Scottish Hockey Board Meeting Summary

28.4.26 from 7-9pm

Meeting: Full Board Meeting
Format: Microsoft Teams
Chair: Neil Francis
Minutes prepared by: Copilot (from meeting transcript)

The Scottish Hockey Board met online, chaired by Neil Francis, with Board members and senior staff in attendance to consider a range of governance, planning and organisational matters as part of its ongoing commitment to strong leadership, transparency and the delivery of the sport's strategic priorities.

The Board approved previous meeting records and noted progress against agreed actions, including work to strengthen governance processes, support clear decision-making and ensure appropriate oversight across the organisation.

Members reviewed and approved updated Board role description and conduct documents, reinforcing expectations around Board responsibilities, attendance, collective accountability and the distinction between strategic governance and operational delivery.

Planning for the forthcoming AGM was discussed, with emphasis placed on clear communication with members, appropriate opportunities to ask questions in advance, and ensuring that formal business is conducted efficiently and openly.

The Board considered succession planning and future appointments, recognising the importance of maintaining a balanced mix of skills, experience and representation to support Scottish Hockey's long-term governance needs.

An update was received on the external funding environment and ongoing engagement with national partners. The Board welcomed the opportunities presented by additional investment while noting the importance of careful prioritisation and organisational capacity.

Safeguarding and compliance remained a key focus. The Board noted the continuing work to evidence and strengthen safeguarding arrangements, recognising the importance of meeting national standards and maintaining a safe, inclusive environment for everyone involved in hockey.

The Board also reviewed finance, risk and audit matters, noting that financial monitoring continues to be managed carefully and that governance arrangements will continue to be strengthened following the AGM.

Board visibility, engagement and effectiveness were discussed, including the need for clear planning around attendance at key events, timely circulation of papers and effective committee scheduling.

The Board recorded its thanks to volunteers for a fantastic season, to Board members and staff for their contribution, professionalism and commitment during a busy period for the organisation. The meeting closed with a continued focus on delivering Scottish Hockey's strategy and supporting the growth and development of the game across Scotland.