
Public Service Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 Disclosures 2020-21

Putting sport first

sportscotland
the national agency for sport

Document Control

Change Record

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Public Service Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 Disclosures 2020-21

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Public Services Reform (Scotland) Act 2010 introduced duties to publish information for public bodies in Scotland.
- 1.2 This report summarises the information required to be disclosed by the Act in relation to **sportscotland** and the **sportscotland** National Lottery Distribution Fund for the financial year ended 31 March 2021.

2. Disclosures

Category	Expenditure 2020/21	Comments
Public relations	Total staff costs = £147k (of which £114k is salaries and £33k is on costs) External costs = £14k	On costs relate to employer’s national insurance and employer’s pension contributions. External costs for the public relations category includes expenditure on media relations and PR. This activity is aimed at helping sportscotland to fulfil its role in developing and promoting a world class sporting system in Scotland, raising awareness of achievements in sport from grassroots to high performance and sharing information effectively on the work of sportscotland .
Overseas travel	£nil	As part of our role in promoting and supporting the world class sporting system in Scotland, there is sometimes a requirement for sportscotland staff to travel overseas in support of key international competitions and training events.
Hospitality and entertainment	sportscotland staff expenses = nil	
External consultancy	£72k	The main area of consultancy expenditure in 2020-21 was the audit asset valuation report and health and safety support, along with some specialist support for HR and IT.

3. Payments in excess of £25,000

3.1 Payments in excess of £25,000 can be found at

<https://sportscotland.org.uk/media/7551/psra-25k-analysis-2020-21.xls>

4. Staff earning over £150,000

4.1 No employee earned over £150,000 in the year ended 31 March 2021.

4.2 Details of the remuneration for senior staff and board members can be found in the Remuneration Report published in the Annual Report and Financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2021.

5. Statement on sustainable growth

5.1 **sportscotland** is committed to promoting and increasing sport development and activity through the exercise of its functions. During the year ended 31 March 2021, **sportscotland** invested more than £60 million from both Scottish Government grant in aid and National Lottery funding, in Local Authorities, Sports Governing Bodies (“SGBs”), Community Sports Hubs and Sports Clubs, as well as in supporting athletes through the **sportscotland** Institute of Sport. Significant amounts of this investment is in part or full funding of posts throughout the sporting system in Scotland, as well as funding for the development of sporting facilities.

5.2 Some examples of how **sportscotland** supports sustainable growth include:

Cubs and communities

We engaged directly with 80 SGBs and extended our support to other sports organisations looking for guidance. We developed a think tank to inform the clubs and communities working group on how SGBs and clubs can prepare for easing of restrictions. We also created scenario planning groups to assist SGBs with their COVID-19 planning and to produce sport-specific guidance. To date, we have supported the development and publication of over 450 guidance documents in response to the changes made to government restrictions, ensuring they were fully accessibility and GDPR compliant.

Throughout the pandemic, we provided vital information and support through our communication channels. We developed a COVID-19 information and resources section on our website and increased the frequency of our internal and partner communications. We delivered targeted communications campaigns focusing on reassurance and responsibility about how we move as a sector to return to sport. We also worked with partners including the Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH) on campaigns to promote the benefits of sport and physical activity and to encourage people to stay connected during the pandemic within

government guidelines. These campaigns received significant recognition from local NHS hubs and the wider sporting community.

We provided flexible investment to SGBs to ensure they retained staff and to help their organisations function. This allowed partners to plan for the short to medium term and focus on guidance for the recommencement of sporting activity. We developed three additional investment streams for national partners. We provided £450,000 to support three sports experiencing severe financial difficulty through the SGB COVID-19 Support Fund. We invested £1m to 10 organisations from across four sports from the £55m loss of spectator income funding announced by Scottish Government in December. We also committed over £1.75m to 12 ice rinks from the Scottish Government's £2m funding package to help ice rinks across the Scotland mitigate the impact of the pandemic, and ensure they are able to reopen safely when the time is right. Significant work was required to create the processes and support partners to develop their applications.

We approved investment of £2.39m into 32 projects through our Sports Facilities Fund. We prioritised our investment into projects that align with our priorities and have a clear focus on return to sport and inclusion. We continued to work with Tennis Scotland and the Lawn Tennis Association to understand the impact of COVID-19 on the nine prioritised Transforming Scottish Indoor Tennis Fund projects. We also worked with Scottish Cycling on the development of a strategic investment fund to deliver a network of cycling projects across Scotland, linked to the UCI 2023 Cycling World Championships. We launched the Fund in October 2020 and will work with Scottish Cycling to prioritise and progress these to the next stage of development.

We offered use of the **sportscotland** national training centre Inverclyde as a venue to support the local vaccination roll out for NHS Ayrshire & Arran. Seventeen of the Inverclyde team volunteered as marshals to assist the NHS during this time.

Schools and education

Early on in the pandemic, we took a flexible approach to our investment to local and national partners. This supported the employment status of professionals across the sector, ensuring the network could respond to local need and help support communities across Scotland.

In 28 local authorities, Active Schools teams quickly adapted to support 149 childcare hubs, set up for vulnerable children and the children of key workers. We received positive feedback that this support was vital to enable local authority partners to fulfil their commitments while ensuring hubs prioritised the delivery of sport and physical activity.

We extended the Young Ambassadors programme registration period to allow schools to take up this opportunity. In spite of the pandemic, 177 schools signed up for the programme which aims to equip young people with the skills to promote and inspire other young people to get involved in sport within their schools and communities. This represents 42% of secondary schools in Scotland. We supported the schools, mentors and young people with information

packs and online and social media resources. We also provided regular communication via a dedicated Instagram channel which produced good engagement given the limited time secondary pupils spent in schools.

Throughout the last year we worked closely with local authorities, leisure trusts, SGBs and other strategic partners, including COSLA, Public Health Scotland, VOCAL, Community Leisure UK (CLUK) Scotland, Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers Scotland (SOLACE) and higher and further education partners, to gather high-level information on the impact of COVID-19 across the sport and leisure sector.

We worked with Education Scotland to align the physical education (PE) guidance with up to date return to sport and physical activity guidance. The PE guidance was designed to promote a consistent and equitable approach against the context of the current pandemic. It also assists teachers and school leaders with risk assessment and decision making to prioritise the health, safety and wellbeing of all children, young people and staff.

We recognised the need to adapt what we do based on what's happening round us. With this context in mind, we brought together a strategic forum of key stakeholders from the sport and physical activity sector. The forum collectively developed a long-term recovery action plan and consistent messaging for the sector, with the overall aim of building resilience and responding to the challenges presented by the public health crisis. The forum produced a recommendations paper and shared this internally and with key networks.

6. Efficiency Statement

6.1 **sportscotland** continues to be focused on efficiency savings, especially through effective use of procurement, both in terms of running competitive procurement tender processes and using centrally negotiated Government frameworks, and through efficient operation of our estate.

6.2 Key areas of focus for savings in the year ended 31 March 2021 included:

- Procurement – we continued to work to identify opportunities to get best value from tendering for the supply of goods and services and through good contract management.
 - Where a requirement can be met and value for money achieved through the use of an existing contract put in place by the Scottish Procurement and Commercial Directorate or another collaborative procurement agency such as Crown Commercial Service, **sportscotland's** policy is to utilise these contracts.
 - During the period, **sportscotland** spent £271,914.22 through fourteen Scottish Government Frameworks, resulting in savings of £42,009.52.
 - **sportscotland** also had spend of £642,821.00 with Crown Commercial Service Frameworks. Where available savings realised through these frameworks are included in **sportscotland** savings figures.

- In addition, savings of £308,425.00 were realised through locally procured category C contracts
- Estate – we regularly review the requirements of our estate to minimise costs and maximise revenue where possible, including:
 - Active maintenance of our two national centres to ensure that they are maintained in appropriate condition to optimise revenue generating opportunities;
 - Review of existing regional offices to identify opportunities to co-locate with partners; and
 - Continue to sublet excess space in the House of Sport at Caledonia House, Edinburgh to SGBs and other sports related bodies.