

Directorate change

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JD Sports Fashion PLC

22 April 2026

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JD Sports Fashion Plc Directorate Change

JD Sports Fashion plc ('JD', 'Company' or 'Group'), a leading global omni-channel retailer of sports, fashion and outdoor brands, today announces that Andrew Higginson has informed the Board of his intention to step down as Chair at the conclusion of the Company's AGM on 21 July 2026.

Andrew joined the business as Chair in July 2022 and has overseen the transformation of the Group's governance framework, alongside the global expansion of the JD brand and wider JD Group, notably with c.40% of the business now in North America.

The Board has initiated a process for the appointment of a successor, led by Kath Smith, Senior Independent Director. Darren Shapland will become Interim Chair following the 2026 AGM until a permanent Chair has been appointed. Darren has served as an Independent Non-Executive Director of the Group since June 2023 and currently chairs the Board's ESG Committee.

Andrew Higginson, Chair, said: "I am proud of my time at JD which has coincided with a tough period in the sportswear market. We have focused the business back to sports fashion, bought out minority interests in subsidiaries, and accelerated our expansion outside JD's UK market, particularly in the US. At the same time, we have made significant investments to transform the Group's governance and control systems, reflecting the scale and global footprint of JD, and in doing so materially strengthened our Board. As we move into the next phase of our journey, our focus on business discipline and cashflow leaves JD well placed to deliver the value it unquestionably represents."

Kath Smith, Senior Independent Director, said: "On behalf of the Board, I would like to express our gratitude to Andy for his extensive contributions to JD over the last four years. Andy's experience has been of great value in setting JD up for the next phase of growth, and he has brought focus to the Group's strategy, valued by both the Board and management. We wish him the very best for the future."

Regis Schultz, Group CEO, said: "I'm grateful to Andy for his support and counsel through a critical and transformational period for the Group. His leadership and experience have been crucial in building the capability we have around the Board

today."

This announcement is made in accordance with UKLR 6.4.6R.

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