

## **SPORT MATTERS IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (PERFORMANCE) MEETING**

### **DRAFT MINUTES**

The minutes of the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Performance SMIG held on Wednesday 1 February 2017 at the House of Sport.

### **PRESENT**

- Chair: Andrea Bingham (Sport Northern Ireland)
- Dr Shaun Ogle (Sport Northern Ireland)
- Elaine Reid (Disability Sports Northern Ireland)
- Robert McVeigh (Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council)
- Michael McGeehan (Sport Ireland, Coaching<sup>1</sup>)
- Robert Heyburn (Department for Communities)
- Roy Millar (Northern Ireland Sports Forum)

### **In attendance:**

- Dr Paul Donnelly, Secretariat (Sport Northern Ireland)
- Simon Toole (Sport Northern Ireland) – For Part

### **1. APOLOGIES**

- 1.1 Apologies were received from Michael Black (Irish Rugby Football Union – Ulster Branch), Ian Taylor (Skillsactive), Paul McDermott (Sport Ireland), Ian Robinson (UK Sport) & Dr. Eugene Young (Gaelic Athletic Association).

### **2. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

- 2.1 The Chair welcomed members to the 12<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Performance SMIG.
- 2.2 The Chair asked all Members to confirm whether or not they responded to the Programme for Government 2016-21 Phase II Consultation and suggested that it may be useful share Sport NI's considered response to Members for information.

#### **Action 1: PD to forward Members a copy of Sport NI's response to the PfG Phase II Consultation.**

- 2.3 The Chair asked Members to consider and comment on any sporting successes that they are aware of since the last meeting. Member noted the following notable achievements:
- Gareth McAuley's Euro 2016 NI goal v Ukraine;
  - Carl Frampton beating Leo Santa Cruz;
  - Jonathan Rea retaining his World Superbike title;
  - Bethany Firth's golden world record;

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<sup>1</sup> Coaching Ireland is now integrated within Sport Ireland

- Jason Smyth's gold at the Paralympics
- Michael McKillop's gold at Paralympics;
- Rory Best leading Ireland to victory over New Zealand
- Rory McIlroy winning FedEx Cup
- Tyrone lifting the Ulster Championship; and
- Alastair Seeley breaking Robert Dunlop's NW200 record

### **3. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- 3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were considered and approved by all in attendance.

### **4. MATTERS ARISING**

- 4.1 The Chair reviewed the actions from the previous SMIG meeting and asked members to update on their respective actions:

*Action 1: All members to consider the Sport Matters progress reporting template for 2015-2016 and provide an approved response by 7 October 2016. (COMPLETED)*

*Action 2: All members to advise of any amendments and/or inclusions to be articulated in the Sport Matters Action Plan 2015-2019 by 26 August 2016 (COMPLETED).*

- 4.2 The Chair thanked all members for their contributions to Matters Arising.

### **5. MEMBER UPDATES**

- 5.1 The Chair asked Members to provide a verbal update on significant actions that have 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 a range of initiatives and areas of progress, such as:

- a. Coaching Strategy development, ongoing work with NGBs (e.g. IRFU and GAA), 2018 European Coaching Conference, active involvement in the EU Expert Groups, Erasmus +EU Funded Project (Sport Ireland, Coaching).

**Action 2: MMcG to share information on the 2018 Coaching Conference with Members.**

- b. Update on bid to host the 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games in Belfast, and preparations for 2018 Gold coast (Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council).

**Action 3: RMcV to provide a more detailed update on developments relating to the 2021 Commonwealth Youth Games at the next meeting of the Performance SMIG.**

- c. Rio 2016 Paralympic Success, Launch of Inclusive Sport Award, progress of local athletes, Sporting Winners, Active Clubs (Disability Sports NI).

- d. 2014 Commonwealth Games Review, Sport Clubs and Sporting Winners Programmes, links with Sport Ireland and UK Sport, Budgetary Pressures (Sport NI).
- e. Planned Celebration of Sport Event, New Sport Strategy and Active Living: No Limits (Department for Communities)

## **6. SPORT MATTERS PROGRESS REPORT 2015-2016**

- 6.1 The Chair thanked all Members that took the time to complete and return their organisations progress report covering the period 1 October 2015 to 30 September 2016.
- 6.2 As Members were of the view that the document presents a positive picture of the collective effort that there has been to achieve the vision and targets of the Sports Matters and noted the following progress against the high level targets:
  - 12 targets are 'Blue' and considered achieved;
  - 12 are 'Green' and considered 'on track' for achievement; and
  - 1 is 'Amber' and considered 'on track for achievement, but with some delay.
- 6.3 Members approved the Progress Report for submission to the SMMG on 15 February 2017 subject to changing the RAG status of target PE17<sup>2</sup> from GREEN to BLUE on the basis that the target has been achieved.

**Action 4: PD to change RAG status of target PE17 from GREEN to BLUE.**

## **7. PRESENTATION BY SIMON TOOLE - SPORTING CLUBS (SPORT NI)**

- 7.1 ST provided Members with a detailed presentation Sport NI's plans for investing in the *Sporting Clubs* Programme. A copy of the full presentation is available at:  
<http://www.sportni.net/about-us/sports-strategy/>
- 7.2 The Chair thanked ST for his presentation and congratulated Sport NI on their efforts and approach to working with and supporting sporting organisations.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 8.1 Given the recent changes that have taken place (departmental restructuring, reform of local government etc.) the Chair suggested that the time is right to review and amend the Performance SMIG Terms of Reference (ToR). Members agreed and asked for revised the ToR to be presented at the next meeting of Performance SMIG for approval.

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<sup>2</sup> By 2019, at least 100 NI athletes to have attained medal success at the highest level in their sport including European, World and Olympic/Paralympic Level.

**Action 5: PD to revised ToR for consideration/approval at the next meeting of the Performance SMIG.**

8.2 The Chair asked Members for their initial views on the presentation delivered by Dr Gavin Breslin on his research into the **State of Play on Mental Health and Well Being In and Through Sport**. In advance of the SMIG meeting, Dr Breslin provided detail on the rationale for conducting the study and a number of key findings which included the following key points:-

- Mental health and wellbeing awareness is taking place in sport (16+ programmes);
- Limited evaluation apparent in the effectiveness of existing programmes in sport settings;
- Varied understanding of mental health and wellbeing, that will have implications for training and awareness raising;
- There is a willingness to develop mental health and wellbeing in governing bodies, clubs, and at policy level;
- Leadership is being sought on what governing bodies and clubs can do next, in terms of mental health and wellbeing;
- The skills of the person who delivers any training to clubs or within clubs requires consideration;
- There are existing networks in place to facilitate the delivery of the mental health and wellbeing message; and
- Recognition that evaluation should be part of determining what is effective.

8.3 Members were very supportive of the study and its findings and acknowledged the potential contribution of the sports sector, particularly in terms of awareness raising and 'sign posting', but felt that further consultation and engagement with the entire sport sector and other relevant organisations (e.g. PHA) would be required when considering the development of an action plan.

**9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

9.1 The Chair advised that dates for the next SMIG meetings will be confirmed following the Sport Matters Monitoring Group meeting.