

Assurance Statement Local Authority Local Sports Partnership

Kildare Sports Partnership

Annual Board/Committee Assurance Statement to Sport Ireland

Governance Code for Sport

(Local Authority Local Sports Partnership)

Purpose

This statement must be completed by the Local Sports Partnership in conjunction with its local authority and submitted to Sport Ireland annually as part of the Mid-year Review process.

Governance Framework

Under the terms and conditions of the Heads of Agreement, **Kildare Sports Partnership** is hosted within **Kildare County Council**.

In accordance with Section 3.11 of the Heads of Agreement, the Council operates under the Local Government Code of Governance, which supports compliance with the Governance Code for Sport.

In line with Section 3.5.2 of the Heads of Agreement, adherence to the Local Government Code of Governance is regarded as meeting equivalent governance requirements of the Governance Code for Sport, insofar as those principles are aligned.

As part of this framework, the Council will provide its **Governance Statement** and **Annual Financial Statement Certificate** to Sport Ireland which will be submitted by the Council either in conjunction with the mid-year submission or separately to support this assurance statement.

Through these established governance processes, the Council provides assurance to Sport Ireland that responsibilities relevant to the Local Sports Partnership, including finance, human resources, health and safety and operational policies, are being appropriately discharged.

PART A – Principles of the Governance Code for Sport

Leading our Organisation

The Board/Committee of **Kildare Sports Partnership** confirms that:

1. It has agreed a written statement outlining the Local Sports Partnership's mission, values and objectives.
2. It has agreed an annual work plan that sets out: objectives, timelines, targets, budget, and a funding plan.
3. Appropriate monitoring and evaluation arrangements are in place for the delivery of the annual work plan.

Exercising Control Over our Organisation

The **Kildare County Council** with responsibility for the **Kildare Sports Partnership** confirms that:

4. Both **Kildare Sports Partnership** and **Kildare County Council** are compliant with the governance requirements set out in the Heads of Agreement and aligned with the Governance Code for Sport and/ or the Local Government Code of Governance.
5. In relation to fiduciary oversight, the Council provides assurance to Sport Ireland that all relevant responsibilities relating to the Local Sports Partnership are being appropriately managed and

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discharged. These responsibilities include finance, human resources, health and safety, and operational policies.

6. The Steering Committee remains focused on programme delivery, outputs, and strategic oversight which is outlined in the other principles of the code listed here.

Being transparent and accountable

7. The LSP's Board/Committee has ensured that **Kildare Sports Partnership's** annual activity report is widely available and easy to access on the organisation's website and elsewhere.

Working Effectively

The LSP's Board/Committee confirms that:

8. Members are familiar with the Governance Code for Sport and the relevant governing documents.
9. Effectiveness of the Board/Committee has been reviewed in the last 12 months and identified potential improvements where appropriate.
10. New Board/Committee members are provided with a suitable induction including information such as: the relevant governing document, yearly work plan, policy positions, recent Board/Committee minutes and this Governance Code.
11. Governance Code for Sport compliance is maintained as a standing item on Board/Committee agenda.

Behaving with Integrity

The LSP's Board/Committee confirms that:

12. A code of conduct/guidelines has been put in place that outlines the expected standards of behaviour, and which includes clear guidelines on the obligations regarding gifts and hospitality and Board/Committee confidentiality. Additionality members have signed a commitment to the Code of Conduct.
13. Appropriate policy arrangements are in place to identify and manage 'conflicts of interest' and 'conflicts of loyalty' and the requirements of the Governance Code for Sport in relation to conflicts of interest and loyalty are being complied with.

PART B Assurance Statement – Exception Report

Please provide details of any significant governance, compliance, financial, risk management, health and safety, human resource, operational control issues that may affect the operating of the Local Sports Partnership.

If applicable, please also record reasons why the information provided in the Assurance Statement was not unanimously agreed by the Board/Committee of any material concerns identified by the Council.

If no issues arose during the reporting period, state:

"No material exceptions to report."

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Please add as required into this box:

No issues to be reported

PART C - Governance Code for Sport

1. The **Kildare Sports Partnership** Board/Committee understands that adoption of the Governance Code for Sport is a key action within the Government's National Sports Policy and is a requirement under Sport Ireland's Terms of Investment.
2. A core feature of the Governance Code for Sport is that it is principles based. The Board/Committee understands that adherence to the Code is on a self-assessed basis by each organisation. Each year the Board/Committee must self-assess its practices against those recommended in this Code to ensure that it is still compliant.
3. The Board/Committee of **Kildare Sports Partnership** in conjunction with the **Kildare County Council** understands that it must maintain a Compliance Record Form or equivalent evidence on file that attests and evidences the compliance with the practices of the Code.
4. The Board/Committee of **Kildare Sports Partnership** confirms to Sport Ireland that the Governance Code for Sport has been adopted and is being complied with **during 2025**. Any areas not being complied with **during the reporting period** which are listed and explained within your Comply or Explain Form as last updated.

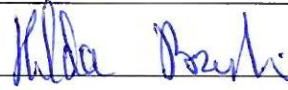
PART D – Joint Assurance and Acknowledgement of Responsibility

A. Local Sports Partnership Board/Committee Assurance

The LSP Board/Committee acknowledges its responsibility for:

1. The Board/Committee of **Kildare Sports Partnership** acknowledges its collective responsibility for:
 - a. Providing oversight of the Local Sports Partnership.
 - b. Monitoring delivery of the annual plan and objectives.
 - c. Supporting and monitoring compliance with the Governance Code for Sport.
 - d. Reviewing governance, performance and financial information presented to it.
2. The responses contained within this Assurance Statement were considered and approved by the Board/Committee of **Kildare Sports Partnership** at its meeting on **the 9/9/2026**. Any areas of contention are detailed within Part B (Exception Report) above.

Signed on behalf of the LSP Board/Committee:

Name of Chairperson:	Hilda Breslin
Signature:	
Date:	09.09.20

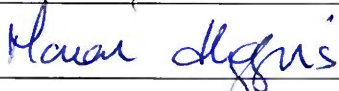
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B. Local Authority Assurance

1. The Council acknowledges its responsibility for maintaining the corporate governance framework within which the Local Sports Partnership operates.
2. The Council confirms that, through its governance arrangements, Governance Statement, Annual Financial Statement processes and related assurance mechanisms, it is satisfied that responsibilities relevant to the Local Sports Partnership, including financial management, internal control, risk management, human resources, health and safety, procurement, legal and regulatory compliance, are being appropriately discharged during the reporting period.
3. The Council confirms that the following documents have been provided to Sport Ireland in accordance with the Heads of Agreement and form part of the Council's overall governance and assurance framework supporting the operation of the Local Sports Partnership.
4. The Council confirms that:
 - a. The documents listed above represent the most recent approved versions issued by the Council.
 - b. It is not aware of any material governance, financial, legal, or regulatory matter arising from those assurance processes that would adversely affect the operation of the Local Sports Partnership, other than any matters disclosed in Part B (Exception Report) of this statement.
 - c. Any material matters affecting the Local Sports Partnership have been disclosed to Sport Ireland through the Council's governance and reporting arrangements.

Signed on behalf of the Council:

I certify, on behalf of **Kildare County Council** that the information contained within this Assurance Statement is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, accurate and complete and that the Council has disclosed any material exceptions affecting the governance or operation of the Local Sports Partnership.

Name of Director of Services / Authorised Officer:	Marian Higgins
Position:	Director of Services
Signature:	
Date:	9th Sept 2026

Local Authority/Council Governance Assurance Addendum

2026

Governance Assurance Statement

From: Kildare County Council

In accordance with the Heads of Agreement between **Kildare County Council** and Sport Ireland, the Kildare Sports Partnership is hosted within **Kildare County Council** and operates in accordance with the agreed governance framework.

As provided under Section 3.11 of the Heads of Agreement, the Council operates under the **Local Government Code of Governance**, which supports compliance with the **Governance Code for Sport**. In line with this requirement, the Council will provide Sport Ireland (and, in turn, the Local Sports Partnership) with its approved Governance Statement and Annual Financial Statement Certificate when finalised.

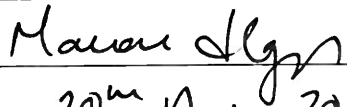
The Council further confirms that, through its existing statutory governance, financial management, risk management, and oversight processes, it provides assurance to Sport Ireland that responsibilities relevant to the Local Sports Partnership, including but not limited to finance, human resources, health and safety, and operational policies, are being appropriately discharged.

The **Director** with responsibility for the Local Sports Partnership is satisfied that both **Kildare Sports Partnership** and **Kildare County Council** are operating in accordance with the governance arrangements.

The **Local Authority** is satisfied that appropriate systems, controls, and oversight arrangements are in place to support the effective governance and operation of the Local Sports Partnership.

This statement is provided as an addendum to the Local Sports Partnerships Annual Assurance Statement and should be read in conjunction with that document.

Sign-Off

Local Authority	Kildare County Council
Local Sports Partnership	Kildare Sports Partnership
Name	Marian Higgins
Position	Director of Services
Signature	
Date	20 th Aug 2026.