



LET'S  
GET  
MOVING



# Active Partnership Director

Hosted by

**PublicHealth**  
Services provided by  Leicestershire  
County Council

# Welcome to Active Together (the Active Partnership for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland)

## Dear Candidate

Thank you for your interest in this important role.

**At Active Together, we believe in the power of physical activity and sport to transform lives – and in the power of leadership to help make that transformation happen. As we look to the future, we do so with a sense of optimism, urgency, and responsibility. The challenges we face – inequality, inactivity, and disconnection – are real. But so too is the opportunity to make a lasting difference.**

We've built strong foundations, thanks in no small part to the leadership of our current Active Partnership Director, John Byrne, who will soon retire after many years of dedicated service. Now, we're looking for someone who can help us build on that legacy – someone who shares our values, understands the complexity of the systems we work within, and leads with humility, curiosity, and purpose.

This role is about more than sport or physical activity. It's about people and place. It's about listening, connecting, and enabling communities to shape their own futures. It's about working across sectors, building trust, and being brave enough to challenge the status quo when needed.

If you're someone who sees physical activity and sport as a force for addressing inequalities, wellbeing, and social change – someone who brings strategic thinking, emotional intelligence, and a collaborative spirit – we'd love to hear from you.

You don't need to tick every box. What matters most is your commitment to making a difference and building positive and trusted relationships with and on behalf of our partners. We're looking forward to working with someone who will lead with authenticity, act with purpose, and help us shape a more active and inclusive future.



Andy Reed OBE Chair,  
Active Together



## About us

We are here to make physical activity and sport more accessible and part of our everyday lives.

Active Together is the Active Partnership for Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland, and our focus is to ensure that physical activity and sport has a local reach.

We work collaboratively with a range of sectors and partners across Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland with a shared ambition to reduce inequality of access to physical activity and sport and help our communities realise the many health and social benefits of living an active life.

Active Together is an unincorporated partnership, hosted by Leicestershire County Council who are responsible for employing and providing services to enable Active Together to carry out its operations.



Active Together forms part of a network of 42 Active Partnerships, who are locally-led, not for profit, strategic organisations covering the whole of England, bringing together people and partners to increase physical activity levels. We work with local system partners to lead the strategic direction and delivery of physical activity.

### For residents

Active Together are here to help residents to move more, in their own way. We work with many organisations across Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland to support residents on their journey to being healthier and happier.

### For partners

Active Together are here to help organisations and individuals support more people to be physically active and move more.

We have created an effective local infrastructure, working with key stakeholders (such as the city, county, district and borough local authorities) to facilitate the sharing of ideas, resources, and capacity to deliver successful physical activity and sport programmes.

**For more information, please visit our website: [www.active-together.org](http://www.active-together.org)**

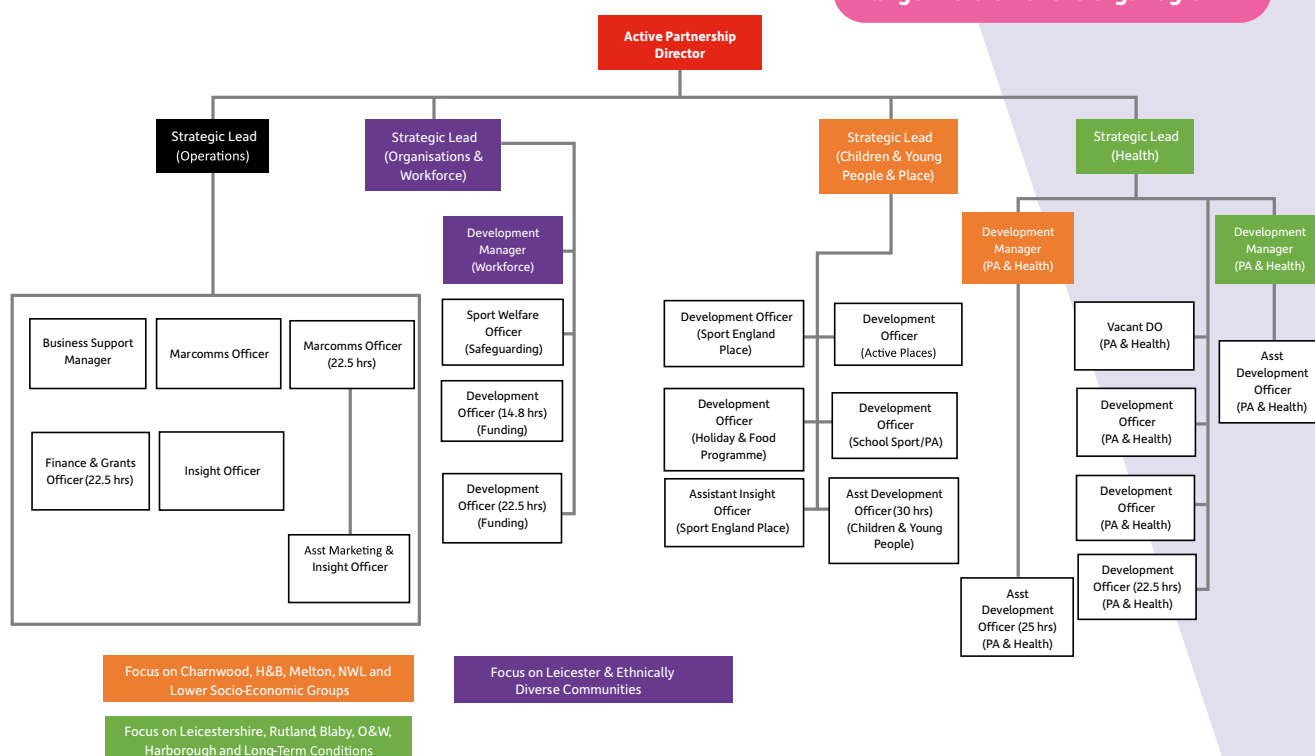


# The role

Reporting to the Chair of the Board, this is your chance to lead a progressive organisation that is developing physical activity and sport with health and community wellbeing system partners.

## Staffing structure October 2025

Please click on the image to see a larger version of the organogram



## This role is about more than physical activity and sport

You don't need a background in physical activity and sport. What matters is your ability to:

- Connect across sectors—health, education, local government, voluntary and community organisations
- Lead with empathy and purpose
- Champion inclusion and equity
- Influence systems and policy to reduce inactivity and improve wellbeing

## What you'll be doing

- Leading the review of our strategic plan and infrastructure
- Building trusted relationships with local and national partners
- Embedding physical activity and sport into wider systems, for example health, education, planning, transport, environment and community partners
- Supporting a skilled and passionate team and wider partnership to thrive
- Shaping our next funding bids and ensuring long-term sustainability
- Representing Active Together with authenticity and clarity
- Driving innovation and responsiveness to local needs and national priorities
- Demonstrating our impact, celebrating our success

## What you'll bring

We're looking for someone who:

- Is a strategic thinker with a track record of leading through complexity
- Builds high-trust relationships across diverse sectors and communities
- Communicates with clarity, empathy, and influence
- Is committed to tackling inequality and improving lives through inclusive approaches
- Understands governance, funding, and policy environments
- Leads people with care, fostering autonomy and wellbeing
- Is adaptable, resilient, and values-driven



## What you'll be doing in your first 6–12 months

You will:

- Build robust and authentic relationships across our team, Board, and stakeholders
- Lead the review of our 10 year framework ([Physical Activity Framework Launched - Working across Leicestershire, Leicester & Rutland to reduce inequalities in Physical Activity | Active Together](#))
- Strengthen connections with local authorities, health system partners, and community organisations
- Position Active Together for future funding and impact
- Help us tell clearer, more compelling stories about our work and its outcomes

## Our Vision

Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland; a place where physical activity is part of daily life, leading to people living healthier and happier lives.

## Our Values

### Inclusive

We make decisions that are fair, equitable, and focused on reducing inequality.

### Innovative

Our practice is creative, scalable, and sustainable, embracing new ideas and approaches.

### Inspiring

Our energy and enthusiasm motivate communities to move more and live healthier lives.

### Inquisitive

We are curious, ask questions, and seek alternative solutions to complex challenges.





## About You

You do not need a background in physical activity and sport.

What matters is your passion to address inequality, your ability to connect across sectors, and your commitment to making physical activity and sport matter. You will be able to:

- Lead with empathy and purpose
- Champion inclusion and equity
- Influence systems and policy to reduce inactivity and improve wellbeing

We are looking for someone who can demonstrate:

- Strategic leadership and delivery in a relevant setting
- Experience navigating political environments and engaging senior stakeholders
- Strong planning and implementation skills focused on outcomes
- Understanding of national policy around physical activity, sport, and school PE
- Success in securing public or private sector funding, including Lottery bids
- A strategic mindset with the ability to lead through complexity

You must show a strong commitment to equality, diversity, and inclusion, and apply this in practice. We will ask you to evidence alignment with our values during the interview process.





# Recognising the importance of staff wellbeing

As an organisation, we recognise that our staff are our greatest assets and as such we will provide a range of opportunities, interventions and support to staff, to drive the development of a happy, healthy and motivated workforce.

Active Together is committed to creating a working environment which fosters the best possible health and wellbeing for all of our employees. There is a wealth of wellbeing resources, services, websites and contacts available through our host authority to help you find the most appropriate support for yourself, a colleague or a team member.

Our host is also recognised as a 'Mindful Employer', a UK wide initiative that provides employers with expert guidance on how to take the lead in supporting the mental wellbeing of staff.

## Work-life balance

We know that people enjoy work more and are more productive if we can support them to achieve some balance.

We are committed to embedding and promoting the use of hybrid working (Guide - max of two days work at home, three days working office/field or face-to-face meetings based) and ensuring that it plays a key part in how we recruit and manage our employees.

Helping our employees to make the best use of technology that supports flexible working arrangements is another important aspect of our work-life balance offering. Without impacting our ability to deliver key customer-focused services, enabling our employees to work smarter is essential to the continued success of the business and Active Together.







## A statement from our host

As a Disability Confident, Mindful Employer and Menopause Friendly organisation, we are strongly committed to promoting equality and opportunity, investing in staff training and development, and supporting employees to balance their working life with other commitments.

### A place where you can be yourself

In 2023, we were again named as one of the best local authorities in the country for tackling anti-LGBT bullying by Stonewall, Britain's leading lesbian, gay, bi and trans equality charity. In 2024, we won two awards to mark our efforts supporting employees, at the prestigious Menopause Friendly Employer awards, including Menopause Friendly Employer of the Year Award.

### 83% of our staff believe the council is committed to equality and diversity

(2023 Staff survey)

We take great pride in creating a working environment that allows our staff to feel comfortable, confident and open about who they are.

Along with our staff survey, we are always looking for engagement opportunities that will help us to achieve our objectives around diversity and inclusion.

We have several employee network groups, which are run by employees for employees:

- Black, Asian and Multi Ethnic (BAME) Network
- Disabled Workers' Group
- LGBTQ+ Staff Network
- New Starter Network
- Menopause Network Group
- Working Carers Group

In addition to these groups, we also have Diversity Champions who act as advocates on diversity issues across the organisation, Menopause Champions who provide support and signposting for menopause-related issues, and Mental Health First Aiders who can offer support and guidance about mental health to colleagues.



## Ready to Apply?

### Step 1

Visit: [www.leicestershire.gov.uk/active-partnership-director](http://www.leicestershire.gov.uk/active-partnership-director)

### Step 2

Closing date: **Wednesday 29th October 2025 (midnight)**

Upload your CV and a supporting statement (max 1500 words) explaining how you meet the criteria in the 'About You' section on page 7.

See the "[How to Apply](#)" section on our careers site.

### Step 3

Stakeholder engagement: **Friday 21st November 2025 (12.30pm to 5pm tbc)**

### Step 4

Online psychometric testing will take place for invited candidates before final interview .

### Step 5

Final interviews: **Friday 28th November 2025 (all day tbc)**

If you'd like to get in touch to have an informal discussion to discuss the role please contact John Byrne: [j.byrne@active-together.org](mailto:j.byrne@active-together.org)

Find us on:



**Public+Health**  
Services provided by Leicestershire County Council

