

Independent Chair & Members

Central South Active Partnership - Investment Panel

Candidate Pack

Deadline: Sunday 8th November

Interviews: W/C 23rd November



A message from the Chair of the Central South Active Partnership

Dear Candidate,

Thank you for your interest in the Investment Panel for the Central South Active Partnership (CSAP). In partnership with Sport Wales, the Central South Active Partnership was established in 2024 to help more people across our region enjoy and access physical activity.

Our ambition is simple but bold: to make movement part of the everyday and create a happier, healthier region.

The move to Regional Partnerships gives us a unique opportunity to tackle local challenges across Rhondda Cynon Taf, Merthyr, Bridgend, the Vale of Glamorgan, and Cardiff. We will be taking a collaborative regional approach to meeting local needs so that we can reduce inequalities in sport and physical activity.

CSAP operates as a company limited by guarantee, under a robust and transparent governance framework. At the core of this structure is a skilled, inclusive, and diverse Board of Directors, that will work with our partners to shape and deliver our strategic direction.

Our governance structure is composed of passionate volunteers who contribute their time, experience, and expertise to help us achieve our goals. To govern effectively and remain forward-thinking, we value diversity of perspective and a commitment to inclusion. It is essential that we have diversity of perspective to govern effectively, and to ensure that we continue to be a forward-thinking, inclusive organisation that is committed to achieving our vision.

We are now recruiting an Independent Chair and Independent Members to join a new Investment Panel that will be a standing committee in our governance structure. Working alongside Board Members, this panel will help ensure that investment is directed transparently, effectively and in alignment with CSAP's vision, mission and strategic priorities.

If you're passionate about making movement part of the everyday, committed to inclusion, and care about making a difference in our region — and if you're ready to champion, challenge, and support our work — we would love to hear from you.

Warm regards,

Prof Leigh Robinson

Chair, Central South Active Partnership



About Central South Active Partnership

The Central South Active Partnership (CSAP) provides strategic leadership for sport and physical activity across the region (Bridgend, Rhondda Cynon Taff, Merthyr Tydfil, Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan).

We believe movement can bring far reaching benefits for people and communities. For our region it's a powerful driver of wellbeing, connection and opportunity.

Yet too many people across the region are not experiencing these benefits and some groups are far less likely to experience the benefits of movement than others.

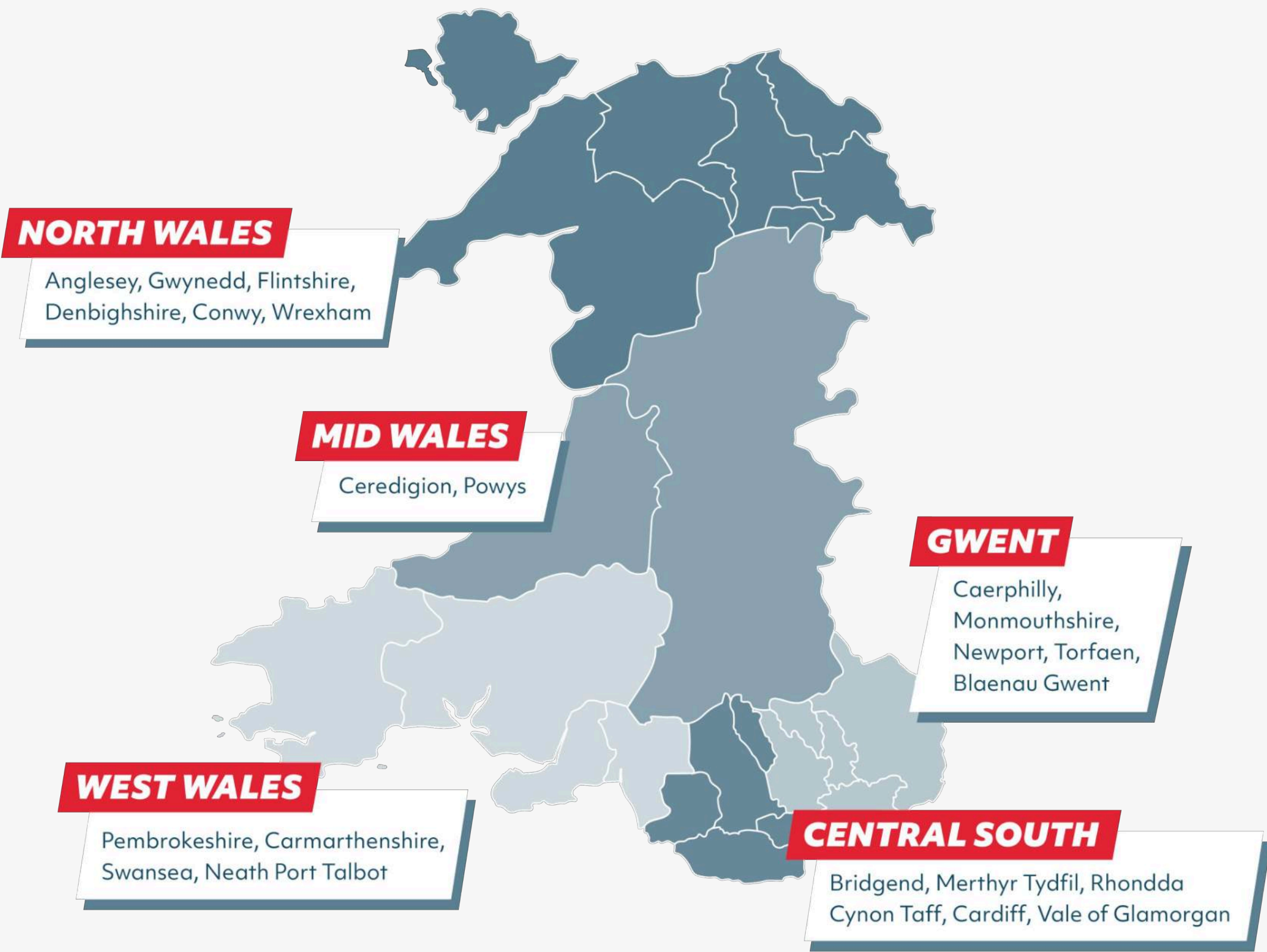
That's why we're doing things differently. We're not just changing programmes or projects, we're reshaping how systems work, how partners collaborate and how the story of movement is told. We're building on success and exploring new ideas. By working in new ways and challenging old models we're making movement part of everyday life, for more people, in more places.

Our ambition is simple but bold: to make movement part of the everyday and create a happier, healthier region.

What are our strategic objectives?

We're working with stakeholders and partners to define strategic objectives as we develop our strategy. In the interim we're focusing on developing:

- Active Societies - Social Norms and Attitudes
- Active Environments - Spaces and Places
- Active People - Programmes and Opportunities
- Active Systems - Governance and Policy Enablers



Independent Chair - Investment Panel

Purpose of the Role

The Investment Panel is a standing committee of the Board and plays a key role in supporting the strategic investment of resources.

The Independent Chair provides leadership to the Investment Panel and is responsible for ensuring that the Panel operates effectively, transparently and in accordance with the Terms of Reference

Working alongside Board Members, Independent Members and the Executive Team, the Independent Chair will foster an inclusive culture, facilitating high-quality discussion, ensuring support and challenge is applied and provide assurance to the Board that investment decisions are robust, insight informed and aligned with CSAPs strategic objectives.

The role provides an opportunity to influence how investment in sport, physical activity and movement can contribute to improved outcomes for communities across Central South Wales.



Leadership

- Chair meetings of the Investment Panel and ensure the effective operation of the Panel.
- Foster an inclusive culture which promotes constructive discussion, scrutiny and insight informed decision making.
- Work with Executive Team to set agendas and forward plan.
- Ensure the Panel fulfils its responsibilities under its Terms of Reference.

Investment Decisions

- Lead the Panel in reviewing investment proposals and recommendations.
- Ensure investment decisions are aligned with CSAPs strategic objectives, investment principles and regional outcomes.
- Facilitate insight-based decision making, ensuring appropriate consideration of impact, equity, public value and risk.
- Support the development and continuous improvement of CSAPs investment approach.

Governance and Assurance

- Ensure appropriate oversight and management of conflicts of interest within Panel decision making.
- Oversee the reporting of Panel decisions, recommendations and assurances.
- Ensure the Panel operates effectively and remains compliant with its governance responsibilities.

Board and Stakeholder Engagement

- Act as the principal link between the Investment Panel and the Board.
- Report key recommendations, decisions and matters requiring Board attention.
- Build positive relationships with Board Members, Independent Members and the Executive Team.
- Act as an Ambassador for CSAP, supporting its vision and values.

Independent Chair - Person Specification



Essential Experience

- Experience of strategic decision-making, governance, investment, commissioning, grant-making or resource allocation.
- Experience of governance, oversight and organisational assurance.
- Experience of leading discussions and supporting decisions involving complex or competing priorities.
- Experience of evaluating proposals, programmes, business cases or funding applications.
- Experience of assessing impact, outcomes, risk and public value.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

- Leadership, facilitation and influencing skills.
- Ability to interpret information and make balanced, evidence-based judgements.
- Ability to provide independent challenge and objective scrutiny.
- Understanding of governance, accountability and decision-making principles.
- Strong communication and people skills.
- Ability to consider strategic priorities alongside operational realities.
- A commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion.

Desirable Experience

- Experience within sport, physical activity, health, wellbeing or community development.
- Experience of public sector, charitable or grant-funded environments.
- Knowledge of social investment, commissioning or impact measurement.
- Experience of addressing inequalities and improving outcomes for under-represented communities.
- The ability to speak / communicate in Welsh.

Personal Attributes

- High levels of integrity and professionalism.
- Independent and objective in judgement.
- Strategic and future focused.
- Collaborative and respectful of differing perspectives.
- Committed to transparency, fairness and accountability.
- Passionate about improving outcomes for people and communities.

Independent Members - Investment Panel

Purpose of the Role

The Investment Panel is a standing committee of the Board and plays a key role in supporting the strategic investment of resources.

Independent Members provide objective oversight, external expertise and constructive challenge to support investment decisions that maximise impact across the region. Working alongside Board Members, Independent Members will help ensure that investment is directed transparently, effectively and in alignment with CSAP's vision, mission and strategic priorities.

The role provides an opportunity to influence how investment in sport, physical activity and movement can contribute to improved outcomes for communities across Central South Wales.



Investment Decisions

- Review and assess investment proposals and business cases submitted to the Investment Panel in line with investment principles and regional priorities.
- Evaluate the anticipated outcomes, impact and public value of proposed investments.
- Review and endorse approaches to the allocation of investment, including commissioning and award-based processes.
- Ensure investment decisions are evidence-based, transparent and equitable.

Governance and Assurance

- Provide independent scrutiny and constructive challenge to support robust decision-making.
- Support the Panel in providing assurance to the Board regarding the application of investment.
- Contribute to the development and review of investment principles and investment approach.

Strategic Contribution

- Bring external insight, knowledge and experience to Panel discussions.
- Consider how investment can support long-term system change and improved outcomes across the region.
- Champion approaches that address inequalities and increase participation in sport, physical activity and movement.

Independent Members - Person Specification



Essential Experience

- Experience of strategic decision-making, governance, investment, commissioning, grant-making or resource allocation.
- Experience of evaluating proposals, programmes, business cases or funding applications.
- Experience of assessing impact, outcomes, risk and public value.

Essential Skills and Knowledge

- Ability to interpret information and make balanced, evidence-based judgements.
- Ability to provide independent challenge and objective scrutiny.
- Understanding of governance, accountability and decision-making principles.
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Further Information

Time Commitment

The Investment Panel meets at least twice annually, with additional meetings convened as required Members will be expected to:

- Undertake induction and ongoing development activity as appropriate.
- Attend meetings either in person, virtually or through a hybrid arrangement.
- Review papers and supporting documentation in advance of meetings.
- Participate in written resolutions between meetings where required.

The anticipated commitment for the Independent Chair is approximately 4-6 days per year, and for Independent Members approximately 4 days per year.

Term

The term of office is 3 years and Members may serve a maximum of two terms.

Remuneration

Voluntary. Travel and subsistence costs will be paid at our standard rates in line with our Travel and Subsistence Policy.

Learning & Development

An induction programme will be provided; details of which will be shared ahead of your first meeting. The Independent Chair and Panel Members are invited to consider their learning and development needs annually.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

We value and celebrate diversity in all its forms and are committed to creating an inclusive governance structure where everyone can contribute and thrive.

We particularly welcome applications from individuals who bring diverse experiences, perspectives and backgrounds, including those currently under-represented within governance and decision-making roles.

We are committed to ensuring our recruitment process is inclusive and accessible. Applicants requiring adjustments at any stage are encouraged to inform us so that appropriate arrangements can be made.



Recruitment Process



If you would like to discuss the position prior to submitting an application then please contact Luke Robért in the first instance who will be happy to assist:

Luke Robért

luke.robert@acornbysynergie.com

07551 353 260

Privacy Notice

By submitting your application, you agree to Acorn by Synergie processing your personal data for recruitment purposes. For more information please visit our [Privacy Notice on our website](#).

We are committed to acknowledging every application and look forward to considering yours.

Thank you for your interest in contributing to the success of the Central South Active Partnership. Good luck with your application.

Please apply online and a consultant from Acorn will be in touch to tell you more and discuss next steps.

Please be aware that as part of your application, you will be required to provide:

1. Updated CV
2. A supporting statement (maximum one page) outlining why you wish to join the Investment Panel, and the skills, knowledge and experience you would bring, considering the person specification.

In your supporting statement, please let us know if you would like to apply for the Independent Chair position or be considered as an Independent Member.

Key dates

Deadline: Midnight Sunday 8th November.

Interviews:

W/C 23rd November via Microsoft Teams