

## **SPORT NORTHERN IRELAND**

### **MINUTES**

### **CONFIDENTIAL**

#### **Second Meeting 2011**

Held on Tuesday 5 April in the House of Sport, Malone Road,  
Belfast BT9 5LA.

### **PRESENT**

In the Chair:	D Walsh
Members:	O Brown U Duncan B Macaulay A Moneypenny B McCargo D O'Connor J Rodgers A Strong P Turnbull (by conference call for item 7.1)
Chief Executive:	E McCartan
Staff in Attendance:	N Harkness S Ogle A Sloan R McCormick P Donnelly J Poots (for part) E Bailey

#### 1 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr M Cowan and Mr J D'Arcy.

#### 2 **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman asked everyone individually if they had any interest to declare.  
No-one declared an interest.

#### 3 **CHAIRMAN'S BUSINESS**

3.1 The Chairman welcomed Members and said that Mr P Turnbull would join the meeting by conference call [REDACTED]

3.2 The Chairman reported that following the Council meeting in February he had contacted the Permanent Secretary and raised issues and concerns that Council Members had expressed with regards to the potential reputational risk to Sport Northern Ireland (SNI) arising from media reports of withdrawal of funding for the provision of elite facilities.

The Permanent Secretary assured the Chairman that there had been no intention to criticise SNI and that the Minister had set the record straight in an interview with local media. The Permanent Secretary reaffirmed her Department's full confidence in SNI.

The Chairman informed Members that he, on behalf of Council, was assured by the Permanent Secretary's comments and he would relay her comments to Members.

#### 4 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the First Meeting of 2011 held on 1 February, having been previously circulated, were approved and signed.

#### 5 **MATTERS ARISING**

5.1 Members requested continued information on upcoming NI Assembly questions as it had been most useful. Members heard that this service had been provided externally when budgets permitted and was now being provided internally.

5.2 Members asked what progress was being made with the Olympic Leadership Committee chaired by the Minister. The Chairman had raised this matter with the Minister and his Special Advisor and noted that the Election issues had become a priority.

#### 6 **CORRESPONDENCE**

##### 6.1 Lucy Gault

Members noted letter received 18 March 2011 thanking SNI for the opportunity to have a week's work experience which she had thoroughly enjoyed.

##### 6.2 Northern Ireland Milk Cup

Members noted letter dated 11 March 2011 which, on behalf of the Organising Committee, placed on record their deep gratitude for all the assistance SNI has given to the Milk Cup. It asked that the partnership may continue in 2011 and the years ahead.

##### 6.3 Minister for Sport and the Olympics

Members noted letter dated 21 March 2011 from Hugh Robertson MP expressing best wishes to all at SNI and referring to his interest in recent discussions at SINI. The Chairman reported that the Minister had been very complimentary to Dr O Brown and Dr S Ogle and he thanked everyone involved for the work they put into the visit.

##### 6.4 Lisburn City Council

Members noted letter dated 31 March 2011 from the Director of Leisure Services. It referred to the Elite Facilities Programme and expressed disappointment at funding no longer being made available. It sought SNI's assistance in bringing this priority to the attention of the new Minister for Sport following the NI Assembly Elections.

6.5 Royal Yachting Association Northern Ireland (RYANI)

Members noted letter dated 31 March 2011 from the Operations Co-ordinator referring to their Elite Facilities Bid and a recent useful meeting with SNI. It went on to set out the main concerns of RYANI.

7 **PARTICIPATION UNIT**

7.1 World Police and Fire Games Belfast 2013 (WPGF)

Members received Paper SNI/11/45 and noted progress on the establishment of a Company to take responsibility for the delivery of the World Police and Fire Games Belfast 2013 and the progress of the Sports work stream.

Members noted that the Chair of WPGF had now retired from PSNI and that an appointment to the position of Chair could not be made until after the elections.

Members heard of progress regarding the selection and recruitment of the Chief Executive post.

Members expressed serious concerns regarding the pace of the work of the WPGF Board especially since a number of personalities had retired and it was confirmed that this matter was on the risk register. Members asked the Chief Executive to raise these concerns in writing with DCAL.

The Chief Executive said there would be an update at the next Council meeting and the Chairman thanked Mr P Turnbull for his efforts in joining the meeting by conference call [REDACTED].

7.2 Participation Team Update

Members received an update on the work of the Participation Team (Paper SNI/11/46). Members noted that Mr J News would be taking part in the BBC NI Stephen Nolan programme concerning obesity later in the evening.

7.3 Delegated Decisions – Active Communities Project Review Report

Members received Paper SNI/11/47 and noted action taken in accordance with Council policy.

7.4 Developing a Strategic Action Plan for Outdoor Recreation in Northern Ireland for 2011-2021 – Terms of Reference

Members considered Paper SNI/11/48 which provided an update on the work to develop a strategic action plan and sought agreement on the leadership role of SNI for the development of the action plan.

After discussion Members agreed the recommendations.

7.5 Sport Matters: Community Capital Programme

Members considered Paper SNI/11/49 and noted the confirmed budgets in section 4.3.

Members considered the appendices and agreed the delegated authority levels

for Stage 2-4 awards for this Programme be approved as follows:

- Officer delegation for award increases where necessary up to 75%.
- Any increase of award of over 75% and up to 100% of the initial award amount would be delegated to the Chair of the Places Committee.
- Any award decision in relation to an increase of above 100% would be taken by the SNI Chair (under Chairman's powers), through the Chief Executive's office.

#### 7.6 Report of Delegated Decisions – Capital

Members received Paper SNI/11/50 and noted action taken in accordance with Council policy.

Members noted that the expenditure on snow tyres had been approved by Members following an explanatory e-mail.

#### 7.7 Implementation of the Safety at Sports Grounds (NI) Order 2006

Members received an update on the work of SNI (Paper SNI/11/51) and noted the work undertaken regarding the implementation of the Articles of the Safety of Sports Grounds (Northern Ireland) Order 2006 relating to certification. Members congratulated Mr Paul Scott and his team for their work in this area.

#### 7.8 Review of the Implementation of the Recommendations of the 2000 Taskforce Report on Safety at Motorcycle Road Racing Events.

Members received an update on the work of SNI regarding the review of the implementation of the recommendations of the 2000 Taskforce Report on Safety at Motorcycle Road Racing Events (Paper SNI/11/52).

#### 7.9 Presentation on Coaching Workforce Survey

Members received a power-point presentation on the Coaching Workforce Survey which had been carried out in the last eighteen months.

Members expressed their appreciation to Mr P Donnelly for his work in this area and also to Mr J Uprichard.

### 8 **PERFORMANCE UNIT**

#### 8.1 Investing in Performance Sport Programme (IIPSP)

Members received Paper SNI/11/54 and considered the investment options outlined in Appendix 1 for each of the 34 organisations funded through the IIPSP, subject to confirmation of the budget for the Programme.

Members noted the comments of the Performance Committee and approved the investment options outlined in Appendix 1.

## 8.2 Recognition of Sporting Activities and Governing Bodies operating in Northern Ireland

Members considered Paper SNI/11/55 and approved the recommendations to:

- approve Boccia as a sporting activity;
- [REDACTED]
- [REDACTED] and
- approve the British Aerobatic Association as the recognised governing body for the aerobatic flying discipline of air sports in the United Kingdom.

## 8.3 Request for Award Adjustment/Increase

Members considered Paper SNI/11/56 and approved an increase up to a maximum of £2,500 from £9,000 to £11,500 in the Athlete Support Programme sports costs award to the Ulster Branch Badminton Union of Ireland on behalf of selected badminton players.

## 8.4 Update on Coaching Development

Members received an update in relation to current developments in coaching (Paper SI/11/57) and congratulated staff on this work.

## 8.5 2010 Athlete Support Programme Targets

Members received an update and noted achievements of agreed performance targets (Paper SNI/11/58).

## 8.6 Performance Sport Team Update

Members received an update on work over the past two months and noted key events and developments (Paper SNI/11/59).

## 8.7 Delegated Decisions – Performance

Members received Paper SNI/11/60 and noted decisions taken in accordance with Council policy.

## 9 **CORPORATE SERVICES UNIT**

### 9.1 Management Accounts for the 11-month period to 28 February 2011

Members considered the Management Accounts for the 11-month period to 28 February 2011(Paper SNI/11/61) and approved their submission to the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure. The Director of Corporate Services advised Members that the Exchequer budget was balanced at the year end.

9.2 Delegated Decisions - Contracts

Members received Paper SNI/11/62 and noted decisions taken in accordance with Council policy.

9.3 Fees and Charges

Members considered and approved the charges for facilities and services at the House of Sport in respect of the financial year 2011-2012 (Paper SNI/11/63).

9.4 Exchequer Annual Report and Accounts for year ended 31 March 2009

Members noted the printed and published Reports and Accounts (Paper SNI/11/64).

9.5 Lottery Annual Accounts for year ended 31 March 2010

Members noted the Report on the Lottery Distribution Account for the year ended 31 March 2010 (Paper SNI/11/65).

9.6 Draft Corporate Plan 2011-15 and Business Plan Update 2011-12

Members considered and reviewed Paper SNI/11/66 and noted the progress on the development of the draft Corporate Plan 2011-15 and the draft Business Plan 2011-12.

9.7 Quarter 3 Business Plan Review

Members received Paper SNI/11/68 and noted the Business Plan Quarterly Review which highlighted progress against key performance indicators for the third quarter (October-December) of 2010/11.

9.8 Corporate Risk Register

Members received Paper SNI/11/69 and noted key corporate risks, their rating, agreed mitigation activities and progress against those activities.

Members noted that the Risk Register had been discussed at the Audit Committee meeting and that the World Police and Fire Games was now included.

9.9 Marketing

Members received an update (Paper SNI/11/70) which sought approval for the events being supported through the Event Support Programme and noted recent and upcoming activities in the Department.

Members noted and expressed their views regarding SNI branding of funded projects. Members directed the Chief Executive to write a note to the Permanent Secretary asking for a formal direction.

Members noted the recent decision taken by Cricket's governing authority regarding the exclusion of the Irish Cricket Team from future World Cup tournaments and agreed that a letter of support for their inclusion be prepared.

10 **COMMITTEE REPORTS - FOR ADOPTION**

10.1 Mountain Leader Training Northern Ireland

Members adopted the Minutes of the One Hundred and Second Meeting held on 6 September 2010.

10.2 Performance Committee

Members adopted the Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting held on 11 November 2010 and the Nineteenth Meeting held on 20 January 2011.

10.3 Northern Ireland Mountain, Cave & Cliff Rescue Co-ordinating Committee

Members adopted the Minutes of the Ninety Seventh Meeting held on 18 November 2010.

10.4 Participation Committee

Members adopted the Minutes of the meeting held on 12 January 2011.

10.5 Places Committee

Members adopted the Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting held on 18 January 2011.

10.6 Audit Committee

Members adopted the Minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2011

11 **COMMITTEE REPORTS – FOR INFORMATION**

There were no reports for information.

12 **PUBLICATIONS**

12.1 The following publications were tabled:

Manual - "On Board"

Leaflets - Sport In Our Community

13 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 7 June 2011.

14 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

14.1 Members heard that the Boccia World Championships had been secured for

Northern Ireland and that this was the first Pre-Games Training Camp.

- 14.2 Members received an update on progress with Pre-Games Training Camps.
- 14.3 The Chairman updated Members on his meeting with the Chilean Ambassador and forthcoming events in May.
- 14.4 The Chairman referred to the recent murder of Constable Ronan Kerr and Members agreed that a letter be written to his mother Nuala Kerr.
- 14.5 Members were reminder to submit their travel claims as soon as possible.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked Members for their attendance.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

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Upper Malone Road  
Belfast  
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