

SPORT NORTHERN IRELAND

PERFORMANCE SMIG MEETING

The minutes of a meeting of the Performance SMIG held on Thursday 20 January 2011 at 10:30 at Sport Northern Ireland, House of Sport.

PRESENT

Chair: Danny O'Connor, SNI

Members: June Logan – Disability Sports NI
Robert McVeigh – Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Council
Desi Curry – Irish Football Association
Roy Millar – Northern Ireland Sports Forum
Michael McGeehin – Coaching Ireland
Eugene Young – Ulster Council GAA
Stephen Martin – Olympic Council of Ireland
Louisa Huddy – British Olympic Association
Gary Longwell – Ulster Branch Irish Rugby Football Union
Jerry Bingham – UK Sport
Finbar Kirwan – Irish Sports

SNI Staff: Eamonn McCartan
Shaun Ogle
Jill Poots
Robin Gregg
Jamie Uprichard
Edel Cosgrove

1. **WELCOME**

1.1 The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Performance Sport Matters Implementation Group.

2. **APOLOGIES**

2.1 Apologies were received from Olive Brown (SNI Board Member), Patrick Turnbull (SNI Board Member) and Sarah Collings (Sports Coach UK).

3. **CHAIR'S BUSINESS**

ACTION

3.1 The Chair requested EC to provide place names for the next meeting.

3.2 The Chair advised that SNI had received their draft budgets for the next four year period and there was a 7% cut in resource from the 2010-11 baseline. There was a reduction in the capital budget of over 50%; however there was a capital allocation of £110m for regional stadia. The Chair stated that there would be

difficult financial times over the next four years in the public sector; however by only receiving a 7% cut in budgets this gave a strong message that the Executive value sport.

- 3.3 The Chair emphasised that the basic idea behind the SMIG meetings is a focus on implementing the Government Strategy for Sport and Physical Activity. It was noted that while some targets have been met, SNI were now asking all parties to get involved to help with delivering against the remaining targets.
- 3.4 Members discussed the impact of budget cuts to their area and advised their main issue concerned salaries and the lack of facilities in Northern Ireland. However, it was also the same for potential increases in lottery funding over the coming years.

4. **TERMS OF REFERENCE**

- 4.1 The Chair advised, following feedback from the first meeting and the subsequent Sport Matters Monitoring Group meeting (chaired by the Minister), it was agreed to amend the SMIG Terms of Reference (TOR). The changes included:

New Membership

- 4.2 There were 6 new organisations invited onto the Performance SMIG:
1. Ulster Rugby (Gary Longwell);
 2. Ulster Council GAA (Eugene Young);
 3. Irish Football Association (Desi Curry);
 4. Sportscoach UK (Sarah Collings);
 5. Coaching Ireland (Michael McGeehin); and
 6. NI Commonwealth Games Council (Robert McVeigh).

Single-nominated Deputy

ACTION

- 4.3 **It was agreed that members could select a single nominated deputy to replace them at future meetings should they be unavailable to attend. The Chair requested that Members forward their deputy to: jamieuprichard@sportni.net**

Frequency of Meetings

- 4.4 The Chair further advised in order to optimise planning and reporting (to support the work of the SMMG) it was recommended to hold at least 2 meetings per year as opposed to 3. The Chair noted members should have received a copy of the meeting dates/times.

5. **'PERFORMANCE FOCUS': RESEARCH UPDATE**

David Barrett and Richard Moore, Sports Industry Research Centre at Sheffield Hallam University (SIRC), joined the meeting at 11:00am

- 5.1 Members heard that SNI were funding a survey to provide information on the state of the sporting/ coaching workforce in Northern Ireland, including a profile of coaches and their roles within sport, the people to whom they deliver coaching, their experience, qualifications and the challenges and opportunities they face.
- 5.2 SNI intended through this work to establish a baseline on coaches and coaching in Northern Ireland that would be useful in relation to the targets within Sports Matters. A project steering group was formed to take the research forward which included members from SNI, DCAL, CI, VDA, Skills active
- 5.3 David Barrett and Richard Moore presented the key findings from the Coaching Workforce Survey. Following the presentation members discussed the research.

ACTIONS

- 5.4 **SIRC to provide recommendations following the survey.**
- 5.5 **SNI to prepare a presentation for the next meeting to consider 'next steps'.**
- 5.6 **The report will be posted on the SNI website.**

David Barrett and Richard Moore, SIRC, left the meeting at noon.

6. SPORT MATTERS PROGRESS REPORT (01 APR 2009 - 30 SEP 2010)

- 6.1 Members considered the Sport Matters Progress Report. The structure of the Strategy is made up of the three Sport Matters Implementation Groups and there is also a Ministerial Sport Matters Monitoring Group (SMMG).
- 6.2 The Performance SMIG monitors the implementation of the targets and the Minister has tasked each of the SMIGs with producing Action Plans and reports relating to the 26 targets. The Chair noted he will have the opportunity to report on the Performance SMIG's progress at the next SMMG meeting on the 31 March 2011. Members provided a verbal update on progress to date in their respective area.

ACTION

- 6.3 **The Chair requested members to complete the progress report template and forward to jamieuprichard@sportni.net**

7. SPORT MATTERS: ACTION PLANNING FRAMEWORK

- 7.1 Members noted the template which is to be used for reporting on the 9 performance targets. Members were asked to consider how their organisation could contribute to the performance targets and complete actions that their respective organisations would undertake. Members requiring further advice could ask SNI staff for assistance.

ACTION

7.2 Members were asked to complete the reports and email them to jamieuprichard@sportni.net by Thursday 3 March. SNI would then collate this information in a document for reporting to the Minister's Sport Matter Monitoring Group meeting on Thursday 31 March.

7.3 The Chair stated that there was a lot of good work currently happening and there was potential for networking. The Chair advised that SNI can not be viewed in isolation in terms of delivering the Strategy and asked all the organisations and sectors represented to come together for the good of sport, physical activity, health and education.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

8.1 The Chair repeated the required actions.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

ACTION

9.1 Members noted the date of the next meeting as 22 September 2011, 10:30am, House of Sport, Belfast.

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