

sportscotland

Council Meeting

Minutes of the Council Board Meeting held at Caledonia House, 1 Redheughs Rigg, South Gyle, Edinburgh, EH12 9DQ on Wednesday 24 June 2015 at 1000 hours.

Present

Members

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

In Attendance

Council Officers

Mr S Harris, Chief Executive
Mr M Roberts
Mr W Whittingham

Mr J Kent
Ms J Lynn
Mr R Stewart

Ms P Lombardi – Minute Secretary

St Rose of Lima Primary School

Fergus Donnelly, Lead Teacher Health and Well-being
Julie McAdam, Active Schools Coordinator
Josh, Pupil member of the School Sport Committee
Kian, Pupil member of the School Sport Committee
Katie, Pupil member of the School Sport Committee

Scottish Government

Mr R Foggo

Welcome

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, explaining that agenda item 8 – Schools and Education – would be taken ahead of the main business of the meeting. The Chair introduced the School Sport Committee from St Rose of Lima Primary School Glasgow, attending to present to the Board on behalf of the school as a winner of the **sportscotland** Gold Schoolsport Award.

Ahead of the presentation, Mr Roberts provided background and statistics around raising the profile of sport in schools and education and raising the quality of delivery. Mr Stewart explained that the focus of the **sportscotland** Schools Award was to encourage schools to self-reflect, continually improve, recognise and celebrate successful physical education and put young people at the forefront of the sport decision-making, planning and implementation process.

Following their presentation, the members of the School Sport Committee expressed their appreciation for the opportunity provided by **sportscotland**, noting in particular the value of the **sportscotland** assessment tool as instrumental in helping identify areas where the school was doing well and where it should look to improve in order to provide pupils the best possible sporting opportunities and encourage a lifelong participation in sport.

The Board thanked the Committee for an excellent presentation and the Committee members left the meeting.

Business

The Chair introduced Neville Cobb, **sportscotland**'s new Head of Finance, who was observing today's meeting.

1. Apologies

➤ *Apologies were noted from Frances Wood.*

2. Declarations of interest

➤ *There were no declarations of interest.*

3. Minutes of Meeting held on 6 May 2015

➤ *The minutes of the meeting held on 6 May 2015 were approved without amendment and all actions noted as complete. Board members confirmed that they were content with the allocated membership of Board Committees as appended to the minutes.*

4. Matters Arising

➤ *There were no matters arising.*

5. Chair's Report – s (15) 24

The Chair reported that as Chair of the Commonwealth Advisory Body on Sport, she had given the keynote address on 'Integrity in Sport' to the International Sport Conference in Trinidad. Once finalised, the Chair's statement from the CABOS Annual Meeting, held in Trinidad during the same period, would be circulated to Board members.

Mr Young noted the Ethics Committee's work on the very high profile and current issue of integrity in sport – in particular in the key areas of doping, corruption, fair play and equality and financial management – with a view to the production of a statement around the values of sport and what **sportscotland** represents. The Board discussed the importance of clear and well-prepared messaging on this topic through the most effective communications channels. Mr Young confirmed that the Ethics Committee would continue to work on how best to articulate and promote **sportscotland**'s values, ensuring that they are underpinned by good practice and effectively policed. The Committee would report back to the Board at future meetings.

➤ *Board noted the content of the Chair's Report.*

6. Executive Management Report – s (15) 06

Mr Harris updated Board members on the areas of note within the Executive Management Report which highlighted those key activities and actions undertaken by the Strategic Management Team of **sportscotland** that were not contained in other substantive papers.

Scottish Government

Corporate Plan 2015–2019

Mr Harris noted that the **sportscotland** Corporate Plan had been submitted formally to the Scottish Government for sign-off by the Minister. The proposed additional reductions to the **sportscotland** Grant-in-Aid had been agreed and the 2015–2016 budget adjusted accordingly.

On Board: A Guide for Board Members of Public Bodies in Scotland

Mr Harris noted that a summary of the key changes between the new and existing versions of the document was contained in his report and that copies of the Guide were available for Board members to collect from the meeting.

Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park By-Law Consultation

Mr Harris reported that **sportscotland** had responded in favour of full consideration of alternative measures before any determination by the Park Authority to proceed with the introduction of by-laws.

Strategic Partnerships

National Lottery Awards

Mr Harris advised the Board that the work of **sportscotland** and its key partners in Community Sports Hubs had been shortlisted for a National Lottery Award. The Communications team was working on a plan to generate maximum potential from this opportunity.

Inverclyde

Mr Harris noted that the accepted design team bid tenders were now under review and that agreement had been reached with North Ayrshire Council on the site access issue previously highlighted to the Board.

Operational

sportscotland Appeals Process

Mr Harris reported that discussions with the Scottish Public Services Ombudsman (as requested by the Board at the last meeting) had highlighted that use of the SPSO appeals process would mean appeals being treated as complaints (not appeals), thereby effectively removing the appeal process stage between final decision and formal complaint. The best solution, therefore, was for **sportscotland** to adopt its own Representations and Appeals Process.

Scottish Wrestling Association

Mr Harris noted that with a new Chair appointed, an SWA Board meeting would be called shortly to discuss the remaining Board appointments and establish a Board meeting schedule. There are still significant risks attached to this organisation going forward with regards to ability to deliver.

English Bridge Union

In this Judicial Review case noted previously to the Board, Mr Harris confirmed that (along with the other Home Nation Sports Councils) **sportscotland** was participating as an interested party and would require to contribute an appropriate share of the legal fee.

➤ *The Board noted the Executive Management Report.*

For Discussion

7. **sportscotland Corporate Planning**

7.1 Annual Outturn Report 2014-2015

7.2 Corporate Review 2011-2015

7.3 Corporate Plan 2015-2019 Update

Mr Harris invited the Board to provide feedback on the style and content of the corporate planning documentation and Corporate Plan video.

In general, whilst acknowledging the challenges in bringing a common format to three different documents containing different types of information, the Board felt the new style used in the Corporate Plan presented the information in a more reader-friendly, concise and 'punchy' way.

Noting the high level of very positive information contained in the documentation, the Board recommended the following adjustments in particular:

- more focus on the positive effect of physical activity on educational achievement;
- improved positioning of the disability sport section, including fuller use of photography;
- a clearer explanation of levels of participation across the population, including indicators used;
- an illustration as to where the outcomes of 'participation' and 'progression' might lead.

Mr Harris noted the intention to share the Corporate Plan externally and internally to profile the message of '**sportscotland** and partners working together.' Information on the external launch events, including dates and venues, would be communicated to the Board once finalised.

In discussion around the importance of strengthening partnerships, Mr Foggo suggested the National Strategic Group on Sport and Physical Activity as an appropriate forum through which to promote improved partnership working. He would welcome **sportscotland's** input to the agenda planning for these meetings, and Mr Harris had already attended a planning meeting.

- *The Board noted the corporate planning documentation:*
 - *Annual Outturn Report 2014-2015;*
 - *Corporate Review 2011-2015;*
 - *Corporate Plan 2015-2019.*

8. Schools and Education (*item taken at the start of the meeting*)

9. High Performance Update

As requested by the Board, a report had been produced capturing the information previously presented on the new vision, strategy and structure for High Performance.

The Board discussed the report, noting in particular the importance of the following:-

- attracting quality performance staff in order to reach targets for Gold Coast 2018 and beyond;
- learning lessons (e.g. from London 2012) in supporting such a large portfolio of sports as national sports and how this might adversely affect some sports in the longer term;
- recognising the challenges around the need to consider performance as a specialist area whilst retaining and communicating it as part of the 'one vision' outlined in the Corporate Plan;
- being risk-aware and targeting resources appropriately in managing the coaching and staffing recruitment and retention process.

- *The Board noted the content of the High Performance Report.*

For Decision

10. Sport and Governing Body Recognition Decisions

- *The Board considered and approved the following applications for recognition of sporting activities and governing bodies:*
 - recognition of Goalball as a sport and GB Goalball as the recognised governing body for Goalball across the UK;
 - recognition of the British Bobsleigh and Skeleton Association as the UK governing body for the sports of Bobsleigh and Skeleton;
 - recognition of GB Boccia as the recognised UK governing body for the sport of Boccia;
 - recognition of Scottish Pentathlon as the governing body for Modern Pentathlon in Scotland; and
 - delegation of authority to the **sportscotland** Senior Management Team (SMT) to confirm the transition of recognition from the Scottish Ladies Golf Association and Scottish Golf Union to Scottish Golf Ltd once the merger is complete.

For Information

11. Health and Safety Annual Report

Any Other Business

12. Date of next Meeting

The date of the next meeting of the **sportscotland** Board will be on Wednesday 26 August 2015 at Caledonia House.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked all for attending and closed the meeting.

| Agenda Item | Responsible Officer | Planned Action | Actions Taken |
|-------------|---------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| 5 | Chair | Chair's Statement from CABOS Annual Meeting to be circulated to Board members. | Complete |
| 5 | Mr Young | Output from Ethics Committee discussions on 'Integrity in Sport' to be reported to Board. | MY to update |
| 7 | Mr Harris | Corporate Plan external communication arrangements to be communicated to Board. | Included in the Exec Management Report |