

sportscotland

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Inverclyde on Wednesday 30 October 2019 at 09:00am.

Present

Members

Mr M Young, Chair
Mr D Cameron
Ms M Campbell
Mr C Grant
Mr S Lindsay
Prof C Mahoney
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
Mr J Steel (for item 10)
Mr D Millen (for item 10)
Miss L Cook

Scottish Government

Mr A Sinclair

Scottish Association for Mental Health

Mr B Watson, Chief Executive (for item 7)

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 the future of broadcast and its impact on sport.

Business

1 Apologies for Absence

- *Apologies were noted from Ms Bain, Mr Munro and Professor Mahoney (for the 29 October Strategic Discussion) and from Ms Bain (for the 30 October Board meeting).*

2 Declarations of Interest

- *There were no new declarations of interest.*

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 28 August 2019

- *The minutes of the Board meeting held on 28 August 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record following a rewording in item 13.*

4 Matters Arising

None.

5 Chair's Report

The Chair highlighted that a good discussion with SGB Chairs was held at Gleneagles as part of the Solheim Cup programme and emphasised the importance of Chairs receiving relevant support.

The Chair updated that the Board member annual appraisal meetings are due, and Miss Cook will make contact with the Board members, apart from the three new members, shortly to schedule these.

The Chair updated on an issue in Edinburgh involving the Local Authority and sports clubs, around the cost of accessing facilities. This has resulted in a new policy and plan for local sports facilities being adopted by the council.

The Chair also updated on some of the continuing challenges faced by UK Athletics.. This has raised again the issue of how and when UK Sport intervene or influence in situations such as this.

The Chair noted the publication of the Jarvie report and highlighted that many of the recommendations are already in place. The Chair also highlighted that one of the recommendations is to form a new body to allow a coordinated communication of views to Government from across the sector.

The Board discussed this at length and asked to be notified in advance of any future reports being published. The Board also discussed the importance of bringing the sporting community together in order to nurture collaborative working between SGBs, LAs, Leisure Trusts, and other third sector partners. How **sportscotland** would work with organisations such as the Observatory for Sport in Scotland was also discussed.

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

6 Executive Management Report

Mr Harris updated that Camelot is nearing the end of its licence and the Government and Gambling Commission are progressing through a process to define the structure of the new National Lottery licence. Mr Harris also noted that the National Lottery's income projection is better than expected.

Mr Harris updated on developing a partnership with Public Health Scotland and noted that this could be a future Board agenda item.

Mr Harris highlighted that Mr Lunn attended and contributed to the Gambling Commission Sports Betting Forum and asked Board members to direct any questions to Mr Lunn. This was the first time the Forum had been held in Scotland. Mr Harris also noted that the review of the Cumbrae National Centre is progressing.

Mr Harris highlighted that the Corporate Strategy is still receiving positive feedback and partners are buying into the common aspirations and ambitions.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

For Discussion

7 Partnership with Scottish Association for Mental Health (SAMH)

Mr Harris introduced Mr Watson, the CEO of SAMH and noted that SAMH and **sportscotland** share the outcome of getting more people more active. Mr Watson presented SAMH's commitment to sport and physical activity as a positive impact on mental health.

The Chair thanked Mr Watson for an encouraging and positive presentation.

The Board discussed the partnership and were very positive about potential impacts, Mr Watson noted that mental health has been high on the Governments agenda and stigma within society has been reducing.

The Board asked if learning opportunities are available to sports coaches, Mr Watson noted that SAMH is currently working with Scottish Athletics and JogScotland and would aim to work with other SGBs in future.

The Board discussed the training for Active Schools Coordinators as mental health support in schools is limited. This would give coordinators tools to use with young people with mental health issues and help engage them in sport and physical activity.

➤ *The Board thanked Mr Watson for the presentation.*

8 Governance – Board Diversity

Mr Lunn updated on the recent survey which has been carried out by UK Sport and Sport England looking at progress in the area of Board diversity. Mr Lunn talked through the findings of the survey and highlighted some of the challenges and the support offered to SGBs.

The Board discussed the challenges in achieving a diverse Board membership and observed that the voluntary and charity sectors experience the same issue, highlighting that attracting a wide talent pool is a nationwide issue and not exclusive to sport. The Board also noted that the use of language in adverts could be a deterrent to some potential candidates, in particular young people. Consideration should also be given to mentoring schemes or experimental opportunities.

➤ *The Board noted the Board Diversity update.*

9 Investment into Scottish Governing Bodies (SGBs)

Mr Lunn presented details on the investment process, information gathering and how it is implemented and used several SGBs as examples. The Chair thanked Mr Lunn for the update.

The Board asked when the investment principles would be updated to reflect the new Corporate Strategy; Mr Lunn assured the Board that this is almost complete and will bring an update to the next Board meeting.

➤ *The Board noted the investment into SGBs update.*

10 Business Planning – club and community

Mrs Lynn presented the detail of the club and community environment in the **sportscotland** Business Plan. Mr Steel and Mr Millen then presented examples of work with a Community Sports Hub in Easterhouse and a Direct Club Investment project in West Dunbartonshire. Mrs Lynn highlighted that the future focus is on adding value to lives in communities across Scotland.

The Board discussed the success of DCI investment and how to prioritise and make the most of resources. Mr Harris added that throughout the process if evidence of impact is clear then we should further invest.

The Board discussed what could be done to mitigate the risk of loss key community leaders, Mr Steel noted that we need to look at people development and support to make the roles more sustainable. However, with a volunteer culture there will always be turnover.

The Chair emphasised the importance of Board members seeing these projects first hand and asked any interested Board members to contact Miss Cook to set up a site visit.

➤ *The Board noted the Club and Community Business Planning update.*

For Decision

11 Risk Management: Framework Review

Mr Dunlop introduced the review and noted that all recommendations from the Audit and Risk Committee have been incorporated,

The Board discussed risk appetite briefly.

➤ *The Board approved the Risk Management: Framework review.*

For Information

12 Board Committee Membership

Mr Dunlop noted that the Financial Resources Committee will meet before the December Board and bring an update to that meeting.

The Board highlighted that the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee and the Chair of the Remuneration Committee will reach the end of their terms in eighteen months.

Noted and taken as read.

13 Communications update

Noted and taken as read.

14 Gaelic Language Plan Annual Report

Mr Harris noted that statutory reports could generate some future topics for discussion.
Noted and taken as read.

15 Corporate Parenting Annual Report

Noted and taken as read.

16 Trust Board meeting draft minutes

Noted and taken as read.

17 Audit and Risk Committee draft minutes

Noted and taken as read.

18 Any Other Business

The Board commented that it would be good to follow up on any actions which came out of the previous Strategic discussion sessions. The Chair commented that this was not the purpose of the Strategic discussions but that the Executive team would take appropriate suggestions on Board and amend the Business Plans throughout the year.

Mr Harris to review notes from Strategic sessions in 2019 and highlight any business plan amendments/ possible amendments as a result.

19 Date of Next Meeting: 10/11 December 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
12	Mr Dunlop	Schedule Financial Resources meeting	Meeting scheduled for Monday 2 December
18	Mr Harris	Conduct an overview of actions from Strategic discussions	In Chair's Report.