



**MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF SPORT NI BOARD HELD ON MONDAY
27 MARCH 2017 AT 17:00, IN THE HOUSE OF SPORT, BELFAST**

Present: Board members:

George Lucas – Chair
 Jay Colville – Vice Chair
 Andrea Bingham
 Brian Delaney
 Catherine O'Mullan
 Celine McStravick
 Darryl Petticrew
 Jackie Bryson (via telephone)
 Kyle Ferguson
 Kieran Harding
 Richard Bullick
 Siobhan Weir

In attendance: Sport NI Officials:

Maggie Smith, Interim Chief Executive Officer
 Shaun Ogle, Director of Performance
 Susan McStay, Board Secretary – Minutes

The Chair welcomed everyone to the third meeting of the Review of Sporting Winners.

Agenda Item	Record of main discussion
1. Apologies	Wilma Erskine
2. Register of Member's Declaration of Interest and Gifts and Hospitality	<p>The Chair reported that he had been approached by Brian McAvoy (CEO of GAA) regarding Sporting Winners at the Department's Safety Conference on Friday 24th March and had been approached by Patrick Nelson (CEO of IFA) at the NI v Norway event on 26th March. In both instances the Chair confirmed that the review is ongoing and that Sport NI will revert in due course.</p> <p>Siobhan Weir reported that she had been approached by Kieran Kearney (Manager of NI Sports Forum) at the Sporting Awards event on 24th March. Siobhan had confirmed that the review is ongoing.</p> <p>Kyle Ferguson reported that he had a discussion with Patrick Nelson and had confirmed that the review is ongoing.</p>
3. Minutes of Previous meeting	Catherine O'Mullan requested that the minutes be modified to include reflection of the Board's discussion regarding the Sporting Winners consultation period,

	<p>eligibility and marking criteria and options presented to the Board in November 2016. This was accepted by all.</p> <p>The minutes of the Board meeting held on 15th March 2017 were approved and adopted.</p>
<p>4. Sporting Winners Position Update</p> <p>SNI/17/37</p>	<p>Paper SNI/17/37 was circulated to members prior to the meeting and the following was discussed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The timescale of the issuing of Letters of Offer (LoOs) and the appeals process were discussed. Members noted that all applicants had received an appeals process document and that the opportunity for applicants to appeal has now passed. Members were advised that following the work to refine individual business cases for successful sports, indicative LoOs would be issued. 2. Members discussed the potential impact of the appeals outcomes on the current funding allocations and that any allocations made as a result of successful appeals would need to be met from within the tolerances of the Sporting Winners Business Cases. 3. Members discussed the implications of halting the current Sporting Winners process and agreed to continue with the process and for the appeals process to continue to run in parallel. 4. Members discussed the scope of the use of Lottery fund reserves within the context of declining lottery receipts and the risks associated with this. Members noted that all Sporting Winners LoOs would indicate that awards are dependent on available funds. Members were advised that a paper detailing Sport NI's Lottery commitments and projections in light of decreasing lottery income would be brought to the Board in May 2017. 5. Members discussed the two pathways of Sporting Winners and were advised that they were based on Strategic Objectives 5 and 6 of the Corporate Plan 2015-2020. Members were advised that applicants could apply to either pathway and that applications were scored against the assessment criteria on the basis of their quality. Members noted that the marking criteria were the same for both pathways and were based on benefit points and outcomes. Members requested that the number of successful applications made to each pathway be provided following the meeting. 6. Members discussed the information that had been provided to the Board as detailed in the timeline in appendix 1 of SNI/17/37. Members noted that information had been anonymised to ensure conflicts of interest were appropriately managed. 7. Members discussed the aims of Sporting Winners and noted that the critical criterion for the investment is a sport's potential to achieve senior international competitive performances. A sport's participative or domestic programmes may be eligible for support through separate Sport NI participation investment programmes. Members noted the separate avenues for support. They also noted that no concerns about the substantive purpose of the Sporting Winners programme had been raised by sports about the Sporting Winners programme at clinics, during consultation or in the FAQs. 8. Members discussed the differences in Value for Money between the funding options 3 and 4 and requested that extracts regarding Value for Money descriptors within the programme guidance be circulated. 9. Members were advised that the independent appeals review report is expected to be available week beginning 3rd April and would be circulated once available.

	<p>10. Catherine O'Mullan and Jay Colville agreed to draft the letters of response to the four sports letter. Richard Bullick agreed to meet with the Chair to review draft Lines to Take for external communications.</p> <p>11. It was noted that in order for the Board to make informed decisions, it must get the information it needs. The Chair thanked everyone for their contribution as this had been a very thorough review process and complimented everyone on their constructive challenge and quality of debate.</p> <p>12. Members agreed to meet at 11am on the 12th April, prior to the Board meeting at 12pm, to discuss the draft letter responding to the four sports.</p>
<p>5. Dates of next Board meetings</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 12th April 2017 -11:00-12:00 Sporting Winners Review, 12:00-14:00 Board Meeting • 18th May 2017 - 15:30 -17:30 • 14th June 2017 - 11:00-13:00

The meeting closed at 7.30pm

Minutes adopted and approved:

Signed: George Lucas

George Lucas, Sport NI Chair

Date: 12/4/17

