

November 2007

Peter Rowley appointed as Sport England's North East Regional Sports Board Chair

Gerry Sutcliffe, the Minister for Sport, has appointed Peter Rowley as the new Sport England North East Regional Sports Board Chair. Peter's term of appointment will be for three years from 3 December 2007 to 2 December 2010.

Biographical notes

Peter Rowley is a director and the chief executive of Darlington Building Society and has enjoyed a long career in retail finance in banking and building societies at senior levels. Peter has developed strong associations with grassroots sports through his role at Darlington Building Society, including longstanding sponsorships of a broad range of sporting leagues, organisations and initiatives. He sits on a number of boards and committees, currently including the University of Teesside, Teesside Business School's Advisory Board, Beamish Development Trust and Darlington Citizen's Advice Bureau Ltd. Peter is also a non-executive Director of Garrison Radio Ltd which provides commercial radio to the Army, and he writes a weekly column on housing and property issues in 'The Northern Echo' newspaper. An enthusiastic, corinthian sportsman, he is a passionate runner, competing weekly, domestically and overseas at all distances from 5k up to, and including marathons.

Background

The North East Regional Sports Board covers the rural counties of Northumberland and Durham, the metropolitan authorities of Gateshead, Newcastle, South and North Tyneside and Sunderland plus the unitary authorities of Tees Valley, Hartlepool, Stockton, Darlington, Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland. Two of the nine Regional Sports Board Chairs also have a seat on Sport England's Main Board for a two-year period, and one acts as the Deputy Chair of the Board. Expressions of interest are sought from all of the regional Chairs each time a seat becomes available.

Since 1994, Sport England has invested some £2 billion into sport in England. Working both nationally and through its 9 Regional Sports Boards, it works closely with central and local Government, education and health professionals, the commercial and voluntary sectors, national governing bodies and other sports organisations. It shares best practice, sets standards, builds partnerships and promotes the benefits of sport, which include healthier living, social inclusion and crime prevention.

The current remuneration for this post is £10,720 plus reasonable travel and subsistence expenses. Peter holds no other public appointment and he has declared no political activity undertaken during the last five years.

The current Membership of the North East Regional Sports Board is: Dr Peter Warburton (Vice Chairman); Professor Chris Drinkwater; Tanni Grey-Thompson; David Harker; Angela James; Roger Tames; Helen Weston; Melville Speding; Councillor Stacy Hall and John McElroy.