

# **sportscotland**

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Inverclyde on Wednesday 28 February 2018 at 09:00.

## **Present**

### **Members**

Mr M Young, Chair  
Mr D Cameron  
Mr C Grant  
Miss H Ousta  
Mrs C Riddell  
Professor L Robinson  
Mrs S Sandilands  
Miss K U'ren  
Mr G Walker  
Ms F Wood

### **In Attendance**

### **Council Officers**

Mr S Harris, Chief Executive  
Mr S Ogg  
Mr M Roberts  
Mr M Whittingham  
Mr N Cobb  
Ms A Dougan  
Mr B Fleeting  
Mr J Lunn  
Mr S Roberts  
Mr D Williamson  
Miss L Cook, Minute Secretary

### **Scottish Government**

Mr D Grieve

### **Sport Northern Ireland**

Mr G Lucas (Chair)

### **Scottish Swimming**

Mr F Dunlop (Item 7 only)

## Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and commented on the very enjoyable and informative strategic discussion held the evening before. In particular, the Chair welcomed George Lucas, Chair of Sport Northern Ireland, who was attending to observe the **sportscotland** Board meeting. The Chair also noted that the Audit and Risk Committee would no longer take place after the meeting and will be rescheduled due to the poor weather conditions.

## Business

### 1 Apologies for Absence

- *Apologies were noted from Professor Craig Mahoney and Duncan Skinner (for both the 27 February strategic discussion and the 28 February Board meeting).*

### 2 Declarations of Interest

- *Mr Cameron declared an interest in Item 6, and this was deemed not to be in conflict.*
- *Ms Wood declared an interest in Item 14, and this was deemed not to be in conflict.*

### 3 Minutes of Meeting held on 13 December 2017

- *The minutes of the Board meeting held on 13 December 2017 were approved as a true and accurate record.*

### 4 Matters Arising

Mr Ogg updated the Board on legal matters being dealt with by UK Sport.

Mr Ogg also updated on the implementation costs of GDPR and cyber security.

### 5 Chair's Report

The Chair gave special thanks to the Minister for her hard work and diligence in securing additional budget from the Scottish Government. The Chair also highlighted the strategic guidance letter from the Scottish Government and how it aligned with **sportscotland's** strategic objectives but also noted the wider debate on sport's role on society. The Chair believes sport is in a good position at the moment but isn't without its challenges. In particular he highlighted a recent discussion with a Chair of a governing body who asked what they could do to help **sportscotland** achieve its objectives. There were significant challenges linked to the deep level of scrutiny Scottish Football was under and it was felt this was creating more challenges and was unproductive, and offered no opportunity for the sport to move forward. The Chair also highlighted UK Sport's plan to run a consultation process to inform how it should allocate investment to sports in the future.

- *The Board noted the Chair's Report.*

## 6 Executive Management Report

Mr Harris added his thanks to Mr Grieve, his team, and the Minister for their confidence in **sportscotland** which helped secure the additional resources. Mr Harris noted that in the future elements of the Minister's strategic guidance letter would be more visible to the Board in the quarterly business plan performance report. Mr Harris also noted that the Scottish Sports Association will now be funded by the Government with no investment provided from **sportscotland**.

The Barclay report is on the agenda for the next monthly meeting with the Minister to discuss the possible implications on future capital investment in sports facilities. In particular there is a possible risk to other sports clubs and the planned indoor tennis facilities resulting from the joint venture with the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA), TennisScotland and **sportscotland**.

Mr Harris outlined the most up to date position regarding the arrangements with the LTA about the joint investment in new indoor tennis facilities. The LTA had wanted to introduce a significant element of loan funding as part of their contribution. This had not been acceptable to **sportscotland** so after lengthy discussion this had now been restricted to 8% which would be offered as a contribution to a sinking fund for each facility. This arrangement will only be available in Scotland.

Mr Harris and Mr Williamson attended a Stakeholder Engagement session on 'Informing the Public Health Priorities for Scotland' on Tuesday 27 February, where physical activity was a key element. Mr Harris believed this showed potential for collaborative working from different areas of the public sector to get the nation more active.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

## For Discussion

### 7 Partner Presentation - Scottish Swimming

Mr Forbes Dunlop, Chief Executive of Scottish Swimming apologised on behalf of Maureen Campbell and Graeme Marchbank from the Scottish Swimming Board who were unable to attend due to the poor weather conditions. Mr Dunlop presented the Board with an overview of Scottish Swimming's key priorities and focus; and outlined their connection with the sporting system.

The Board acknowledged that the presentation had been positive and informative. The Board also queried whether any work was being done to support pupils in areas of deprivation. Mr Dunlop responded by explaining that studies had shown the biggest barrier to participation in areas on deprivation is finance but there was also an issue about some pupils not having the knowledge and confidence to use facilities such as changing rooms. This information will be shared with schools and a strategy formulated to help mitigate this issue in future.

The Board queried what was being done to support underrepresented groups participating in swimming. Mr Dunlop noted that disabled non-swimmers were a community that would be a potential target for the 'Learn to Swim' programme. He also noted the issues around the dress code for some ethnic groups and concerns about how to accommodate the needs of other groups with protected characteristics.

The Chair thanked Mr Dunlop for an open and informative presentation to the Board.

➤ *The Board noted the Partner Presentation from Scottish Swimming.*

## 8 Corporate Planning 2019 onwards – environmental analysis

Mr Harris outlined the principles in place for the development of the new **sportscotland** Corporate Plan. The intention remains to consider a more open ended corporate strategy, based on the world class sporting system for everyone in Scotland, with no specific timescale. Partner investment cycles can then be customised to suit and both the corporate strategy and subsequent business plans managed in a more dynamic fashion.

Ms Dougan and Mr Williamson facilitated a workshop based on the PESTLE (political, economic, social, technological, legal and environmental) process which examined many of the external factors that may impact on corporate and business planning in the future. Board members engaged in the workshop as a group without the input of the executive team. Mr Harris provided a link to the staff team by participating in the workshop alongside Board members.

➤ *Board members welcomed participation in this workshop.*

## 9 High Performance – 2018 Mission Updates

Mr Whittingham presented an update on the Winter Olympics/Paralympics and Commonwealth Games noting the outcomes of the Scottish athletes that participated in the Winter Olympics, and outlining the factors which contributed to making this the ‘best ever’ combined Winter Olympics and Paralympics. Over twenty **sportscotland** staff members had been working in PyeongChang at the pre-games camp and as part of Team GB/Paralympic GB.

Mr Whittingham outlined the high performance support which has been provided to Team Scotland who will be competing in the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games and the progress which has been made by each SGB. The Gold Coast Games differ from Glasgow as judo is not included. The Commonwealth Games Federation has introduced gender parity across most sports. A more detailed final report will be provided at the June Board meeting after the Games.

➤ *The Board noted the 2018 Mission updates.*

## 10 High Performance – Clean Sport Update

Mr Whittingham provided an update on the development of the Clean Sport policy and its impact on athletes and staff. The Board queried where responsibility lies for ensuring athletes are aware of which substances are on the banned list; Mr Whittingham explained the WADA process.

➤ *The Board noted the Clean Sport update.*

## 11 Corporate Plan and Business Plan Quarter 3: 2017 - 2018

Mr Ogg summarised the key points in the quarterly report. In particular the reasons behind the budget variances and appendix 4 which highlights **sportscotland**’s activities contributing to the Strategic Guidance from the Scottish Government. There was a general discussion on the budget variances and it was confirmed these were mainly related to issues of timing. The Board queried if **sportscotland** had a presence at the relevant Cross Party Parliamentary Groups, Mr Harris confirmed that **sportscotland** is represented at them all.

➤ *The Board noted the Corporate Plan and Business Plan Quarter 3 report.*

## For Decision

### 12 sportscotland Investment Principles

Mr Lunn summarised the proposed Investment Principles which, in future would be applied to all areas of **sportscotland**'s investment and sought approval from the Board. These principles aim to provide clear definitions and expectations around planning and compliance with policies. Discussion focused on whether **sportscotland** wished to be sole investors on certain projects. Mr Lunn reassured the Board by explaining that we would be open to support projects with other partners and this is addressed in the first principle.

➤ *The Board approved the updated **sportscotland** Investment Principles.*

### 13 sportscotland Budget 2018/19

Mr Harris presented an update on the proposed 2018/19 budget following the additional resources secured from the Scottish Government as part of the Scottish Government Budget settlement announced immediately after the December Board meeting. He highlighted where some investment would be reinstated as a result of the additional resources being made available and where reductions would remain in place. Mr Harris took the opportunity to pay tribute to the **sportscotland** team for working very hard on a prioritisation process to reduce the budget. He also noted that other possible sources of resources were still being investigated.

➤ *The Board approved the revised Budget for 2018/19.*

## For Information

### 14 Sports Facilities Fund

The Board noted the document was very comprehensive.

*Noted and taken as read.*

### 15 Remuneration and Succession Planning Committee Minutes

*Noted and taken as read.*

### 16 Audit and Risk Committee Minutes

*Noted and taken as read.*

### 17 Communications Update

*Noted and taken as read.*

### 18 Any Other Business

Mr Lucas thanked Mr Young and Mr Harris for the opportunity to attend both the Strategic Discussion and the Board Business meeting and greatly appreciated their hospitality. He noted that **sportscotland** had a great model and he had gained insight and inspiration which he would take back to Sport Northern Ireland.

### 19 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday/Wednesday: 24/25 April, University of the West of Scotland

There being no further business, the Chairman closed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending.

## ACTIONS

<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Responsible Officer</b>	<b>Planned Action</b>	<b>Actions Taken</b>
6	Mr Ogg	Reporting against the Scottish Government Strategic priorities contained in the Strategic Guidance Letter to be more visible in reporting.	The Q4 2017/18 Grant in Aid Report to the Scottish Government will focus on the Strategic Guidance letter priorities. This report will be submitted to the June Board.  From Q1 2018/19 the Board performance report will include the report on the Strategic Guidance letter priorities.