

The Whyte Review

I would like to provide you with an update about the progress that the Review has made in the last couple of months.

During this time, my team and I have continued to review the written information you provided in the Call for Evidence. This includes positive and negative submissions about people's experiences in gymnastics and covers a range of issues including emotional abuse, physical abuse and a 'culture of fear'. I would like to repeat my thanks to everyone who has come forward to tell their story. It has contributed enormously to my understanding of the sport and the experiences of people involved with gymnastics.

Both I, and members of my team, have also been conducting meetings with a wide range of people who responded to the Call for Evidence. This has included current and former gymnasts, current and former coaches, parents, welfare officers and other individuals connected with gymnastics. It is proving invaluable to see and hear directly from people involved with gymnastics about their experiences and the cultures and practices within the sport. Speaking with people is also ensuring that I have an accurate and detailed understanding of the information being provided. All of the information I am receiving will inform my findings and any recommendations I make in the final report. My team is continuing to contact people to request to speak with them and I anticipate that this phase of meetings will continue over the next two months. I am very grateful to those who have expressed a willingness to speak with the Review and am extremely conscious of the time and of the personal and emotional effort that this involves.

Once these meetings have taken place, I anticipate that it will then be necessary to seek further information and documentation from some of the organisations associated with the sport of gymnastics. I will also need to seek input from individuals who may not already have contacted the Review. Separately, I have already invited information from a number of organisations as set out in paragraph 13 of my Terms of Reference. I am pleased that I received substantive responses and information from all of these organisations. I will continue to engage with them as necessary in order to fulfil the Terms of Reference for the Review. In particular, I am engaging with British Gymnastics about disclosure of a range of material and anticipate making a number of further requests from them as my Review progresses.

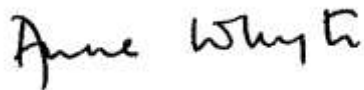
I am in the process of preparing an interim report for the benefit of the bodies who commissioned this Review, namely Sport England and UK Sport. The report will update

them about the work of the Review to date and it will provide an overview of the volume and nature of the information that I have received.

The key priority for the Review at the moment is to complete the gathering of information from individuals and organisations. I will then be in a position to assess all of the information received and start forming a view on the matters to be determined in the final report. At this stage it is difficult to estimate when the final report will be produced. However I anticipate that it will be at least another 2-3 months before all information has been gathered. I will provide another update at this time.

In the meantime, if anyone has any questions that they would like to ask or further information that they would like to provide, my team continues to be contactable using the contact details on the Whyte Review website (www.whytoreview.org). Support from the British Athletes' Commission continues to be available to anyone providing information to the Review. Please contact the BAC at support@britishathletes.org if you would like their assistance.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Anne Whyte". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'A'.

Anne Whyte QC
1 February 2021