

The Sports Council for Northern Ireland
Annual Report and Accounts
For the year ended 31st March 2011

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For the year ended 31st March 2011

*The Accounting Officer authorised these
Financial statements for issue*

on

14 December 2011

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under Article 7(2)(c) and 8 of the Recreation and Youth Service
(Northern Ireland) Order 1986 by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure*

on

17 August 2012

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Chairman's Foreword

I am delighted to introduce the 2010-11 Sports Council Annual Review. What a journey the past 12 months have been. I am extremely proud to be able to present the work of this organisation to you and reflect, not just on the success of 2010-11, but also on the upcoming challenges and opportunities we face in 2011-12.

This annual review is testament, not only to the progress achieved by Sports Council staff but, to the strength of the partnerships which have been built over the years. The successes highlighted in this document tell the story of what these partnerships are achieving.

As you know, Sports Council is dedicated to developing people in sport, especially young people, and providing facilities for people of every age group and ability to be able to participate, enjoy and perform sport and physical activity. We want everyone to benefit from the enjoyment and individual sense of achievement that participating in sport brings, and from the excitement and pride generated by strong performances.

Championing the value of sport is a key focus for Sports Council. Sport is often justified by its contribution to other areas of Northern Ireland life, such as health, social and economic development, education, and community development. While these benefits are extremely valued, they are not the reason that we get passionate about sport. At Sports Council we believe in the enjoyment and sense of achievement that sporting participation can bring to anyone, regardless of age, income, background or level of ability. In short, sport is a real positive – that's why we need it to be more than a minority interest in Northern Ireland.

We are committed to delivering not just more people playing sport, but building a world leading community sports environment which retains its participants and helps those with talent to flourish. The beneficiaries of such an environment won't just include those already immersed in sport, but also those who are yet to discover its power. All of our work – the expertise we provide, advice we give, funds we invest, and relationships we build – is focused on delivering this legacy.

Sport Matters: The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation, 2009-2019 was launched in May 2010 and outlines a new vision for sport and physical recreation in Northern Ireland. It also establishes key targets and priorities for sport's future development as identified by the sports sector, the community at large and a range of other interests across central and local government, the voluntary sector and business.

However, Northern Ireland sport today faces major challenges and significant difficulties particularly in terms of participation, high performance and the quantity and quality of existing infrastructure. There needs to be a new long-term vision and direction for sport, so that we secure all the potential benefits it offers society and the individual. Sport Matters offers that vision and that direction. I want not simply to preserve our sporting culture, but to cultivate it and strengthen it now and for the future. In short, I want Northern Ireland to realise the vision of Sport Matters – 'a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport'.

I want to take this opportunity to pay tribute to my colleagues on the Board who have given their time and considerable expertise so readily on behalf of sport in Northern Ireland. I also wish to thank the Chief Executive Eamonn McCartan, and staff at Sports Council, whose commitment, dedication and considerable ability led to the achievement of our goals in 2010-11.



Dominic Walsh
Chairman
Sports Council for Northern Ireland

Date: 6 December 2011

Chief Executive's Statement

Sport provides us with inspirational and invaluable moments. This is particularly relevant with the 2010 Commonwealth Games in Delhi, and the approach of the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, the World Police and Fire Games 2013 being hosted here in Northern Ireland, and the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. All of the events are bringing sport right to our doorstep.

The London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games offer considerable sporting opportunities for the people of Northern Ireland; for our athletes, our officials and our volunteers.

The Olympic Games will provide a positive benefit in terms of encouraging sport and physical activity, performance sport, boosting the active contribution of volunteers, generating business, showcasing Northern Ireland, and leaving a lasting legacy that will benefit society long after the Olympic flame in London has been extinguished.

One of the fundamental principles of Sports Council is to increase participation in sport. Therefore the 'participation legacy' from the Olympic Games is of crucial importance. We must utilise the enthusiasm for sport that will grow in the build up to the Olympic Games, and convert it into long-term participation by both young people and adults beyond 2012.

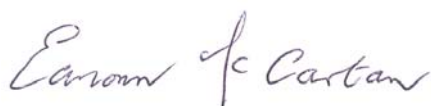
Sports Council has worked extensively in conjunction with many governing bodies, local councils and sporting venues during the last two years to encourage key stakeholders to attract and secure athletes and teams who will train or qualify for the Olympic and Paralympic Games in London next year. Northern Ireland has the facilities and expertise to develop and hone the necessary skills for Olympic and Paralympic competition.

Despite many challenges and hurdles these collective efforts are starting to bear fruit and the considerable groundwork has paved the way for pre-Olympic qualifying events such as the Boccia World Cup in August and the Yonex Irish International Badminton Championship in December.

My thanks go to all those organisations and individuals who have worked with Sports Council to further the development of sport in Northern Ireland. On behalf of Sports Council I look forward to your continued co-operation and support.

So many people work hard to make things happen in sport – coaches, volunteers, officials, teachers, athletes, and participants – and I would like to thank them all for their continued enthusiasm and dedication.

Increasing participation and improving performance is always going to be a team effort, and Sports Council plays a critical part. I, along with my fellow Board Members, look forward to an exciting and challenging year in sport.



Eamonn McCartan
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
Sports Council for Northern Ireland

Date: 6 December 2011

Annual Report - Background Information

Statutory Background

The Sports Council for Northern Ireland (referred to as “Sports Council”) is an executive non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (referred to as “Department” or “DCAL”). It was established on 31 December 1973 under the provisions of the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 with its main objective being the furtherance of sport and physical recreation. Its principal functions are as provided by Article 3 of the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986:

- On matters relating to sport and physical recreation, to advise the Department and other Government departments, Education and Library Boards, District Councils and other bodies interested in sport and physical recreation;
- To encourage the provision of facilities for and participation in sport and physical recreation; and
- To assist, subject to Paragraph (4) of the article:
 - In the provision of administrative services, equipment, coaching and instruction;
 - In the organising or supporting of, or participating in, international or other events, by bodies providing facilities for sport or physical recreation or organising such activities; and
 - Bodies providing supportive services in connection with sport and physical recreation.

Article 5 of the 1986 Order as amended by the Financial Provisions (NI) Order 1991 provides that the Department may, subject to such conditions as the Department thinks fit, make grants towards the expenses of the Sports Council.

These financial statements have been prepared on an accruals basis and show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Sports Council’s activities at the year end and of its net expenditure, changes in taxpayers’ equity and cash flows for the financial year.

They have also been prepared in accordance with Article 7 of the Order and in a form directed by DCAL with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel. A copy of the Accounts Direction can be found at Annex A.

Organisation Structure

Chief Executive

The Chief Executive is the Accounting Officer and heads the Sports Council. He is supported by three executive directors heading each of the departments within the organisation.

The Council

The function of the Sports Council is to:

- Advise DCAL and other government departments, education and library boards, district councils and other relevant bodies on matters relating to sport and physical recreation;
- Encourage the provision of facilities for, and participation in, sport and physical recreation;
- Assist the provision of relevant services and the organising or supporting of, or participating in, relevant events;
- Assist bodies providing relevant support services; and
- Appoint the Chief Executive by open competition, after consultation with DCAL.

The Participation, Performance and Places Committee's are nominated to advise Sports Council on matters relating to the disbursement of the Lottery Fund and have power in accordance with the policies and criteria adopted by the Sports Council.

The Participation Committee is nominated to advise on policy and practice and implement Council decisions relating to the development of participation in sport in Northern Ireland. The Committee has powers in accordance with the policies and criteria adopted by the Council to:

- Provide policy advice to Council in respect of increasing participation in sport in Northern Ireland;
- Recommend to Council the allocation of funds and other resources to eligible and prioritised schemes in accordance with the agreed policies and criteria;
- Inform Council of decisions taken within agreed delegated authority limits regarding the allocation of funds and other resources to eligible and prioritised schemes in accordance with agreed policies and criteria;
- Ensure that policies and programmes provide for equality of opportunity; and
- Ensure that a strategic monitoring and evaluation process is in place.

The Performance Committee is nominated to advise on policy and practice and implement Council decisions relating to athlete and organisational performance in Northern Ireland. The Committee has powers in accordance with the policies and criteria adopted by the Council to:

- Provide policy advice to Council in respect of increasing athlete and organisational performance in sport in Northern Ireland;
- Recommend to Council the allocation of funds and other resources to eligible and prioritised schemes in accordance with the agreed policies and criteria;
- Inform Council of decisions taken within agreed delegated authority limits regarding the allocation of funds and other resources to eligible and prioritised schemes in accordance with agreed policies and criteria;
- Ensure that policies and programmes provide for equality of opportunity; and
- Ensure that a strategic monitoring and evaluation process is in place.

The Places Committee is nominated to advise on policy and practice and implement Council decisions relating to sport facilities provision in Northern Ireland. The Committee has powers in accordance with the policies and criteria adopted by the Council to:

- Provide policy advice to Council in respect of sports facilities provision in Northern Ireland;
- Recommend to Council the allocation of funds and other resources to eligible and prioritised schemes in accordance with the agreed policies and criteria;
- Inform Council of decisions taken within agreed delegated authority limits regarding the allocation of funds and other resources to eligible and prioritised schemes in accordance with agreed policies and criteria;
- Ensure that policies and programmes provide for equality of opportunity; and
- Ensure that a strategic monitoring and evaluation process is in place.

DCAL appointed members of Sports Council on 1 January 2008 for a term of 4 years. The members of the Participation, Performance and Places Committees are nominated by the Sports Council.

The following persons served as members during the financial year 2010/11.

Sports Council Membership

Mr D Walsh (Chairman)
Mr A Money Penny (Vice-Chairman)
Ms U Duncan
Dr O Brown
Mr M Cowan
Mr B Macaulay
Mr D O'Connor
Mr J D'Arcy
Mr B McCargo
Mr P Turnbull
Mr J Rodgers
Mr A Strong

Participation Committee

Mr B McCargo (Chairman)
Clr J Rodgers
Mr J D'Arcy
Mr M Cowan
Ms U Duncan
Mr A Money Penny
Mr B Macaulay

Places Committee Term

Mr A Strong (Chairman)
Mr B McCargo
Mr M Cowan

Performance Committee

Mr D O'Connor (Chairman)
Mr A Strong
Mr P Turnbull
Dr O Brown

Following an open competition, DCAL have appointed Ms H McGrady; Mr R Carr and Mr P Cummings as Members of the Sports Council. They have been appointed for a term of 4 years, with effect from 1 July 2011 to 30 June 2015.

Audit

External Audit

The Sports Council for Northern Ireland Accounts are required to be audited by the Northern Ireland Audit Office. Once completed the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure is responsible for laying the audited accounts before the Northern Ireland Assembly.

Internal Audit and the Audit Committee

Sports Council employs an internal auditor who prepares an audit plan, which is approved by the Audit Committee. The internal auditor reports bi-annually on each work area, and these are presented to the Audit Committee for review. During the year the following were the members of the Audit Committee:

Dr O Brown (Chairperson)
Mr P Turnbull
Mr J D'Arcy
Mr J Rodgers

The Audit Committee will advise the Chief Executive and Council on:

- The strategic processes for risk, control and governance;
- The accounting policies and the accounts of the organisation;
- The planned activity and results of both internal and external audit;
- Adequacy of management response to issues identified by audit activity; and
- Assurances relating to the corporate governance requirements for the organisation.

Corporate Governance

As a Non-Departmental Public Body established under the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1973 whose Council members are appointed by DCAL, the Sports Council is different from a limited liability company and some aspects of the Code of Best Practice, issued by the Cadbury Committee on the Financial aspects of Corporate Governance, are not applicable. However, the Sports Council has adopted the Code of Best Practice, which has been developed by DCAL and is based on the recommendations of the Cadbury Committee.

The Sports Council complies with that Code of Best Practice in all material aspects. In line with requirement, the full annual financial statements contain a Statement on Internal Control, a culmination of the on-going assessment of risk to which the Sports Council is exposed.

Funding

The Sports Council is primarily funded by Grant in Aid from the Exchequer. The level of funding is agreed with DCAL as part of a rolling three-year Funding Agreement. The current agreement covers financial years up to and including 2014/15. This agreement also includes an agreed set of strategic targets.

Lottery Distributor

The Minister appointed the Sports Council as a Lottery distributor since 1994. Lottery funds are accounted for separately.

Equality of Opportunity

The Sports Council is committed to the development of positive policies to promote equal opportunity in employment based on practices which are non-discriminatory as between people of differing abilities, religion, political view, nationality, race, colour or sex.

Employees with a Disability

The Sports Council ensures that people with a disability are given opportunities for suitable employment and that they are not discriminated against on the grounds of disability for recruitment, training or promotion purposes.

Employee Consultation

On matters of policy and procedure, which affect the employees of the Sports Council, the Council normally consults with the recognised trade union of which staff are members. This trade union is also a member of the Whitley Council which negotiates the terms and conditions of members with the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel.

Environmental Matters

Sports Council is committed to making sport happen in a sustainable way. There is wide spread interest and concern in ensuring that sport and recreation are as sustainable as possible and take place with minimal adverse environmental impact. Sports Council recognises its role in sport and the community and will promote the application of best environmental practice. In October 2008 Sports Council produced an Environmental Policy which it is working towards.

Sickness Absence Data

The Sports Council had an average of 6.81 days absence per full time equivalent person in 2010/11 (2009/10: 8.13days).

Personal Data Related Incidents

There were no incidents during the year.

Payment Policy

The Sports Council is committed to the prompt payment of bills for goods and services and aims to process bills within 10 days of receipt of the goods or services, or presentation of a valid invoice or similar demand, whichever is later. During 2010/11 Sports Council paid 84% (2009/10: 75%) of invoices within 10 working days.

Political and Charitable Donations

The Sports Council made no political/charitable donations during the year.

Pension Fund

All assets, liabilities and operating costs of the Sports Council's pension scheme are recorded in the accounts of the Exchequer entity. The market value of the Sports Council's share of the NILGOSC pension scheme's assets (excl. AVCs) at 31 March 2011 was £11.771m (2009/10: £9.590m). The Council's share of the scheme liabilities was £13.296m (2009/10: £16.230m). The Sports Council's share of the scheme recorded net pension liabilities at 31 March 2011 was £1.525m (2009/10: £6.640m).

Annual Report - Management Commentary

Financial Results

The results of the Sports Council are set out in detail on page 41. The net comprehensive expenditure for the year was £19,280,911 (2009/10: £30,934,856). The reserves at the year end show a surplus of £725,419 (2009/10: deficit £5,180,992).

Review of Activities

1.0 Participation and Facilities

There are many benefits to be accrued from participating in sport and physical recreation, particularly health. Sport contributes to tackling health issues such as obesity, cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and mental health issues. It also enables both physical and psychological development while providing a vehicle for enjoyment and fun, but also ensuring people have access to locally available sporting facilities.

Sports Council's Participation and Facilities Unit support sporting opportunities to increase participation levels in sport and physical recreation among people – of all ages and abilities, and to promote lifelong physical activity. This relies on a range of developments and interventions; places for sport, coaches, governing bodies, volunteers, events, quality programmes based on best practice, and marketing and promotion. Sports Council is working on many fronts to deliver improvements across all these areas in Northern Ireland.

1.1 Community Sport

1.1.1 Sport in our Community

The Sport in Our Community Programme concluded during 2010 having invested £4m in 34 projects in a range of organisations over a four-year period across Northern Ireland. Over the four years the programme reached out to 121,171 participants; of these 53,289 participants were women and girls, 6,758 participants had a disability and 6,759 participants were older people.

A final evaluation of the Sport in Our Community Programme 'Get Active - Stay Active' and four thematic factsheets were published in March 2011 which included a number of case studies and personal stories that demonstrate the positive impact of the programme on the host communities and individual participants.

1.1.2 Active People

'Active People: Healthy Communities – The Impact of Community Sport Investment on Public Health' was published in April 2010 and launched during Men's Health Week in June 2010 at the ManAlive! Men's Health Conference.

Delivered in partnership with the Ulster Cancer Foundation, the conference delivered a practical guide for men's health, looking at the implications of an increasingly sedentary population and how the private, statutory, voluntary, community, and sports sectors can work together to address inactivity and the associated public health issues. 120 delegates also enjoyed a range of interactive sessions and sporting challenges along side practical taster sessions of the Ulster Cancer Foundation's PACE (Physical Activity and Cancer Engagement) Programme.

Four topical 'Active People' factsheets have been produced to support the role of sport and physical activity in health improvement on weight management, mental health, coronary heart disease, and reducing the risk of cancer.

1.1.3 Disability Mainstreaming Policy

Sports Council primarily invests in Disability Sports Northern Ireland (DSNI) to support the implementation of its Disability Mainstreaming Policy (DMP).

An 'Impact Review of Sports Council's Disability Mainstreaming Policy' was carried out by Wharton Consulting in February 2011. The review concluded the policy has fulfilled a wholly worthwhile purpose, and has achieved a number of notable successes over its four years to date and has created a unique platform from which the promotion and development of sport for people with disabilities could be effectively launched. The report also includes four in-depth case studies that identify the key enablers of success in a variety of settings and across themes:

1. Tollymore National Outdoor Centre - an example of an entity funded and managed by Sports Council;
2. Irish Football Association and its disability football development programme - an example of a programme delivered by a large governing body of a focus sport for both Sports Council and DSNI;
3. Fermanagh Inclusive Sports and Leisure Project - an example of a bespoke project begun by a District Council in response to the DMP; and
4. Sports Institute Northern Ireland (SINI) – an example of an organisation involved in elite sport and the provision of services to Olympic, Paralympic and other world class athletes with and without disabilities.

1.1.4 Activ8 Eatwell

Sports Council established a unique partnership with the Food Standards Agency which delivered the Activ8 Eatwell pilot initiative to 50 primary schools across Northern Ireland between March and June 2010.

An evaluation of the Activ8 Eatwell pilot initiative highlighted changes in physical activity and eating behaviour amongst P5 school pupils and presented measurable evidence of Activ8 Eatwell in delivering genuine behavioural and attitudinal change, which included:

- 69% increase in the number of days per week that pupils achieved the minimum 60 minutes of physical activity;
- 55% increase in the average number of days per week that pupils drank the recommended minimum of six glasses of water; and
- 4% increase in the number of pupils who had eaten a healthy breakfast.

Between May and June 2010, 20,171 children participated in Activ8 Eatwell themed sports days held in 63 primary schools throughout Northern Ireland. Twenty-four teachers were trained to deliver the Activ8 Eatwell Programme through the Regional Training Unit Summer School, and further training was delivered to 106 trainee teachers through Northern Ireland's three Initial Teacher Education Colleges.

1.1.5 Active Communities

Active Communities is a Sports Council lottery funded initiative that aims to increase participation in sport and physical recreation, especially among underrepresented groups including women and girls, people with a disability and older people. Active Communities will provide a network of 110 coaches and leaders with a responsibility to deliver sport and physical recreation in communities throughout Northern Ireland.

The first Active Communities Coaches and Leaders commenced employment in April 2010. To date, 86 coaches have been recruited across Northern Ireland. During 2010-11 Active Communities created:

- Opportunities for 48,344 people to take part in sport and physical recreation, including 56% women and girls, 12% with a disability and 9% older people;
- 472,156 participation opportunities, of which 334,954 were realised;
- 22,639 coaching hours in local communities throughout Northern Ireland; and,
- 312 training opportunities to support the professional development of Active Communities Coaches and Leaders.

One national launch and eight regional launches were held across Northern Ireland to publicise Active Communities. In November 2010, Active Communities was awarded the prestigious London 2012 Inspire Mark in recognition of the contribution of the project towards increased participation.

During 2011-12, Active Communities will continue to grow and develop, and will provide opportunities for approximately 70,000 people to participate in a range of sports and activities. Over 100 Active Communities Coaches will be deployed, and Sports Council will continue to invest in the development of the coaching workforce.

1.1.6 Outdoor Recreation

In December 2010 Sports Council began the work of promoting and supporting 'Adventuremark', which is an accreditation scheme for outdoor activity providers. Adventuremark ensures that a provider's safety systems and procedures are appropriate for the activities and size and nature of their operation. This scheme will give participants a lot more confidence so that when they take part in outdoor activities they do so safely and with competent leaders and instructors.

Further research has been commissioned in preparation for the development of a new Outdoor Recreation Strategic Action Plan for Northern Ireland. The Countryside Access and Activity Network was commissioned to undertake two pieces of research:

1. 'Trends in Walking, Cycling and Horse Riding in Northern Ireland 1995-2010', which, like the trends in adventure sports completed in 2008, has identified significant increased participation in these activities since 1995; and
2. 'Publicly Owned Land Used for Outdoor Recreation in Northern Ireland', which looked at all public land that is over 1 hectare in size and has identified what activities are carried out and/or permitted by the landowner. It has also identified other facilities such as car parking, toilets, cafes, etc.

Outplan was commissioned to undertake some research into the actual cases against landowners under the Occupier's Liability legislation as well as out of court and insurance settlements. This research has concluded that the number of cases is extremely low and many are to do with built facilities rather than natural features. The indications from the courts are that the principle of 'volenti non fit injuria' is being applied. (This means that if someone willingly places themselves in a position where they know that harm might result they cannot then sue if they actually do get hurt.)

Sports Council has also produced a policy position paper on Access to the Natural Environment for Sport and Physical Recreation which is currently going through the various consultation processes.

The development of the Outdoor Recreation Strategic Action Plan for Northern Ireland has been ongoing with nine key topics agreed:

1. Healthy lifestyles;
2. Widening participation (accessibility);
3. Environmental awareness, engagement and sustainability (supporting conservation through outdoor recreation);
4. Governance and partnership working (integrated outdoor recreation management) incorporating access;
5. Promotion and raising awareness;
6. Volunteering and community engagement / participation;
7. Activity tourism and entrepreneurship (including rural and economic development);
8. Facilities; and
9. Monitoring and evaluation.

The governing bodies for the outdoor sports including canoeing, orienteering, mountaineering, and equestrian sports have continued to develop their programmes and procedures with considerable successes. Two canoe clubs have achieved the new Clubmark NI accreditation, the participation numbers at each of the clubs based at climbing walls is almost at capacity, and the NI Schools Orienteering Association set up by NI Orienteering in 2009 now has 16 member schools.

The Mountain, Cliff and Cave Rescue Service continues to be well supported by Sports Council, and ten members of the Mourne and North West teams attended a winter training course hosted by Tollymore National Outdoor Centre (TNOC) in Scotland in 2010. The teams were also provided with additional funding to buy new wheels and tyres for their vehicles to make them more useable in extreme weather.

1.1.7 Small Grants

‘Awards for Sport’ and ‘Sport Matters: Capital and Equipment Programme’ are small grants programme developed, funded and administered by Sports Council. Small grants programmes aim to increase participation in grassroots sport and increase the number of athletes with improved sporting performance.

- *Awards for Sport*

In 2010 Awards for Sport received 484 applications requesting £3.2m of funding. Sports Council invested £1.04m in 162 successful projects. These successful projects represented 23 district council areas and 34 sports. Baseline participation figures indicate that 57,000 people will benefit from Awards for Sport funding.

- *Sport Matters: Capital and Equipment Programme (SMCEP)*

SMCEP was launched in July 2010 for awards of up to £30,000. A key priority for the programme was to ensure a wide spread of awards by sport and by geographic area, particularly for sports and groups not previously in receipt of significant Sports Council capital funding. A total of 357 applications were received.

135 awards have been made in 2010-11. Awards were made to sports clubs, governing bodies and other community / voluntary organisations representing 23 district council areas and 35 sports. Baseline participation figures indicate that almost 90,000 people will benefit from SMCEP funding.

1.2 Tollymore National Outdoor Centre

Explorers, adventurers and all those with a love of the outdoors came out in force in June 2010 to celebrate the re-launch of Sports Council's new multi-million pound adventure sports facility - Tollymore National Outdoor Centre.

The stunning new building is a state of the art and purpose built facility with amenities which are second to none. On entering the Centre there is a three-storey dining atrium which is supported by huge curved laminated timber columns. The Centre now has three meeting rooms, a large lounge area, fully stocked equipment stores, a heated indoor pool for teaching kayak rolling skills, a new gym, and new climbing training wall as well as the existing Hotrock Climbing wall. There are 20 twin bedrooms all furnished to the highest standard with en-suite facilities and tremendous views over the forest and Mourne Mountains. The new building is built to be very eco-friendly incorporating a biomass boiler system, solar panels, and rain water recycling system.

During the year, the Centre met everyone's expectations and over 4,000 individuals visited the Centre to participate in a range of programmes and courses. A number of new courses are being developed, making use of developments such as the purpose built mountain bike coaching course. In 2011, TNOC will become the first centre in Ireland to provide the GO Mountain Biking proficiency scheme.

1.3 Building Sport

'Building Sport', a capital programme from Sports Council's Lottery Fund, aims to provide partnership funding for major capital projects that will increase access to opportunities for sporting development and participation for as many people as possible; particularly in disadvantaged communities to enable older people, people with disabilities, ethnic minorities and other underrepresented groups to participate in sporting activities.

Each unique project addresses essential sporting criteria:

- Increasing participation in sport;
- Being sustainable;
- Addressing the factors of social need;
- Tackling social exclusion;
- Promoting equality of opportunity and good community relations;
- Promoting sporting excellence;
- Addressing health inequalities; and
- Providing the structures for long-term athlete development.

This investment by Sports Council's Lottery Fund is a major contribution in tackling social injustice and inequalities. The programme demonstrates the ability of sport to heal divided communities, improve health and well-being, and lift those most disadvantaged out of the poverty of aspiration.

The following case study illustrates the benefits resulting from this type of Sports Council investment:

Shaftesbury Community and Recreation Centre - The new and improved Shaftesbury Community and Recreation Centre was officially opened with special VIP guest Mary McAleese, President of Ireland. A total of £2.2m was invested to provide a wide range of new facilities to enhance the service provision to the local community.

Speaking at the official opening event, LORAG Chair John Gormley said: "This area has a high level of health problems, and our social agenda is to help people get fit and feel better. Exercise is great for the body as well as the mind; we want to make fitness accessible for all."

A major element of the project was the £1.7m funding from Sports Council for extensive sporting

provision in the form of new 3G soccer pitches with floodlighting and additional changing, a community fitness suit, and a new sports studio.

A further £155,000 has also been provided by Sports Council over a five-year period for a Sports Development Officer who will assist in the sports development objectives of the centre.

Eamonn McCartan, Chief Executive of Sports Council commented: "Sports Council is delighted to support projects such as this and contribute to the achievement of vital community and sports development objectives. The facilities provided here will meet the needs of people from all social groups and all ages residing in the Lower Ormeau and wider South and East Belfast areas. Ultimately the centre will contribute to increasing levels of participation in sport and physical exercise, and hence improved health within our society; improved academic performance of individuals taking part; reduced crime in communities; and socio-economic regeneration of our communities."

The Shaftesbury Community and Recreation Centre has been and will continue to be a model of good practice. The facilities and programmes it provides are open and accessible to a wide range of local residents, and are interlinked into the goals of community development and regeneration.

1.4 Places for Sport

The Sports Council Places for Sport Programme is designed to assist with the delivery of the new ten-year Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation in Northern Ireland – 'Sport Matters', to provide a vision of 'a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport'. To achieve this vision, the Strategy recognises the need to develop a range of new, improved and shared sports facilities to a standard comparable with other regions in the UK.

The programme specifically focuses on five areas:

1. Pitches and other outdoor sports surfaces e.g. athletic tracks, tennis courts, etc;
2. Indoor specialised sports surfaces;
3. Floodlighting for training pitches and main pitches (only available for strategically important venues);
4. Buildings - construction of a new two or four changing room pavilion / extensions to existing changing pavilions where there is a demonstrated need for additional provision; and
5. Purchase of equipment - equipment must be based permanently in one location and must be new and not replacement or maintenance equipment.

The following case study illustrates the benefits resulting from this type of Sports Council investment:

Ballymote Sports and Wellbeing Centre - The Ballymote Sports and Wellbeing Centre in Downpatrick launched a new multi-million pound facility which boasts a range of modern facilities including a dedicated centre of excellence for boxing, a four court badminton facility and championship netball court, state of the art fitness suite, and SEELB youth facility which will deliver a wide range of youth work programmes to the local community.

Sports Council provided £1.275m towards this new facility and a further £72,000 towards the employment of a Sports Development Officer.

Sports Council Chair Dominic Walsh commended the development: “Sports Council is delighted to have funded the Ballymote Sports and Wellbeing Centre. This Lottery investment project was developed to encourage local people who do not usually take part in sport and physical activity to come to a local and dedicated sports facility, so keeping individuals and the community fit and healthy for the future.”

1.5 50m Pool

The 50m pool facility will provide state of the art sports facilities for the North Down local community as well as training and strength and conditioning facilities for elite swimmers and athletes. The new 50m pool facility will include the following facilities:

- Storage for hall equipment;
- Dry changing rooms;
- Children’s soft adventure play area, including vending and relaxation area for parents;
- Crèche;
- Village changing for aquatics facilities;
- Swim Ulster Offices;
- Timing office;
- Staff room accommodation;
- First aid room;
- Pool storage area;
- Pool hall – 50m x 25m x 2m, 10 lane pool (with two submersible booms and two moving floors);
- Diving pool - 5m, 3m and 1m boards (with moving floor);
- Leisure Water (wave pool, side winder, two flumes, interactive climbing tower, children’s paddling area with galleon feature and relaxation spa / bubble pools); and
- A Performer Development Centre.

The 50m pool project will form part of a new leisure centre at Valentine Playing Fields in Bangor. The total project cost is currently calculated at £37,839,333. The grant eligible cost of these works is £19,251,517 of which the Sports Council Grant at 75% equates to £14,438,638. The 50m pool project is currently under construction and the expected completion date is summer 2012.

1.6 Access to Sports Facilities for People with Disabilities

Sports Council in conjunction with DSNI have developed sports facility access guidelines – ‘Access To Sports Facilities For People With Disabilities: Design and Management Guidelines’ to help ensure that all new, extended and altered sports facilities in Northern Ireland meet the best possible levels of good practice in terms of access for people with disabilities.

The guidelines, which are also endorsed by Northern Ireland’s main disability rights organisation Disability Action, are based on optimum levels of best practice in relation to the design and management of facilities which fully meet the needs of disabled sports people.

The guidelines provide detailed guidance and advice on four key areas of facility design and management:

1. Design and technical issues, including standards for car parking, signage and changing areas;
2. Sports specific technical guidelines for 14 Paralympic sports;
3. Guidance on putting in place relevant policies and procedures; and
4. Guidance on developing inclusive sports development plans.

2.0 Performance Sport

Sports Council is committed to developing a world-class sporting system in Northern Ireland, enabling athletes and teams to maximise their sporting potential and reach their optimum level of performance. Sports Council's Performance Sport Team works to bring about an environment that will enable athletes to improve athletic performance.

2.1 Commonwealth Games

The Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games team returned home from Delhi with extra, glittering baggage, following the best performance in 16 years. Three gold, three silver and four bronze medals saw Northern Ireland finish high up the medal table in 13th place. There were also a number of personal bests, top ten finishes, season's bests, pre-Games targets and Ulster and Irish records achieved across a number of sports. The medal target was five - conservative but not surprising considering only two silvers were won four years ago in Melbourne.

Boxing was a terrific example of preparing a squad to compete at their optimum level at a major championships. The team was chosen in July and the Ulster Boxing Council used its relationship with the Irish national set-up to send the boxers to the High Performance Centre in Dublin for five weeks. When they returned to Belfast they were invited to avail of the support services and facilities at SINI to fine-tune their preparations before leaving for the Indian capital. The hard work reflected in the results - gold medals for Eamonn O'Kane, Paddy Barnes and Paddy Gallagher, and silver medals for Tommy McCarthy and Steven Ward.

The cycling team was able to take the best from the British system as Wendy Houvenaghel represented her native country, winning a silver medal in the pursuit. There was also a bronze in the men's team pursuit for Martyn Irvine, David McCann, Sean Downey, and Philip Lavery. There were bronze medals in shooting for David Calvert and Matthew Hall, with another bronze for bowler Gary Kelly.

2.2 Medal Achievements

During the period 2010-11, 62 medals were won by athletes directly or indirectly supported by Sports Council, in a range of Commonwealth, European and World level events.

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Athlete</i>	<i>Competition</i>	<i>Medal</i>
Athletics	Jason Smyth	100m - Paralympic World Cup	Gold
Athletics	Jason Smyth	200m - Paralympic World Cup	Gold
Athletics	Ciara Mageean	2010 World Junior Championships	Silver
Athletics	Sally Brown	2010 IWAS World Junior Championships - 100m	Silver
Athletics	Sally Brown	2010 IWAS World Junior Championships - 200m	Silver
Athletics	Sally Brown	2011 IPC Athletics Championships - T46 200m	Bronze
Athletics	Michael McKillop	2011 Paralympic World Championships - T37 800m	Gold
Athletics	Michael McKillop	2011 Paralympic World Championships - T37 1500m	Gold
Badminton	Niall McVeigh	2010 European Disability Championships (Doubles)	Silver
Badminton	Niall McVeigh	2010 European Disability Championships (Singles)	Silver
Bowls	Gary Kelly	2010 Commonwealth Games	Bronze
Boxing	Patrick Barnes	2010 European Senior Boxing Championships	Gold
Boxing	Tyrone McCullagh	2010 European Senior Boxing Championships	Bronze
Boxing	Eamonn O'Kane	2010 Commonwealth Games	Gold
Boxing	Patrick Barnes	2010 Commonwealth Games	Gold
Boxing	Patrick Gallagher	2010 Commonwealth Games	Gold
Boxing	Stephen Ward	2010 Commonwealth Games	Silver

<i>Sport</i>	<i>Athlete</i>	<i>Competition</i>	<i>Medal</i>
Boxing	Tommy McCarthy	2010 Commonwealth Games	Silver
Boxing	Ryan Burnett	2010 Youth Olympics	Gold
Canoeing - Slalom	Hannah Craig	2010 Dutch Open	Gold
Canoeing - Surf	Corin King	Junior HP - European Surf Kayaking Championships	Gold
Kayaking			
Canoeing - Surf	Corin King	Junior IC - European Surf Kayaking Championships	Silver
Kayaking			
Canoeing - Surf	Andy McClelland	Junior IC - European Surf Kayaking Championships	Gold
Kayaking			
Canoeing - Surf	Andy McClelland	Junior HP - European Surf Kayaking Championships	Bronze
Kayaking			
Canoeing - Surf	Jonny Bingham	Men's IC - European Surf Kayaking Championships	Silver
Kayaking			
Canoeing - Surf	Chris Hobson	Men's IC - European Surf Kayaking Championships	Bronze
Kayaking			
Cricket	Ireland Senior Team	2010 European Championships	Gold
Cricket	Ireland U18 Team	2010 European Championships	Silver
Cricket	Ireland U23 Team	2010 European Championships	Silver
Cycling	Wendy Houvenaghel	2010 Commonwealth Games	Silver
Cycling	Men's Pursuit Team	2010 Commonwealth Games	Bronze
Golf	Jan Dinsdale	2010 South African Open	Gold
Golf	Jan Dinsdale	2010 World Blind Golf Championships	Silver
Judo	Lisa Kearney	IJF World Cup	Gold
Judo	Lisa Kearney	IJF World Cup	Silver
Judo	Lisa Kearney	IJF World Cup	Bronze
Motor Sports	Kris Meeke	2010 Intercontinental Rally Championships	Bronze
Rowing	Holly Nixon	2010 Coupe de la Jeunesse	Silver
Shooting	David Calvert	2010 Queen's Cup	Gold
Shooting	David Calvert	2010 Commonwealth Games	Bronze
Shooting	Matthew Hall	2010 Commonwealth Games	Bronze
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	2010 IPC Alpine Skiing European Cup Giant Slalom 1	Silver
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	2010 IPC Alpine Skiing European Cup Giant Slalom 2	Silver
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	2010 IPC Alpine Skiing European Cup - Slalom	Bronze
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships - Slalom	Silver
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	IPC Alpine Skiing World Championships - Giant Slalom	Bronze
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	2011 Europa Cup Finals, La Molina (Slalom)	Gold
Skiing	Kelly Gallagher	2011 Europa Cup Finals, La Molina (Giant Slalom)	Silver
Squash	Madeline Perry	2010 Australian Open	Gold
Squash	Madeline Perry	2010 Dutch Open	Silver
Swimming	Sycerika McMahon	2010 European Junior Championships - 400m freestyle	Bronze
Triathlon	Aileen Morrison	Hong Kong ITU Asia Cup	Gold
Triathlon	Aileen Morrison	2010 ITU World Championship Series	Bronze
Triathlon	Gavin Noble	Hong Kong ITU Asia Cup	Gold
Other Notable Performances			
Cycling	Wendy Houvenaghel	2010 European Championships - Team Pursuit	Gold
Cricket	Ireland U16 Team	2010 European Championships	Gold
Rowing	Alan Campbell	2010 World Rowing Championships	Bronze
Rowing	Richard Chambers	2010 World Rowing Championships	Gold
Rowing	Peter Chambers	2010 World U23 Rowing Championships	Silver
Squash	Madeline Perry	2010 Irish Open	Gold
Squash	Michael Craig	Swiss Open	Bronze

2.3 Sports Institute Northern Ireland

Based at the University of Ulster, Jordanstown Campus, SINI continues to prove itself to be a successful partnership between Sports Council and the University.

When an athlete becomes a SINI athlete they have access to a high level of performance support. Each athlete is individually screened and a specific programme is tailored for their exact needs. Athletes have access to the following support services:

- Programme Planning;
- Sports Medicine;
- Performance Science;
- Strength and Conditioning; and
- Performance Skills.

SINI also delivers, in partnership with Sports Council, specific development programmes for athletes and coaches, endeavouring to build skills and gain exposure to cutting to edge practice to enable the athletes and coaches to become world class.

SINI continues to deliver vital support services to a range of athletes from 23 sports including bowls, cricket, gaelic football, hockey, judo, rugby, sailing, triathlon, and wheelchair basketball.

SINI has recruited additional staff to support service delivery to the Sports Council Performer Development Centres (PDCs). In this first phase the support focus is on Strength and Conditioning and Physiotherapy.

Visit by Lord Coe - 2 March 2011

SINI was delighted to welcome Lord Sebastian Coe, Chair of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic and Paralympic Games (LOCOG), to a reception at SINI.

During his visit, Lord Coe met with several SINI athletes aiming for Olympic qualification in 2012, including Olympic and Commonwealth medal-winning boxer Paddy Barnes, Commonwealth medallists Matt Hall and Martyn Irvine, and sailor Stephen Milne. Lord Coe also met up and coming swimming sensation Syckerika McMahon.

LOCOG Chair Sebastian Coe commented: “Northern Ireland boasts some of our brightest hopes for medals in 2012, and the Sports Institute Northern Ireland is testament to the commitment to sport here.”

Visit by Minister for Sport and Olympics, Hugh Robertson - 9 March 2011

SINI welcomed the Minister for Sport and Olympics Hugh Robertson MP who was excited to see how SINI is working with Northern Ireland’s Olympic hopefuls as they vie for qualification.

As well as giving the Minister an opportunity to meet with some of Northern Ireland’s elite athletes, the tour also allowed him the chance to see SINI’s state of the art technology in action. Irish Hockey star Michelle Harvey demonstrated the Ballistic Measurement System, and SINI’s Senior Strength and Conditioning Coach Mark Kilgallon explained how he uses the system to test and monitor force and power production to help him perform strength diagnostic assessment of athletes like Michelle.

Later the Minister met SINI's Soft Tissue Physiotherapist Paul O'Neil and sailor Ryan Seaton, who showcased the SINI's RedCord device which allows Ryan to simulate the racing position he adopts when competing in his 49er boat.

The Minister also saw a demonstration of SINI's new Anti Gravity Treadmill with Ulster Rugby Academy player James McKinney. SINI Physiotherapist Chris McNicholl was on-hand to explain how the treadmill will enhance the Institute's work with athletes - with gravity increased or decreased to counter the weight of the runner to varying degrees. Chris described how the effect is like running in lower gravity, and how this will be extremely beneficial for SINI athletes in training, medical rehabilitation and other areas in the run-up to next summer's Games.

2.4 Investing in Performance Sport Programme

In May 2009, Sports Council announced two-year confirmed and two-year in principle awards for the 2009-13 period to 35 organisations, through the Investing in Performance Sport Programme.

This proposed investment of up to £13,277,060, over the four-year period, is part of the broader process of designing and delivering high performance sports systems in selected sports in Northern Ireland.

90% of the investment has been targeted towards increasing the number of professional staff working within governing bodies. Currently 88 posts are in place supporting volunteers in sport and building expertise with regard to business, talent, and high performance systems.

Despite a reduction of 17.8% in the planned programme budget for 2010-11, the programme has achieved the majority of its targets during the year. For example:

- 11 organisations have achieved either a satisfactory or substantial assurance rating following a Sports Council governance and management audit;
- 28 organisations are fully compliant with the World Anti-Doping Code;
- 17 organisations have achieved a Reasonable Assurance Level in the NSPCC Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults audit covering the 'Getting it Right' Standards.
- 11 governing bodies have club accreditation systems in place;
- 15,993 participants have been reported in a range of participation and talent development activities (12,258 sustained participation and 3,735 talent identification and development);
- 473 coaches have been trained;
- 238 athletes from 27 sports have represented either Ireland or UK at international competitions in 2010-11; and
- 54 medals have been won in international competition by athletes from Northern Ireland.

As Sports Council enters the final two years of the programme, an interim evaluation is currently being undertaken which will inform future practice and plans for investment in the 2013-17 period.

2.5 Athlete Support Programme

Sports Council's Athlete Support Programme (ASP) is an investment programme designed to support athletes to develop to their full potential and achieve international sporting success at Olympic, World, European, and Commonwealth level.

The 2010 ASP was revised to fall within the calendar year from 1 January 2010 – 31 December 2010. Sports costs awards were offered to 127 individual athletes and six squads totalling £799,823 with a further £29,900 awarded in June 2010 to 17 athletes who had met the quality standard of the programme, but due to budget restrictions at the time of award, had fallen beneath the budget line.

Within this time period the programme changed from a Lottery funded programme to an Exchequer funded programme which offered challenges to efficiently deliver the programme within a calendar year. This led to the programme reverting back to a financial year basis with those athletes receiving funding in 2011-12 being offered a three-month extension to ensure no break in funding.

The total investment to date for sports costs, including extensions and various increases in award, for the 15 month period was £928,430. An additional £206,294 was made to 29 athletes in respect of living costs for the 15 month period culminating in a total investment of £1,134,724 to date.

Paddy Barnes

Paddy Barnes is a 24 year old amateur boxer from Belfast who has excelled at various international competitions over the last four years. Paddy won a bronze medal at the 2008 Olympics in Beijing in the 48kg division at the age of 21. Since then he has continued to improve and he has won the Irish Elite title for the past five consecutive years. 2010 saw him firmly establish himself as one of the top 49kg boxers in the world and this was reinforced when he won the gold medal at the European Elite Championships which were held in Moscow. He then followed this up by winning the Commonwealth Games gold medal in October.

2011 started well for Paddy when he won his 5th consecutive Irish Elite title but his primary focus for the year will be geared towards competing in the World Elite Championships which will be held in Azerbaijan in September. This Championship will act as the first qualifying tournament for the 2012 Olympic Games and all boxers who attain a top eight finish will qualify for the Olympics. Paddy will compete in several multi-nation tournaments over the next few months which will act as preparation for the World Championships.

Apart from qualifying for the Olympic Games, Paddy's main aim for 2011 is to win a medal at the World Elite Championships. This would complete the set for him (i.e. Olympic, Commonwealth, European and World medals) and cement his place as one of the most successful Irish amateur boxers ever. Paddy is a member of SINI and frequently avails of a range of services there.

Kelly Gallagher

Kelly Gallagher has been receiving Sports Council investment since April 2009, first as a developmental athlete, then International, and currently as a world class athlete. Kelly was first spotted as having potential in August 2008 by the British Disabled Ski Team (BDST). The BDST, at that time, identified Kelly as a potential medallist at the 2014 Winter Paralympic Games.

In recent years however, Kelly has experienced a significant improvement in her performances and during her international debut at the New Zealand Winter Games (August 2009) won a gold medal in the Giant Slalom event. Due to the significant improvement in performances Kelly qualified for the 2010 Winter Paralympic Games – four years earlier than anticipated. Kelly is the first skier from Northern Ireland to represent Great Britain and Northern Ireland at the Winter Paralympic Games. At the 2010 event Kelly placed 4th and 6th in the Giant Slalom and Slalom events. In the Giant Slalom event Kelly produced Britain's best result by a Paralympic skier since 1994.

Kelly's success has continued and her performances continue to improve. In December 2010 Kelly, together with her guide Charlotte Evans with whom she has been racing with since the start of these season, picked up three medals at the 2010 IPC Alpine Skiing European Cup. In January 2011 at the IPC Alpine Skiing Championships, Kelly and Charlotte, claimed two further medals in the Slalom (silver) and Giant Slalom (bronze). Kelly added to her medal count at the Europa Cup Finals in March 2011, claiming a silver medal in the Giant Slalom event and gold in the Slalom event.

Sycerika McMahon

Sycerika McMahon is one of the most exciting prospects in Irish Swimming and during 2010 she won a silver medal at the European Junior Championships and multiple medals at the British Age Group Championships. A member of the Leander Swimming Club, coached by Bobby Madine, Sycerika has benefitted from Sports Council investment over the past two years that has enabled her to access several warm weather and altitude camps.

Sycerika has also benefited from support services through the PDC programme in Lisburn, where she received strength and conditioning, and physiotherapy services. Peter Banks, Swim Ireland Performance Director, stated the support Sycerika receives from Sports Council has been fundamental in creating a world class training programme for this extremely talented athlete.

Cricket Ireland

In 2010-11 Cricket Ireland's senior men's squad, achieved a number of significant results; defeating test playing nation Bangladesh, increasing their world ranking to ten, and narrowly losing to the, then, current world champions Australia by 38 runs. However the headline success was on 2 March 2011, when Ireland produced one of the biggest sporting shocks, defeating the current Ashes holders England at the ICC World Cup in India by three wickets. In achieving this result Ireland scored not only the fastest 100 in World Cup history (100 off 50 balls by Kevin O'Brien), but they also achieved the highest ever run chase in cricket World Cup history scoring 329 off 49.1 over's.

Although Ireland did not reach the knock-out stages at the 2011 World Cup, like they did in 2007, they did finish as the highest placed associate nation and were competitive in all of their group matches, narrowly losing to the West Indies and Bangladesh and defeating the Netherlands in their final match. The men's senior squad has been in receipt of Sports Council World Class Athlete Support funding; in addition to this the men's squad has benefited from specialist sports science and sports medicine services from SINI. The men's squad has progressed significantly in the last four years, with 13 of the squad now on full-time playing contracts, but also the sport has recruited a number of full-time sports science, medicine and coaching support staff, which will hopefully ensure that the sport achieves their performance goal of a World Ranking of eight by 2015.

2.6 Talent Systems

2.6.1 Club Development

Sports Council's Clubmark NI programme continues to grow and develop. To date a total of 42 clubs have been accredited through the 19 Clubmark NI endorsed accreditation schemes, delivered by 13 governing body and six regional consortia partners. Approximately 200 clubs are currently working towards accreditation.

A presentation evening was hosted by Sports Council at the University of Ulster to recognise the contribution to sport and achievements of the clubs who have gained Clubmark NI accreditation to date. Feedback from clubs achieving Clubmark NI accreditation has been very positive, with clubs citing improved club profile; more efficient and effective ways of working; strengthened coaching plans; and through the creation of a development plan, a clear focus for the future.

2.6.2 Coaching Development

Sports Council continues to work closely with Coaching Ireland and sports coach UK to support identified governing bodies / Ulster branches in the production of coaching delivery plans. Athletics, canoeing, cricket, hockey, Gaelic games, and rugby now have delivery plans in place, and work is ongoing with a number of other governing bodies to develop effective plans for their sport.

During this process, it became apparent that coach personal development planning and mentoring were areas which several sports were keen to address. In response, Sports Council is piloting a cross-sport mentoring project with cricket, hockey and rugby which will provide coaches with:

- A tailored plan of personal development;
- Training and support to identified mentors and project managers; and
- Opportunities for sports to share learning and address areas of commonality.

The Southern Sports Partnership Coach Academy Programme and the North West Coach Development Programme were established in 2010-11 following the success of the Emerging Performance Coach Programme in 2009-10. These programmes will provide generic and individual development opportunities for 27 coaches across ten local authority areas. Key generic themes emerging include basic sports psychology, communication and planning skills, performance profiling, and performance analysis.

2.6.3 Practitioner Development Programme

The Practitioner Development Programme (PDP) is a Sports Council funded programme that aims to develop the next generation of coaches, scientists and medics for the Northern Ireland sporting performance system. The PDP programme is modelled on the highly successful fast-track programme used by UK Sport to assemble their current batch of coaches and practitioners.

During 2010-11, 12 practitioners from coaching and support personnel backgrounds availed of a financial bursary to support personal development opportunities, and attended a series of workshops that allowed them to reflect on their particular coaching style and initiate and support positive changes within their work environments.

2.6.4 Anti-Doping

Sports Council's strong anti-doping stance has continued to be promoted through the 'Pure Winner' campaign, which has now been recognised as a partnership programme by the World Anti-Doping Agency.

During 2010 targeted education was delivered to members of the Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Team, culminating in the World Anti-Doping Agency inviting the Sports Council Education Officer to work at the Games in Delhi, providing education within the outreach centre to athletes from all representative Countries.

Since the launch of the Sports Council Pure Winner, Drug Free Sport campaign image in February 2010, over 300 athletes and athlete support personnel have attended a 1-2 hour anti-doping workshop. As the demand for anti-doping education has steadily increased, a small number of specialist tutors have been recruited and trained to assist with the delivery of workshops and outreach at events. A number of sports are now actively implementing sport specific anti-doping education strategies.

3.0 Sporting Events

Hosting major events is an opportune way to showcase what Northern Ireland has to offer, and enhance its image on the world stage. Sporting events, large or small, provide an excellent platform to inspire young people to participate in sport, for talented athletes to raise their game, and instil a feeling of possibility among individuals, teams and society.

3.1 Belfast City Marathon

The 2010 Belfast City Marathon was a huge success – with a record-breaking 18,650 runners taking to the streets of Belfast, making the occasion the biggest mass participation sports event in the Northern Ireland sports event calendar.

Urga Negewo's time of 2:16:56 robbed favourite John Mutai (2:17:02) of his fourth successive Belfast win. Third placed David Kirkland was a further ten minutes behind the two Africans, finishing in 2:28:47. The women's race was won by Belfast debutante Sarah Stradling in 2:44:03. Letterkenny's Maria McCambridge finished second in 2:58:17. Third place in the women's race went to local heroine, Breege Connolly, of the North Belfast Harriers, who finished in 3:00:48.

3.2 Milk Cup

Since it began in 1983, the Milk Cup has grown into one of the most prestigious and successful football competitions in the world. The competition brings together the finest of young footballing talent from across the globe; bringing the excitement and challenge of competing to the young players and officials and great entertainment for the spectators. Many famous names have graced this competition in the past with players such as Wayne Rooney, Ryan Giggs, David Beckham, Robbie Fowler and Peter Crouch all competing.

Now in its 28th year, the Milk Cup continues to provide a great opportunity for young players to experience international competition at the highest level. The 2010 event, once again sponsored by Sports Council, didn't disappoint with the USA taking the Elite crown; Etoile Lusitana (Senegal) triumphing in the Premier section; and Chelsea coming out top in the Junior category.

3.3 Runher

The popular female-only charity race, which this year raised thousands of pounds for charity Cash For Kids, is fast becoming a regular fixture on the athletics calendar with two annual events (June and November). The event is now in its fourth year, and proved to be a great success, with the event going from strength to strength - from 220 women in the first year to a massive 2,200 in 2010. Runher is now the third-biggest indigenous running event in Northern Ireland, just behind the Belfast Marathon and the Lisburn Half Marathon.

3.4 Boston Bruins v Belfast Giants

NHL side Boston Bruins paid Belfast a visit to play a challenge match with a Belfast Giants Selects side in October 2010. This was a big day for the Giants and an event of great significance for the entire league; the Bruins are one of the most famous hockey teams in the NHL and one of the league's original six teams, officially forming back in 1924. A packed Odyssey Arena revelled in the presence of the Boston Bruins as they beat a Belfast Giants select 5-1 in an entertaining friendly clash.

3.5 Belfast Telegraph Sports Awards

It was a knockout night for boxing at the Belfast Telegraph Sports Awards - sponsored by Linwoods and supported by Sports Council. Paddy Barnes was a popular winner of the Player of the Year Award having last year picked up gold medals at the Commonwealth Games in Delhi and the European Championships in Moscow. Paddy Barnes and the rest of Northern Ireland's boxers were an integral part of the entire Commonwealth Games team and their collective performances in Delhi, which reaped 10 medals, saw them pick up the Team of the Year Award last night. The men behind the magic were given their place in the spotlight, too, as Northern Ireland's Commonwealth Games boxing coaches Stephen Friel and Michael Hawkins shared the Manager of the Year Award.

Sports Star of the Year went to Graeme McDowell. He famously won the US open at Pebble Beach and in October claimed the priceless point that regained the Ryder Cup for Europe. He was also successful in the Wales Open, Andalucian Masters in Valderrama and the Chevron World Challenge, where he defeated host Tiger Woods in a play-off, moving to a career high fifth in the world and being awarded an MBE.

Another sporting hero, jump jockey legend Tony McCoy, was inducted into Hall of Fame. McCoy has been a champion jockey for the last 15 years. Ciara Mageean's potential was further acknowledged as the athlete won the Young Player of the Year prize. Young Team of the Year went to Tyrone Minors GAA side, who beat Cork to win the All-Ireland Minor title at Croke Park.

Still with teams and an entire school of them picked up the Local Heroes Award as Banbridge Academy's boys' hockey teams were rewarded for their fantastic achievement in winning a 'clean sweep' of trophies throughout all age groups.

The George Best Breakthrough Award has seen some winning starlets go on to bigger and better things and Northern Ireland footballer Craig Cathcart was the latest recipient, thanks to his displays in the Premier League in an entertaining Blackpool team this year. The NI Sports Forum Paddy Patterson Award went to Bobby Platt for a lifetime of service to rowing in Northern Ireland, while Ulster rugby hero Bryn Cunningham was given a Special Award. The Sports person with a Disability Award, sponsored by Disability Needs went to impressive sprinter Sally Brown, a member of Team GB.

4.0 Corporate Services

Corporate Services are seen to be the 'backbone' of Sports Council – ensuring efficient and effective administration in sport. The Corporate Services Unit provides a good working environment for the whole organisation through effective delivery of: Financial Management; Human Resources; Information Technology; Internal Audit Procedures; Investment Assurance; Marketing; and Policy Planning and Research.

4.1 Policy Planning and Research

4.1.1 Sport and Physical Activity Survey (SAPAS) Baseline Report

SAPAS was commissioned by Sports Council to provide statistically robust data on participation, club membership, volunteering, coaching attitudes to sport, and spectating amongst a representative sample of Northern Ireland adults (aged 16 years and over) in order to reliably enhance our understanding of sport and physical activity patterns and determinants across the population. Main findings are as follows:

- 35% of Northern Ireland's adult population achieve the recommended amount of physical activity.
- On average, people are active for eight hours (487 minutes) / week.
- Most of the total time stems from the home (183 minutes) and work (151 minutes).
- Women are significantly less active than men (402 minutes compared to 576 minutes).
- People with disabilities and older people are least active among all analysed groups.
- 23% of all adults are a member of a club, with the proportion of men being members of a club double that of women (31% / 15%).
- 36% participated in sport in the last seven days.
- The main reasons for doing sport are 'just to enjoy it' and 'to keep fit'.
- Only 8% are aware of the Chief Medical Officer's recommendation.

4.1.2 Coaching Workforce Survey

The Coaching Workforce Survey provides information on the state of the sports coaching workforce in Northern Ireland in terms of the profile of the coaches themselves, their roles within sport, the people to whom they deliver coaching, their experience, qualifications and the challenges and opportunities they face. Main findings are as follows:

- Coaches in football (176), Gaelic football (211) and rugby union (229) accounted for 42% of responses to the survey. Hockey coaches (143) accounted for a further 10%.
- The timing of the survey in 2010 allows an impression to be gained of coaches as the London 2012 Olympic Games approaches. On the one hand, the coaching workforce is young, well educated and well qualified. Furthermore, coaches are keen to develop their coaching skills. On the other hand, the majority of coaching is done on a voluntary basis by people who are married and hold down full-time jobs, generating conflicting demands.
- Survey responses confirm the importance of clubs in providing facilities and coaching opportunities for adults and juniors - 84% of coaches deliver sessions in a club setting.
- Sports coaching in Northern Ireland is very reliant on volunteers, particularly in the club context. The relatively small numbers of paid staff in the workforce are employed mainly by governing bodies and local authorities.
- Most coaches responding to the survey possess a valid coaching qualification, and of these 39% are qualified at Level 2 or above. There is a clear desire expressed by a significant number of coaches, to develop as coaches, and achieve higher level qualifications in the process. Coaches frequently cite time and cost as the most significant barriers to their progress through the system.
- Coaches in Northern Ireland are well educated and well motivated, with most expressing a desire to develop as a coach. The overwhelming majority aim to continue coaching for the foreseeable future. They frequently identify and implement innovative solutions to the challenges of coaching, and exhibit a high degree of commitment to their roles.

5.0 Facts And Figures 2010-11

- **121,171** - People participated in the Sport in Our Community Programme over a four-year period;
- **50** - Primary schools participated in the Activ8 Eatwell pilot initiative;
- **86** - Coaches have been recruited across Northern Ireland through the Active Communities initiative;
- **4,000** - People visited Tollymore National Outdoor Centre to participate in a programme or course;
- **162** - Clubs / organisations were successful in the first round of awards for Awards for Sport;
- **135** - Awards were made to projects through the Sport Matters: Capital and Equipment Programme;
- **42** - Clubs have been accredited through Clubmark NI endorsed accreditation schemes;
- **12** - Sports practitioners took part in the Practitioner Development Programme;
- **150** - Athletes / squads supported through the Athlete Support Programme; and
- **10** - Medals won by the Northern Ireland Commonwealth Games Team.

Significant Changes in Non Current Assets

The movement on non-current assets is set out in note 10 to the financial statements. The net book value of assets increased from £6,163,215 to £6,661,781, following a number of new additions and specifically work carried out on the redevelopment of Tollymore National Outdoor Centre. Depreciation charge for the year was £473,152.

Retained Funds at the Year End

The general reserve showed a deficit of £3,084,015 (2009/10: deficit £3,090,688) for the year.

Going Concern

The Accounts of Sports Council are produced on the going concern basis. The Sports Council is not aware of any reason to adopt a different basis.

Events After the Reporting Period

There have been no balance sheet events since the year-end that would affect the reader's understanding of these accounts.

Audit

So far as I, the Accounting Officer of Sports Council am aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Sports Council's auditors are unaware; and I have taken all the steps that I ought to have taken to make myself aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Sports Council's auditors are aware of that information.

The audit fee for the work performed by the staff of the Comptroller and Auditor General during the reporting period, and which relates solely to the audit of these Financial Statements, was £20,000 notional costs (2009/10: £18,500 notional cost).

The Comptroller and Auditor General may also undertake other statutory activities that are not related to the audit of the body's Financial Statements such as Value for Money reports. No such activity took place during the year.

Annual Report - Remuneration Report

Remuneration Policy

The remuneration of senior civil servants is set by the Minister for Finance and Personnel. The Minister approved a freeze on senior pay in respect of 2010/11 and 2011/12 pay awards, in line with the Executive's decision in Budget 2011-15 to mirror the UK Coalition government's commitment to impose pay restraint.

The pay system in place for senior civil servants in the Northern Ireland Civil Service is currently under review.

Within the Sports Council, the Chief Executive is employed on terms analogous to Senior Civil Service Grade 5, while all other executive directors are employed analogous to Grade 7.

As part of the annual pay award, all staff with acceptable performance receive a base pay uplift. There is also a 'Special Bonus Scheme' in place which rewards exceptional performers with a non-consolidated bonus. The non-consolidated bonuses are payable to a proportion of staff as part of the annual pay award. Some staff members received 'Special Bonus' payments during 2010/11 for exceptional performance during 2009/10. The Staffing Committee agreed that no payments would be made for performance during 2010/11. The equal pay settlement was paid to staff in May 2011. The pay remit for 2009/10 was approved by the Department of Finance and Personnel and paid in August 2011. The 2010/11 pay remit is currently being prepared and will be submitted to the Department of Finance and Personnel for approval.

The Chief Executive is employed on terms analogous to Senior Civil Service. He is not eligible to receive a non-consolidated bonus payment as part of the 2010/11 pay award. The pay remit for the Chief Executive has been submitted to the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure for approval.

The Sports Council Staffing Committee is responsible for approving the Chief Executive's salary and assessing his performance. Its membership is made up of the following Council Members:

Staffing Committee Appointed on 1 January 2008
Cllr J Rodgers (Chairman)
Mr D O'Connor
Ms U Duncan
Mr J D'Arcy

All other senior staff positions above Deputy Principal follow the NICS pay and grading spine policy. The Chief Executive assesses all Directors performance.

Service Contracts

Sports Council staff appointments are made in accordance with the Sport Council Recruitment and Selection Policy and Procedures, which requires appointment to be on merit on the basis of fair and open competition but also includes the circumstances when appointments may otherwise be made.

Unless otherwise stated below, the officials covered by this report hold appointments, which are open-ended. The notice period or compensation for early termination (other than for misconduct) of a contract is 3 months for the Chief Executive and Directors. Policy relating to notice periods and termination payments is contained in the Sports Council Staff Handbook and individual Terms and Conditions of Employment.

Eamonn McCartan, Chief Executive was appointed in June 1994. This position is permanent within the definition above as are the executive director positions.

Audited Remuneration and Pension Entitlements – Senior Staff

The following section provides detail of the remuneration and pension interests of the Chief Executive and Directors of Sports Council.

Audited Information

<i>Employee</i>	2010-11			2009-10		
	Salary £'000	Bonus £'000	Benefits in kind £	Salary £'000	Bonus £'000	Benefits in kind £
Eamonn McCartan <i>Chief Executive</i>	90-95	-	154	90-95 (includes salary arrears from prior years)	10-15	3,542 (includes arrears from prior years)
Shaun Ogle <i>Director of Performance</i>	60-65	-	154	60-65	0-5	154
Nick Harkness <i>Director of Participation</i>	60-65	-	154	60-65	0-5	196
Andrew Sloan <i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	60-65	-	154	60-65	0-5	464

Sports Council Members Emoluments

The Chairman received honorarium totaling £10,000 (2009/10: £10,000). The Chairman's honorarium is not recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account. The Vice-Chairman received £3,500 (2009/10: £1,750), and this was fully recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account. No emoluments were paid to other Sports Council members in respect of Lottery activities. The Sports Council does not pay any pension contributions on behalf of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman.

Salary

'Salary' includes gross salary; overtime; reserved rights to London weighting or London allowances; recruitment and retention allowances; private office allowances and any other allowance to the extent that it is subject to UK taxation and any gratia payments. This report is based on payments made by the Sports Council before any deduction of recharges to the Lottery Fund.

Benefits in kind

The monetary value of benefits in kind covers any benefits provided by the employer and treated by HM Revenue and Customs as a taxable emolument. These relate to £154 for luncheon vouchers.

Bonuses

Staffing Committee has decided that no bonuses will be paid for the performance period 2010/11.

Sports Council Pensions

The Sports Council participates in the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee Scheme (NILGOSC) and made contributions for 116 employees, of which, 15 were employed for part of the year.

The NILGOSC scheme is a 'final salary' scheme which is administered by the NILGOSC. The benefits paid under the Scheme are based on length of membership and final salary. NILGOSC maintain a fund to provide for the payment of current and prospective benefits to members of the Scheme. In order to ensure that this objective is achieved, the Committee must determine a suitable investment strategy, which provides both a high return on investments and an acceptable level of risk.

Employee contribution rates are based on pensionable pay and are in the range 5.5%-7.5%. For 2010/11 the rates were as follows:

Band	Range	Contribution Rate
1	£0 - £12,600	5.5%
2	£12,601 - £14,700	5.8%
3	£14,701 - £18,900	5.9%
4	£18,901 - £31,500	6.5%
5	£31,501 - £42,000	6.8%
6	£42,001 - £78,700	7.2%
7	More than £78,700	7.5%

The employer contribution rate for 2010/11 was 17%.

For any membership accrued before 1 April 2009 benefits will accrue at a rate of 1/80th of the employee's final year's pensionable pay and an automatic tax free lump sum of three times their pension. For all membership accrued from 1 April 2009 benefits accrue at a rate of 1/60th of final pensionable pay for each year of service but with no automatic lump sum (members can choose to give up some of their pension to provide a lump sum). Additional Voluntary Contributions (AVC) can be paid through the NILGOSC in-house AVC provider, Prudential.

Further details about the NILGOSC pension scheme can be found at the website www.nilgosc.org.uk and note 3 to the accounts.

Audited Information

Employee	Accrued pension at age 65 as at 31/3/11 and related lump sum	Real increase in pension and related lump sum at age 65	CETV at 31/3/11	CETV at 31/3/10	Real increase in CETV
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Eamonn McCartan <i>Chief Executive</i>	35-40 plus 100-105 lump sum	2.5-5 plus 2.5-5 lump sum	832	833	(27)
Shaun Ogle <i>Director of Performance</i>	15-20 plus 50-55 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 0-2.5 lump sum	334	354	(33)
Nick Harkness <i>Director of Participation</i>	20-25 plus 55-60 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 0-2.5 lump sum	314	340	(40)
Andrew Sloan <i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	5-10 plus 25-30 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 0-2.5 lump sum	138	147	(14)


Cash Equivalent Transfer Values

A Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) is the actuarially assessed capitalised value of the pension scheme benefits accrued by a member at a particular point in time. The benefits valued are the member's accrued benefits and any contingent spouse's pension payable from the scheme. A CETV is a payment made by a pension scheme or arrangement to secure pension benefits in another pension scheme or arrangement when the member leaves a scheme and chooses to transfer the benefits accrued in their former scheme. The pension figures shown relate to the benefits that the individual has accrued as a consequence of their total membership of the pension scheme, not just their service in a senior capacity to which disclosure applies. The CETV figures, and from 2003-04 the other pension details, include the value of any pension benefit in another scheme or arrangement which the individual has transferred to the NILGOSC pension arrangements. They also include any additional pension benefit accrued to the member as a result of their purchasing additional years of pension service in the scheme at their own cost. CETVs are calculated in accordance with The Occupational Pension Schemes (Transfer Values) (Amendment) Regulations and do not take account of any actual or potential reduction to benefits resulting from Lifetime Allowance Tax which may be due when pension benefits are taken.

The cash equivalent value at 31 March 2010 has not been restated with the move from the Retail Price Index (RPI) to the Consumer Price Index (CPI). The Local Government Pension Scheme assumes transfers prior to October 2010 will apply RPI.

Real increase in CETV

This reflects the increase in CETV effectively funded by the employer. It does not include the increase in accrued pension due to inflation, contributions paid by the employee (including the value of any benefits transferred from another pension scheme or arrangement) and uses common market valuation factors for the start and end of the period.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Eamonn McCartan' in a cursive style.

Eamonn McCartan
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
Sports Council for Northern Ireland

Date: 6 December 2011

Statement of the Council's and Accounting Officer's Responsibilities

The Sports Council is required to prepare a statement of accounts for each financial year in accordance with the Recreation & Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and accounts direction given by DCAL and with the approval of the Department of Finance and Personnel.

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Sports Council's activities at the year-end and of its net expenditure, changes in taxpayers' equity and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the accounts, the principal Accounting Officer is required to:

- observe the accounts direction issued by DCAL including the relevant accounting and disclosure requirements and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- observe the current version of the Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM);
- make judgments and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, and disclose and explain any material departures in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on a going concern basis, unless it is inappropriate to presume that the body will continue in operation.

The Accounting Officer for DCAL has designated the Chief Executive of the Sports Council as the Accounting Officer for the Sports Council. His relevant responsibilities as Accounting Officer, including his responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the finances for which he is answerable and for the keeping of proper records and for safeguarding Sports Council's assets, are set out in the Non-Departmental Public Bodies' Accounting Officer Memorandum issued by the Northern Ireland Department of Finance and Personnel, the guidance contained within 'Managing Public Money Northern Ireland' also issued by the Department of Finance and Personnel (DFP).

Statement on Internal Control

Scope of Responsibility

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of the Sports Council's policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding the public funds and departmental assets for which I am personally responsible, in accordance with the responsibilities assigned to me in Managing Public Money; and ensuring compliance with the requirement of Sports Council's Management Statement, Financial Memorandum and Statement of Financial Requirements.

The Sports Council's Management Statement sets out the relationship between DCAL and the Sports Council, and defines the financial and administrative framework within which the Sports Council operates. The Sports Council's Financial Memorandum, which should be read in conjunction with the Management Statement, sets out the framework for the management and control of the finances of the Sports Council. These documents are in addition to, and not in substitution for, any guidelines or directions issued by DCAL on the exercise of any individual functions, powers and duties of the Sports Council.

The Management Statement and Financial Memorandum have been approved by the Minister for Culture, Arts and Leisure, DFP and the Public Service Improvement Unit of the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister.

The Sports Council also adheres to best practice as per the Lottery Financial Directions. These directions are currently incorporated within the Sports Council's Management Statement and Financial Memorandum.

I act in accordance with both the Sports Council's Management Statement and Financial Memorandum, and the DFP Memorandum, "The Responsibilities of a Non Departmental Public Body Accounting Officer", which sets out my accounting responsibilities. My responsibilities include ensuring that the Sports Council produces a three-year corporate plan and an annual business plan within the timescales agreed with DCAL. The plans are reviewed regularly by senior management and by the Sports Council to determine progress. Quarterly accountability meetings are held with officials from DCAL, to also monitor progress.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives, it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the Sports Council's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the Sports Council for the year ended 31 March 2011 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts, and accords with the HM Treasury Guidance.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Senior Management team takes responsibility for applying and overseeing the application of the risk management process primarily to ensure that it is operating as intended, to challenge the content of the risk registers and enable myself to report on the process to the Sports Council. In addition to reviewing the risk framework, all recommendations received from both the internal and external auditors are reviewed, with controls being enhanced or introduced as necessary.

In terms of project risk, skilled and competent staff undertake financial and governance health checks for high value projects. This is coupled with annual governance checks of the Sports Councils governing bodies.

All staff are expected to work within the Sports Council's policies on risk management; alert management to emerging risks or control weaknesses; participate fully in the risk management process; and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own areas of work.

Training is undertaken throughout the year to reduce risk. All new members of staff were taken through an extensive induction programme which includes: employment, finance and accountability arrangements. AccessNI checks (criminal record) were carried out on all relevant posts. All new staff underwent Disability Inclusion Training. Section 75 training on equality was also made available to staff.

The Human Resources team underwent further training on the SelectHR system to maximise its usage and ensure the accurate and timely reporting of data. Several staff attended CIPFA courses on improving public accountability and IFRS. The Data Controller obtained training on information compliance, data protection and freedom of information. Tollymore National Outdoor Centre staff underwent customer care training and health and safety training. A few line managers attended mentoring in terms of their management skills and behaviours.

Staff and a number of grant recipients were trained on Recruitment & Selection best practices in order to minimise any risk of cases being taken against the said parties.

Sports Council is also currently funding a number of people to undertake courses aimed at increasing their knowledge, whilst reducing risk for the organisation:

- Three members of staff were being funded to undertake Accountancy Qualifications;
- Two members of staff are being funded to undertake PhDs in the areas of Policy & Research and Marketing practices;
- One staff member is being funded to undertake an MSc in Organisation Management; whilst another is being funded to undertake an LLM in Business Law; and
- One Manager is being funded to undertake an MSc in Business Improvement, whilst the other is being funded to undertake an MSc in Executive Leadership.
- One Manager has undertaken a Masters in Public Administration.
- Two members of staff are currently completing the MSc in Sports Development & Coaching, one is completing the Masters in Business Administration and one is nearing completion of the CIPD.

All new policies introduced during the year have been fully consulted on and screened for Section 75 compliance. Sports Council was recredited with Investors in People.

The Chair of the Audit Committee attended a course on "Ensuring Effective Regulation".

The Risk and Control Framework

1. Risk Management Policy and Register

The Sports Council has an established risk management policy (the Policy), which covers all the Sports Council's activities. The Policy explains the underlying approach to risk management, documents the roles and responsibilities of Sports Council, the Accounting Officer, Heads of Unit, Operations Group, staff and the Audit Committee. It also outlines key aspects of the risk management process and identifies the main reporting procedures. In particular the Policy outlines the inextricable link between risk management and the corporate and business planning process.

The Policy is complemented by a risk management manual which provides guidance to Sports Council staff and Members on the ongoing process within Sports Council to ensure that risks are known, understood and managed. The manual is designed to enable staff at all levels to have an understanding of the processes adopted within Sports Council to ensure the identification and management of critical risks.

Sports Council has a corporate risk register in place which identifies the key risks facing the organisation. This register has been developed in line with best practice and is subject to regular review and update. The register outlines those risks which if materialised would threaten the achievement of objectives. All risks are being managed within an appropriate tolerance level.

2. Investment Policy

The Sports Council operated its Investment Policy throughout the year, which is designed to ensure the Sports Council:

- Complies with the Department of Finance and Personnel's requirements for the Sports Council, as a Non-Departmental Public Body, to adhere to the Northern Ireland Preface to The Green Book (Guidance for Northern Ireland Departments on the Appraisal, Evaluation, Approval and Management of Policies, Programmes and Projects) and satisfy public accountability requirements;
- Applies the principle of proportionate effort, thus ensuring that undue burden is not placed on applicants or indeed Sports Council staff; and
- Improves the efficient and effective operation of the Sports Council activities, ensuring best practice and consistency across the organisation. The business case methodology is used to define problems and find solutions to offer the best value for money for the Sports Council. The risk management process provides the Sports Council with an increased understanding of risks, thus improving decision-making to adapt to changes and avoid failures. The monitoring and evaluation process provides lessons to improve the decision-making process and justifies the case for increased expenditure in sport.

The three specific policies implemented throughout the Sports Council were as follows:

- The Sports Council Business Case Policy – designed to outline policy recommendations for the formal use of Business Case methodology in all Sports Council investments;
- The Sports Council Risk Management Policy – designed to outline policy recommendations for the formal framework for risk assessment and management in all Sports Council investment decisions, particularly at a programme and project level; and
- The Sports Council Monitoring Policy – designed to outline policy recommendations for the formalisation of a monitoring and evaluation framework at a corporate, programme and project level.

During 2009/10 Sports Council updated the Risk Management and Monitoring Policy. These documents were approved by Council in October 2009.

An Evaluation Policy was also produced and approved by Council in December 2009. The aim of this policy is to establish a consistent approach to evaluation across the Sports Council which is relevant to all programmes, projects and policies regardless of the source, scale and type of investment. This policy should be considered in conjunction with the Sports Council Business Case Policy 2004 and complements the revised Monitoring Policy.

3. Conflict of Interests

The Sports Council operates a Conflict of Interest policy. The policy was updated and approved by Council in February 2010. Throughout the year the Sports Council has abided by the procedures for handling potential conflicts of interest between its members and its officers and organisations submitting projects. These procedures include maintenance of a register of interests. Sports Council members or officers declaring any direct interest in grant applications exclude themselves from the decision-making process.

4. Fraud

The Sports Council has an approved Anti-Fraud and Corruption policy. This policy covers the prevention, detection and management of fraud and / or corruption and fair dealing in matters pertaining to fraud and / or corruption. It aims to raise the awareness of fraud and its prevention and to give guidance to both the reporting of suspected fraud and how the investigation of that report will proceed.

Sports Council's Anti-Fraud and Corruption policy was updated in September 2010 to reflect revised procedures, in particular the implementation of a Service Level Agreement between DCAL and DARD Central Investigation Services (CIS). DARD CIS now provide a dedicated resource to investigate cases of suspected internal and external fraud and irregularity and has the authority to conduct criminal investigations.

5. Value for Money

The Sports Council ensures it applies value for money principles in all of its practices. This is carried out at the top level via the investment policy that intentionally covers value for money within the production of business cases for funding. The Sports Council also includes value for money during tendering exercises for the procurement of goods/services.

DCAL has a service level agreement in place with Central Procurement Division, regarding the use of their services during procurement/construction exercises. The Sports Council falls within the remit of this service level agreement and has implemented it. In addition, the Sports Council applies the government policy of achieving excellence in construction.

6. Inefficiency

The Sports Council avoids inefficiency through applying its investment policies and adhering to government procurement guidelines. In addition, the budgeting process and production of management accounts ensures that funds are allocated to projects which have been identified as priority areas.

The Sports Council continually reviews its organisation structure with the aim to ensure efficiencies are made and the harmonisation of procedures across the organisation.

7. Loss of Grant

The Sports Council has terms and conditions in place for all grant awards. These terms and conditions outline what the grant recipient must adhere to and they also incorporate a clause which enables clawback of grant paid if terms and conditions of award are not met. In addition, the Sports Council has procedures manuals in place which outline the detailed processes which a grant award must go through before monies are released. Procedures are annually reviewed by internal audit to ensure the Sports Council is adhering to them and any recommendations to further enhance controls/procedures are incorporated.

8. Additionality Principle

This term refers to the policy that Lottery funding should be additional to and clearly distinct from public expenditure and provision. The Sports Council ensures the additionality principle is implemented via its NLDF Policy, budget setting process and through a challenge fund process for all grant programmes which reviews such areas as financial viability, partnership funding etc.

9. Assurance on Information Risks

Sports Council is fully committed to protecting the privacy of all individuals including staff, contractors, service users and others, by ensuring lawful use of their personal information. A Data Protection Policy was approved by Council in June 2009. The purpose of this policy is to set out how Sports Council will ensure that it complies with the provisions of the Data Protection Act 1998. The policy has been implemented throughout the organisation.

Review of Effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. My review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the Internal Auditors and the Senior Managers within the Sports Council who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework, and comments made by the External Auditors in their Report to those charged with Governance and other reports. I have been advised on the implications of the result of my review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control by the Sports Council, the Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

The Sports Council and DCAL reviews the Sports Council Management Statement with the aim to ensure it complies with DFP guidance, best practice and to ensure it remains robust.

The Sports Council continues to review its programmes and procedures in order to ensure that it meets appropriate standards, best practice and continues to work towards efficiencies. This will continue in 2011/12 via reviewing policies and procedures, training programmes and reassessing contractual agreements.

Sports Council obtains assurances on its system of internal control through its Audit Committee. The Audit Committee met on 5 occasions during the year and received progress reports from both the Sports Council's external auditor on the financial statements and its internal auditor regarding work completed to date. The Audit Committee reported back to the Sports Council following each of its meetings.

Sports Council's internal auditor provided a satisfactory level of assurance for Sports Council for the year 2010/11, and a similar level of assurance for the Sports Institute Northern Ireland.

Sports Council has a risk register in place that is reviewed regularly by the Senior Management team. It is also reviewed by the Audit Committee and presented to the Council.

Throughout the year I obtained assurance on risk management and control procedures from Senior Managers, based on information and reports produced by them. Quarterly Assurance Statements are sent to DCAL, these documents provide updates on current issues which myself and Senior Managers are addressing. I am satisfied that systems of internal control were adequate in 2010/11.

The Sports Council has a procedure in place to ensure that all losses are appropriately handled and reported to DCAL. During the year 2010/11 the following losses occurred:

	Residual Amount £	Comments
Theft of Staff Bicycle Purchased Through Cycle Scheme	300	Staff member will continue with repayments.
Theft of Kayak	0	Asset purchased in 2004 and was due to be written off at the end of 2009.
Sports Institute - Theft of Laptop/Blackberry	908	Both devices were password protected and the laptop encrypted. The Laptop and blackberry were later recovered and upon inspection found not to have been accessed.

Important Issues Which May Impact on Controls

1. Special Payment

A) Judicial Review

In August 2009, the High Court ruled that Sports Council acted unlawfully due to the fact that it did not consider a reduced level of award as an appropriate sanction to the late submission of an application by a grant recipient under the Elite Facilities programme. Sports Council was required to meet 75% of the legal costs of the other party.

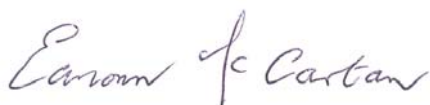
As a result of the ruling, Sports Council has a potential liability of £92,000 relating to the legal costs of the other party. Sports Council made an interim payment of £43,997.15 for these third party costs to ensure interest accruing would be minimised. Sports Council awaits further clarification as to what other costs may be classified as eligible before making any further payments. In January 2011, Sports Council sought approval from DCAL for the interim payment and any future payments relating to the judicial review liability.

B) Small Claims Court

In 2009/10 a small claims action for £1,552.60 was taken against Sports Council relating to a debt incurred by Coaching Northern Ireland Ltd. Sports Council received permission from DCAL to settle the claim at £1,300 in April 2010.

2. Grants

During the year seven grant awards required investigation. All issues have been resolved and where necessary Sports Council has taken actions to ensure recommendations have been addressed and controls enhanced.



Eamonn McCartan
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
Sports Council for Northern Ireland

Date: 6 December 2011

The Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Northern Ireland Assembly

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Sports Council for Northern Ireland for the year ended 31 March 2011 under the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986. These comprise the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Cash Flows, the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity and the related notes. These financial statements have been prepared under the accounting policies set out within them. I have also audited the information in the Remuneration Report that is described in that report as having been audited.

Respective responsibilities of the Council, Accounting Officer and auditor

As explained more fully in the Statement of the Council's and Accounting Officer's Responsibilities, the Accounting Officer is responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view. My responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986. I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

Scope of the audit of the financial statements

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Sports Council for Northern Ireland's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Sports Council for Northern Ireland; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my certificate.

In addition, I am required to obtain evidence sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the expenditure and income reported in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by the Assembly and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Opinion on Regularity

In my opinion, in all material respects the expenditure and income have been applied to the purposes intended by the Assembly and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Opinion on financial statements

In my opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the Sports Council for Northern Ireland's affairs as at 31 March 2011 and of its net expenditure, cash flows and changes in taxpayers' equity for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements have been properly prepared in accordance the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on other matters

In my opinion:

- the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure directions issued by the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986; and
- the information given in Chairman's Foreword, Chief Executive's Statement, Background Information and Management Commentary for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

Matters on which I report by exception

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept; or
- the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited are not in agreement with the accounting records; or
- I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
- the Statement on Internal Control does not reflect compliance with Department of Finance and Personnel's guidance.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.



*KJ Donnelly
Comptroller and Auditor General
Northern Ireland Audit Office
106 University Street
Belfast
BT7 1EU*

14 December 2011

**Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure
for the year ended 31 March 2011**

	Note	2011 SCNI £	2011 SINI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Expenditure					Restated	Restated
Staff Costs	3a	4,283,770	485,632	4,769,402	3,971,026	4,436,779
Depreciation and Amortisation	10	406,774	66,378	473,152	235,095	282,553
Release of Revaluation Reserve		-	-	-	(56,560)	(56,560)
Grants	4	18,285,230	-	18,285,230	20,520,143	20,520,143
Other Operating Costs	4	3,173,675	320,117	3,493,792	2,834,515	3,075,277
Notional Costs	5	20,000	-	20,000	18,500	18,500
Total Expenditure		26,169,449	872,127	27,041,576	27,522,719	28,276,692
Income						
Grant from Other Activities	6	211,910	931,127	1,143,037	-	756,973
Other Income	7	2,718,765	3,000	2,721,765	1,017,048	1,017,048
Total Income		2,930,675	934,127	3,864,802	1,017,048	1,774,021
Net Expenditure		(23,238,774)	62,000	(23,176,774)	(26,505,671)	(26,502,671)
Interest Receivable	8	1,589	-	1,589	5,281	5,281
Net Expenditure After Interest		(23,237,185)	62,000	(23,175,185)	(26,500,390)	(26,497,390)
Corporation Tax	9	(334)	-	(334)	(966)	(966)
Net Expenditure After Tax		(23,237,519)	62,000	(23,175,519)	(26,501,356)	(26,498,356)
Notional Costs	5	20,000	-	20,000	18,500	18,500
Net Expenditure After Notional Costs		(23,217,519)	62,000	(23,155,519)	(26,482,856)	(26,479,856)
Other Comprehensive Expenditure						
Net Gain on Revaluation of Property, Plant and Equipment		226,108	-	226,108	-	-
Actuarial Gain/(Loss)	3b	3,328,000	320,500	3,648,500	(4,204,000)	(4,455,000)
Total Comprehensive Expenditure for the year ended 31 March 2011		(19,663,411)	382,500	(19,280,911)	(30,686,856)	(30,934,856)

All amounts above relate to continuing activities.

The notes on pages 46 to 66 form part of these accounts.

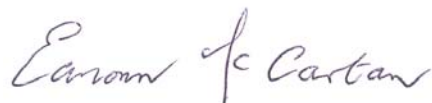
Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2011

	Note	2011 SCNI £	2011 SINI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Non-Current Assets						
Property, plant and equipment	10a	6,230,192	169,350	6,399,542	5,702,222	5,880,477
Intangible assets	10b	248,451	13,788	262,239	268,050	282,738
Total non-current assets		6,478,643	183,138	6,661,781	5,970,272	6,163,215
Current Assets						
Inventories	11	59	-	59	13	13
Trade and other receivables	12	663,518	14,829	678,347	436,486	450,101
Cash and cash equivalents	13	930,153	96,398	1,026,551	629,389	719,544
Total current assets		1,593,730	111,227	1,704,957	1,065,888	1,169,658
Total assets		8,072,373	294,365	8,366,738	7,036,160	7,332,873
Current Liabilities						
Trade and other payables	14	(1,250,287)	(294,365)	(1,544,652)	(1,703,868)	(2,000,581)
Grant Commitments	14	(4,571,167)	-	(4,571,167)	(3,873,284)	(3,873,284)
Total current liabilities		(5,821,454)	(294,365)	(6,115,819)	(5,577,152)	(5,873,865)
Net current liabilities		(4,227,724)	(183,138)	(4,410,862)	(4,511,264)	(4,704,207)
Non-current assets less net current liabilities		2,250,919	-	2,250,919	1,459,008	1,459,008
Non-current asset/(liabilities)						
Provisions - Pension Liability	15	(1,567,000)	41,500	(1,525,500)	(6,299,000)	(6,640,000)
Assets less liabilities		683,919	41,500	725,419	(4,839,992)	(5,180,992)

Statement of Financial Position (continued)
as at 31 March 2011

	Note	2011 SCNI	2011 SINI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
		£	£	£	£	£
Taxpayers' equity						
Deferred Capital	16	5,045,654	-	5,045,654	4,470,260	4,470,260
Reserves						
General Reserve	16	(3,084,015)	-	(3,084,015)	(3,090,688)	(3,090,688)
Pension Reserve	16	(1,567,000)	41,500	(1,525,500)	(6,299,000)	(6,640,000)
Revaluation Reserve	16	289,280	-	289,280	79,436	79,436
Total Reserves		683,919	41,500	725,419	(4,839,992)	(5,180,992)

The financial statements on pages 41 to 66 were approved by the Board on 6 December 2011 and were signed on its behalf by:



Eamonn McCartan
Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
Sports Council for Northern Ireland

Date: 6 December 2011

The notes on pages 46 to 66 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 March 2011

	2011 SCNI £	2011 SINI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Cash Flow From Operating Activities	(23,238,774)	62,000	(23,176,774)	(26,426,301)	(26,415,706)
Depreciation and Amortisation	406,774	66,378	473,152	235,095	282,553
Permanent Diminution	16,012	-	16,012	-	-
Release of Reserve	(211,910)	-	(211,910)	(56,560)	(56,560)
Profit on Disposal of Assets	-	-	-	13,565	14,837
Notional Cost of Capital	20,000	-	20,000	(60,870)	(68,465)
Decrease/(Increase) in Inventories	(46)	-	(46)	(3)	(3)
Decrease/(Increase) in Trade and Other Receivables	(227,032)	(1,214)	(228,246)	1,449,094	1,577,541
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade Payables	244,302	(2,348)	241,954	3,886,690	3,863,648
Increase/(Decrease) in Pension Fund Payable	(1,404,000)	(62,000)	(1,466,000)	18,000	15,000
Net Financing From Operating Activities	(24,394,674)	62,816	(24,331,858)	(20,941,290)	(20,787,155)
Cash Flows From Investing Activities					
Interest Received	1,589	-	1,589	5,281	5,281
Tax Paid	(334)	-	(334)	(966)	(966)
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(657,533)	(50,873)	(708,406)	(4,253,556)	(4,332,305)
Purchase of intangible assets	(48,284)	(5,700)	(53,984)	-	(12,017)
Net Financing From Investing Activities	(704,562)	(56,573)	(761,135)	(4,249,241)	(4,340,007)
Cash Flows From Financing Activities					
Grants from DCAL	25,400,000	-	25,400,000	25,377,000	25,377,000
Net Financing	25,400,000	-	25,400,000	25,377,000	25,377,000
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents in the Year	300,764	6,243	307,007	186,469	249,838
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Year	629,389	90,155	719,544	442,920	469,706
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Year	930,153	96,398	1,026,551	629,389	719,544

The notes on pages 46 to 66 form part of these accounts.

Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity for the year ended 31 March 2011

	Deferred Capital Reserve £	General Reserve £	Pension Reserve £	Revaluation Reserve £	Total Reserves £	Group Reserves £
Taxpayers' Equity at 31 March 2009 under UK GAAP	967,800	1,364,863	(2,077,000)	53,501	309,164	216,164
Adjustments for: IAS 38 Intangible Assets	-	(4,574)	-	-	(4,574)	(4,574)
Balance at 31 March 2009	967,800	1,360,289	(2,077,000)	53,501	304,590	211,590
Changes in Equity for 2009-10						
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	-	-	-	79,436	79,436	79,436
Release of Revaluation Reserve	-	-	-	(53,501)	(53,501)	(53,501)
Unrealised Gain	-	139,339	-	-	139,339	139,339
Actuarial Loss	-	-	(4,204,000)	-	(4,204,000)	(4,455,000)
Retained Deficit	-	(26,464,856)	(18,000)	-	(26,482,856)	(26,479,856)
Total recognised income and expense 2009-10	-	(26,325,517)	(4,222,000)	25,935	(30,521,582)	(30,769,582)
Grant Income						
Grant from DCAL	3,502,460	21,874,540	-	-	25,377,000	25,377,000
Total Grant Income	3,502,460	21,874,540	-	-	25,377,000	25,377,000
Balance at 31 March 2010	4,470,260	(3,090,688)	(6,299,000)	79,436	(4,839,992)	(5,180,992)
Changes in Equity for 2010-11						
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	-	-	-	226,108	226,108	226,108
Release of Reserve	(211,910)	-	-	(16,264)	(228,174)	(228,174)
Unrealised Gain	-	15,496	-	-	15,496	15,496
Actuarial Gain	-	-	3,328,000	-	3,328,000	3,648,500
Retained Deficit	-	(24,621,519)	1,404,000	-	(23,217,519)	(23,155,519)
Total recognised income and expense 2010-11	(211,910)	(24,606,023)	4,732,000	209,844	(19,876,089)	(19,493,589)
Grant Income						
Grant from DCAL	787,304	24,612,696	-	-	25,400,000	25,400,000
Total Grant Income	787,304	24,612,696	-	-	25,400,000	25,400,000
Balance at 31 March 2011	5,045,654	(3,084,015)	(1,567,000)	289,280	683,919	725,419

Notes to the Accounts

For the year ended 31 March 2011

1. Statement of Accounting Policies

1.1 Basis of Accounting and Consolidation

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 2010-2011 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by HM Treasury. The accounting policies contained in the FReM apply International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) as adapted or interpreted for the public sector context.

Where FReM permits a choice of accounting policy, the accounting policy which is judged to be most appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Sports Council, for the purpose of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The particular policies adopted by the Sport Council are described below. They have been applied consistently in dealing with items considered material in relation to the accounts.

The financial statements include the results of the following body up to the 31 March:

- Joint Venture – the Sports Institute Northern Ireland is an entity in which Sports Council holds a long term interest and which is jointly controlled by the Sports Council and the University of Ulster under a contractual agreement. It is a registered company limited by guarantee. The results of this joint venture are accounted for using the gross equity method of accounting.

1.2 Basis of preparation

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention modified to account for the revaluation of property, plant and equipment. Without limiting the information given, the financial statements meet the accounting and disclosure requirements of the Companies Act 2006, Accounting Standards Board and disclosure requirements issued by the Department of Finance and Personnel in so far as those requirements are appropriate.

1.3 Income

Grant-in-aid from DCAL used to finance activities and expenditure which support the statutory and other objectives of the entity are treated as financing, and credited to the General Reserve, because they are regarded as contributions from a controlling party.

Capital grant-in-aid from DCAL for the redevelopment of Tollymore National Outdoor Centre is transferred to a deferred government grant account. This will be released to the net expenditure account over the expected useful life of the asset.

Other income sources are accounted for on a receivable basis and matched to the expenditure that it finances. This income is taken to the net expenditure account for the year to which it relates.

Fees or charges for services provided by the Council are determined in accordance with the Treasury's "Fees and Charges Guide".

A service level agreement operates between Sports Council Exchequer and Sports Council Lottery Distribution Fund. This comprises of recharges for administrative costs and salaries incurred by Sports Council from which the Lottery Fund has benefited directly.

1.4 Capital and Revenue Grants Payable

Grants awarded to organisations and individuals are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure in the year to which they relate. Any amounts of unpaid grant at 31 March are included as liabilities in the Statement of Financial Position.

1.5 Research and Development

Research and Development costs are written off as incurred and not carried forward as an asset.

1.6 Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets

The Sports Council for Northern Ireland applied a capitalisation limit of £1,000 to individual items. Items below the £1,000 threshold were charged directly to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure.

1.7 Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciation/amortisation has been provided using the straight line method so as to write off each asset over its estimated useful life. Depreciation/amortisation is charged from the month acquired/coming into use, to the month in which it is disposed.

Assets are depreciated over their useful lives as follows: -	2011	2010
Buildings	10-25 Years	5 Years
Computer Equipment	2-10 Years	4-10 Years
Furniture and Fittings	2-20 Years	2-25 Years
Specialist Sports Equipment	7-10 Years	7 Years
Motor Vehicles	4-10 Years	4-5 Years
Intangible Assets – Computer Equipment	2-10 Years	2-10 Years

1.8 Impairment of Asset

An impairment review is carried out annually, any loss in value which exceeds the credit in the revaluation reserve is then charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure.

1.9 Revaluation of Asset

Non-current assets included in the Statement of Financial Position are annually reviewed to ensure that they are stated at fair value. This is carried out through applying indices. Increases in valuations are credited to the Revaluation Reserve. Downward movements are accounted through the revaluation reserve to the extent that there is a credit in that reserve that relates to the revalued asset.

The Tollymore National Outdoor Centre was valued by Land and Property Services at 31 March 2011 and will have a further formal valuation undertaken in 5 years, supplemented by annual indexation.

1.10 Operating leases

Rentals payable under operating leases are written off in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure in the year. The amount charged in the year and amount of the payments to which the entity is committed is disclosed in note 4 to the accounts.

1.11 Notional Costs

The auditor's notional remuneration is included as a notional cost. Full details of these costs are given in note 5.

1.12 Pension Costs

The Sports Council staff belong to the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee Scheme (NILGOSC).

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries using the market led approach. The latest actuarial valuations of the scheme were at 31 March 2011.

Pension scheme assets are measured using the market value. Pension scheme liabilities are measured using the projected unit method and discounted at the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term to the liability.

The increase in the present value of the liabilities of the Sports Council's defined benefit scheme arising from employee service in the period is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure. The expected return on the scheme's assets and the increase during the year in the present value of the scheme's liabilities arising from the passage of time are included in other finance costs. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised in the Statement Changes in Taxpayers' Equity.

1.13 Value Added Tax

The Sports Council is registered for VAT. Sports Council does not reclaim VAT on purchases.

1.14 Trade Receivables

Trade receivables mainly arise from regular users of services at House of Sport and Tollymore National Outdoor Centre. Bad debt provision is assessed annually.

1.15 Trade Payables

Trade payables are recognised on the following basis:

- As at close of business 31 March - goods and/or services actually received, put into inventories or used.
- The purchase ledger period twelve is closed off at the year end to facilitate the timely completion of the quarterly vat return. Invoices received after period twelve is closed off are accrued at Gross cost i.e. inclusive of all VAT.
- Purchase orders are not included as trade payables.

1.16 Inventories

Inventory is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Inventory of stationery is not included in the Statement of Financial Position since it is incidental and deemed not to be material to the accounts.

1.17 Change in Accounting Policy – Cost of Capital Charge

In the prior year the financial statements included a notional charge reflecting the costs of capital utilised by Sports Council. In accordance with the 2010-11 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) the financial statements of Sports Council no longer include this notional charge. This represents a change in accounting policy and the comparative figures have been restated accordingly.

As the cost of capital charge is a notional cost debited to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure and subsequently credited to the same, there has been no impact to either the net surplus or reserves of prior years.

2. Segmental Reporting

In line with IFRS 8, Sports Council does not have any segmental data to disclose. The Members of the Sports Council review the financial performance on a bi-monthly basis, based on similar information contained with the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure of the financial statements.

3 (a). Staff Costs

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Wages and Salaries	3,423,669	3,820,616	3,169,170	3,567,129
Social Security Costs	248,775	277,306	213,224	239,018
Pension Costs	559,238	619,392	486,573	520,573
Agency Costs	52,088	52,088	84,059	84,059
Net Cost in Respect of Defined Benefit Pension Scheme	-	-	18,000	26,000
	4,283,770	4,769,402	3,971,026	4,436,779

All the staff costs were incurred by the Sports Council and a proportion recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account. The average number of full-time equivalent persons employed by the Sports Council group was 141 (2009/10: 132 employees). The average number of temporary staff employed during the year was 2 (2009/10: 3).

3 (b). Pension Scheme

The Sports Council participates in the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee Scheme (the NILGOSC scheme). The NILGOSC scheme is part of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) and is a multi-employer, defined benefit scheme. The fund is invested in suitable investments, managed by the Committee. For 2010/11 the contribution rates were 17% employers and ranging between 5.5% and 7.5% employees (2009/10: 16% employers and ranging between 5.5% and 7.5% employees).

In order to assess the value of the Employer's liabilities in the Fund as at 31 March 2011, the actuary rolled forward the value of the Employer's liabilities calculated as at the latest formal funding valuation, allowing for the different financial assumptions required under IAS 19

The financial assumptions used by the actuary were:

Assumptions	31 March 2011	31 March 2010
	% p.a. Nominal	% p.a. Nominal
Pension Increase Rate (CPI)	2.8%	3.8%
Salary Increase Rate	5.1%	5.3%
Expected Return on Assets	6.9%	7.2%
Discount Rate	5.5%	5.5%

The average future life expectancies at age 65 are:

	Males	Females
Current Pensioners	22.9 Years	25.7 Years
Future Pensioners	24.9 Years	27.7 Years

The return on the Fund in market value terms for the year to 31 March 2011 is estimated based on actual Fund returns as provided by the Administering Authority and index returns where necessary. Details are given below:

Actual Return for Period from 1 April 2010 to 31 December 2010	8.4%
Estimated Return for Period from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2011	9.8%

The actuary used a number of financial assumptions during the year, which resulted in the following amounts shown in the Statement of Financial Position:

Assets (Employer)	31 March 2011			31 March 2010			31 March 2009		
	Long Term Return % p.a.	SCNI Assets £(000)	Group Assets £(000)	Long Term Return % p.a.	SCNI Assets £(000)	Group Assets £(000)	SCNI Assets £(000)	SCNI Assets £(000)	Group Assets £(000)
Equities	7.5%	8,686	9,064	7.8%	6,909	7,385	7.0%	4,330	4,632
Bonds	4.9%	1,579	1,648	5.0%	1,256	1,342	5.4%	830	888
Property	5.5%	677	706	5.8%	538	575	4.9%	415	444
Cash	4.6%	338	353	4.8%	269	288	4.0%	356	381
Total		11,280	11,771	7.2%	8,972	9,590	6.5%	5,931	6,345

Amount Shown in Statement of Financial Position	31 March 2011 £(000)		31 March 2010 £(000)		31 March 2009 £(000)		31 March 2008 £(000)		31 March 2007 £(000)	
	SCNI Assets	Group Assets	SCNI Assets	Group Assets	SCNI Assets	Group Assets	SCNI Assets	Group Assets	SCNI Assets	Group Assets
Fair Value of Assets	11,280	11,771	8,972	9,590	5,931	6,345	7,344	7,829	7,162	7,620
Present Value of Defined Benefit Obligation	(12,847)	(13,297)	(15,271)	(16,230)	(8,008)	(8,515)	(8,138)	(8,626)	(8,848)	(9,400)
Deficit	(1,567)	(1,526)	(6,299)	(6,640)	(2,077)	(2,170)	(794)	(797)	(1,686)	(1,780)
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Assets	1,149	897	2,161	2,315	(2,321)	(2,478)	(537)	(583)	(80)	378
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Liabilities	777	1,281	-	-	-	-	(326)	(326)	1	553
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) on Assets	1,149	897	2,161	2,315	(2,321)	(2,478)	(537)	(583)	(80)	378
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) on Obligation	2,179	2,751	(6,365)	(6,770)	959	1,023	1,576	1,720	(1,275)	(1,733)
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) Recognised in Statement in Changes in Taxpayers' Equity	3,328	3,648	(4,204)	(4,455)	(1,362)	(1,455)	1,039	1,137	(1,355)	(1,355)

The valuation revealed that the Net Pension Asset as at 31 March 2011 is a liability of £1,525,500 (2009/10: £6,640,000). As Sports Council has a constructive obligation to fund any deficit allocated to its share of the Fund the full amount of the deficit has been recognised. All assets, liabilities and operating costs relating to the pension scheme are processed through the Sports Council Exchequer Accounts. A recharge is made to the Sports Council Lottery Distribution Accounts for any pension costs incurred on behalf of the Lottery. However, under FRS 17 it has not been possible to identify the Sports Council Lottery Distribution Funds share of the scheme.

The following are notes from the actuaries report at the 31 March 2011:

Amount Charged to Net Expenditure Account	31 March 2011 £(000)		31 March 2010 £(000)	
	SCNI	GROUP	SCNI	GROUP
Service Cost	570	628	224	248
Past Service (Gain)/Cost	(1,589)	(1,655)	91	100
Total Operating Charge (A)	(1,019)	(1,027)	315	348

Amount Credited to Other Finance Income	31 March 2011 £(000)		31 March 2010 £(000)	
	SCNI	SCNI	SCNI	GROUP
Expected Return on Employer Assets	(663)	(710)	(401)	(428)
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	787	839	564	600
Net Return (B)	124	129	163	172
Net Revenue Account Cost (A)-(B)	(895)	(898)	478	520

Analysis of Amount Recognised in Comprehensive Expenditure in Net Expenditure Account	31 March 2011 £(000)		31 March 2010 £(000)	
	SCNI	GROUP	SCNI	GROUP
Actuarial Gain/(Loss) Recognised in SOCTE	3,328	3,648	(4,204)	(4,455)
Cumulative Actuarial Gains and (Losses)	(2,365)	(2,293)	(5,693)	(4,701)

Movement in Deficit During the Year	31 March 2011 £(000)		31 March 2010 £(000)	
	SCNI	GROUP	SCNI	GROUP
Deficit at Beginning of the Year	(6,299)	(6,640)	(2,077)	(2,170)
Current Service Cost	(570)	(628)	(224)	(249)
Employer Contributions	509	568	460	505
Past Service Costs	1,589	1,655	(91)	(100)
Net Return on Assets	(124)	(129)	(163)	(171)
Actuarial Gains/(Losses)	3,328	3,648	(4,204)	(4,455)
Deficit at End of Year	(1,567)	(1,526)	(6,299)	(6,640)

History of Experience Gains and Losses	31 March 2011 £(000)		31 March 2010 £(000)	
	SCNI	GROUP	SCNI	GROUP
Difference Between the Expected and Actual Return on Assets	1,149	897	2,161	2,315
Value of Assets	11,280	11,771	8,972	9,590
Percentage of Assets	10.2%	7.6%	24.1%	24.1%
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Liabilities	777	1,281	-	-
Total Present Value of Liabilities	(12,847)	(13,296)	(15,271)	(16,230)
Percentage of the Total Present Value of Liabilities	6.0%	9.6%	N/A	N/A
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) on Plan Assets	1,149	897	2,161	2,315
Actuarial Gains/(Losses) on Obligation	2,179	2,751	(6,365)	(6,770)
Total Amount Recognised in Net Expenditure Account	3,328	3,648	(4,204)	(4,455)
Total Present Value of Liabilities	(12,847)	(13,296)	(15,271)	(16,230)
Percentage of the Total Present Value of Liabilities	25.9%	27.4%	27.5%	27.4%

4. Operating Costs

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Travel & Subsistence	156,663	175,252	151,852	163,711
Recruitment	1,573	3,377	7,257	9,159
Training	70,551	91,012	73,500	86,284
Publications, Printing & Stationery and IT Consumables	144,403	147,434	114,799	117,042
Telephones & Postage	100,346	115,458	97,574	111,671
Professional Fees/Consultancy Fees	281,391	289,031	625,676	640,963
Repairs & Renewals	738,695	766,307	449,062	467,011
Permanent Diminution	16,012	16,012	-	-
(Profit)/Loss on Disposal of Fixed Asset	-	-	15,091	16,363
Quality Initiatives	665	665	2,076	2,076
Insurance	49,240	69,176	59,211	78,604
Rent & Rates	173,649	324,917	156,680	284,340
Heat & Light	71,718	71,718	53,996	53,996
Caretaking & Cleaning	28,907	30,786	34,185	34,185
Sundry Expenses	3,182	3,182	4,320	4,320
Bad Debts	-	-	100	5,103
Committees, Receptions & Publicity	686,763	738,903	550,281	561,423
Promotions & Sponsorships	143,485	143,485	71,750	71,750
Information Services, Journals & Subscriptions	279,292	279,292	178,054	178,054
Sports Development	215,374	215,374	182,863	182,863
Coaches	2,560	2,560	3,698	3,698
Fees and Bank Charges	9,206	9,851	2,490	2,661
Total Other Operating Costs	3,173,675	3,493,792	2,834,515	3,075,277
Total Grants	18,285,230	18,285,230	20,520,143	20,520,143
Total Costs	21,458,905	21,779,022	23,354,658	23,595,420

Rent charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure is based on a non-commercial arrangement with DCAL.

The deficit in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure is after charging:

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Depreciation of owned assets:	406,774	473,152	235,095	282,553
Hire of land:	2,250	2,250	2,250	2,250
Hire of other assets:	768	768	564	564

5. Notional Costs

In line with Department of Finance and Personnel advice, the cost of capital charge has been removed from the accounts on the grounds that it will result in improved consistency of financial reporting. As the cost of capital charge is a notional cost debited to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure and subsequently credited to the same, there has been no impact to either the net deficit or reserves for prior years. The adjustment to the notional cost in 2009/10 both debit/credit was as follows:

	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£
Notional Cost of Capital	(79,370)	(86,965)

Auditors remuneration remains a notional charge disclosed in the financial statements.

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI Restated	2010 GROUP Restated
	£	£	£	£
Notional Auditors Remuneration	20,000	20,000	18,500	18,500
Total Notional Costs	20,000	20,000	18,500	18,500

6. Grant from Other Activities

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Deferred Government Grant Released	211,910	211,910		
Grant – Other Sources	-	931,127	-	756,973
Total Other Grants	211,910	1,143,037	-	756,973

7. Other Income

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Sports Development	112,552	112,552	95,527	95,527
Tollymore National Outdoor Centre	269,469	269,469	181,896	181,896
Services to Partners	169,365	169,365	145,422	145,422
Service to Lottery Activities	763,379	763,379	594,203	594,203
Finance Income Defined Benefit Pension Scheme	1,404,000	1,407,000	-	-
Total Other Income	2,718,765	2,721,765	1,017,048	1,017,048

8. Interest Receivable

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Bank Interest Received	1,589	1,589	5,281	5,281

9. Corporation Tax

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Corporation Tax Current Year	334	334	966	966

10 (a). Property, Plant and Equipment

	Assets Under Construction	Buildings	Specialist Sports Equipment	Furniture and Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Total SCNI	Total GROUP
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2010 Restated	4,961,884	-	127,459	155,677	94,929	723,147	6,063,096	6,313,665
Additions	-	340,190	39,826	54,529	3,438	219,550	657,533	708,406
Revaluation	-	220,484	2,111	2,315	(9,510)	17,486	232,886	232,886
Transfers	(4,961,884)	5,005,274	-	(43,390)	-	-	-	-
At 31 March 2011	-	5,565,948	169,396	169,131	88,857	960,183	6,953,515	7,254,957
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2010 Restated	-	-	51,871	38,929	36,733	233,341	360,874	433,188
Charge for the Year	-	220,797	12,284	13,412	15,924	95,844	358,261	418,039
Revaluation	-	-	604	1,019	(2,062)	4,627	4,188	4,188
At 31 March 2011	-	220,797	64,759	53,360	50,595	333,812	723,323	855,415
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2011	-	5,345,151	104,637	115,771	38,262	626,371	6,230,192	6,399,542
At 31 March 2010	4,961,884	-	75,588	116,748	58,196	489,806	5,702,222	5,880,477

2009/10

	Assets Under Construction	Buildings	Specialist Sports Equipment	Furniture and Fittings	Motor Vehicles	Computer Equipment	Total SCNI	Total GROUP
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April 2009 Restated	1,034,670	447,065	130,263	87,627	82,917	567,459	2,350,001	2,523,327
Additions	3,927,214	-	2,500	83,715	-	149,065	4,162,494	4,241,243
Revaluation	-	-	4,014	(905)	12,012	42,590	57,711	57,711
Transfers	-	-	-	(6,021)	-	6,021	-	-
Disposals	-	(447,065)	(9,318)	(8,739)	-	(41,988)	(507,110)	(508,616)
At 31 March 2010	<u>4,961,884</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,459</u>	<u>155,677</u>	<u>94,929</u>	<u>723,147</u>	<u>6,063,096</u>	<u>6,313,665</u>
Depreciation								
At 1 April 2009 Restated	-	374,115	53,256	46,011	32,360	252,581	758,323	786,815
Charge for the Year	-	72,950	11,533	7,675	17,297	72,051	181,506	225,562
Revaluation	-	-	(10,844)	(1,047)	(12,924)	(60,284)	(85,099)	(85,099)
Transfers	-	-	-	(4,971)	-	4,971	-	-
Disposals	-	(447,065)	(2,074)	(8,739)	-	(35,978)	(493,856)	(494,091)
At 31 March 2010	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>51,871</u>	<u>38,929</u>	<u>36,733</u>	<u>233,341</u>	<u>360,874</u>	<u>433,188</u>
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2010	<u>4,961,884</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75,588</u>	<u>116,748</u>	<u>58,196</u>	<u>489,806</u>	<u>5,702,222</u>	<u>5,880,477</u>
At 31 March 2009	<u>1,034,670</u>	<u>72,950</u>	<u>77,007</u>	<u>41,616</u>	<u>50,557</u>	<u>314,878</u>	<u>1,591,678</u>	<u>1,736,512</u>

The net book value of buildings and assets under construction comprises:

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Short Leasehold	5,345,151	5,345,151	4,961,884	4,961,884

Buildings refer to the Tollymore National Outdoor Centre, which were valued by the Land and Property Services on 31 March 2011 at depreciated replacement cost of £5,478,048 (excluding the Mountain Bike Track of £87,900). The Centre will be professionally valued again in five years.

The leases entered into in respect of the land at Tollymore National Outdoor Centre and Altnadue Quarry have been expensed to the Net Expenditure Account (see Note 17).

10 (b). Intangible Assets

	SCNI Computer Equipment £	Total GROUP £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2010 Restated	586,095	607,884
Additions	48,284	53,984
Revaluation	(23,723)	(23,723)
At 31 March 2011	610,656	638,145
Amoritsation		
At 1 April 2010 Restated	318,045	325,146
Charge for the Year	48,513	55,113
Revaluation	(4,353)	(4,353)
At 31 March 2011	362,205	375,906
Net Book Value		
At 31 March 2011	248,451	262,239
At 31 March 2010	268,050	282,738

2009/10

	SCNI Computer Equipment £	Total GROUP £
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April 2009 Restated	534,438	544,210
Additions	91,061	103,078
Revaluation	52,034	52,034
Disposals	(91,438)	(91,438)
At 31 March 2010	<u>586,095</u>	<u>607,884</u>
Amoritsation		
At 1 April 2009 Restated	382,574	386,273
Charge for the Year	53,589	56,991
Revalutaion	(26,993)	(26,993)
Disposals	(91,125)	(91,125)
At 31 March 2010	<u>318,045</u>	<u>325,146</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31 March 2010	<u>268,050</u>	<u>282,738</u>
At 31 March 2009	<u>151,864</u>	<u>157,937</u>

11. Inventory of Luncheon Vouchers

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Balance 1 April	13	13	10	10
Receipts	14,145	14,145	14,431	14,431
Issued to Staff	(14,099)	(14,099)	(14,428)	(14,428)
Balance 31 March	<u>59</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>13</u>

12. Trade and Other Receivables**12 (a). Analysis by Type**

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Trade Receivables	142,095	144,551	72,774	81,251
Other Receivables	199,634	212,007	118,038	123,176
Amount Owed by Lottery	308,072	308,072	139,406	139,406
Grant Claw back	13,717	13,717	106,268	106,268
Total	<u>663,518</u>	<u>678,347</u>	<u>436,486</u>	<u>450,101</u>

12 (b). Intra Government Balances

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Balances with central government	142,095	142,095	(5,156)	(5,156)
Balances with local authorities	199,634	199,634	30,177	30,177
Balances with other government organisations	13,717	14,277	172,183	180,622
Balances with bodies external to government	308,072	322,341	239,282	244,458
	<u>663,518</u>	<u>678,347</u>	<u>436,486</u>	<u>450,101</u>

13. Cash and Cash Equivalents**Cash at Bank and in Hand**

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Bank	929,812	1,026,210	629,190	719,345
Petty Cash	341	341	199	199
Total Cash at Bank and in Hand	<u>930,153</u>	<u>1,026,551</u>	<u>629,389</u>	<u>719,544</u>

Petty Cash Movement

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Petty Cash – 1 April	199	199	400	400
Petty Cash – 31 March	341	341	199	199
Net Movement in Petty Cash	<u>142</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>(201)</u>	<u>(201)</u>

Cash at Bank Movement

	2011 SCNI	2011 GROUP	2010 SCNI	2010 GROUP
	£	£	£	£
Balance at 1 April	629,190	719,345	442,520	469,306
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalent Balances	300,622	306,865	186,670	250,039
Balance at 31 March	<u>929,812</u>	<u>1,026,210</u>	<u>629,190</u>	<u>719,345</u>

The cash and cash equivalents balances are denominated in Sterling. For the purposes of the Statement of Cash Flows, cash and cash equivalents comprise of the following balance at the 31 March:

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Commercial Banks and Cash in Hand	930,153	1,026,551	629,389	719,544

14. Trade and Other Payables

14 (a). Analysis by Type

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Trade Payables	4,349	93,055	-	75,055
VAT	27,537	27,537	7,988	7,988
Other Tax and Social Security	334	334	1,109	1,109
Other Payables	1,218,067	1,423,726	1,694,771	1,916,429
Total Trade and Other Payables	1,250,287	1,544,652	1,703,868	2,000,581
Grant Commitments	4,571,167	4,571,167	3,873,284	3,873,284
Total Current Liabilities	5,821,454	6,115,819	5,577,152	5,873,865

14 (b). Intra Government Balances

	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Balances with central government	37,941	37,941	9,097	9,097
Balances with local authorities	344,685	344,685	106,714	106,714
Balances with other government organisations	674,153	867,283	137,561	337,489
Balances with bodies external to government	4,764,675	4,865,910	5,323,780	5,420,565
	5,821,454	6,115,819	5,577,152	5,873,865

15. Non-Current Liabilities

	Note	2011 SCNI £	2011 GROUP £	2010 SCNI £	2010 GROUP £
Pension Liability	3b	1,567,000	1,525,000	6,299,000	6,640,000

16. Explanation of Reserves***Deferred Capital***

This is the capital grant ring fenced for expenditure on the redevelopment of Tollymore National Outdoor Centre. This balance is amortised in line with the depreciation of the asset.

General Reserve

This is the balance of recurrent grants provided by DCAL through grant in aid, net of expenditure in year funded by DCAL.

Pension Reserve

This is the balance required by the Sports Council to met the current pension deficit on its share of the NILGOSC pension scheme.

Revaluation Reserve

This is the balance arising on the revaluation of property, plant and equipment and intangible assets.

17. Commitments Under Leases

At 31 March the Sports Council had annual commitments under operating leases as set out below:

	2011		2010	
	Land & Buildings £	Other £	Land & Buildings £	Other £
Operating Leases which Expire:				
Within One Year	-	576	-	-
Within Two and Five Years Inclusive	-	-	-	768
Over Five Years	2,250	-	2,250	-
Total	2,250	576	2,250	768

The land which Tollymore National Outdoor Centre resides on is subject to rent reviews every five years.

The House of Sport rental agreement with the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure is leased on a rolling agreement, cancellable with 6 months prior notice. There are no specific rent reviews contained within the lease. A general review of rental values for government properties was undertaken in 2008, which increased the rent from £36,000 to £90,000.

18. Commitments

The Sports Council has made a number of awards to grant recipients for future years. These awards are for the following value:

- Stadia Safety Programme - £483,149;
- Building Sport Programme - £545,537;
- Elite Facilities programme - £11,621,000;
- Sports Matters - £73,584;
- Countryside Access - £125,000;
- Disability Sports - £179,740; and
- Investing in Performance Sport Programme - £7,121,869.

Amounts contracted but not provided in the financial statements total £NIL (2009/10: £NIL).

19. Contingent liabilities

1. Judicial review

As a result of the ruling by the judge on the late submission of an application under the Elite Facilities Programme, Sports Council has a potential liability of £77,000 relating to the legal costs of the other party. In October 2010, Sports Council made an interim payment of £43,997 for these third party costs and awaits further clarification as to what other costs may be classified as eligible before making any further payments.

2. Joint Venture Company (SINI)

The SINI has a contingent liability to repay grants received should certain conditions under which they were awarded cease to be fulfilled.

20. Related Party Transactions

Several members of the Sports Council and key management staff are involved in sports organisations in Northern Ireland either directly or indirectly as a result of a family relationship, a close friendship or business relationship. They do not take part in discussions and decisions to make grant awards to those organisations with which they have a declared interest.

A list of awards made to the organisations concerned together with details of those who declared an interest is detailed below. All the transactions relating to these organisations were conducted at arms length by the Sports Council.

The following transactions are considered to be disclosable Related Party Transactions in respect of Council Members and Senior Staff.

Organisation/Individual	Commitments £	Individual	Relationship
Academy Cricket Club	30,000	Barry McCaulay	Subscribing Member – Current
Adventure Activities industry	26,500	Mike McClure	Honorary Member - Current
Athlete Investment Programme Sports Costs and Living Costs Awards (Athletes)	938,729	Sports Institute Northern Ireland	Athletes funded by Sport Northern Ireland and also receive services at the Sports Institute.
Athletics Northern Ireland	21,900	Jill Poots Brian McCargo	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member – Former
Ballygalget GAC	29,970	Louise Clarke Siobhan Watson	Player – Former Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current Playing Member – Current Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
Ballymena BC	12,940	Ronnie McBride	Council Director
Belfast Rowing Club	29,885	Paul Cummings	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
Boys Brigade, Belfast Battalion	10,760	Cllr Jim Rodgers	Honorary Vice President
CAAN	162,627	Olive Brown	Non Executive Director - Former
Campa Chromic	8,556	Catherine Martin	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
Canoe Association of Northern Ireland	74,000	Trevor Fisher Robin Gregg Oisin Hallissey Nick Harkness Mike McClure Stephen Millar	Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member – Current
Castle Tower Parents and Friends	27,010	Ronnie McBride	Person Connected - Employee
Cavehill Bowling and Lawn Tennis Club	14,040	Paul Cummings	Shareholding Member - Current
Disability Sports NI – Debbe Steel – Athlete Investment Programme – Sports Costs	9,000	Heidi-Beth Hudson	Member of Knights WBC
Disability Sports NI – Matthew Rollston – Athlete Investment Programme – Sports Costs	15,000	Heidi-Beth Hudson	Member of Knights WBC

Sports Council for Northern Ireland Exchequer Account 2010-11

Organisation/Individual	Commitments £	Individual	Relationship
Disability Sports NI – Paul McKillop – Athlete Investment Programme – Sports Costs	9,000	Heidi-Beth Hudson	Member of Knights WBC
Down District Council	1,000	David Smyth	Former Employee
Dungannon Thomas Clarke	47,111	Catherine Martin	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
East Down Yacht Club	28,331	Trevor Fisher	Member of the sailing committee
Glentoran Football Club	59,350	Cllr Jim Rodgers	Shareholder
Golfing Union of Ireland	14,000	Nick Harkness	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
		Jill Poots	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
Instonians RFC	30,000	Richard McCormick	Member of Coaching Staff
Irish Ladies Golf Union NI Region	18,400	Jill Poots	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
Irish Table Tennis Association (UB)	26,315	Alan Strong	Former Coach
Leander Amateur Swimming Club	7,709	Brian McCargo	Subscribing Member - Former
Malone Rugby Club	8,105	Gillian Gilliland	Person Connected – Subscribing Member - Current
Malone Rugby Club	8,105	Olive Brown	Person Connected – Life Member – Current
Marie Curie Cancer Care NI	19,662	Turlough Gorman	Advisory Board Member
Na Lui – Living Costs	4,733	Alan Strong	Former Coach
Netball NI	49,000	Noleen Lennon Diarmaid McAuley	Subscribing Member – Current Wife – Business Modernisation Manager
Newtownstewart Golf Club	8,490	Philip Faithful	Subscribing Member – Current
NI Archery Society – Mark Nesbitt – Athlete Investment Programme	8,000	Paul Cummings	Performance Manager
NI Tenpin Bowling Federation	25,818	John D’arcy	Honorary Member – Former Present
Niall McVeigh – Athlete Investment Programme – Sports Costs	4,850	Leslie Dewart	Coach
Queen’s University Belfast RFC	18,590	Chris Moore	Coach
Royal National Institute for the Blind	8214	Barry McCauley	Employee
Royal Yachting Association	46,107	Jill Poots	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
St Patricks FC	2,625	Joe Donnelly	Player – Former
St Patricks Young Men/Girls FC	4,250	Joe Donnelly	Player – Former
UB Irish Rugby FC	65,678	Brian McCargo Dominic Walsh	Subscribing Member – Current Non Executive Director – Former
Ulster Council - GAA	40,381	Catherine Martin	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current
Ulster Hockey Union	12,068	Jill Poots David Smyth	Person Connected – Subscribing Member – Current Subscribing Member - Current
University of Ulster –	5,336	Paul Cummings	Person Connected – Subscribing

Organisation/Individual	Commitments £	Individual	Relationship
Archery Club			Member – Current

Other related parties include:

The Sports Council is a Non-Departmental Public Body sponsored by DCAL. DCAL is regarded as a related party.

During the year the Sports Council has had various transactions with the Department and with other entities for which DCAL is regarded as the parent Department. None of the Council Members, key managerial staff or other related parties has undertaken any material transactions with the Sports Council during the year.

The Sports Council for Northern Ireland owns 50% of the Sports Institute Northern Ireland via a joint venture with the University of Ulster. The Sports Institute Northern Ireland and University of Ulster are both regarded as related parties. Sports Council for Northern Ireland Council Members who currently reside as Directors on the Board of Sports Institute Northern Ireland are as follows:

- Olive Brown;
- Danny O'Connor; and
- Patrick Turnbull.

Sports Council for Northern Ireland employs the following staff who hold positions at the Sports Institute Northern Ireland:

- Shaun Ogle (Executive Director); and
- Ian Weir (Business Manager).

In addition a number of staff within Sports Council carry out functions on behalf of the Sports Institute. These include:

- Leigh Brown (Internal Auditor);
- Turlough Gorman (Human Resources Manager);
- Kristine Telford (Human Resources Assistant); and
- Nicola McClean (Human Resources Assistant).

A percentage of these employees time is recharged to the Sports Institute Northern Ireland through a service level agreement.

The Sports Council operates a Lottery Distribution Account in which awards are distributed. A number of recharges are made to the Lottery Distribution Account.

As a matter of policy and procedure, the Sports Council maintains a publicly available register of interests where Council Members and staff declare any direct interest in grant applications made to Sports Council or any commercial relationships of the Sports Council. In addition, Exchequer grants were paid during the year to a number of organisations in which Council Members declared an interest. Having declared an interest Council Members are required to leave the meeting while the relevant application is discussed and a decision is made.

21. Losses and Special Payments

Bad debts were written off during the year of Nil (2009/10: £100). A bad debt provision of £851 (2009/10: £851) has been made in the accounts for Coaching NI.

During the year there were losses to the value of £1,208 as detailed in the statement on internal control (2009/10: £1,300).

Sports Council has accrued £47,120 in the financial year 2010/11 (2009/10: £91,277), to cover a proportion of the other parties costs associated with the Judicial Review case. This is classified as a special payment.

The SINI had no bad debts written off during the year (2009/10: £10,005), and no cash losses.

22. Derivatives and other Financial Instruments

IAS 39 requires disclosure of the role which financial instruments have had during the period in creating or changing the risks the Sports Council faces in undertaking its role.

The Sports Council does not use financial instruments to manage financial risks associated with its underlying business activities and the financing of those activities. Nor does it undertake any trading activity in financial instruments.

23. Events After the Reporting Period

No events occurred between the date of the Statement of Financial Position and the date on which these financial statements were authorised for issue that require disclosure under International Accounting Standard 10.

The Annual Report and Accounts were authorised by the Accounting Officer to be issued on the date they were certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General.

24. Sports Institute Northern Ireland

The Sports Institute Northern Ireland is a 50%/50% joint venture between Sports Council and the University of Ulster. The company is limited by guarantee and the liability of the members is limited to £1 per member.

The core purpose of the Sports Institute Northern Ireland is ‘to create an environment that nurtures and leads High Performance athletes and coaches through the provision of facilities, services and expertise.’

The Sports Institute Northern Ireland’s accounting year end is the same as Sports Council and there are no material differences in accounting policies. The Sports Institute Northern Ireland obtains a majority of its funding via a Sports Council Lottery grant. At the year end 31 March 2011 there was a surplus of £124,000 for the year (before actuarial losses), and net assets of £83,000.

ANNEX A

ACCOUNTS DIRECTION

SPORTS COUNCIL FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

ACCOUNTS DIRECTION GIVEN BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE ARTS AND LEISURE WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND PERSONNEL

The annual accounts shall give a true and fair view of the income and expenditure and cash flows for the financial year, and the state of affairs as at the year-end. Subject to this requirement the Sports Council for Northern Ireland shall prepare accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2006 and subsequent financial years in accordance with:

- a. Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM);
- b. other guidance which the Department of Finance and Personnel may issue from time to time in respect of accounts which are required to give a true and fair view;
- c. any other specific disclosures required by the Department;

except where agreed otherwise with the Department of Finance and Personnel, in which case the exception shall be described in the notes to the accounts.

Signed by authority of the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure

PAUL SWEENEY
Permanent Secretary

19 May 2006



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