

sportscotland

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Inverclyde on Wednesday 11 December 2019 at 09:00am.

Present

Members

Mr M Young, Chair
Ms C Bain
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
Dr N Elliot
Mrs K McCheyne
Mr M Roberts
Mr M Whittingham
Mr N Cobb
Mr B Fleeting
Mr J Lunn
Mrs J Lynn
Miss L Cook

Scottish Government

Mr A Sinclair

Faculty of Sport Medicine and Exercise

Dr K Joshi
Dr P Dimitri

NHS Health Scotland

Ms F Jackson

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 inclusion through Disability Sport.

Business

1 Apologies for Absence

- *Apologies were noted from Ms Bain, Mr Cameron, Mr Grant, Mr Lindsay and Professor Mahoney (for the 10 December Strategic Discussion).*

2 Declarations of Interest

- *There were no new declarations of interest.*

3 Minutes of Meeting held on 30 October 2019

- *The minutes of the Board meeting held on 30 October 2019 were approved as a true and accurate record.*

4 Matters Arising

Mr Dunlop updated that the Financial Resources Committee have met and an update paper will be discussed during the meeting.

Mr Harris updated that Mr Williamson, Mr Walker, Mr Dunlop and himself attended the Observatory for Sport conference.

5 Chair's Report

The Chair commented on the Coaching, Officiating and Volunteering Awards and the Sunday Mail and **sportscotland** Sports Awards which he attended recently. These were both excellent evenings which highlighted achievements within the sporting sector from grass roots to high performance and told some very positive stories.

The Chair and Mr Harris attended the Annual Review meeting with the Minister, which was generally very positive and created a clear understanding of priorities for **sportscotland** in the coming year.

The Chair updated on discussions at UK Sport Board around UK Athletics, governance issues and cyber security.

The Chair highlighted the appendix which details previous strategic discussion topics, questions and potential future topics. The Board added other possible topics which could include transgender, boxing and e-sports.

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

6 Executive Management Report

Mr Harris updated that due to the General Election the UK Government budget process had been delayed. This would have a knock-on effect for the Scottish Government budget process.

The Board asked if budget plans would be in place for February Board, Mr Harris will produce this using assumptions on income. Mr Sinclair added that the Scottish Government will share as much information as they have to assist with this planning.

The National Lottery 4th Licence is now open for bids. The Lottery is performing better this year and it may not be necessary to draw down from the underpin, however it remains a helpful tool to aid consistent planning. Mr Harris highlighted the diagram included in the Executive Management report which displays the volatility of the Lottery income.

The Board queried if the Lottery Licence has an impact on the distribution, Mr Harris confirmed that it does not as the percentage of shares to be distributed has already been set.

sportscotland continues to proactively engage with Public Health and a meeting with Angela Leitch, CEO of Public Health Scotland is scheduled for Thursday 29 January.

The Tennis investment is now at the point of offer for three sites. More information will be available for the next Board meeting. Some of the potential investments are being connected to existing facilities to ensure sustainability. The Board also queried the status of the Park of Keir project, Mr Harris explained that the LTA are engaging with the Murray family to look at the best solution for tennis.

The Board questioned if the Chalamain Gap incident is at the stage where it can be confirmed that no criminal charges are being considered, Mr Harris gave the view that the need for an FAI has been mitigated but the Crown Office still reserves the right to prosecute if further information was ever to become available.

Weightlifting does not currently have a Scottish Governing Body and there does not appear to be any sign of one emerging; therefore an investment has been made to British Weightlifting to give progression opportunities to aspiring athletes.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

For Discussion

7 Moving Medicine

Mr Harris introduced Dr Kush Joshi and Dr Paul Dimitri from the Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine and Ms Flora Jackson from NHS Health Scotland who presented on the next phase of the Moving Medicine online resources. The resources have been produced through investment from **sportscotland** and NHS Health Scotland.

The Board engaged in a discussion on the effectiveness of the first phase of resources developed by Public Health England and Sport England. Dr Dimitri explained that online hits were high but that the resources would be more effective if used as part of the system.

Ms Jackson added that this is a fantastic resource and should be beneficial to Scotland. Letters are being sent to the NHS Boards and GPs asking them to further consider offering prescribed physical activity to patients.

The Board discussed the potential next steps, building on partnerships with LAs, bringing health and communities together through Community Sports Hubs, connecting with GPs to assist with prescribing sport, working with NHS24 to create a directory to signpost people to services commissioned by the NHS.

There is a Community Sports Hub in Easterhouse which has a good connection with the local Health Centre, and they have worked together to remove barriers to getting active.

➤ *The Board thanked Dr Joshi, Dr Dimitri and Ms Jackson for the presentation.*

8 Athlete Welfare & Wellbeing in the High Performance System

Mr Whittingham introduced Dr Elliott who presented on the approach being taken to support athlete welfare and wellbeing within the High Performance System.

The Board engaged in discussion with Dr Elliot on some of the detail presented.

The Board questioned if the post 2016 implementation of health checks looked at Scottish programmes. Mr Whittingham added that the home countries are working on a joint health check questionnaire

The Board asked if UK Sport are looking at their investment process for the Paris cycle with an emphasis not only on medals but also wider outcomes. The Chair commented that this is amongst a number of issues being discussed at the UK Sport Board.

➤ *The Board noted the presentation.*

9 Planning and Investment to Local Authorities (LAs) progress report

Mrs Lynn answered questions of clarification on the paper outlining the current partnership status with Scotland's 32 Local Authorities. There has been one addition to the list of local authorities working more in-depth with **sportscotland** with Orkney Islands Council being included. It is recognised that there are still some very challenging relationships with some Local Authorities particularly with those on single year agreements with **sportscotland**. Commitment to partnership and delivery from those Local Authorities is improving in some but not in others.

The Board asked what the alternatives are, whilst recognising the importance of relationships, if outcomes are not being met by Local Authorities. Mrs Lynn highlighted that most LAs are committed and staff would continue to explore options with others to improve delivery given the absence of viable alternatives.

The Board had a discussion about budget reductions in LAs and what this does to the core infrastructure for sport locally.

The Chair noted that Mr Harris and himself have discussed this issue with the Minister directly.

Mrs Lynn added that an update will be provided at the February Board meeting.

➤ *The Board noted the planning and investment to LAs progress report.*

10 Scottish Governing Body review process progress report

Mr Lunn answered questions on the paper presented. **sportscotland** are taking a more customised approach to the progress reviews with SGBs. There was a discussion on those SGBs presenting higher strategic risks from an investment perspective and Board were asked to note the approach taken to offer additional support to three SGBs.

It was noted that Four Wheel Motorsport (a UK body) no longer wishes to partner with the Auto Cycle Union in spite of successes in programming in Scotland. **sportscotland** staff are continuing to work with the sport to maintain this collaboration.

➤ *The Board noted the SGB review process progress report.*

11 Communications – National Lottery 25th Birthday

Mrs McCheyne provided an overview of the National Lottery 25th Birthday campaign.

➤ *The Board noted the presentation.*

For Decision

12 Investing in Scottish Governing Bodies (SGBs) and Local Authorities (LAs)

The Executive team tabled an amended paper which integrated the investment process and included principles, outputs, outcomes and views on measuring progress.

The language used is simpler and puts the strategic content in place. The cover paper explains the process and pulls everything together in one document.

The Board were supportive of the changes made.

There was a short discussion on accountability, Mr Lunn stated the language has changed in the outputs to connect back to the system diagram and the ASOF survey will be used to provide the analysis.

The Board queried declining investment to some partners, Mr Lunn clarified that some SGBs require a greater amount of investment up front in order to start projects and this flexibility has been appreciated by partners.

➤ *The Board approved the investing in Scottish Governing Bodies paper.*

13 Business Plan – Q2 Report

Mr Dunlop introduced the report, highlighting the integration of Ministerial priorities to form one single report.

The Board noted the blend of Ministerial priorities shows a good display of connectivity.

Mr Dunlop noted that 80% of the report is now drawn from the system and this process will be completed in time for the next report.

Mr Dunlop highlighted that progress across programmes is essentially on track.

On viewing the report the Board questioned the references to investment in Commonwealth Games Scotland. Mr Lunn stated that we are taking a different approach to investment with CGS which is taking time to bed in. We are confident that the issues will be resolved.

The Board supported the new report.

➤ *The Board approved the Business Plan – Quarter two report.*

For Information

14 Communications Update

Mrs McCheyne highlighted that the 2020 communication themes are currently being finalised.

Noted and taken as read.

15 Trust Board meeting draft minutes

The Trust Board Chair updated on progress being made with the Cumbrae review and highlighted that a winter closure is currently in place with staff currently being relocated at Inverclyde until March 2020.

Noted and taken as read.

16 Audit and Risk Committee draft minutes

Noted and taken as read.

17 Financial Resources Committee

Mr Dunlop updated that the Financial Resources Committee had met last week and followed up on previous themes.

The Chair added that after a thorough discussion the Committee agreed that there had been sufficient examination on the topic and that the Financial Resources Committee would be disbanded.

The Chair thanked all the Committee members for their time and effort.

18 Any Other Business

None.

19 Date of Next Meeting: 26 February 2020, Dundee Regional Performance Centre.

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