

SPORT NORTHERN IRELAND

MINUTES

CONFIDENTIAL

Continuation of Meeting of 7 February 2012.

Held on Tuesday 21 February 2012 at 6 pm in the House of Sport, Malone Road, Belfast BT9 5LA.

PRESENT

In the Chair:	D Walsh
Members:	O Brown R Carr P Cummings B Macaulay A Money Penny B McCargo A Strong P Turnbull
Chief Executive:	E McCartan
Staff in Attendance:	N Harkness S Ogle A Sloan T Gorman C McGurk E Bailey

1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr M Cowan, Mr J D'Arcy, Mrs U Duncan, Mrs H McGrady, Mr D O'Connor and Cllr J Rodgers.

2 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman asked Members individually if they had any interest to declare. No-one declared an interest.

3 **STADIA PROGRAMME UPDATE**

Members noted the purpose of the meeting was to continue discussion on stadia matters which had been initiated at the Council Meeting on 7 February. The Sponsor Board had met and the process was underway for the selection and recruitment of a Programme Director.

The Director of Participation and Places presented Paper SNI/12/17 and summarised the structure in place for the delivery of the Stadia Programme including:

Sponsor Board; Programme Assurance Team (PAT); DCAL Reserved Matters; Programme Board; Project Boards.

Members expressed some concern that SNI may be accountable for the decisions of others and sought clarification. Members also expressed the need for greater clarity in relation to the roles and responsibilities of all parties.

After discussion it was suggested that up to four SNI Board Members could join the Programme Board to provide assurance to the full Board of SNI.

The Chief Executive reported on the recent meeting of the Sponsor Board. The allocation of monies for resource costs of running the Stadia Programme will have to be met from the revenue budgets of SNI and this was likely to have an impact on SNI in the next financial year (2012/13). Regarding planning, the Minister undertook to speak to the Minister responsible for planning in the hope of securing the necessary planning permissions in a timescale that would meet the needs of the projects. The Minister has asked SNI for a new timeline that gives her 80-95% confidence that the projects are deliverable within the timelines. The Chief Executive has written to DCAL emphasising the risk relating to the need to achieve full grant spend within the current CSR period.

4 **BOARD AND COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

The Vice-Chairman reported on a recent meeting of the Chairs of Committees which had met at the request of Council to consider the timings and frequency of meetings. In order to meet the requirements made of them as Board Members, the Chairs had agreed, and subsequently recommended to Council, that Council and Committee meetings should take place on a quarterly basis.

Members agreed that Council and Committee Meetings should normally be on a quarterly basis or more frequently if required depending on the business needs of the organisation. Members further agreed to keep this under review.

5 **FRAUDULENT CHEQUE**

The Director of Corporate Services advised that during the normal monthly process of completing the bank reconciliation a cheque which had been issued for £151 had cleared the bank account as £2,151. He had immediately contacted the bank and obtained a copy of the cheque which showed that the cheque had been altered in relation to the payee and the amount. The bank advised that they would refund SNI in full.

The Director of Corporate Services advised that SNI had acted in accordance with the Fraud Policy.

6 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

6.1 50 Metre Pool Project

The Director of Corporate Services advised that following the Council request he had contacted DCAL's Director of Corporate Services to ascertain if an approach could be made to the Department of Finance and Personnel to re-secure funding for the 50 Metre Pool Project in 2011/12. He advised that the DCAL Director of Corporate Services had advised that she had already tried this and that this "gate is closed".

6.2 CAL Committee Correspondence

The Chairman advised that the Minister had written to him on 3 February 2012 concerning misleading information submitted to the CAL Committee on 5 January 2012. He advised that he would be undertaking a review of the delegated arrangement for the clearance of business intended for the CAL Committee and that he would be writing a letter of apology to the Chair and Members of the CAL Committee.

6.3 Council Membership

Members noted that letters had been issued by DCAL regarding new SNI Board appointments. DCAL has advised that when the new Members formally accept their appointment they will issue a Press Release.

The Chairman thanked those Members who were standing down after serving two terms on the SNI Board: Dr Olive Brown, Mr Brian McCargo, Cllr Jim Rodgers OBE and Mr Alan Strong. He also thanked Mrs Una Duncan who had served one term. He expressed his thanks and congratulated them on their outstanding service to the Board and to the advancement of sport in Northern Ireland.

The Chief Executive, on behalf of the Executive Team and staff, thanked those Members standing down for all their outstanding work during their term of office. He added that their support for and challenge of SNI had been invaluable.

There being no further business the meeting finished at 7pm.

7 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is Tuesday 1 May 2012.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____

House of Sport
Upper Malone Road
Belfast
BT9 5LT