applicant in writing of the reasons for the refusal within twenty-one days of the decision.

(3) The Board must consider any written representations the applicant may make about the decision. The Board's decision following any written representations must be notified to the applicant in writing and shall be final.

8.5 Membership is not transferable.

8.6 The Board may establish different classes of Membership (including associate membership/non-voting membership) with different rights and obligations and shall record the rights and obligations in the register of Members.

9. General Meetings

- 9.1 Members are entitled to attend general meetings in person, by proxy (but only if the appointment of a proxy is in writing and notified to the Charity before the commencement of the meeting) or by suitable electronic means agreed by the Trustees in which all participants may communicate with all the other participants. However, should the meeting be taking place solely via electronic means or a hybrid of in person and electronic means, the Chair shall be permitted (in his/her sole discretion) to pause, interrupt or adjourn the meeting if because of technical difficulties it is not practicable to continue with the meeting. All business conducted at that general meeting up to the time of that adjournment shall be valid.
- 9.2 General meetings are called on at least 14 **clear days'** written notice indicating the business to be discussed or if a special resolution is to be proposed at least 21 clear days' written notice setting out the terms of the proposed special resolution.
- 9.3 There is a quorum at a general meeting if the number of Members present in person or by proxy and entitled to vote is at least fourteen Members or one third of the total Membership at the time, whichever is the greater.
- 9.4 The authorised representative of a Member being an organisation shall be counted in the quorum.
- 9.5 General meetings shall be chaired by the Chair or (if the Chair is unable or unwilling to do so) some other Trustee nominated by the Trustees present at the meeting.
- 9.6 Except where otherwise provided by the Articles or the Companies Act, every issue is decided by **ordinary resolution**.

- 9.7 Every Member present in person, by proxy or by suitable electronic means has one vote on each issue.
- 9.8 Except where otherwise provided by the Articles or the Companies Act, a written resolution of the Members (whether an ordinary or a special resolution) is as valid as an equivalent resolution passed at a general meeting. For this purpose the written resolution may be set out in more than one document.
- 9.9 The Charity must hold an **AGM** in every year.
- 9.10 Members must annually at the AGM:
- (1) receive the accounts of the Charity for the previous **financial year**;
  - (2) receive a written report on the Charity's activities;
  - (3) be informed of the retirement of any Trustees and notified of the appointment of any new Chair, Independent Trustee or Co-opted Trustee and ratify the appointment of any new Related Trustee;
  - (4) appoint reporting accountants or auditors for the Charity;
  - (5) approve any changes to the Membership Fee recommended by the Board to the Members at the meeting.
- 9.11 A general meeting may be called by the Board at any time and must be called within 21 days of a written request from at least 10% of the Membership or (where no general meeting has been held within the last year) at least 5% of the Membership.
- 9.12 A technical defect in the appointment of a Member of which the Members are unaware at the time does not invalidate a decision taken at a general meeting or by a written resolution.
- 9.13 A Member being an organisation (including an unincorporated association) may appoint any individual it considers appropriate to act as its authorised

representative at a general meeting of the Charity provided that such individual may not be a Trustee of the Charity. Any such appointment shall be made, or may be revoked, by written notice to the Secretary.

9.14 The authorised representative will be entitled to exercise all rights of Membership on behalf of the Member to attend, speak and vote at any general meeting and to sign any written resolution pursuant to Article 9.8.

9.15 The Charity shall not be required to consider whether the authorised representative has been properly appointed by the Member.

## 10 Termination or suspension of Membership

10.1 Membership is terminated if:

(1) the Member being an organisation, is dissolved or wound up, or goes into liquidation or enters into any form of arrangement with its creditors or is otherwise insolvent, or is struck off the Register at Companies House or otherwise ceases to exist;

(2) the Member resigns by written notice to the Charity unless there would be less than two Members after the resignation;

(3) any Membership Fee, subscription or other sum due from the Member to the Charity is not paid in full within six months of it falling due;

(4) the Member is removed from Membership by an ordinary resolution of the Charity in general meeting that it is in the best interests of the Charity that the Membership is terminated. A resolution to remove a Member from Membership may only be passed if:

(a) the Member has been given at least twenty-one days' notice in writing of the general meeting of the Charity at which the

resolution will be proposed and the reasons why it is to be proposed; and

(b) the Member's representative (if any) has been allowed to make representations to the meeting.

10.2 The Board shall have the right to suspend the Membership of any Member where the Board resolves by a 75% majority of the votes cast at a meeting of the Board that it is in the best interests of the Charity that its Membership is suspended; provided that the Board shall specify the terms and/or duration of such suspension at the time of passing the resolution.

11. Honorary Officers

Members may also from time to time confer on any individual (with his/her consent) the honorary title of Patron, President or Vice-President of the Charity on such terms as the Members shall think fit. A person so appointed shall not be a Trustee or Member of the Charity but shall have the right to attend and speak (but not vote) at any general meeting of the Charity and to be given notice of it as if a Member and shall also have the right to receive accounts of the Charity when available to Members.

12. Limited Liability

The liability of Members is limited.

13. Guarantee

Every Member promises, if the Charity is dissolved while he/she/it remains a Member or within one year after he/she/it ceases to be a member, to pay up to £1 towards:

13.1 payment of those debts and liabilities of the Charity incurred before he/she/it ceased to be a Member;

13.2 payment of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up; and

13.3 the adjustment of rights of contributors among themselves.

14. Communications

14.1 Notices and other documents to be served on Members or Trustees under the Articles or the Companies Act may be served:

- (1) by hand;
- (2) by post;
- (3) by suitable electronic means; or
- (4) through publication in the Charity's newsletter (if any) if posted to Members or on the Charity's website.

14.2 The only address at which a Member is entitled to receive notices sent by post is an address in the U.K. shown in the register of Members.

14.3 Any notice given in accordance with these Articles is to be treated for all purposes as having been received:

- (1) 24 hours after being sent by electronic means, posted on the Charity's website or delivered by hand to the relevant address;
- (2) two clear days after being sent by first class post to that address;
- (3) three clear days after being sent by second class or overseas post to that address;
- (4) immediately on being handed to the recipient personally;  
or, if earlier,
- (5) as soon as the recipient acknowledges actual receipt.

14.4 A technical defect in service of which the Trustees are unaware at the time does not invalidate decisions taken at a meeting.

15. Dissolution

15.1 If the Charity is dissolved, the assets (if any) remaining after providing for all its liabilities must be applied in one or more of the following ways:

- (1) by transfer to one or more other bodies established for exclusively charitable purposes which are within, the same as or similar to the Objects;
- (2) directly for the Objects or for charitable purposes which are within, the same as or similar to the Objects;
- (3) in such other manner consistent with charitable status as the Commission approves in writing in advance.

15.2 A final report and statement of account must be sent to the Commission.

15.3 This provision may be amended by special resolution but only with the prior written consent of the Commission.

16. Interpretation

16.1 The Articles are to be interpreted without reference to the model articles under the Companies Act, which do not apply to the Charity.

16.2 In the Articles, unless the context indicates another meaning:

‘AGM’ means an annual general meeting of the Charity;

‘the Articles’ means the Charity’s Articles of Association and ‘Article’ refers to a particular Article;

‘Board’ means the Board of Trustees;

‘Chair’ means the chair of the Charity and of the Trustees appointed in accordance with Article 3.3;

‘the Charity’ means the company governed by the Articles;

‘charity trustee’ has the meaning prescribed by the Charities Act;

‘the Charities Act’ means the Charities Acts 1992 to 2006;

‘clear day’ does not include the day on which notice is given or the day of the meeting or other event;

‘the Commission’ means the Charity Commission for England and Wales or any body which replaces it;

‘the Companies Act’ means the Companies Acts 1985 to 2006;

‘Conflicted Trustee’ means a Trustee in respect of whom a conflict of interest arises or may reasonably arise because the Conflicted Trustee or a Connected Person is receiving or stands to receive a benefit (other than payment of a premium for indemnity insurance) from the Charity, or has some separate interest or duty in a matter to be decided, or in relation to information which is confidential to the Charity;

‘Connected Person’ means, in relation to a Trustee, a person with whom the Trustee shares a common interest such that he/she may reasonably be regarded as benefiting directly or indirectly from any material benefit received by that person, being either a member of the Trustee’s family or household or a person or body who is a business associate of the Trustee, and (for the avoidance of doubt) does not include a company with which the Trustee’s only connection is an interest consisting of no more than 1% of the voting rights;

‘constitution’ means the Memorandum and the Articles and any special resolutions relating to them;

‘Co-opted Trustee’ means a Trustee co-opted to the Board in accordance with Article 3.5;

‘Active Partnership organisation’ means a non-profit organisation which is recognised by the Charity as promoting purposes which are the same as or similar to those of the Charity within a specific county or area of England, formerly known as County Sports Partnerships;

‘custodian’ means a person or body who undertakes safe custody of assets or of documents or records relating to them;

‘electronic means’ refers to communications addressed to specified individuals by telephone, fax or email or, in relation to meetings, by telephone conference call or video conference;

‘financial expert’ means an individual, company or **firm** who is authorised to give investment advice under the Financial Services and Markets Act 2000;

‘financial year’ means the Charity’s financial year;

‘firm’ includes a limited liability partnership;

‘indemnity insurance’ means insurance against personal liability incurred by any Trustee for an act or omission which is or is alleged to be a breach of trust or breach of duty, unless the act or omission amounts to a criminal offence or the Trustee concerned knew that, or was reckless whether, the act or omission was a breach of trust or breach of duty;

“Independent Trustee” means a trustee appointed to the Board in accordance with Article 3.4 (2) who is free from any close connection to the Charity. A close connection would include:

(a) being actively involved in the Charity’s affairs within the last 4 years;

(b) having been an employee of the Active Partnership organisation within the last 4 years;

(c) having close family ties with any of the Charity or any Active Partnership organisation's employees;

(d) currently holding, or having held within the previous one-year period, a Related Trustee role and/or been significantly embedded within the board and/or leadership of a Member Active Partnership;

'material benefit' means a benefit, direct or indirect, which may not be financial but has a monetary value;

'Member' and 'Membership' refer to company Membership of the Charity carrying the right to vote;

'Member Active Partnership' means an Active Partnership organisation which is a Member of the Charity;

'Membership Fee' means the annual fee payable by each Member to the Charity as recommended by the Board and approved at Annual General Meeting in accordance with Article 9.10(5);

'Memorandum' means the Charity's Memorandum of Association;

'month' means calendar month;

'Nominations Committee' means the committee responsible for leading the process for Board appointments;

'nominee company' means a corporate body registered or having an established place of business in England and Wales which holds title to property for another;

'ordinary resolution' means a resolution agreed by a simple majority of the Members present and voting at a general meeting or in the case of a

written resolution by Members who together hold a simple majority of the voting power. Where applicable, ‘Members’ in this definition means a class of Members;

‘the Objects’ means the Objects of the Charity as defined in Article 1;

‘Region’ means one of the regions in England comprising the Active Partnership organisations who are the members for that region;

‘Related Trustee’ means a Trustee appointed to the Board in accordance with Article 3.4(1) who meets the following criteria:

- (a) holds a current role as chief executive officer or director of a Member Active Partnership or has demonstrated to the Board that they can carry out the duties of such a role to a high standard in accordance with the role descriptor and with the support of Active Partnership organisations; or
- (b) holds a current board trustee role of an Active Partnership organisation (according to the relevant articles of association of that Active Partnership organisation).

‘Resolution in writing’ means a written resolution of the Board;

‘Secretary’ means a company secretary;

‘special resolution’ means a resolution of which at least 21 days’ notice has been given agreed by a 75% majority of the Members present and voting at a general meeting or in the case of a written resolution by Members who together hold 75% of the voting power. Where applicable, ‘Members’ in this definition means a class of Members;

‘taxable permanent trading activity’ means carrying on a trade or business in such manner or on such a scale that some or all of the profits are subject to corporation tax;

‘Trustee’ means a director of the Charity and who is also a charity trustee in accordance with the meaning prescribed by the Charities Act; and

‘Trustees’ means the directors;

‘written’ or ‘in writing’ refers to a legible document on paper or a document sent by electronic means which is capable of being printed out on paper;

‘written resolution’ refers to an ordinary or a special resolution which is in writing;

‘year’ means calendar year.

16.3 Expressions not otherwise defined which are defined in the Companies Act have the same meaning.

16.4 References to an Act of Parliament are to that Act as amended or re-enacted from time to time and to any subordinate legislation made under it.

## 17. Transition arrangements

(1) During the period from the adoption of these Articles at the AGM on 26 January 2023, to the end of the AGM in 2023 (“the transition period”) the number and associated status of Related and/or Independent Trustees may vary from the provisions set out in in Articles 3.2 and 3.4. During the transition period some or all of the Related and/or Independent Trustees in post at the 2022 AGM will retire as new Trustees are

appointed. Such retiring Related and/or Independent Trustees shall be eligible for re-appointment in accordance with articles 3.2 and 3.4.