

sportscotland

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Inverclyde on Wednesday 28 August 2019 at 09:00am.

Present

Members

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

In Attendance

Council Officers

Mr S Harris, Chief Executive
Mr F Dunlop
Mr M Roberts
Mr M Whittingham
Mr N Cobb
Mr B Fleeting
Mr J Lunn
Mrs J Lynn
Mrs K McCheyne
Mr D Williamson
Mrs M Borland
Ms P Horton
Miss L Cook

Scottish Government

Mr A Sinclair

UK Sport

Dame K Grainger

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 Scotland's Athletes and their views on the sporting system at all levels.

Business

1 Apologies for Absence

- *Apologies were noted from Mr Grant, Professor Mahoney and Mr Walker (for the 27 August Strategic Discussion) and from Mr Grant and Professor Mahoney (for the 26 June Board meeting).*

2 Declarations of Interest

- *There were no new declarations of interest.*

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 26 June 2019

- *The minutes of the Board meeting held on 26 June 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record.*

4 Matters Arising

The Chair noted that the action from the previous meeting has been dealt with.

5 Chair's Report

The Chair highlighted that Mr Harris and himself attended the Nat West International Island Games in Gibraltar and noted that this was a good opportunity to see athletes from the Islands competing with athletes from a range of islands from across the globe. The Chair also noted how great it was to hear how the three Islands value our support and learn about their work directly.

The Chair updated that he attended the SFA Congress the previous day. Concerns were expressed around Brexit and encouraging feedback was received on Women's Football and developments being made across the country. A good discussion was had around child protection, and the challenges around UEFA and sectarianism was also discussed. The Board agreed that sectarianism would make a good topic for a future strategic discussion session.

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

6 Executive Management Report

Mr Harris updated that Orkney have been awarded the 2023 Island Games. **sportscotland** will work in partnership with the Islands to help them deliver the games and to add to the infrastructure and capacity on the island required to sustain positive levels of sport and physical activity beyond 2023.

Mr Harris also updated that the UK Government has agreed to relax the rules applied to society lotteries, and a DCMS select committee is investigating the impact this will have on the future of the National Lottery.

Mr Harris noted that 'Sport for Life' has received very positive feedback and prompted conversations aimed at strengthening existing and new partnerships.

Mr Harris highlighted that the UCI World Championships 2023 taking place in Scotland will be the first occasion that all of the cycling world championships will be held in the same country/location. **sportscotland** is involved at a strategic level as a member of the steering group.

Mr Harris also highlighted that meetings have taken place with Openreach to learn about the work they do and explore a possible partnership. The Chair also noted the positive impact the UK Anti-Doping "Clean Sport Campaign" has had to date.

The Board queried if there are any opportunities available for Board involvement in the education sector and parental engagement, Mr Harris responded that this is something that can be looked at.

The Board also questioned if the Financial Resources Committee has been reinstated, the Chair responded that the Committee has not met in months, but a meeting is could be held to determine a way forward.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

For Discussion

7 UK Sport – Key Strategy Changes

The Chair introduced Dame Katherine Grainger, Chair of UK Sport and noted the Board's appreciation of Katherine taking the time to join the Board. Ms Grainger updated on the latest developments with the UK Sport Strategy. UK Sport carried out a public consultation last year, in line with the end of the last Olympic and Paralympic cycle. The results will be published, and the main finding is that the public still want to see big medal winning moments, as this is inspirational, but the journey to winning is important to people as well. The key changes to the UK sport strategy were clearly explained as part of the presentation.

The Board queried if sporting successes which occur in between the Olympic and Paralympic cycle could be celebrated more, Dame Grainger noted that each sport have targets to meet every year and World Championships are celebrated as huge achievements. The Board also asked how Scottish sport can work more closely with UK Sport, Dame Grainger responded that it is crucial the Home Nations come together at many different levels to provide their perspectives and help each other and is keen there is representation on all working groups. Mr Harris added that the collaborative piece needs to be stronger, the Chair agreed that it is important for the home countries and UK Sport become one and collaborate in partnership.

The Board thanked Dame Katherine Grainger for her interesting and informative presentation.

➤ *The Board noted the UK Sport key strategy changes.*

8 2018-19 Annual Review – Playing Our Part

Mrs McCheyne presented the annual review and demonstrated the package of communication content and channels which have been developed to show the impact which has been made during 2018-19. Mrs McCheyne noted that twelve case studies have been created instead of films as research had found them to have a greater impact and require less resource. The

Board suggested collaborating with the BBC to keep cost of films down or to create animations, Mrs McCheyne will explore this as an option for next year.

➤ *The Board noted the 2018-19 Annual Review – Playing Our Part.*

9 Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020

Mr Whittingham presented an update on the current position; progress and the approach being taken for the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020. Five new sports and twenty new Women's medal events have been included in the plans. Mr Whittingham will return to the Board in six months with another progress update.

The Board asked if lessons learnt from the Olympic and Paralympic Games in Rio have been used in the planning process, Mr Whittingham responded that they have. This is a key function for the BOA/BPA and UK Sport.

➤ *The Board noted the Olympic and Paralympic Games Tokyo 2020 update.*

10 Annual Data: Active Schools and Community Sports Hubs

Ms Horton introduced the paper which presents the national Active Schools and Community Sport Hub reports for 2018/19. This information will be shared with partners along with the offer to use it to help them plan. The Board queried if the figures capture all physical activities school children participate in, Ms Horton confirmed that only children participating in Active Schools data is captured, PE and other activities are not included.

Mr Harris noted that Renfrewshire Council conducted a survey with high level findings, going forward the intention is to work closely with partners to identify inactive children and encourage them to take part.

Ms Horton updated that Community Sports Hubs show an average participant increase of 9% from last year. Mr Harris expressed the goal is to get ahead of the target number of hubs operating before the end of the year, the target is 200 by 2020.

Ms Horton noted that the Active Schools data collection only ended in July and more detailed findings will be brought to a future Board meeting, Ms Horton also extended the offer to answer any questions and speak to the new Board members offline.

➤ *The Board noted the Annual Data: Active Schools and Community Sports Hubs*

11 Quarter 1 2019-20 progress report

Mr Dunlop introduced the report and summarised the progress made during the first quarter of the Sport for Life corporate strategy and the 2019-21 business plan.

The Board questioned the difference in in subject headings from the last report, Mr Dunlop clarified that this is the first report of the new strategy and the headings have been updated in the line with the new strategy, all future reports will mirror this format.

The Board queried the underspend on some projects and how this is tracked, Mr Harris clarified that this was largely delayed payments. Lottery rules allow for this carry over, but Scottish Government rules do not.

➤ *The Board noted the Quarter 1 2019-20 progress report and commented on the great progress being made.*

For Decision

12 2019-21 business plan and 2019 budget

Mr Harris introduced the paper and highlighted the connection of the business plan to the new corporate strategy. The business plan is intended to be a dynamic and responsive document to make **sportscotland** a more effective and efficient organisation. Mr Harris also highlighted that building external partnerships is critical to adding value, a clear focus for **sportscotland** staff.

Mr Harris updated that the small remaining unallocated National Lottery balance will be utilised over the next four years as part of the agreement to secure the £3.4m underpin from the Scottish Government. Mrs Borland provided an overview of the final version of the plan highlighting key changes. They include a refresh to the language and the addition of the Making it Happen section.

The Board queried the use of the word “Manifesto”, Mrs Borland agreed to remove it.

The Board suggested including an estimated 2020-2021 budget plan, Mr Harris agreed this is a good idea and will update.

➤ *The Board approved the 2019-21 business plan and 2019 budget.*

13 Cumbrae Review

The Chair introduced the topic noting this has been discussed at the Trust Board meeting and a recommendation is now being brought to the Board. The Trust Company Chair, Mrs Wood provided an overview of the Trust Board’s discussion and expressed her thanks to Mr Ogg and Mr Fleeting for their support throughout the process. The Trust Board concluded that Cumbrae could be considered unsustainable with poor outcomes against investment. The option of establishing a new Scottish National Sailing Academy which will be an integral part of RYAS, based at Largs Marina is the option currently being explored, although not exclusively.

The Board queried how the land the Centre is currently on was acquired, Mr Fleeting confirmed that it is currently owned by **sportscotland** but was gifted and there are some restrictions around the use of the land.

Mr Fleeting noted that consultations will need to take place with all partners involved to ensure the model will work for all. In addition, an islands impact assessment and community consultation are required. Mr Harris added that our ambition is to enhance adventure and outdoor sport.

The Chair expressed that he is not content with paragraph 33.5. The **sportscotland** Board can not be asked to contribute all savings to other aspects of Trust Company business. The Executive team will look at the financial requirements in building the budget for 2020/21. Mrs Woods noted that herself and Ms Sandilands declared a conflict of interest during the meeting.

➤ *The Board support the Trust Board’s recommendation.*

14 sportscotland Group Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019

15 sportscotland Group Draft Auditors’ Report and Letter of Representation

16 sportscotland Lottery Fund Annual Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019

17 sportscotland Lottery Fund Draft Auditors’ Report and Letter of Representation

Mr Cameron reported that the Audit and Risk Committee had met on 21 August 2019 and had been through the accounts in detail with the external (Audit Scotland) and internal auditors (BDO). He noted the input made by Mr Cobb and his team in the preparation of the accounts. Audit Scotland had identified no major issues. Mr Cameron confirmed that the Committee was satisfied with management responses to all the audit recommendations and content with the process, validity and accuracy of the accounts. The Committee recommended that the Accounts package should be approved by the Board and sign-off by the Chair and Chief Executive.

- *The Board formally approved the Group Annual Accounts and Letter of Representation and the Lottery Fund Annual Accounts and Letter of Representation.*

For Information

18 sportsotland Group and Lottery: Audit Scotland Annual Report to the Board and the Auditor General for Scotland for the year ended 31 March 2019

Noted and taken as read.

19 The Scottish Sports Council Trust Company Annual Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 March 2019

Noted and taken as read.

20 The Scottish Sports Council Trust Company Scott Moncrieff Audit Findings for the year ended 31 March 2019

Noted and taken as read.

21 Communications update

Noted and taken as read.

22 Audit and Risk Committee draft minutes

Noted and taken as read.

23 Any Other Business

None

24 Date of Next Meeting: 29/30 October 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
6	Forbes Dunlop	Financial Resources Committee meeting to be scheduled.	Date to be agreed at next Board meeting