

Introduction

- 1 **sportscotland's** new Lottery Funding Strategy for the period 2007-2011 replaces and builds on the previous Lottery Funding Strategy: 2003-2007.
- 2 As part of the development process for this strategy, **sportscotland** launched a consultation process in November 2006, inviting comments on our proposed approach to distributing lottery resources. This consultation ran for twelve weeks and closed on 23 February 2007.
- 3 The Lottery Consultation was brought to the attention of a wide range of partners and colleagues, including: Local Authorities; Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport; the *Sport 21* network group; **sportscotland** Board members; local sports councils; Home Country Sports Councils; Lottery distributors; the Scottish Executive; and various other sports partners. The consultation document was also publicly available on **sportscotland's** website.
- 4 **sportscotland** has responded to the points raised through this consultation exercise within our Lottery Funding Strategy.

Consultation Responses Received

- 5 **sportscotland** received consultation responses from 33 consultees, from a wide range of partners including Local Authorities, Governing Bodies for Sport, the Scottish Sports Association, Scottish Universities Sport and the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland, as well as various individuals. A full list of resposdee organisations can be seen at Annex A.

Proposed Distribution Principles and Investment Areas

- 6 In the consultation document, **sportscotland** set out eight principles which we believed should guide our investment of lottery funding over the next four years. These were:
 - 6.1 We will contribute to both national and local priorities
 - 6.2 We will ensure lottery resources are additional to other investment
 - 6.3 We will invest both through our partners and direct to sport
 - 6.4 We will invest all over Scotland

- 6.5 We will invest across all sports
- 6.6 We will target investment where there is a particular need
- 6.7 We will support safe sport for all
- 6.8 We will ensure sustainability
- 7 We then detailed the four areas which we believe make up the infrastructure that contributes to the development of strong Scottish sport. These areas are consistent with the priorities identified within Reaching Higher, the Scottish Executive's National Strategy for Sport, and reflected in **sportscotland's** Corporate Plan: 2007-11. These are:
 - 7.1 Well trained people
 - 7.2 Strong organisations
 - 7.3 Quality and accessible facilities
 - 7.4 Sporting pathways

Summary of Consultation Responses

- 8 **Do you think the principles appropriately reflect how we should distribute lottery resources?**
 - 8.1 The overwhelming response was that the principles do appropriately reflect how we should distribute lottery funding.
- 9 **Which principles do you think are the most important?**
 - 9.1 The principles of additionality and sustainability were most frequently highlighted as being amongst the most important principles.
 - 9.2 The principle of investing across the whole of Scotland was highlighted as an important principle because there is often a focus on investing in the central belt area of Scotland, or primarily in urban areas.
 - 9.3 The principle of investing across sports was also raised as being important. In addition to this, the value of multisports awards was commented upon, where the view that these often have the largest impact was expressed.
- 10 **Are there any principles you do not agree with and are the any you think are currently missing that should be included?**
 - 10.1 There were comments made in relation to the principle of investing where there is particular need. A potential focus on social deprivation was raised as a concern, and clear criteria for what this would mean in terms of investment decisions was requested. Some respondents

questioned whether investing in areas of social deprivation made sense from an investment perspective, whilst others believed there should also be a focus on low paid and rural areas.

- 10.2 One respondent commented that there was a possible contradiction between the principles of investing across sports and where there is particular need. Another respondent commented that investing across social groups may be more appropriate than investing across sports.
- 10.3 Some responses included references to the importance of widening the social range of participation. The importance of equality of opportunity for women, the elderly and those with disabilities were all individually highlighted.

11 Do you think the proposed investment areas appropriately reflect how we should distribute lottery resources?

- 11.1 Again, the overwhelming response was that the proposed investment areas were appropriate.

12 Which investment areas do you think are the most important?

- 12.1 All investment areas were raised as independently important areas, but the importance of quality facilities was highlighted more often than the others.
- 12.2 Comments were made that having satisfactory facilities in place at all levels is vital to contribute to a strong sporting infrastructure, and, therefore, closely related to the development of the other areas. There was also a focus on making sure that there are sufficient facilities to ensure that clubs have access to sporting opportunities. One respondent suggested there should be formal agreements with regard to access and pricing of facilities, and another suggested that the Scottish Executive should require LAs to make school facilities accessible outside of school hours.
- 12.3 Also regarding facilities, one respondent stated that if a project is deemed to be sufficiently important, 100% of the cost of the project should be financed by lottery resources, rather than relying on other partners for the project to progress.
- 12.4 Under the category of strong organisations, SGBs and clubs were particularly focused on, with the view being that support for both is essential for a strong infrastructure. One respondent commented that support for sports should be proportional to the number of members, while another stressed that SGBs not part of the Scottish Institute should not be overlooked.
- 12.5 One respondent commented that different sporting organisations have different levels of controls and support mechanisms in place and this means that they require different levels of support in order that lottery

investment can be utilised. This should be considered when deciding which organisations to allocate funding to. Related to this point, another respondent highlighted the importance of SGBs having effective child protection procedures in place.

- 12.6 Under the category of well-trained people, coaching was frequently raised as being vital for sporting development. This often included references to the importance of volunteer coaches and the need to have quality coaches at club level, as well as national level. There was also a comment that coaching should be provided at secondary school level, and another that coaches should visit schools to encourage pupils to participate in sport.
- 12.7 Under the category of sporting pathways, investing in performance development was recognised as essential given the lack of resources from elsewhere. Comments were made in support of this funding continuing.

13 Are there any proposed investment areas you do not agree with and are there any you think are currently missing that should be included?

- 13.1 Although there were many comments in support of funding athletes at an elite level, as shown in 12.7, there were also concerns that investing in this area was not the most appropriate use of lottery resources.
- 13.2 There was a view that the decision not to focus resources on increasing participation was not a wise one. Some respondents thought **sportscotland** should direct resources towards achieving mass participation. Linked to this, Active Schools was widely recognised as a successful programme but comments were made that increasing participation is not exclusively widened through this programme. Therefore, consideration should be given to how lottery resources may contribute to this area.
- 13.3 On strong organisations, there were points made in support of targeting resources direct to clubs rather than through SGBs. There was a comment that clubs could be supported through a club accreditation scheme. However, there were also contrary views to this stating that SGBs should be the recipients of lottery resources because they are better placed and better able to effectively develop their own sports and provide appropriate support for participants. It was, therefore, claimed that funding for clubs, facilities and other areas of infrastructure should all be linked to funding for SGBs.
- 13.4 Respondents commented that regional infrastructure is important to the development of successful sporting pathways.
- 13.5 Also, under the sporting pathways area, there were concerns expressed that lottery resources may be redirected towards Olympic and Commonwealth Games sports, thereby disadvantaging other

sports. Comments were made in support of maintaining funding opportunities for non-Olympic and non-Commonwealth Games sports.

- 14 The other comments and concerns are listed below:
 - 14.1 A large number of respondents expressed concern that sport in Scotland may be disadvantaged as a result of lottery resources being redirected to help support the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London.
 - 14.2 Various respondents commented that there should be increased coordination between **sportscotland** and other lottery distributors. In particular, because of their own sport-related funding programmes, it was felt that the Big Lottery Fund's process for achieving sports funding should be more closely aligned with **sportscotland's**. One respondent suggested that all lottery sports funding should be channelled through **sportscotland**, while others claimed the distinctions between the two organisations' funding programmes should be made clearer.
 - 14.3 There were comments that the process for investing in SGBs could be restructured to allow for long-term development. It was felt that funding SGBs on an annual basis, rather than over a longer period of time, makes long-term planning more difficult.
 - 14.4 One respondent highlighted the importance of relating the Lottery Strategy to the National Strategy for Sport.
 - 14.5 Comments were made that the application and decision making processes for distributing lottery funds should be transparent. Decisions should be made with regard to appropriate and established criteria. It was further thought that where an application is unsuccessful, the reasons for the decision should be made clear to the relevant party. Additional comments related to the distribution procedure included the need for a weighting or scale indicating the level of match funding required to access funding.
 - 14.6 One respondent made the case for lottery funding to be made available to the tertiary education sector. This respondent put forward the position that Scottish Universities contribute significantly to increased physical activity and participation, and should, therefore, have access to support from lottery resources.

Conclusion

- 14.7 Generally, there was support for both the proposed principles and areas of investment. Respondents agreed that the eight guiding principles formed an appropriate and sensible way of deciding how to distribute lottery funding. Respondents also commented that the areas

of investment covered the full sporting infrastructure and were the correct areas in which to distribute funding.

- 14.8 We were grateful for all comments received. All are valuable and we have sought to address these in our strategy. We will also continue to consider this feedback in the ongoing review and development of our work and its implementation under our new corporate plan.
- 14.9 With thanks to all who contributed.

Annex A**List of identified respondent organisations**

1. Scottish Swimming
2. Royal Caledonian Curling Club
3. Scottish Hockey
4. Dancesport Hockey
5. Scottish Sports Association
6. Scottish Golf Union
7. East Ayrshire Council
8. Moray Council
9. Mountaineering Council of Scotland
10. National Playing Fields Association
11. Basketball Scotland
12. North Lanarkshire Council
13. Highland Council
14. Clubgolf, Highlands and Islands
15. Scottish Karate
16. Scottish Football Association
17. Scottish Universities Sport
18. Triathlon Scotland
19. Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland
20. Angus Council
21. Aberdeen City Council
22. North Lanarkshire Council
23. Sport Central
24. Glasgow City Council