

SPORT MATTERS IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (PLACES) MEETING

MINUTES

The minutes of the 5th meeting of the Places SMIG held on Tuesday 5th March at 4:00pm in the House of Sport.

PRESENT:

Paul Cummings, Chair (Sport Northern Ireland)
Bob Bleakly (Northern Ireland Environment Agency)
Patrick Nelson (Irish Football Association)
Ivor McMullan (Chief Leisure Officers Association)
Kevin O'Neill (Disability Sports NI)
Brian Delaney (Sport Northern Ireland)

In attendance:

Ciaran McGurk (Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure)
John News, Stephen McIlveen, Jamie Uprichard; Paul Donnelly (all Sport Northern Ireland)

1. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members to the 5th meeting of the Places SMIG and thanked everyone for their attendance.

2. APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Nigel Carr (Northern Ireland Sports Forum), Stephen McGeehin (Ulster Council Gaelic Athletic Association), Caro-lynn Ferris (Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland), Brian Henning (Sport Northern Ireland), Alison Chambers (DSD), Diarmuid McClean (DE) and Ciaran Mulholland (CAFRE/DARD).

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF THE FOURTH PERFORMANCE SMIG MEETING HELD ON 8TH OCTOBER 2012

- 3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were considered and approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 The Chair informed the group that he had presented an update on progress at the last SMMG meeting regarding the Places target PL23 and recommended that the Minister amend its rating from red to blue to signify the capital investments that have been made in these Olympic and Paralympic sports. The Minister approved this change and noted that further capital investments were needed to address the facility needs of these sports.
- 4.2 Community use of school sports facilities – Department of Education are in the process of finalising their documents and it will be online in due course in the form of a toolkit for schools.
- 4.3 Sport NI contacted both Brieghe Arthurs (CCMS) and Stephen Law (DE) inviting

them to be members of the Places SMIG. The group heard that Brieger Arthurs is currently seconded out of CCMS although it was confirmed that Stephen Law would become a member of the group.

5. MEMBER UPDATES

5.1 The Chair invited members to provide a verbal update on significant actions that had been undertaken (since the last meeting) by each of the representative organisations which contributed to the implementation of Sport Matters.

5.2 Members heard of the IFA's work with the redevelopment of Windsor Park; the NIEA's involvement with the outdoor recreational plan considering and their focus on short walks rather than long trails in order to encourage people to become more active; DSNI's involvement in the ISF accreditation scheme; and work by district councils with the police development strategy, leisure capital developments and appraisal of their discretionary leisure services going forward.

6.0 PL22 – UPDATE PRESENTATION BY DCAL ON THE STADIA DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

6.1 Ciaran McGurk from the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure delivered a presentation on the latest developments relating to the Stadium Development Programme and the target PL22. Members noted the impressive plans for each of the three stadia and asked if the IFA would be relocating Headquarters; whether these sports would receive on-going public revenue funding; and what would happen to the flood lights which are currently at Casement Park.

6.2 The Chair thanked Ciaran for his informative presentation and given the direct link to the successful delivery of target PL22, requested regular updates at future meetings.

Action 1: DCAL to provide regular updates on the delivery of the Stadium Development Programme and the achievement of target PL22.

Patrick Nelson (IFA) and Ciaran McGurk (DCAL) left the meeting

7.0 PL25 – UPDATE ON PROGRESS AND ROLE OF QUEST AS A MEANS OF ACCREDITATION

7.1 Stephen McIlveen delivered a presentation updating the group on progress relating to the target PL25 and issues for consideration. The group heard that only 32% of the Northern Ireland population have access to a quality accredited multi-sports facility within 20 minutes' drive time. It was therefore recommended that this target should be rated as Amber. In addition, the Chair requested that

Action 2: The target PL25 should be allocated an Amber rating.

7.2 It was noted that Quest Accreditation Scheme has recently been revamped. Nevertheless, Ivor McMullan stated that the scheme issued scores in categorised bands and did not deliver any quantitative quality scores for benchmarking with other council areas. Ivor suggested that individual scores would provide competition between different councils. In addition, additional assessors from other regions of the UK would provide opportunities for enhancement and it was also felt that the scheme needed marketed and promoted to further projects/

facilities.

Action 3: The Chair requested further analysis, plotting potential facilities that could be accredited to determine whether the 90% can be achieved.

- 7.3 The Chair recommended that the best way forward would be for Sport NI staff to meet with CLOA to maximise the use of Quest and discuss their concerns. The Chair also emphasised that it was meeting the targets set which was the issue and not the accreditation scheme and that other forms of accreditation could be considered.

Action 4: Sport NI to meet with all CLOA representatives to discuss their concerns with the Quest accreditation scheme.

Action 5: Sport NI and CLOA to discuss the option of development a new "Northern Ireland" standard.

8.0 PL23 – DISCUSSION ON HIGH PERFORMANCE SPORT FACILITY NEEDS IN NORTHERN IRELAND

- 8.1 John News presented a discussion paper related to the Places target PL23 and the provision of high performance facilities across Northern Ireland (noting that there was now input from DSD included). The group heard that Sport NI was in the early stages of consulting on a high performance capital investment programme.
- 8.2 Ivor McMullan discussed the experience of Antrim Borough Council in developing plans for such a facility and informed the group that the future revenue costs of the facility are the biggest issue. He commented that the project outputs need to be compared with the overall capital costs and that the end project should be a self-sustainable model.
- 8.3 The Chair concluded that given the limited resources that are likely to be available that sports should work together to deliver facilities that can cater for more than one sport.

9.0 Any Other Business

- 9.1 Paul Donnelly informed members that the next progress reporting exercise (highlighting members' contribution to Sport Matters over the period October 2012-September 2013) would commence in August 2013.

10.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 10.1 The Chair suggested that it may be beneficial for all 3 SMIGs to come together for a joint meeting in September/ October 2013. Members will receive confirmation of the date of this meeting in due course.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____