

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Inverclyde on Wednesday 24 April 2019 at 09:30am.

Present

Members

Mr M Young, Chair
Mr D Cameron
Mr C Grant
Ms C Bain
Mrs S Sandilands
Mr G Walker
Mrs F Wood
Ms K U'ren

In Attendance

Council Officers

Mr S Harris, Chief Executive
Mr M Whittingham
Mr F Dunlop
Mr M Roberts
Mr N Cobb
Mr M Cowan
Mr B Fleeting
Mr J Lunn
Mrs J Lynn
Mr D Williamson
Mr D McKay
Miss L Cook

Scottish Government

Mr A Sinclair

Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He commented on the very enjoyable and informative strategic discussion held the evening before. This had focused on strengthening the partnership with the Scottish Football Association.

Business

1 Apologies for Absence

- *Apologies were noted from Ms Bain and Mr Cameron (for the 24 April Strategic Discussion) and from Professor Mahoney (for the 24 April Board meeting).*

2 Declarations of Interest

- *There were no new declarations of interest.*

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 27 February 2019

- *The minutes of the Board meeting held on 27 February 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record.*

4 Matters Arising

None.

5 Chair's Report

The Chair welcomed Mr Sinclair who is the new Acting Head of Active Scotland, Scottish Government and Mr Dunlop **sportscotland's** new Chief Operating Officer.

The Chair noted that the last UK Sport Board meeting was held at Bisham Abbey, which was a great opportunity to witness the support provided to athletes first hand. The Chair also noted that UK Sport have been progressing with their consultation process with visits to each home country. Jess Varnish is appealing her case against UK Sport, this raises the same issues as before.

The Chair attended the VIA Sponsorship Conference, this will be discussed further at the next Financial Resources Committee meeting.

The Chair also attended the UEFA Conference and updated on the investment given to support the wider community and charities.

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

6 Executive Management Report

Mr Harris thanked the Board for their comments on the new Corporate Strategy, Mr Harris also thanked the Minister and colleagues in the Active Scotland Team for turning around the approval in 24 hours. A National launch will be held on 1 May and regional events have been planned to communicate the Corporate Strategy which the Board are welcome to attend.

Applicants who were unsuccessful when applying for the Board appointments have been offered links to other opportunities in SGBs.

Mr Harris updated on the strong partnership being developed with SAMH, and the clear benefits to be gained from working together with a focus on participation. The Board commented that this was an excellent development and looked forward to hearing of progress.

The Board asked for an update on the investment in indoor tennis facilities, Mr Cowan responded that there has been a number of partners and sites identified but it has been challenging due to the economic climate as the focus is on finding the correct locations and clubs with resources to be able to sustain the facility. Mr Harris also commented that similar delays were experienced with previous national/ regional projects as these are significant projects. The aim is to find locations where there is demand to ensure there will be maximum usage.

The Board once again congratulated the team on the finalisation of the Corporate Strategy and the quick approval from the Minister. Mr Sinclair added that it felt like a co-production and the Minister felt really engaged.

The Board also commented that it was great to receive positive feedback from Governing Bodies on investment particularly recognising the additional resources to support staffing.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

For Discussion

7 Business Plan Update

Mr Harris presented an update on the Corporate Strategy and how this will be connected to the Business Plan. Mr Harris noted that Mrs Dougan has done a fantastic job coordinating and driving the development of the Corporate Strategy. Mr Harris noted that staff briefings have taken place to make the wider team aware of the strategy and ambition. An integrated project team approach will be taken to ensure consistency of delivery across the organisation, with the right staff included from the early stage of projects. An updated version of the Business Plan will be brought to the June Board meeting.

The Board commented that this is a positive process and it's great to see how the strategy translates in to actions contained in the Business Plan.

➤ *The Board are supportive of the Business Plan progress and connection to the Corporate Strategy.*

8 Equality Mainstreaming and Outcome Progress Report

Mr McKay introduced the report which outlined progress over the past couple of years. The report is still in draft form and will be completed by the end of April. Case studies are being developed to bring the report to life. There are still a few sections of the report to be completed through reports downloaded from iTrent and some pay analysis. Once the document has been completed it will be brought back to the June Board meeting agenda.

The Board asked if details of the Equalities group chaired by Mrs Lynn could be included in the report. The Board also commented that it is encouraging to see the good work being developed.

The Board queried the continued use of Research Scotland, Mr Williamson commented that the procurement process is very clear and they always submit credible tenders and score well based on quality and cost but the team are exploring ways to stimulate other applicants to submit tenders.

➤ *The Board welcomed the report and asked for further discussion at the June Board.*

9 Equalities – Transgender Inclusion

Mr Lunn introduced the paper which provides a high-level overview of the current transgender context for sport both internationally and domestically. The Board discussed the report and concluded that a wider conversation would be helpful at a future meeting, perhaps as a more in-depth strategic discussion.

- *The Board noted the Transgender Inclusion report and asked that consideration be given to facilitating a further discussion.*

For Decision

10 Planned Budget Distribution between Scottish Government and National Lottery Funding 2019-20

Mr Cobb introduced the breakdown of Scottish Government and National Lottery income across the business areas.

The Board commented that the budget is very clearly set out and queried the Scottish Government underpin, Mr Harris updated that he is working with Mr Sinclair on the proposal and Mr Sinclair assured his team are working hard to secure the investment. Mr Harris also commented that the prioritisation process will provide different scenarios should there be financial challenges in the future.

The uncertainty of our position on the underpin has constrained the ability of the Board to set our budget and exercise effective scrutiny over the organisation's financial performance.

- *The Board approved the planned budget distribution between Scottish Government and National Lottery Funding 2019-20.*

11 Memorandum of understanding (sportscotland and Trust Company)

Mr Cobb introduced the Memorandum of Understanding between **sportscotland** and the Trust Company for review and approval, noting the importance of establishing independence for the Trust Company. Mr Cobb noted that an extensive review took place with very few updates, which include recharging the Trust Company for Corporate Services support annually.

- *The Board approved the Memorandum of Understanding.*

12 Corporate Risk Register

Mr Cobb highlighted key changes in the register and noted that it had been examined by the Audit and Risk Committee which the Board agreed was good practice.

The Board agreed given the previous update on the Jess Varnish case that it should remain on the Corporate Risk Register. The Board also agreed that CRR15: Reduced political and financial support for sport should be split in to two separate risks. The Board queried any risks associated with Brexit, Mr Cobb noted that regular reviews take place but at the moment no major risks are anticipated.

- *The Board approved the Corporate Risk Register.*

13 Board and Committee Terms of Reference

Mr Cobb introduced the document noting its key purpose is to set out the role and responsibilities of the Board and its Committees. The Board's terms of reference had been updated to reflect the addition of the Data Protection Officer and compliance.

➤ *The Board approved changes to the Board and Committee Terms of Reference.*

For Information

14 Communications update

Noted and taken as read.

15 Audit and Risk Committee draft minutes

Noted and taken as read.

16 Remuneration Committee draft minutes

Noted and taken as read.

17 Any Other Business

None

18 Date of Next Meeting: 25/26 June 2019, Inverclyde National Centre.

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

ACTIONS

Agenda Item	Responsible Officer	Planned Action	Actions Taken
8	Mr Dunlop/ Mr Williamson	Equality Report mainstreaming to be circulated to Board members once finalised and further discussed at the June Board.	Completed.
9	Chair/ Mr Harris	Schedule further discussion on transgender inclusion.	To be scheduled at a future Board Meeting.
12	Mr Cobb	CRR15 to be split in to two separate risks.	Completed.