

SPORT MATTERS IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (PARTICIPATION) MEETING

DRAFT MINUTES

The minutes of the 13th meeting of the Participation SMIG held on 1 October 2017 at the House of Sport.

PRESENT:

- Chair: Kieran Harding (Sport Northern Ireland Board Member)
- Gerard Houlahan (Chief Leisure Officers Association)
- Collette Brolly (Public Health Agency)
- Sarah Wilson (Department of Education)
- Kevin O'Neill (Disability Sports NI)
- Jimmy Darragh (Gaelic Athletic Association)
- Elizabeth McLaughlin (Student Sport Ireland)
- Aideen Exley (Outdoor Recreation NI)
- Michael Boyd (Irish Football Association)
- Gordon Reid (NI Sports Forum)

In attendance:

- George Lucas (Sport Northern Ireland Chair)
- Robert Hayburn (Department for Communities)
- Mike McClure (Sport Northern Ireland)
- Edel Cosgrove (Sport Northern Ireland)

1. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members to the 13th meeting of the Participation SMIG and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

2. APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Apologies were noted from Alan Herron (Playboard) and Peter Smyth (Sport Ireland).

3. MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- 3.1 The Chair asked for comments on minutes. All approved.

4. MATTERS ARISING

- 4.1 The Chair took Members through each of the actions contained in the minutes of the last meeting and noted the following:-
- 4.2 Action 1 - completed. All members received a copy of the presentation on 23 October 2017.
- 4.3 **Action 2 - PS action carried forward from 27 May 2015 - PS to present on the Sport Ireland's 'National Activity Plan' and research relevant to Sport Matters participation targets at the next meeting.**
- 4.4 Action 3 – completed. MMC provided an updated on Sport NI collaborations with member organisations and noted the following:
- a) Through community planning we have effectively engaged with all 11 councils and through this collaborative working has been developed with Fire and Rescue Service for the Fire Fit programme
 - b) ALNL has been developed through inter agency collaborative working
 - c) The Strategic group for the ORAP has been established and this involves collaborative working across Government
 - d) SNI is involved in 3 EU Erasmus Plus collaborative partnership projects
 - e) The Female Sports Forum has been developed through collaborative working across NGB's and a range of other organisations

5. **REVISED TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 5.1 The Chair referred Members to the revised terms of reference which were circulated for comment and asked for any amendments or inclusions to the membership table on page four. All members agreed with the membership list.
- 5.2 EC asked for Members views on rotating the SMIG Chair position across the participating member's organisations.
- 5.3 RH noted this was explored in the 2015 Mid Term review but that there was no appetite to rotate.
- 5.4 All members advised they are content for a Sport NI Board member to retain the Participation SMIG role.

ACTION 1:- Chair to table revised draft TOR to SMMG.

6. MEMBERS UPDATES

- 6.1 MMC noted ongoing progress in Community Planning, Active Clubs programme, Outdoor Recreation Action Plan, Together Building a United Community (T:BUC) and AED provision, Erasmus, Tollymore National Outdoor Centre and it's increased participation in skills and leadership training and Active Fit & Sporty conference.
- 6.2 AE asked for an update on the fourth Everybody Active stream of funding. MMC noted there are plans to deliver in the future.
- 6.3 CB noted the need for joined-up working on Everybody Active district plans to understand opportunities for collaboration and reduce the risk of duplicating funding. MMC noted the opportunity to explore these initiatives at Community Planning meetings.
- 6.4 The Chair noted the new strategy could also explore opportunity for joined up funding initiatives. GH noted the complexity with sport vs health funding.
- 6.5 GB asked would one Minister have responsibility for the delivery of the new strategy. RH noted Sporting Futures strategy and the collaborative partnership approach. GL advised of the importance of reviewing case studies and good practice.
- 6.6 GH noted the difficulty with the Review of Public Administration (RPA) and the fragmented approach across the 11 councils. Health & wellbeing continues as an important theme. He noted the new leisure centre in Newry, Mourne & Down. GH advised of the work under EBA and work within Obesity.
- 6.7 GH noted Councils concerns over the facility strategies. The Chair asked for members contributions with District Councils. KON noted the work with the community hubs. CB advised of PHA's close work on physical activity programmes. MB advised of IFA's work in terms of grassroots and stadia.
- 6.8 CB advised that walking remains as a priority area through active travel and working with other agencies through the Trusts and ORNI. She noted the collaborative discussion regarding capital investments and PHA funding to support programmes and Obesity prevention.

- 6.9 MB noted eight walking football clubs. CB noted PHA funded it in the past. MMC asked RH on his views on a walking strategy. RH said it could be a tangible outcome of the new strategy. AE noted that walking is considered the most popular sport. She also advised of the mapping exercise of walking trails.
- 6.10 SW noted extended schools funding to provide extra-curricular activities. She advised of the Active Travel programme and bike sheds that received funding. SW noted the ETI survey and CCEA initiative. SW explained the extended funding for the curriculum sports programme to 31 March 2017. SW also expressed that whilst DE encourage schools to deliver two hours of quality PE per week it is not required by legislation.
- 6.11 MB noted the IFA's gratitude towards the extension of funding from DE. He advised of the need for the law to change and suggested this as an area to explore for the new strategy. He also noted that some children are forced to participate in certain sports rather than having a choice.
- 6.12 The Chair advised of the potential opportunities within the school estate.
- 6.13 MMC noted the success of eco schools and advised of the adoption of their framework.
- 6.14 KON noted two key issues:- capacity and joined up working. He advised of the need to sustaining volunteers.
- 6.15 GH noted EBA as a catalyst for working with under-represented groups and the need for trained coaches. KON advised of the difficulty meeting the targets under EBA.
- 6.16 JD advised of the GAA's gratitude to DE on the funding extension under the curriculum sports programme to 31 March 2017. He noted the success of the Easter Camps and their games hubs initiative to encourage children to play gaelic games.
- 6.17 AE asked if there is opportunity to develop walking trails within GAA grounds. JD advised that the Places SMIG will explore this suggestion. EML noted other initiatives eg Park run which develop routes. GH noted the urban need for GAA plans.
- 6.18 EML highlighted that SSI launched their new strategy and the emphasis on participation. She advised members implementing the strategy is SSI's focus.

- 6.19 AE noted the work within forest parks, community trails and working with councils. She advised on Active Clubs work and focus on walking and Park Walk. AE highlighted Get Wet, Water Works programmes and welcoming new members to the sport. MMC noted the importance of clubs and balancing funding.
- 6.20 MB outlined the development of the IFA Foundation, the movement of 70 staff and donation of £1.5m of funding from IFA. The Foundation has a key Football for All section, a focus on health and education and a Futsal programme. He advised the IFA achieved 20,000 boys and girls participants in 200 schools under the primary schools programme, in post primary 5000 participants and have introduced the schools Quality Mark. 52 venues provided for small sided games with 1123 teams coordinated through the grassroots programme. He noted it's the first year of Futsal with 1824 players and a men's senior international football team. In terms of club development 22 clubs have achieved Club Mark. MB advised of the success of the UEFA Women's U19s tournament and the support provided by volunteers.
- 6.21 MB advised of its mental health campaign, the opportunity for IFA to tap into existing channels and disability hubs.
- 6.22 GR noted members concerns of closing outdoor education centres and the need to salvage some of the services delivered. He advised of Active, Fit & Sporty initiative.
- 6.23 The Chair thanked everyone for their contributions.

7. **SPORT MATTERS PROGRESS REPORT 2016-2017**

- 7.1 The Chair thanked all members for the contribution to the Sport Matters progress report and asked for final submissions no later than 30 October 2017.

ACTION 2:- Chair to table progress report to SMMG.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

- 8.1 The Chair asked RH for his thoughts on how member's comments can contribute to informing the new strategy. RH advised that the project board will have senior officials to take forward many view/opinions and

initiatives. He also noted some of the challenges highlighted which could be considered as part of the new strategy.

- 8.2 MB noted the IFAs ambition of have football clubs as multi sports clubs and asked if the new strategy will explore this idea. RH noted the potential benefits and opportunities and advised that innovative suggestions will be encouraged.
- 8.3 AE asked how walking can ensure representation within the new strategy. RH noted the importance of the physical activity theme which will be all encompassing within the new strategy.
- 8.4 KON advised the absence of SAPAS data and the need for evidence. RH noted the limitation of CHS as a monitoring tool and advised the new strategy will look at all options. KON advised that SAPAS methodology domains is dated in terms of counter parts in England which explores walking and walking for active travel. The Chair advised of the budget constraints with that made repeating SAPAS difficult for the Board of Sport NI and that Sport NI would ensure that it considered all available and existing data to capture information on participation.
- 8.5 SW agreed on the need to develop suitable monitoring tools to capture participation.
- 8.6 The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and reaffirmed the positive contribution, opportunity for shared learning and collaboration opportunities. He confirmed that minutes would be prepared and made available to ensure that points raised be captured for future reference when discussions on the new Strategy commence.

ACTION 3: CHAIR TO SHARE KEY POINTS FROM MINUTES WITH STRATEGY IMPLEMENTATION TEAM

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 9.1 The dates for the next SMIG meeting will be confirmed following the Sport Matters Monitoring Group meeting.