

sportscotland

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Glenmore Lodge, Aviemore, Inverness-shire, PH22 1QU, on Wednesday 16 December 2015 at 8.30 hours.

Present

Members

Mrs L Martin CBE, Chair
Mr D Cameron
Mr D Gass
Ms S Jackson
Professor G Jarvie
Professor C Mahoney
Ms C Riddell
Professor L Robinson
Mr R Stone
Mr G Walker
Ms F Wood
Mr M Young

In Attendance

Council Officers

Mr S Harris, Chief Executive
Mr S Ogg
Mr W Whittingham

Mr J Lunn
Ms J Lynn
Mr S Anderson

Scottish Government

Mr Derek Grieve

Welcome

The Chair opened the meeting.

Apologies were noted from Mr Mike Hay. The Chair explained that Mr Hay had resigned as an advisor to the Board due to his BOA commitments to the Rio Olympics but had enjoyed his time supporting the work of **sportscotland**. The Chair noted the Board's thanks to Mr Hay for his contribution to **sportscotland** over the past eight years.

Business

1 Declarations of interest

- *With regard to item 10 on the agenda - Investment into Scottish Governing Bodies - it was noted that the Chair, Professor Leigh Robinson and Ms Susan Jackson all had a conflict of interest regarding Commonwealth Games Scotland. It was agreed that they would leave the meeting and not take part in any discussion or the decision associated with **sportscotland's** investment into this body.*

2 Minutes of Meeting held on 28 October 2015

The Chair noted that the visit by Lord Dunlop had gone very well. He had been impressed with what was happening in Scotland and hoped that the outcome of the Spending Review would be positive.

- *The minutes of the meeting held on 28 October 2015 were approved.*

3 Matters Arising

- *There were no matters arising not covered by the agenda.*

4 Chair's Report – s (15) 01

The Chair highlighted the UK Sport Board December meeting, which had been hosted by **sportscotland** at Caledonia House. Craig Burn, CEO of Scottish Cycling, had provided the UK Sport Board with a presentation showing how the Scottish and UK systems are committed to work together and highlighted the potential to improve that position. It was noted that EventScotland had also presented to the UK Sport Board at the same meeting.

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

5 Executive Management Report – s (15) 02

Mr Harris updated Board members on the areas of note within the Executive Management Report.

Scottish Government

Mr Harris explained that the Scottish Government would not be announcing the outcome of its Spending Review until later in the day so there would no opportunity to consider the possible consequences for **sportscotland** until after the Board meeting. His current understanding was that **sportscotland** would see a 10% reduction in its Scottish Government allocation, while a further £1.9m of existing Scottish Government priorities would have to be considered in the context of the mainstream budget. He indicated that as a consequence a prioritisation approach would be taken rather than applying a percentage reduction to all areas.

Mr Harris explained that in response to this likely reduction in Scottish Government funding, the areas that would be reviewed, in order of priority, were: Physical Education, Active Girls, Funding for SGBs (taking into account their past performance) and Staffing. Mr Harris noted that he had spoken to the CEO of Sport England. From the UK Spending Review it had been awarded a 'flat line' budget for the next four years plus additional monies of £6m to take forward specific Government priorities.

Mr Harris explained that a final draft budget would be brought back to the February 2016 Board meeting once the full implications of the Scottish Government's allocation had been analysed. As in the past, the paper would also include recommendations regarding the allocation of Lottery funding, which would continue to be used to achieve additionality and promote sustainability of the projects/programmes being supported.

Mr Harris noted that once the details of the Scottish Government's Spending Review were published the highlights would be circulated to Board members.

Project Inverclyde

Mr Ogg explained recent developments with Project Inverclyde, noting that recent consultations on the new development had shown general support for the project other than one comment from the Community Council Planning Convenor. This was being handled in consultation with North Ayrshire Council's planning department

Physical Activity

Mr Harris highlighted the positive trends recently reported by the Global Observatory for Physical Activity, which indicated that in comparison with all the other home nations Scotland was showing a higher level of physical activity.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

For Discussion

6 Board Development

Introducing the paper on Board Development, which was prepared following the discussion at the October Board meeting, the Chair explained how Board members had been previously engaged in various aspects of the work of **sportscotland**. Mr Harris added that in future it would be possible to customise an approach to the interests of individual Board members.

During discussion various points were raised. Input from partners was helpful to Board members as it provided the opportunity to witness the translation of strategy into action and this helped inform their monitoring role. Gaining first hand experience was also a way of helping members understand the issues and opportunities affecting partners which could help inform the next Corporate Plan. There was recognition that day-to-day engagement with partners was the responsibility of partnership managers.

Mr Walker commented on his recent involvement in a meeting between British Wrestling and Scottish Wrestling, which had allowed him to see at first hand some of the challenges with SGBs and how these were being handled by the staff team. Mr Harris noted that Board member involvement with partners on some occasions was helpful as it added weight to a particular issue or circumstance.

It was also suggested that Board members could help by signposting opportunities where these would add value to the work of **sportscotland**.

It was noted that while the Board recognised the robustness of internal decision making processes, confirmed by recent Internal Audit reports, the opportunity to attend investment panels might allow members to gain greater insight into the application of investment decision-making processes. It was agreed that the panel dates would be circulated to Board Members so they could attend if they wished to do so.

The implications for other Board members of the Scottish Government's decision to allocate the new Chair just 6.5 working days per month were discussed. Mr Grieve explained that there was a requirement for the Chair to meet the Minister formally twice a year, so this reduction should not have any effect on these formal arrangements.

Specific opportunities for each Board member to become more involved in appropriate activities would be discussed at the one-to-one meetings between the Chair and individual Board members.

7 Business Plan Q2 Report 2015-16

Mr Ogg noted the key changes in the budget position at the end of Q2. In particular he highlighted the arrangements to delay until 2016-17 the draw down of £7.8m currently allocated to the National Performance Centre and Project Inverclyde, as these projects will take longer to complete than the single year in which the full allocation had been made by the Scottish Government.

The Board noted the successful achievement of the liP Gold Award and the commitment to liP for Young People.

Ms Lynn noted that the Community Sports Hub target had been achieved, and noted that arrangements were being made for a formal announcement.

➤ *The Board noted the Q2 Business Plan 2015-16 Report.*

Mr Anderson joined the meeting

8 Mission 2018 Update

Mr Whittingham gave presentations on Gold Coast 2018, Rio 2016 and Pyeongchang 2018. He explained the processes used to determine investment in each sport and the current medal expectations. He highlighted the six-monthly review process used to track progress and performance, noting that there were currently no red flags for Gold Coast. The overall target for Gold Coast is to have the 'best ever' away Games.

In response to a query regarding return on **sportscotland**'s investment, Mr Whittingham explained that there were 30 medals expected from 12 sports, with four sports expected to produce 20-plus medals. In response to a query from the Board, he explained that there was a good gender balance amongst the athletes and the support team.

In relation to Pyeongchang, Mr Whittingham explained that there would be seven sports, 15 disciplines and 102 events. During discussion he acknowledged the issues regarding the number of potential para athletes in Winter sports.

➤ *The Board noted the progress being made with Gold Coast 2018, Rio 2016 and Pyeongchang 2018.*

8 National Performance Centre (NPC) for Sport and Project Inverclyde

Mr Anderson presented on progress with the National Performance Centre for Sport being developed at Heriot-Watt University's campus and Project Inverclyde.

Mr Anderson noted that the NPC would be open in June 2016, with an official opening planned for November 2016. He explained some of the early changes in the design necessitated by cost. He stressed that despite these changes the original design concepts were still being delivered on the ground.

Mr Whittingham explained that the NPC would become one of the main performance environments for delivering Institute services in the future, with up to 25 Institute staff based there.

The adjacent hotel development would open early in 2017 and have 150 beds. This was purely a commercial operation.

Mr Anderson then presented slides showing the designs for the new Inverclyde.

- *The Board noted the progress and developments with the NPC and Project Inverclyde.*

For Decision

9 SGB investments

Mr Lunn explained the background to the planned 'up to' investments in SGBs and partner bodies. He stressed that investments are not an entitlement; they are made against a whole sport plan submitted by each SGB. Investment levels are not formulaic but reflect the cost profiles for individual sports.

Mr Lunn noted that sports had originally presented plans with bids that represented a 40% increase in current investment levels. He explained that although the Board paper focused on the SGBs that came within the 2016-20 investment cycle, some were at different stages in their development so the periods of investment were variable.

Against this background Mr Lunn outlined the proposed investment level for each sport and these were discussed by the Board. The Board proposed a number of changes to the recommendations, which would now be taken into account as the final investment figures were being prepared for discussion with the respective organisations. The final recommended budget for SGBs and partner bodies would be brought back to the February 2016 Board meeting as part of the overall budget approval for 2016/2017.

- *During the discussion regarding Commonwealth Games Scotland the Chair, Professor Leigh Robison and Ms Susan Jackson left the room and Mr Mel Young took the Chair.*

The Board noted and welcomed the approach taken by the Executive team.

- *The Board proposed and agreed changes to the recommendations but noted that all were subject to further discussions at the February 2016 Board meeting once the full implications of the Scottish Government's Spending Review could be taken into account.*

10 Investment into Local Authorities 2016-17

Ms Lynn outlined the proposals for the investment into local authorities for 2016-17. She noted that Active Schools was the only universal offer to all local authorities; all other programmes were supported depending on what each local authority planned to deliver in its area. It was acknowledged that local authorities were subject to significant budget pressures, which inevitably would have an impact on their ability to invest in sport. There was an expectation that people working in the sporting system would be affected and facilities could be closed.

- *The Board noted the proposed planning figures for local authorities for 2016-2017.*

11 Recognition of Sporting Activities and Governing Bodies

Mr Lunn explained the proposal to de-recognise Weightlifting Scotland, which followed lengthy attempts at helping the sport find a solution to its current difficulties relating to governance. The previous efforts made by **sportscotland** had been unsuccessful, Mr Lunn explained that the only option was to propose the de-recognition of the sport and allow the various parties to find an appropriate way forward. It was noted that individual athletes of an appropriate performance standard would be protected.

- *The Board approved the de-recognition of Weightlifting Scotland as the Scottish Governing Body for weightlifting and noted the arrangements for protecting appropriate individual athletes.*

For Information

12 The Changing Landscape for Outdoor Sport

Mr Nigel Williams, Head of Training, Glenmore Lodge, gave a presentation on the trends in outdoor adventure sport, the drivers influencing changes in the sector and how these were affecting the plans for Glenmore Lodge.

- *The Board welcomed Mr Williams's presentation.*

13 Remuneration Committee minutes

The minutes of the most recent meeting of the Remuneration Committee were noted. It was also noted that Ms Coral Riddell would be joining the Remuneration Committee.

14 Ethics Committee update

Mr Mel Young updated the Board on the most recent meeting of the Ethics Committee, which had made good progress towards developing a Code of Ethics statement with five pillars focused on anti-doping, anti-corruption, fair play, finance and sponsorship, and equalities.

15 Any Other Business

There was no other business.

16 Date of Next Meeting

To give members the opportunity of seeing the development at first hand, it was planned that the next meeting of the **sportscotland** Board would be held at the Heriot-Watt University campus at 10:00 am on Wednesday 24 February 2016.

Post-meeting note: It has since been determined that the April Board meeting should be held at Heriot Watt. The February Board meeting, therefore, will take place as normal at Caledonia House.

The Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting at 2.45pm.

Agenda Item	Responsible Officer	Planned Action	Actions Taken
5	CEO	The highlights of the Scottish Government's Spending Review would be circulated to Board members	Note circulated on 21 December 2015
6	CEO	The Investment Panel dates would be circulated to Board Members	Dates circulated following Chair / Members individual meetings.