

SPORT MATTERS IMPLEMENTATION GROUP (PARTICIPATION) MEETING

MINUTES

The minutes of the 6th meeting of the Participation SMIG held on Tuesday 15th October 2013 at 1:30pm in the House of Sport.

PRESENT:

Barry Macaulay, Chair - Sport Northern Ireland (Sport NI)
Kevin O'Neill - Disability Sports NI (DSNI)
Alan Herron - PlayBoard
Colette Brolly - Public Health Agency (PHA)
Linda Robinson - Age NI (ANI)
Liz McLaughlin - Student Sport Ireland (SSI)
Sharon Lawlor - Department of Education (DE)
Gerard Houlahan - Chief Leisure Officer's Association (CLOA)
Aideen Exley - Outdoor Recreation Northern Ireland (ORNI)
Aileen Cummins - Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA)
Peter Smyth - Irish Sports Council (ISC)
Barry Willis - Irish Rugby Football Union (IRFU)
Lisa Rickett - Irish Football Association (IFA)
Gordon Reid - NI Sports Forum (NISF)

In attendance:

Nick Harkness and Edel Cosgrove (Sport Northern Ireland)
Robert Heyburn (Observer) - Department of Culture Arts and Leisure (DCAL)

1. CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS

- 1.1 The Chair welcomed members to the 6th meeting of the Participation SMIG and noted full attendance.
- 1.2 The Chair welcomed Linda Robinson, representing Age NI, as a new member to the group and advised of the invaluable contribution she will provide to the targets particularly in relation to PA11.
- 1.3 The Chair also welcomed Robert Heyburn as an observer to the group and advised Members that DCAL would be undertaking a review on Sport Matters in the near future.

2. APOLOGIES

- 2.1 Apologies were received from Brian Delaney (Sport NI).

3. REVIEW OF MINUTES OF THE FIFTH PARTICIPATION SMIG MEETING HELD ON 26th FEBRUARY 2013

- 3.1 The minutes of the previous meeting were considered and approved following a minor amendment to action point 8 which now reads:

Action 8: SMIG Chair to meet with DE in terms of progressing PA6.

It was noted that this has been actioned.

4. MATTERS ARISING & CORRESPONDENCE

- 4.1 The Chair took Members through each of the 9 actions from the previous meeting and asked the respective Member to provide an update:
- 4.2 *Update on action 1: DE to provide an update on the final stage of the PA3 research to enable the group to discuss actions that could be taken forward individually and collectively.*
- 4.3 SL noted a back log of research project for the Education Training Inspectorate (ETI) to progress and noted that unfortunately DE have not had the opportunity to table the research survey to date but assured Members that this is likely to happen in next year.
- 4.4 SL emphasised that the quantitative data had been collected and the next stage is to assess the quality of the PE delivered.
- 4.5 A discussion followed around 'duration' and 'quality' provision of PE. PS proposed that dedicating more time to PE could enable increased quality. PS also highlighted that the 'rigor' of PE sessions is equally as important. PS enquired if SL could provide a definition of what DE considers as quality PE and that this could also increase with time committed to the subject.

Action 1: DE to define 'quality' PE.

- 4.7 Update on action 2: completed.
- 4.8 Update on action 3: completed and Linda Robinson welcomed to the group.
- 4.9 Update on action 4: completed.
- 4.10 Update on action 5: completed.
- 4.11 Update on action 6: completed.
- 4.12 Update on action 7: completed.
- 4.13 Update on action 8: completed (note 3.1 above).

PS advised the group on the ISC schools based research and advised that he would share this with Sport NI who would then circulate to Members.

- 4.14 ***Action 2: ISC to send Sport NI a copy of the ISC schools based research report (2009). Sport NI to circulate to Members.***

A discussion followed surrounding the definition of PA6. PS noted the challenge in delivering such a poorly defined target.

- 4.15 NH advised his understanding, from the time when the Sport Matters strategy was written, is that PA6 was always intended to relate to sport and physical recreation occurred in the school estate and outside of core curriculum time.
- 4.16 SL noted the Extra Curricular extended schools programme that DE delivers in approx. 480 schools.
- 4.17 The Chair advised the target is very ambiguous. SL reassured Members of her teams support in assisting in contributing to the target however noted the competing pressures on DE's internal stats branch.
- 4.18 NH suggested that the clarity of PA6 is considered during DCAL's review of the Sport Matters Strategy.
- 4.19 PS suggested that children's overall activity levels is perhaps more meaningful along with an understanding of where this activity takes place.
- 4.20 The Chair suggested interpretation of PA6 should be included in DCAL's review of the Sport Matters Strategy.
- 4.21 GH asked the group to remember the spirit and intention of the target and continue to work towards achieving this.
- 4.22 The Chair thanked Members for the discussion.

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 a range of initiatives and areas of progress including:
 - Confirmed funding across the partners;
 - Capital developments by district councils;
 - Increased levels of participation in disability sport;
 - The Active Travel initiative;
 - New trails and play based initiatives;
 - Your School, Your Club – Sport NI's and DE's collaborative research report;
 - A new video conference facility by DE to assist in engaging and encouraging children's participation in sport;
 - A new 'Healthy Ireland' framework developing in the Republic of Ireland; and
 - A lobby to develop a new all-party group for sport at Stormont.

6. **CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORT SEPTEMBER 2012 – OCTOBER 2013**

6.1 The Chair asked if Members had any comments on the fourth progress report covering the period 1 October 2012 – 30 September 2013.

6.2 SL apologised that DE's submission was late.

6.3 The Chair thanked all Members for the contribution and advised SL that DE's contribution and Lisburn City Council's contribution will be included in the final draft.

6.4 Members approved the fourth progress report.

7. **CONSIDERATION OF TARGETS REVIEW PAPER**

7.1 The Chair moved to the targets review paper and advised Members the report articulates the current status of each of the 11 Participation targets. The following discussion ensued:

7.2 SL advised that the quantitative information to establish the baseline for PA3 is achieved however the research to assess 'quality' PE provision is outstanding.

7.3 PS and CH asked Sport NI to confirm if SAPAS includes membership of a gym when measuring club membership rates.

Action 3: Sport NI to confirm SAPAS definition when measuring club membership rates.

7.4 PS suggested that the group consider examining investment and how this relates to the most popular participation sports.

7.5 NH noted that Sport NI is currently working with Sported to explore a research methodology in determining the social return across a number of Sport NI investment areas.

7.6 SL asked NH to share this information with the group when completed.

Action 4: Sport NI to share information from Sported on social return on investment.

7.7 The Chair noted Members approval of the targets review paper.

7.8 The Chair asked Sport NI to deliver their coaching presentation at the next meeting due to the time restriction.

Action 5: Sport NI to present on the Participation targets which are influenced by coaching at the next Participation SMIG meeting.

8. **PRESENTATION BY DISABILITY SPORTS NI**

- 8.1 KON delivered a presentation in relation to PA10. He concluded by posing the following question to the group:
- 8.2 Should the status of Sport Matters target PA10 be changed from 'Green' (i.e. 'On track for achievement') to 'Amber' (i.e. 'On track for achievement but with some delay or uncertainty')?
- 8.3 KON thanked the group for the opportunity to update Members on DSNI's views towards achieving PA10.
- 8.4 CH stressed the important role for district councils in delivering more opportunities for people with disabilities to participate in sport and increase club based membership.
- 8.5 Members confirmed approval to change the current status of PA10 from green to amber.

Action 6: Sport NI to change the current status of PA10 from green to amber.

- 8.6 Following KON's presentation a discussion ensued around the validity of comparing SAPAS data with the CHS data. The Chair stated that in the absence of a repeat of SAPAS, the CHS stats were the only option to monitor progress. The Chair stated the importance of a repeat of SAPAS in 2014 and would be proposing this as part of the Departments Review of Sport Matters.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 9.1 The Chair asked for any other comments from Members. No additional comments were noted. The Chair noted that the constraints had necessitated the proposed Sport NI coaching presentation being delayed to the next meeting.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- 10.1 The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting will be confirmed following the Sport Matters Monitoring Group meeting in November.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____