Statement of Anne Whyte QC upon publication of the Final Report of the Whyte Review

I am pleased to have been able to deliver and conclude the important work of the Whyte Review. I would like to express my sincere gratitude to those individuals from the gymnastics community, and organisations and individuals connected with gymnastics, for their assistance and engagement with the Review. In particular, I am grateful to those individuals who showed strength and courage in coming forward to share difficult experiences with me.

The conclusions I have reached reflect the fact that between 2008 and 2020 there was a failure to put the welfare of participants at the centre of gymnastics, particularly elite gymnastics, and a culture that meant the gymnastics community felt unable to raise their concerns. I am, however, optimistic that the sport can move forward from here and make positive changes to the culture and experiences of those taking part in the sport. My recommendations for British Gymnastics will enable the organisation to put the welfare of gymnasts at the centre of the sport. I hope they will be prioritised by British Gymnastics and that the organisation will receive the support it requires, both internally and externally, to deliver those changes.

In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the Review, it is now for the Commissioning Organisations to determine the manner in which my recommendations are to be taken forward and implemented by British Gymnastics. Any queries about this should be directed to the Commissioning Organisations at media.team@sportengland.org and communications@uksport.gov.uk.

For anyone who has been impacted by mistreatment in gymnastics, the British Athletes Commission continues to be available to provide independent advice and support. This support is available for anyone connected with gymnastics and to those who have made previous disclosures, as well as anyone given the courage to come forward by the publication of my report. This support will continue for four weeks following the publication of my report. The BAC can be contacted via email at gymnastics@britishathletes.org (Mon-Fri 9am-5pm).

The work of the Whyte Review is now concluded. This website will remain live until the end of August 2022 and documentation held by the Review will be handled in accordance with the Privacy Policy which can be found here.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Whyte QC
16 June 2022