

SPORT MATTERS IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (SMIG) MEETING

PLACES SMIG

The minutes of the 3rd meeting of the Places SMIG held on Wednesday 28th March 2012 at 13.30pm in the House of Sport.

PRESENT:

- Chair: Paul Cummings, SNI
- Members: Patrick Nelson, IFA
Caro-lynn Ferris, CAAN
Alan Money Penny, SNI
Kieran Mulholland, DARD (CAFRE)
Chris Webster, UB IRFU
Bob Bleakley, NIEA
- In Attendance: Mike McClure, SNI
Paul Scott, SNI
Stephen McIlveen, SNI
Paul Donnelly, SNI
Jamie Uprichard, SNI

AGENDA ITEM

ACTION

1. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

- 1.1 Paul Cummings welcomed everyone to the 3rd meeting of the Places Sport Matters Implementation Group (SMIG).
- 1.2 The Chairman commented on the changes of personnel within the Places SMIG and acknowledged the valuable contributions of outgoing members, including the former Chair, Alan Strong, Una Duncan and Brian McCargo.

2. APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Diarmaid McLean and Brian McLawrence (DE), Nigel Carr (NISF), Ivor McMullan (CLOA), Alison Chambers (DSD), Hilary McGrady and Murray Cowan (both SNI).

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF THE PLACES SMIG MEETING HELD ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2011

The Chair requested that the minutes of the previous meeting be circulated to Members who were in attendance via email to ensure they were content that are a true and accurate record of **SNI**

the meeting held on 20 September 2011.

Action: SNI to circulate the previous meeting's minutes for approval electronically.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 The Chair assured the group that all actions from the last meeting would be covered in today's agenda. In addition, the group heard that since the last meeting, Mike McClure, SNI's Countryside Recreation Officer had met with Ian Irwin of the Forest Service to progress a number of actions in relation to improving public access to Forestry land for the purpose of sport and physical recreation.

5. SPORT MATTERS ACTION PLAN 2011-15 MEMBER UPDATES

- 5.1 Paul Scott updated Members on SNI's role as an overseeing function for the Safety of Sports Grounds legislation in addition to the Facilities team's involvement in promoting a culture of safety at sporting venues in line with Part 4 of the Justice Act.
- 5.2 Mike McClure updated Members on the progress of Adventuremark, a non-statutory accreditation scheme that allows outdoor recreation providers to demonstrate arrangements for managing the potential risks of adventure activities.
- 5.3 Patrick Nelson informed the group that the Windsor Park redevelopment project was progressing and the IFA were hopeful of appointing a design team in the near future.
- 5.4 Ciaran Mulholland commented that CAFRE as a part of DARD contributes to 2 targets within Sport Matters by providing free Education courses for sports turf management. Short courses are also on offer but there is a cost attached. He highlighted that the majority of the course applicants were from a golfing background with other major field sports being under-represented. IFA, UBIRFU and GAA representatives confirmed that if DARD could provide information on the courses, they would circulate it to their members. Alan Money Penny also suggested that both organisations' websites could also be utilised to provide information and increase awareness of the courses on offer.

DARD

Action: DARD to forward promotional literature on their courses (including a weblink) to SNI, IFA and UB IRFU.

- 5.5 Caro-lynn Ferris stated that since the last meeting, several outdoor recreation capital projects have progressed including canoe and mountain bike trails. CAAN have also been working

with the World Police and Fire Games with a view to providing facilities for downhill cross country biking. CAAN believes these projects, while providing facilities for outside recreation should also be considered as multi-sport venues, therefore contributing to the Strategy and in particular PL25.

6. REVIEW OF DRAFT SPORT MATTERS PROGRESS REPORT OCTOBER 2010-SEPTEMBER 2011

- 6.1 Members heard that a draft Progress Report covering the period October 2010 to September 2011 had been produced. The Chair reiterated the deadline for submission and encouraged all Members to feed into this report which would be presented to the SMMG on 18 April 2012.

7. CONSIDERATION OF SPORT MATTERS TARGETS REVIEW

- 7.1 Jamie Uprichard provided the group with an update on the current position in relation to the attainment of the 26 high level targets. A traffic light system was applied to each target and this analysis highlighted that 5 targets had been achieved, 17 were rated as Green - 'on track for achievement', 3 were rated Yellow - 'on track but with some delay' and 1 Red - 'at risk for achievement'.

- 7.2 The group then focussed on the 6 Places targets and noted that 1 had already been achieved, 3 were on track for achievement (PL24, PL25, PL26), 1 was on track for achievement but with some delay (PL22) and 1 target was at risk for achievement (PL23). Each outstanding Places target was then considered separately.

- 7.3 The group discussed PL23 which refers to 10 new or upgraded facilities to support player/athlete development in Olympic and Paralympic sports. This target was rated as Red as a budget for the Elite Facilities Programme could not be secured during the current CSR period. The group heard that some district councils were developing facilities of the required standard that would contribute to this target, however given the deadline of 2014, it is highly unlikely to be achieved. The Chair asked that SNI staff to produce an options paper to address this risk for the next meeting. **SNI**

Action: SNI to produce an options paper relating to PL23 for the next meeting.

- 7.4 The group then considered PL25:

By 2019 to ensure that 90% of the population have quality accredited, multi sports facilities, that have the capacity to meet demand, within 20 minutes travel time.

It was noted that the percentage of the NI population within 20 mins drive time of such facilities had reduced from the baseline position of 65% to 62%. The Chair highlighted the need for an Action Plan to address this specific issue despite the longer term nature of the target. Stephen McIlveen stated that his presentation included a number of recommendations that the group may wish to consider.

8. PRESENTATION: IS QUEST THE SOLUTION TO THE SUCCESSFUL ACHIEVEMENT OF PL25? – STEPHEN McILVEEN

8.1 Members received a presentation from Stephen McIlveen providing an introduction to the Quest accreditation scheme and background information relating to the Places target PL25. The group heard that the purpose of this specific target is to ensure that the population have access to quality accredited environments in which to engage in a choice of sport and/or physical recreation.

8.2 Members heard that there were mixed views on Quest within the leisure industry with 11 of 26 councils in NI currently involved in Quest. It was noted that due to limited capital budgets there should be an emphasis placed upon improving the quality of existing facilities.

8.3 Caro-lynn Ferris sought clarification on the definition of sport and physical recreation and queried whether outdoor recreation sites could contribute towards this target. It was noted that Quest is more geared towards leisure facilities. Alan Moneypenny recommended contacting Leisurenet Solutions (providers of Quest) to determine whether such sites could become accredited. Patrick Nelson also suggested that private providers should also be contacted with a view to obtaining Quest accreditation. Members agreed that a small grants programme could provide funding to encourage providers to apply for the accreditation scheme.

SNI

Action: SNI to contact Leisurenet Solutions to discuss the option of accrediting outdoor recreation sites.

9. PRESENTATION ON THE OUTDOOR RECREATION ACTION PLAN - CONSULTATION FEEDBACK AND NEXT STEPS – MIKE McCLURE

9.1 Members received a presentation by Mike McClure, SNI's Outdoor Recreation Officer highlighting the feedback from consultation and outlining the 'Next Steps' in the development of a new 10 year Outdoor Recreation Action Plan.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 The Chair informed Members that SNI invited representatives from key organisations within the education sector to a consultation session in order to finalise the Advocacy Document encouraging community use of school sports facilities. It was noted that DE were not in attendance and the Chair requested that the Department be contacted to receive their feedback before finalising the report.

SNI

Action: SNI to contact DE before finalising the Advocacy document.

10.2 The Chair made Members aware of a series of Sport Matters road shows that would be delivered across Northern Ireland in April and May 2012.

10.3 In addition, the Chair informed Members that a Sport Matters 2012 Newsletter will be distributed to over 300,000 households across Northern Ireland in April 2012, with the aim of raising the profile and public awareness of Sport Matters and encourage further commitment and engagement.

10.4 Members heard that the next SMMG meeting is scheduled for 18 April 2012 at the Girls Model School, Belfast.

10.5 Alan Money Penny acknowledged the excellent work currently being undertaken by all 3 SMIGs and requested that all groups be informed of progress implementing Sport Matters. Jamie Uprichard commented that SNI had designed an Email Newsletter that would be distributed to all Members highlighting key updates. In addition, it was noted that minutes of each meeting were posted on SNI's website.

SNI

Action: SNI's PPR team to produce an eZine for all SMIG members highlighting key updates relating to the implementation of Sport Matters.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

11.1 The next meeting of the Places SMIG will be held on 26th September 2012 at 13:30.

Signed:

Paul Burnings

Date:

8/10/12

