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LONDON MARATHON FOUNDATION APPOINTS THREE NEW TRUSTEES

- **Councillor Mete Coban MBE, Yogesh Patel and John Tennent join the London Marathon Foundation Board of Trustees**
- **New Trustees increase the Board's diversity and bring experience in digital transformation, financial management and audience engagement**

Three new members have been appointed to the London Marathon Foundation's Board of Trustees. Councillor Mete Coban MBE, Yogesh Patel and John Tennent have joined the Board, bringing with them a wealth of experience to support the effective governance and operation of the London Marathon Foundation.

The Foundation is one of the UK's major funders of projects that help children, young people, and marginalised communities to lead active and health lives. This latest announcement continues an exciting period for the Foundation, which rebranded from The London Marathon Charitable Trust to the London Marathon Foundation in February this year, and, last month, announced it had reached a significant funding milestone of awarding £100 million to inspire activity since 1981.

The three new Trustees will increase the breadth of skills and diversity of the London Marathon Foundation's Board and will support the charity's ambitions, not only to connect new groups and communities with its funding, but also to become a leading voice for change in the sport and physical activity for development sector.

Sir Rodney Walker, Chair of the London Marathon Foundation, said:
"I'm delighted to welcome Mete, Yogesh and John to the London Marathon Foundation's Board. Together, they bring an impressive range of skills and experience that will help the Board ensure the Foundation continues to be

an inclusive, impactful and innovative funder, creating opportunities for people who need the most help to be active, for many more years to come.”

About the London Marathon Foundation’s new Trustees

Councillor Mete Coban MBE is the youngest ever elected Councillor in the London Borough of Hackney, currently serving as the Cabinet Member for Energy, Waste, Transport and Public Realm. Coban is also the founder and Chief Executive of My Life My Say, a registered charity engaging young people across the UK in democracy, and has been awarded an MBE for services to young people.

Coban said: "I am thrilled to be joining the Board of the London Marathon Foundation, a charity that’s promoting the health and wellbeing of marginalised communities. As a young working-class Londoner who was brought up in Hackney, I know first-hand the challenges that many people in our city face, and I’m committed to using my experience and expertise to help make a difference for communities in London and beyond.”

Yogesh Patel has been working in Digital and Technology Transformation for more than two decades and is currently a Managing Director (Head of Transformation) at Coutts & Company. Throughout his career, Patel has been passionate about using his experience to increase diversity and social mobility within the workplace. In his spare time, Patel is a keen marathon participant, having taken part in many marathons including the London Marathon in 2019.

Patel said: “Having experienced first-hand how participating in sport and physical activity can improve physical and mental wellbeing, I’m thrilled to be appointed as a Trustee of the London Marathon Foundation – contributing to the charity’s mission to fund initiatives that inspire people of all ages, abilities and backgrounds to lead active and healthy lives.”

John Tennent is a highly experienced Finance Director and Charity Trustee, specialising in financial and risk management. Tennent is co-founder and CEO of Corporate Edge, a global corporate consultancy, and has had Trustee roles responsible for financial management with The Samaritans (2018-2021), RSPCA (2021-2022) and he was recently appointed as Vice-Chair of The Air Ambulance Service (March 2023).

Tennent said: “I’m delighted to be joining such a great charity like the London Marathon Foundation, whose funding supports the work of so many charities, community organisations and clubs in delivering sports and activities for those who need the most help to be active.”

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About the London Marathon Foundation

- London Marathon Foundation’s mission is to fund initiatives that inspire, encourage and champion participation and diversity in sports and physical activity.

- London Marathon Foundation is the parent charity of London Marathon Events (LME), organisers of world leading mass participation sporting events, including the TCS London Marathon and Ford RideLondon-Essex. Every year, after costs, the surplus generated by LME is passed as corporate Gift Aid to London Marathon Foundation.
- Since its founding in 1981, London Marathon Foundation has awarded more than £100 million to more than 1,600 projects in London and across the UK, that help more people to lead active and healthy lives.

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