

sportscotland

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Inverclyde on Wednesday 25 October 2017 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
Mr D Skinner
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 E Cameron (part)
Mr M Cavanagh
Mr J Lunn
Ms J Lynn
Mr D Millen (part)
Mr J Steele (part)
Ms P Lombardi – Minute Secretary

Scottish Government

Mr D Grieve

UK Sport

Dame Katherine Grainger

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 Dame Katherine Grainger, Chair of UK Sport, who was attending to observe the **sportscotland** Board meeting.

Business

1 Apologies for Absence

- Apologies were noted from Professor Craig Mahoney (for both the 24 October strategic discussion and the 25 October Board meeting).

2 Declarations of interest

- There were no new declarations of interest.

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 23 August 2017

- The minutes of the Board meeting held on 23 August 2017 were approved as a true and accurate record.

4 Matters Arising

- Copies of the latest Key Event Schedule were distributed. Comments from members on the style and content should be fed back to Mr Ogg.
- Mr Ogg noted that a separate Health and Safety paper was included in the papers for the next Trust Company Board meeting. This topic would be integrated into the joint centre management meetings agenda, reinforcing the importance of health and safety.

5 Chair's Report

The Chair noted from his various meetings the high percentage of people across the UK who remained very positive towards sport. It was in sport's interest to get the governing bodies signed up to UK Sport's new governance codes, which would have a real impact towards making a sustainable change. The issue of football continues to dominate and the Board agreed that this would be a worthwhile topic for discussion at one of its evening strategy sessions.

- The Board noted the Chair's Report.

6 Executive Management Report

Mr Harris highlighted key aspects of his report, noting in particular:

- Scottish Budget
Mr Harris and the Chair had met with the Minister and outlined **sportscotland's** position on the budget. He reminded members that this was the second year that the National Lottery balance would need to be used to mitigate against a drop in National Lottery income. A budget paper was being prepared for submission to the Scottish Government and once this was formalised it would be shared with the Board. Mr Harris confirmed that Board members would be kept informed between now and the December Board in order to provide the full context for the decisions that would need to be made at that meeting.

Mr Harris assured the Board that the risks around the downward trend in Scottish Government funding had been clearly outlined to the Minister. Mr Harris had held some meetings with political parties locally. There was general discussion on the political context, both for **sportscotland** and individual Board members, and the Board agreed that in discussions with MSPs Board members should have a common message.

For the benefit of members, Mr Grieve explained the Government's budget process – the budget bill being a resource to develop discussions with cabinet secretaries with portfolio responsibilities. He noted that Ministers had not concluded discussions but the budget would be hugely challenging.

Members felt that from a Board perspective it would be helpful to have clarity between what the National Lottery could do separate from Scottish Government funding. There were two different sets of decisions involved and the Board was keen to consider how National Lottery funding should be managed in the longer term.

Mr Grieve reiterated that to aid budget discussions the Minister would be looking for evidence to demonstrate the impact on participation that investment into sport can make and the impact of physical activity on health.

It was noted that a full budget discussion would be held at the Board meeting in December.

- **Barclay Report**
The potential removal of business rate relief would have a significant impact on culture, sport and leisure, in particular – arms' length trusts, parks, sports clubs, etc. Mr Harris noted that the trusts were in the process of assessing the information to form a collective view of the likely risks.
- **Strategic Partnerships**
Mr Harris reported that the Trust Company now had a more established Board and a greater degree of executive management integration and collaboration across the three sites.

With regard to investment in indoor tennis facilities in Scotland, the Lawn Tennis Association was now planning to put half its investment forward as loan funding. The Board asked that the message be reinforced that **sportscotland's** match funding was on the basis of an equivalent match from the LTA in cash. Mr Harris confirmed that Tennis Scotland and **sportscotland** would discuss the issue with the LTA Board.

- The Board noted the Executive Management Report.

For Discussion

7 Presentation by Scottish Golf Limited

Mr Cameron provided the context for the presentation. Following changes to funding arrangements, Scottish Golf had made a commitment to get a four-year strategy in place for October 2017. It now had better engagement with **sportscotland**, supported by High Performance, Coaching and Volunteering. However, there were challenges around staffing (with high turnover and numbers currently in significant deficit) and recent negative press coverage – all of which could impact on the sport and its future direction.

The Board queried whether the proposals within such a bold strategy were sound and could be achieved and was keen to see issues tackled such as more flexibility in the partnership approach and improved dialogue between the governing body and clubs. Mr Cameron confirmed that Scottish Golf was not looking for any decision from the Board on the back of today's presentation.

Eleanor Cannon, Chair of Scottish Golf, and Karin Sharp, Director of Corporate Services, joined the meeting.

Ms Cannon took the Board through Scottish Golf Limited's strategy for 2017–21. She explained that the intention was to hold an open forum in early December with club members, committees, area and county representation and the media, designed to provide an opportunity for a full and frank exchange on the future direction of the organisation. She acknowledged the need for Scottish Golf to build trust and add value through robust communications and to implement and maintain an accurate database of club and membership information.

The Chair thanked Scottish Golf for an open and honest presentation to the Board. Ms Cannon, Ms Sharp and Mr Cameron left the meeting.

The Board acknowledged that the presentation had been candid and straightforward and that **sportscotland** should continue to offer support in the most appropriate way. However, the Board agreed that Scottish Golf must work to form a clear strategy for growth, build supportive relationships and address key areas such as equality and inclusion, encouraging young people and those from disadvantaged communities, and ensuring consultation with the right people across the widest possible spectrum.

8 Club and Community Sport Update

Mr Steel and Mr Millen updated the Board on progress with Sport for Change in Club and Community sport, which had been identified as a key area of focus for investment, but reminded members that making changes and particularly achieving cultural change was a long-term exercise. The framework had been refreshed and, with the regional lead managers working to bring local and national partnerships together, the work of changing mindsets was geared towards a system approach built on shared priorities and collaboration. Building the capacity and capability of the organisations and people attached to club sport was helping establish a stronger system to deliver the outcomes.

The Board asked what information was available for people to access around equalities and inclusion. Mrs Lynn confirmed that the Sport for Change programme included disability research and work with other organisations and the LGBT community, with the aim of gathering the relevant information in a coherent and cohesive way to deliver across the outcomes of participation and progress.

The Chair thanked Mr Steel and Mr Millen for their presentation and they left the meeting.

- The Board noted the Club and Community Sport update.

For Decision

9 Safeguarding and PVG Update

Mr Lunn explained that the proposed standards for SGBs on Safeguarding and PVG had been shared with the Government and recommendations would now go before the Scottish Parliament's Health and Sport Committee. A stakeholders' meeting was planned for 6th December to agree the standards, which should be embedded by the end of the year, and discussions were in progress with Children 1st regarding roll out and support. Mr Lunn clarified for members how and at what stage organisations are listed in the applications process and records updated for people involved in multiple sports. He also clarified that Disclosure Scotland and Volunteer Scotland work together on the checking and administration of licensing arrangements for coaches, part of a process handled by the governing bodies in managing their coaches.

- The Board approved the direction of travel on Safeguarding and the Protection of Children in Sport.

For Information

10 Draft Minutes: Audit and Risk Committee – meeting held on 16 August 2017

Noted and taken as read.

11 Inverclyde Project Internal Review

Noted and taken as read.

12 Coaching and Community Frameworks

Noted and taken as read.

13 Any Other Business

The Board discussed whether the minutes of meetings contained sufficient details of discussions held and agreed that it was content with the standard and level of reporting provided.

The Chair wished to record the Board's and Management's thanks to Patricia Lombardi for her work over the past three years and wished her well with her new job.

14 Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday/Wednesday: 12/13 December (Inverclyde)

15 Dates of 2018 Meetings: Tuesday/Wednesday: 27/28 February
24/25 April
19/20 June
28/29 August
30/31 October
11/12 December

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

ACTIONS

Agenda Item	Responsible Officer	Planned Action	Actions Taken
6	Mr Harris	Board members to be kept informed about budget developments in advance of the December Board meeting.	