

**The Sports Council for Northern Ireland**  
**Annual Report and Accounts**  
**For the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009**

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*The Accounting Officer authorised these  
Financial statements for issue*

*on*

*4 February 2011*

*Laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly  
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*

*15 March 2011*

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## **Chairman's Foreword**

I am delighted to introduce the 2008-09 Sports Council for Northern Ireland 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 2008-09 but, on the upcoming challenges and opportunities we face in 2009-10.

This annual review is testament, not only to the progress achieved by Sports Council for Northern Ireland 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 Northern Ireland 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.

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 Northern Ireland 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.

Sports Council Northern Ireland's role in helping to secure the staging of local, national and international events in the UK has never been more evident than in 2008-09 with events such as the Between the Bridges Charity Run, the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier, the British and World Blind Golf Championships, and the World One Armed Golf Championships being held in Northern Ireland. Sporting events provide an excellent platform to inspire young people to participate in sport, for talented athletes to raise their game, and instill a feeling of possibility among individuals, teams and society. On a smaller scale, community events can excite and encourage people to adopt community spirit, giving people a focus.

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 Northern Ireland, whose commitment, dedication and considerable ability led to the achievement of our goals in 2008-09.

Finally, I would like to thank all involved in the ongoing delivery of sport in Northern Ireland – the volunteers, coaches, officials, administrators, athletes and participants – for their continued enthusiasm and dedication. Collectively we will continue to promote sport, encourage everyone to get involved and ensure that sport remains an integral part of life in Northern Ireland.



**Dominic Walsh**  
**Chairman**  
**Sports Council for Northern Ireland**

**Date: 1 February 2011**

## **Chief Executive's Statement**

Sports Council Northern Ireland has been working in partnership with the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) to develop a new ten-year Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation in Northern Ireland – 'Sport Matters'. I am motivated by this Strategy; it is an ambitious document which sets out the case for ongoing and increased investment in sport and physical recreation to deliver a range of sporting, education and health outcomes over the period 2009 -2019. Its vision of "a culture of lifelong enjoyment and success in sport" itself encapsulates what we are aiming to achieve; ensuring people have access to locally available sporting facilities, encouraging high quality participation in sport from childhood right through to adulthood, and enabling talented athletes to compete and win at the highest levels in their sports. There are three key elements to this Strategy:-

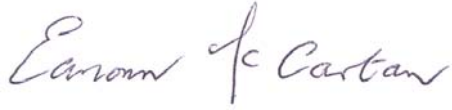
Firstly, Participation, one of the fundamental principles of Sports Council Northern Ireland is to increase participation in sport. And an important accelerant of participation will be the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. Therefore the "participation legacy" from the 2012 Games is of crucial importance. We must utilise the enthusiasm for sport that will grow in the build up to 2012, and convert it into long-term participation by both young people and adults beyond 2012.

The second key element of the strategy is performance sport. Northern Ireland has sporting talent that is equal to anywhere else in the world. Furthermore the people of Northern Ireland value success at international level and this is clearly evident in the pride we have in Jason Smyth, Michael McKillop, Paddy Barnes and Wendy Hovenaghel – our Olympic and Paralympics heroes. Watching the performance of our athletes in Beijing earlier this year was evidence of the true value of sport. For those of us with a day-to-day involvement in sport, occasions such as this drive home the truly unique importance and significance of sport. However, if we are to continue to succeed we need to put in place the right sporting systems. In short we must create an environment where our athletes can succeed. It is here that the Sports Institute Northern Ireland (SINI) will come into play, delivering, in partnership with Sports Council Northern Ireland, specific development programmes for athletes and coaches, building skills and cutting edge practice to enable the athletes and coaches to become world-class.

With the conclusion of Beijing, the spotlight has now moved on to the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. The bar continues to be raised, both in terms of the physical staging of the Games and the performance of the Northern Ireland athletes. London 2012 promises to be an incredible inspiration, not only to athletes, but to the coaches, officials and volunteers from Northern Ireland who will be involved when London hosts the greatest show on earth.

The third and final key element of the Strategy is Places. Undoubtedly fit for purpose facilities are integral for participants at all levels. Quality, accessible facilities are essential in encouraging people of all ages and abilities to take part in regular physical activity and sport. Sports Council Northern Ireland is committed to improving and creating new facilities which will help support increased participation and to develop sporting talent.

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

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Eamonn McCartan'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name 'Eamonn' and the last name 'McCartan' clearly distinguishable.

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

**Date: 1 February 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 income and expenditure, total recognised gains and losses 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 2008/09.

**Sports Council Membership**

Mr D Walsh (Chairman) - Appointed Chairman on 1 August 2008. Acting Chairman from 1 January 2008 to 31 July 2008.

Ms U Duncan  
Dr O Brown  
Mr A Moneypenny  
Mr M Cowan  
Mr B Macaulay  
Mr D O'Connor  
Ms M Muldoon  
Mr J D'Arcy  
Mr B McCargo  
Mr H McCaughey  
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 Moneypenny

**Places Committee Term**

Mr A Strong (Chairman)  
Mr B McCargo  
Mr H McCaughey  
Ms M Muldoon  
Mr M Cowan  
Mr P Turnbull

**Performance Committee**

Mr D O'Connor (Chairman)  
Mr A Strong  
Mr B Macaulay  
Mr P Turnbull  
Dr O Brown  
Mr H McCaughey

**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 have an internal auditor who reports to the Audit Committee on matters. 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 the three financial years up to and including 2010/11. 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 currently working towards implementing.

### **Sickness Absence Data**

The Sports Council had 3.39% or 578 days absence in 2008/09 (1.96% or 499 days: 2007/08). The reason for the change from 2008/09 is due to several people on long term absence.

### **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 received in accordance with the Confederation of British Industry's Prompt Payers Code. Bills are paid within 30 days of receipt of the goods or services, or presentation of a valid invoice or similar demand, whichever is later. Calculations are based on the date on the invoice.

During the year 99% (2007/08: 98%) of bills were paid within this standard. Regular reviews aim to improve this percentage.

In response to the current economic position, the Department of Business Enterprise and Regulatory Reform announced in October 2008 that:

*“central Government has committed to paying businesses within 10 days – and we’re urgently speaking to the wider public sector to extend this commitment.”*

Sports Council is currently looking at revising internal timescales for the processing and payment of invoices.

**Political and Charitable Donations**

The Sports Council made no political donations during the year. Charitable donations related to a number of old computer hardware items, which had been fully depreciated in the Sports Council fixed asset register.

**Implementation of International Financial Reporting Standards**

Sports Council is working towards the implementation of IFRS in 2009/10.

## **Annual Report - Management Commentary**

### **Financial Results**

The results of the Sports Council are set out in detail on page 51. The operating cost for the year was £23,046,857 (2007/08: £15,037,244). The reserves at the year end show a surplus of £216,164 (2007/08: deficit of £355,094).

### **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 Northern Ireland'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 Northern Ireland 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*

Sport in Our Community is a four year programme, investing £3.6m from the Sports Lottery Fund into 34 innovative and creative projects which aim to meet at least one of the three cross-cutting programme themes:

1. Development and improvement of physical literacy;
2. Development of opportunities for people with disabilities; and/or
3. Creation of sport or physical activity in areas of high social need for those who have not previously had a sustained interest in sport or physical activity.

A total of 386,914 participants were recorded in End of Year Reports submitted by the projects to 31 March 2009, representing an increase of 52% on figures reported at the end of the Year 2. Key highlights included: an increase of 15,352 women and girl participants representing 42% of the total participants; an increase of 26,588 young participants representing 37% on figures reported in Year 2, and an increase of 2,132 older participants representing 123% on figures reported in Year 2.

During Year 3, participation by disabled people increased by 49% to 1,897 individuals. Projects reported developing partnerships with a range of community and sporting organisations, and in particular with Disability Sports Northern Ireland (DSNI) to develop further the opportunities for people with a disability.

An increase of 590 participants from minority ethnic communities was reported, representing 90% on figures reported in Year 2. In addition specific programmes were delivered to target minority ethnic communities.

The number of individual health referrals to projects increased by 30% to 366 during the

reporting year. A number of projects reported programmes targeting public health, specifically obesity, with the aim of educating families of the benefits of physical activity and healthy lifestyles.

Three Physical Literacy Co-ordinators (based within the NEELB, SEELB and SELB) supported teachers through increasing their confidence and ability to deliver physical education to 6,405 young people in primary schools.

#### *1.1.2 Community Sport Programme*

This three year investment of £2.4m in 20 organisations was completed in June 2008. A programme Impact Review was published in December 2008 which highlighted the success of the programme in increasing participation in sport and physical recreation and specifically among under-represented groups. A total of 15,166 individuals participated during the final year – an increase of 26% on Year 1. Overall, female participation rose from 35% to 44% of total participants during the three years. Projects reported an increase of 24% in the number of participants from ethnic minority communities – including the Chinese, Indian and Irish Traveller community.

#### *1.1.3 Implementing Disability Mainstreaming Policy*

Sports Council Northern Ireland invested over £150K in DSNI to support the implementation of its policy. Over 1200 people participated in sport and physical activity events organised by DSNI, with 97% of these being disabled participants.

Disability Awareness Training was delivered to Sports Council Northern Ireland and SINI staff; 'Including People with Disabilities in your Club' was delivered for Swim Ulster (12 participants), Athletics NI (21 participants), and Basketball NI (10 participants).

Three exploratory meetings were held with representatives of the Royal National Institute of Blind People (RNIB) during the year to discuss a joint approach to improving the sports opportunities available to blind and partially sighted people. As a result an agreement has been reached that DSNI and RNIB will work jointly on the development of a 'Blind and Partially Sighted' specific programme in the early part of the new financial year. It is anticipated that this process will begin with the joint establishment of a blind sports steering/advisory group, whose remit will be to identify and agree a three-four year action plan for blind sport in Northern Ireland. RNIB has agreed that DSNI should lead on this issue and that the agreed approach be incorporated into DSNI's new Development Plan.

In addition, following discussions, the Ulster Deaf Sports Council have now prepared a draft Development Plan, which will form the basis of a future funding application concerned with the employment of a Sports Development Officer.

Seven community events involving 822 participants were successfully organised during the year. A 'Come and Try It' day for people with disabilities was organised at the Ozone Complex, Belfast, in partnership with Belfast Community Sports Development Network and RNIB. Attendees were given the opportunity to try out different sports including Badminton, Boccia, Football, Goalball, Hand Cycling, New Age Kurling, Tandem Cycling, Wheelchair Basketball and Wheelchair Tennis; 62 people attended throughout the day.

#### *1.1.4 Inclusive Community Coaches Programme*

Fifteen recruits from the sporting community across Northern Ireland have completed training as Inclusive Community Coaches. The training project established by DSNI, supported by Sports Council Northern Ireland and funded by Big Lottery, was set up to increase the number of organised participation opportunities available to people with disabilities in local communities throughout Northern Ireland. As a result of this innovative project, the sporting needs of people with a disability will be better addressed by ensuring that participation opportunities are provided in an inclusive environment – a sporting environment that focuses on enabling the participant rather than one which focuses on the individual's 'disability'.

The applicants covered 'Inclusive Games Training', 'Games for All Leadership', 'Disability Awareness', 'Coaching Sport Safely', 'Sports Injuries First Aid', and 'Child Protection'. The Inclusive Community Coaches now have the skills and knowledge required to run a range of inclusive sports, games and multi-skills sessions for children and adults with disabilities. During 2008-09 the coaches delivered 197 hours of coaching in various activities including Adapted Table Top Games, Boccia, Goalball, New Age Kurling, and Zone Hockey.

#### *1.1.5 Physical Literacy Research Project*

A number of essential phases at the early stages of a child's experience of physical activity provide the foundation of the Lifelong Involvement in Sport and Physical Activity (LISPA) model. These three phases - Active Start, Fundamentals, and Learning to Play and Practice - collectively provide opportunities for the development of physical literacy. A range of Sports Council Northern Ireland investment initiatives have therefore prioritised projects aimed at promoting the development of physical literacy.

The impact and effectiveness of these projects should be measurable so that Sports Council Northern Ireland has empirical evidence to demonstrate the value of public investment in this area of work in order to justify and attract further interest and investment in physical literacy. An authoritative and effective assessment method for physical literacy would permit the efficacy of such programmes to be measured and assist in Sports Council Northern Ireland fulfilling its advocacy role.

A Research Partnership Team consisting of the University of Ulster, Jordanstown and Stranmillis University College, Belfast, was therefore commissioned to review the impact of the effectiveness of structured physical literacy programmes and to develop an appropriate assessment tool of physical literacy. The research findings and recommendations will be used by Sports Council Northern Ireland to inform future policy within the area of physical literacy. Sports Council Northern Ireland also intends to make the research findings available to relevant agencies in Northern Ireland and beyond. It is anticipated that a range of key partners within the education system and coaching networks will be involved in the dissemination process.



#### *1.1.6 Active Communities*

Launched in October 2008, Active Communities is an investment programme that seeks to employ, deploy and train a network of full-time and part-time sports coaches and leaders to deliver activities throughout Northern Ireland, with a view of increasing participation in sport and physical recreation, especially among under-represented groups.

Over the next five years and with an estimated investment of £14.7 million, Active Communities will provide investment into 11 consortia of district councils based on Model 11b of the Review of Public Administration Consultation (March 2005). Working in partnership with the consortia, Sports Council Northern Ireland is currently playing an active role in the creation of implementation plans within each of the 11 consortium areas, and is supporting the development of effective partnerships between district councils and the other key stakeholders involved in supporting the development of sport in Northern Ireland.

Active Communities will support the creation of 100 full-time equivalent posts that will provide opportunities for 100,000 people to participate in sport and physical recreation.

#### *1.1.7 Awards for All*

During 2008-09, Sports Council Northern Ireland invested a total of £478,531 in 71 successful projects through Awards for All. Each of these projects have supported increased participation and/or improved performances in sport in Northern Ireland.

At both UK and Northern Ireland levels, the Awards for All Programme has also undergone a series of changes throughout the year. Building on the learning from the programme, the four lottery distributors involved in Awards for All in Northern Ireland will launch their own tailored small grant programmes in 2009.

Accordingly, Sports Council Northern Ireland will launch a new small grants programme that will support organisations and projects that can contribute towards the targets identified in the ten-year Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation in Northern Ireland - 'Sport Matters'.

#### *1.1.8 Countryside Recreation*

Sports Council Northern Ireland's investment in Countryside Access and Activities Network (CAAN) and the governing bodies for outdoor adventure sports has resulted in some remarkable successes in 2008-09.

Along with creating facilities and opportunities for outdoor recreation, CAAN is also tasked with carrying out research on behalf of their sponsoring departments. A significant piece of research this year was investigating the trends in outdoor recreation from 1995–2008. This covered 23 separate outdoor recreation sports and was directly comparable to a similar piece of work carried out in 1995.

In the ensuing 13 years the number of venues used by nearly all sports for outdoor recreation has increased by 340% and the participation level for these sports has increased by 152%. The research also highlighted that participation by under-represented groups including women, those with disabilities and those from ethnic minority groups was low.

Northern Ireland Orienteering was highlighted within the report as one of the governing bodies that has been working to create opportunities for disabled people through “Trail O” – which is a fully accessible orienteering course. Northern Ireland Orienteering has also had extensive links with schools as orienteering is a unique sport in that it links closely with the maths and geography curriculum areas. Over 960 children took part in schools’ orienteering competitions during the year.

Mountaineering Ireland has also had an extremely successful year with two new clubs established in Fermanagh and Millisle – based at climbing walls. A new schools programme based at the Ozone climbing wall has given 40 young people regular climbing opportunities and provided a direct link to the club at the Ozone. Mountaineering Ireland has also run a talent identification programme with input and support from Sports Council Northern Ireland, and has set up a new development structure for their junior squad as a result of this programme.

Although much of the Canoe Association’s emphasis is on increasing participation in the sport, in which it works closely with CAAN, they have had tremendous success throughout the year on the performance side. The surf squad continued its successes with excellent results at the British Open which was hosted at Portrush, and the squad is looking forward to the 2009 World Championships – where the juniors hope to retain their titles as 1st, 2nd and 3rd in the World!

## *1.2 Tollymore Mountain Centre*

Tollymore Mountain Centre (TMC), Sports Council Northern Ireland’s National Outdoor Training Centre, has continued to provide a wide range of introductory, skills and leadership training and assessment courses in mountaineering and canoesport; as well as a wide range of multi-activity and team development programmes for organisations.

In 2008-09, TMC provided 4986 student days on a range of courses, including 646 on leadership courses and 1243 on skills courses. TMC continues to influence and be involved in the development of a range of governing body qualifications in mountaineering and canoesport, and plays a key role in the development and introduction of UK Coaching Certificate canoesport qualifications and a Climbing Wall Award scheme.

With a significant budget of £5 million the Tollymore Mountain Centre’s exciting redevelopment of the centre is progressing; in 2008, Glasgiven Contracts were appointed as the construction team and work on the redevelopment of the centre commenced in February 2009.

The new centre, was officially opened in June 2010. This is a ‘state of the art’ national facility, with the ability to provide an extensive range of courses to a wider range of groups and individuals from throughout Northern Ireland.

To view the range of courses available and keep up-to-date with the new build log onto [www.tollymore.com](http://www.tollymore.com).

## 2.0 *Facilities*

### 2.1 *Building Sport*

‘Building Sport’, a capital programme from Sports Council Northern Ireland’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 Northern Ireland’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 Northern Ireland investment...

- Moyola Park Association Football Club was awarded a grant of £1.55m by Sports Council Northern Ireland towards the development of a new playing pitch and associated facilities at Mill Meadow, Bridge Street, Castledawson.

In deciding to embark on this ambitious project Moyola Park AFC had the twofold aim of providing an appropriate setting for the growing number of young people wishing to become involved with the club through mini soccer, youth football and ladies’ football and a facility which would enable the male adult senior team to play at the highest level of intermediate football.

As well as a full size FIFA 2\* 3rd generation artificial turf playing pitch the development will include dugouts, pitch and ground perimeter fencing, car parking, a 200 seat covered accommodation stand and a pavilion with four team changing rooms, two officials’ changing areas, an indoor multi sport area, a committee room and toilet facilities for spectators.

## 2.2 *Places for Sport*

The Sports Council Northern Ireland 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 Northern Ireland investment:

- A purpose built facility, the Coleraine Equestrian Arena at Castleroe, has been many years in the planning and, at last, the first step of the building programme has been taken.

Sports Council Northern Ireland are providing £1.2 million, plus funding for a Sports Development Officer for development of Disability Sports in the area. It is strongly believed the project will develop into a ‘Centre of Excellence’ which will facilitate the development of sporting opportunities for people with disabilities through the whole North Coast area.

The new complex will house an equestrian arena, clubroom, offices, stables, storage and function rooms, and the site will be further developed to include extra stables and barns, a riding/driving track through the ‘forest’, and the development of a ‘wildlife and wetlands’ sanctuary on the site.

## 2.3 *Stadia Safety*

The Stadia Safety Programme aims to assist the ‘owners’ of major soccer, rugby and GAA grounds, on a strategic basis, to ensure the safety and comfort of spectators attending fixtures played at their venues.

The strategic objectives of the programme are to:

- Improve health and safety compliance with existing and proposed legislation;
- Increase spectator numbers and to increase the number of under-represented groups attending matches;
- Improve the comfort of spectator accommodation within venues; and
- Improve co-operation between owners of venues and both the Police and Statutory agencies.

During 2008-09 Sports Council Northern Ireland worked with a number of applicants at various stages in the programme. During the year three main projects were completed:

- Armagh GAA - this project significantly improved the current safety arrangements at the venue with the safe capacity of the venue now 15,600 (1,800 seated and 13,800 standing). This work included upgrading the west, north and south terraces and building part of the east stand. Following completion, Armagh GAA County Board is now able to hold their games at the Athletic Grounds for the first time since 2002. A further programme of works has been identified which will further increase the capacity of the venue to approximately 18,200.
- Portadown FC - this project significantly improved the current safety arrangements at the venue with the safe capacity of the venue now 3,940 (2,740 seated and 1,200 standing). The project involved the construction of a new stand, with the following facilities:
  - Seating for 1,800;
  - Crowd Control Room;
  - A designated family enclosure;
  - 3 viewing platforms for 20 disabled persons, with access;
  - 2 sets of male, female and disabled toilets;
  - Steward's Room;
  - First Aid Room; and
  - Two automated turnstiles.

Future development, which the club anticipate happening in the next 5-10 years, will see the replacement of the main grandstand with a 2,300 seated stand which will result in the venue achieving the aims of the IFA Facilities Strategy (5,000 seated capacity).

- Cliftonville FC - Sports Council Northern Ireland funded work which significantly improved the safety arrangements at the venue and increased the overall safe capacity of the venue to 2,530 (all seated) which is an increase of 1,234.

The project included the construction of a new stand, with the following facilities:

- Seating for 1,650;
- Toilets (male, female and disabled);
- Access ramp and viewing platform for 20 disabled persons;
- A designated family bay;
- Stewards Room;
- First Aid Room; and
- Exit gate.

The project also provided:

- A toilet block at the visitors stand;
- A Crowd Control Room, with CCTV and PA system;
- Four automated turnstiles at the visitors entrance; and
- Clear and concise signage.

Future development for the venue include the provision of changing facilities and the demolition of the grandstand, a covered touch line stand with 650 seats will replace the grandstand. The capacity of the venue will be 3,000 which in turn will meet (Union of European Football Associations) UEFA requirements. Subject to planning, the club envisages completion within five years.

## *2.4 Facilities*

### *2.4.1 Safe Sports Grounds*

The Safety of Sports Grounds (NI) Order 2006 was enacted in February 2006, however, a significant number of Articles were not implemented at that time particularly those relating to the certification of grounds with a capacity of over 5,000 and the certification of stands with a capacity exceeding 500 at smaller venues.

In January 2009, DCAL advised the Culture, Arts and Leisure committee that the certification processes would be completed by the end of December 2009. Sports Council Northern Ireland was asked to draft criteria for assessing the potential capacity of venues and stands, and these were submitted to and agreed by DCAL in February 2009. Having engaged with the district councils and governing bodies of Gaelic sport, rugby and soccer, 77 venues were identified as having a potential capacity of 5,000 or more. Visits of these venues were carried out by staff of the Facilities Unit between February and April 2009, and the capacities assessed against the agreed criteria. Sixty of these venues were assessed of having a capacity exceeding 5,000 and DCAL were notified accordingly.

Following discussions between DCAL, Sports Council Northern Ireland and the governing bodies, 32 venues were identified as having potential to hold significant fixtures and these were forwarded for designation.

DCAL have prepared regulations to be placed before the Assembly for the designation of these venues. The remaining venues will be considered for designation at a later date. It is anticipated that the statutory process for the regulations will be completed in October of this year and the venues will be designated by 31 December 2009. It is anticipated that it will take district councils between two and six months to issue safety certificates. The certificates will state the safe capacity of the respective venues and include a number of terms and conditions to ensure the safety of spectators attending fixtures.

In the interim period Sports Council Northern Ireland has prepared guidance documentation on the behalf of DCAL that will be issued to the district councils. Sports Council Northern Ireland has also prepared training seminar presentations that will be delivered to the district councils, the Police Service Northern Ireland, the Fire and Rescue Service, the Northern Ireland Ambulance Service, governing bodies, and clubs during September, October and November 2009.

The Facilities Unit is also working on templates for safety certificates, appeals, application forms, etc. and these will be forwarded to DCAL.

A consultation process has commenced regarding Public Order legislation to complement the safety legislation.

#### *2.4.2 Active Places/Facilities Database Update*

The Facilities Unit continued to establish and promote positive working relationships with the current 26 District Councils and the five Education and Library Boards. A number of key representatives from each of these organisations assisted Sports Council Northern Ireland with our biennial audit of sports facilities. Thanks to their input, the Facilities Database/Active Places NI now has over 6000 individual sports facilities recorded throughout Northern Ireland. These resources, along with our Geographic Information System have established Sports Council Northern Ireland as a key consultee in the facility planning process. Currently Sports Council Northern Ireland receives large numbers of weekly requests for facility planning support from both internal and external partners.

To view logon to [www.sportni.net/activeplaces](http://www.sportni.net/activeplaces).

#### *2.4.3 Active Places Research Report 2009 - Bridging the Gap*

The Active Places Research Report 2009 - Bridging the Gap was launched; this report presents the findings of Sports Council Northern Ireland's facilities research, and outlines the challenges ahead in addressing the shortfall in key sports facilities in Northern Ireland. It's the first report of its kind in Northern Ireland and it provides an opportunity for all sports facility providers to address the shortfall in a manner that meets the needs of the local population. This report can be downloaded from [www.sportni.net](http://www.sportni.net).

#### *2.4.4 Pre Games Training Camps*

Sports Council Northern Ireland was represented in the technical group for the Pre Games Training Camps and DCAL sit on the overall committee. 26 local venues are accredited for the Olympics, with three hubs for the Paralympics.

Sports Council Northern Ireland worked with venue operators to populate and update the Northern Ireland section of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (LOCOG) website, and related documentation was circulated to International Olympic Committee members.

Sports Council Northern Ireland was represented on a working group that involved DCAL, the Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB), Chief Cultural and Leisure Officers Association (CLOA) and others to promote the Northern Ireland accredited venues and to help DCAL achieve their objective in attracting 10 teams pre to 2012. Sports Council Northern Ireland are also working with the governing bodies and other influential figures and contacts built up over the years to utilise their personal contacts in attracting teams to Northern Ireland.

Sports Council Northern Ireland representatives, along with our partner organisations, have been attending major sporting events to promote Northern Ireland at home and abroad, and to network with decision makers. Sports Council Northern Ireland, CLOA and DCAL were part of the LOCOG delegation to Beijing for the official launch of the LOCOG website and publicity documentation, and made presentations to representatives of the National Olympic Committees in attendance. Sports Council Northern Ireland Chief Executive Eamonn McCartan also represented Sports Council Northern Ireland by presenting to the National Paralympics Committees in August 2008. Sports Council Northern Ireland developed publicity documents with NITB and DCAL in electronic and written format.

Northern Ireland is disadvantaged for geographical reasons and there are added cost implications. There are a number of significantly better facilities elsewhere in the UK. Other European countries that are close to London are offering attractive financial packages to encourage teams to use their facilities.

The bigger countries require the finest facilities and are making arrangements to use the best facilities and those closest in proximity to London. Smaller countries will make their decision as to where to be situated in the final months before the 2012 Olympics. These are the countries that Sports Council Northern Ireland needs to foster relationships with in the imminent future.

Further information can be obtained from [www.raiseyourgame2012.net](http://www.raiseyourgame2012.net).

#### *2.4.5 Department of Education*

For a number of years Sports Council Northern Ireland has attempted to influence the Department of Education's (DENI) 'Building Handbook' which offers design guidance for all new or refurbished school build projects. This document is dated and the guidance in relation to sports facilities does not compliment the standards recommended by the governing bodies.

In the past year the Facilities Team have made significant progress with DENI, and are pleased to be working with the Department as a key partner in sports facility development. In March 2009, following a number of communications between Sports Council Northern Ireland and DENI, the Department of Education requested design guidance from Sports Council Northern Ireland and are considering making appropriate amendments to the 'Building Handbook'.

In addition, Sports Council Northern Ireland has also discussed the concept of 'community use' and will continue to work with DENI in order to promote and maximise the positive impact that school sports facilities can have on local communities in Northern Ireland.

#### *2.5 Elite Facilities Programme*

The proposed 50m swimming pool project will form part of a new leisure centre at Valentine Playing Fields in Bangor. The project costs are estimated to be £41.2m, of which £23.9m relates to the eligible elements of the 50m swimming pool. The applicant organisation has requested £15m and is presently satisfying Elite Facilities Programme Stage Three requirements and working 'at risk' to meet Stage Four requirements.



The 50m swimming pool provides for:

- The optimum technical requirements of Swim Ulster Ltd. and Swim Ireland;
- Operational plans that provide for the optimum operational requirements of Swim Ulster Ltd.;
- A partnership philosophy with Swim Ulster Ltd, SINI, Sports Council Northern Ireland, local clubs, education sector, community agencies and representative bodies to facilitate increased participation, improve performance standards and facilitate high profile international events;
- A detailed sports development plan that provides for targeting marketing and outreach to under-represented, socially excluded/TSN, inactive groups and an involved approach to the development of not only swimming, but the increase in participation and performance standards of the other aquatic disciplines against the principles of the Long Term Athlete Development Model;
- Plans to host a significant number of events per year and development of an Aquatics Events Strategy with key partners; and
- A Performance Development Centre and a partnership with the SINI.

### *3.0 Performance Sport*

Sports Council Northern Ireland 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 Northern Ireland's Performance Sport Team works to bring about an environment that will enable athletes to improve athletic performance.

### *3.1 Beijing 2008 Olympic and Paralympic Games*

The Beijing Games were a huge sporting success, particularly for Northern Ireland athletes, which will leave a lasting, positive legacy. Beijing delivered wonderful elite sport, superb organisation, stunning venues and spectacular ceremonies. They were truly a unique opportunity to show young people that dreams, ambitions and aspirations can be achieved with passion and hard work. You only need to look at success stories such as Jason Smyth who has brought home two gold medals and set new world records, and Michael McKillop who brought home a gold medal at this year's Paralympic Games, to see what can be achieved with determination and support. The athletes' dedication has shown that anything is possible.

## 3.1.1 Olympic Games Results

ATHLETE	SPORT	ACHIEVEMENT
Richard Archibald	Rowing	4 <sup>th</sup> Semi-Finals - Lightweight Fours
Paddy Barnes	Boxing	Bronze Medal – Light Flyweight
Andrew Bree	Swimming	New Irish Record - 11 <sup>th</sup> overall, 2:10.16 200m Breaststroke
Alan Campbell	Rowing	5 <sup>th</sup> Final - Single Scull
Richard Chambers	Rowing	5 <sup>th</sup> Final - Lightweight Fours
Emma Davis	Triathlon	37 <sup>th</sup> - Improved World Ranking
Philip Deignan	Cycling	81 <sup>st</sup>
Wendy Houvenaghel	Cycling	Silver Medal - 3km Individual Pursuit
Stephen Milne	Sailing	13 <sup>th</sup>
Melanie Nocher	Swimming	New Irish Record - 20 <sup>th</sup> overall, 2:12.29 200m Backstroke

## 3.1.2 Paralympic Games Results

ATHLETE	SPORT	ACHIEVEMENT
Eilish Byrne	Equestrian Dressage	– 11 <sup>th</sup> Individual Championship and 8 <sup>th</sup> Individual Freestyle Test
Stephen Campbell	Swimming	clocked a new Irish record and PB of 5.28.43 finishing 10 <sup>th</sup> overall - 400m (S11) Freestyle Event 10 <sup>th</sup> overall in the heat - 100m (S11) Butterfly Event 15 <sup>th</sup> overall - 100m (S11) Freestyle Event
Hannah Clarke	Swimming	Finished 5 <sup>th</sup> in the heat clocking a new PB and Irish Record of 2.06.33 - 100m (SB5) Women's Breaststroke
Karen Cromie	Rowing	5 <sup>th</sup> Final - Mixed Double Sculls
Jonathan Cummings	Swimming	New Irish Record of 1:29.25 finishing 8 <sup>th</sup> overall - 100m (S6) Backstroke Final Finished 5 <sup>th</sup> in heat although he swam a Personal Best record of 5:50.54 - 400m (S6)
Mark Jones	Football (7-a-side)	The Irish team finished in 6 <sup>th</sup> place overall
Michael McKillop	Athletics	Gold Medal in 800m (T37) setting new Paralympic World Record of 1:59.39
Jason Smyth	Athletics	Two gold medals in the 200m and 100m (T13) events, setting new Paralympic World Records of 21.43 and 10.62

## 3.2 Medal Achievements

In 2008-09, 36 medals were won by athletes from the governing bodies in which Sports Council Northern Ireland invests in and/or athletes on the athlete support programme.

<b>OLYMPIC/PARALYMPIC MEDALS</b>	<b>EVENT/SPORT</b>	<b>MEDAL</b>
Jason Smyth	100m Athletics	Gold
Jason Smyth	200m Athletics	Gold
Michael McKillop	800m Athletics	Gold
Paddy Barnes	Boxing	Bronze
<b>WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>EVENT/SPORT</b>	<b>MEDAL</b>
Kris Meeke	Rally	Gold
Tommy McCarthy	Boxing	Bronze
<b>WORLD CUPS</b>	<b>EVENT/SPORT</b>	<b>MEDAL</b>
Alan Campbell	Rowing	Gold
Richard Chambers	Rowing	Silver
<b>EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIPS</b>	<b>EVENT/SPORT</b>	<b>MEDAL</b>
Niall McVeigh	Badminton	Gold (Individuals)
Niall McVeigh	Badminton	Silver (Doubles)
Laura D'Urso	Rowing	Gold
Peter Chambers	Rowing	Gold
Johnny Mitchell	Rowing	Silver
Thomas Little	Rowing	Silver
Mark Nesbitt	Archery	Silver
Eamon O'Kane	Boxing	Bronze
Cricket U17 Squad	Cricket	Gold
Cricket U23 Squad	Cricket U19 Squad	Gold
Cricket Senior Squad	Cricket U19 Squad	Gold
Matthew Rooney	Judo	Bronze
Cricket U19 Squad	Cricket U19 Squad	Silver
<b>MISCELLANEOUS (EQUIVALENT TO WORLD, INTERNATIONAL, EUROPEAN EVENT OR COMMONWEALTH LEVEL)</b>	<b>EVENT/SPORT</b>	<b>MEDAL</b>
Stephen Gallagher	Cycling (UCI)	Gold
Mark Nesbitt	Archery (Youth Olympics)	Gold
Mark Nesbitt	Archery (Youth Olympics)	Gold
Hannah Lewis	Athletics (CWYG)	Silver
Edward Moubrey	Athletics (CWYG)	Bronze
Ciara Mageean	Athletics (CWYG)	Bronze
Sean Duffy	Boxing (CWYG)	Silver
Paul Hyland	Boxing (CWYG)	Bronze
Chelsey Wilson	Swimming (CWYG)	Silver
Chelsey Wilson	Swimming (CWYG)	Bronze
Conor Leaney	Swimming (CWYG)	Bronze
Matthew Hall	Shooting (CWYG)	Silver
Cricket Senior Squad	Cricket (Inter-continental Cup)	Gold
Irish Seniors Rugby	Rugby (Triple Crown)	Gold
Irish Seniors Rugby	Rugby (Six Nations)	Gold

### 3.3 Sports Institute Northern Ireland (SINI)

Based at the University of Ulster, Jordanstown Campus, SINI continues to prove itself to be a successful partnership between Sports Council Northern Ireland 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 Northern Ireland, specific development programmes for athletes and coaches, endeavouring to build skills and gain exposure to cutting 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 sports including Gaelic football, hockey, rugby, and individual athletes from the sports of; bowls, cricket, cycling, judo, rowing, sailing, squash, swimming, triathlon, and water skiing.

SINI held it's first ever all service warm weather training camp for ten athletes from six different sports at the state of the art Vila Real de Santo Antonio training facilities in Portugal at the start of February. Athletes who travelled to Portugal included young Judo star Lisa Kearney, cyclist Connor McConvey, Rower Orlagh Duddy, Triathlon competitors Emma Davies and Aileen Morrison, sprinter Amy Foster as well as Double Paralympic Gold Medalist Jason Smyth.

The camp was designed to allow the athletes to complete their warm weather training alongside service staff and fellow athletes. This is the first such camp that SINI have run and the SINI High Performance Manager Jo Hopkins believes that this is an essential part of the development of both SINI athletes and staff:

*"It is essential for SINI to provide athletes with an integrated World Class support service both at home and abroad. Warm weather training camps are an integral part of any world class performance system and all of our top athletes have them built in to their performance plan. Many of our athletes often compete in warmer climates and these camps give them a chance to adapt to different environments. They provide an opportunity for coaches and service providers to work one to one with athletes maximizing their input in an intense training block. We are an integral part of each athlete's support team and this multi sport training camp provides a crucial opportunity for SINI staff to work with athletes and their coaches in an intensive, collaborative training environment, building trust and enhancing relationships. This is all crucial if we are to give the athletes the support they need to compete at world class level."*

SINI has worked hard this year to increase capacity and development of services through appointments of interns in Performance Science and Performance Skills and a Placement position in Strength and Conditioning.

In addition to the interns to assist with Performance Planning across a range of sports, former double Olympian rower Richard Archibald was appointed as Performance Coordinator.

This year SINI provided support to the Northern Ireland Senior Football team, during their World Cup Qualification Campaign.

Further information can be obtained from [www.sini.co.uk](http://www.sini.co.uk)

### *3.4 Governing Body Investment*

#### *3.4.1 Systems and structures*

Sports Council Northern Ireland acknowledges that governing bodies play a major role in the development of athletes. Sports Council Northern Ireland investment of £1,375,107 in 2008-09 enabling governing bodies to work towards putting in place the appropriate systems and structures to improve performance levels of the athletes.

#### *3.4.2 Staff*

Sports Council Northern Ireland invests in governing bodies to employ 48 staff including posts including Business Development Managers, Performance Managers, Performance Coaches, Talent Identification Officers, Participation, Club and Coaching Development Officers, and Administration staff.

#### *3.4.3 Modern, fit for purpose organisations*

The Modernisation Team continued to support governing bodies improve capacity in areas such as financial management, human resource management, board roles and responsibilities and policy development. Sports Council Northern Ireland also organised a number of training courses for governing bodies. Courses included 'Becoming a Charity', the 'Implementation of GIFT Aid', 'Line Management Training', and 'Line Managing for Board Members'.

In line with Sports Council Northern Ireland's Governing Body Investment Programme and its corporate objective of ensuring governing bodies are fit for purpose, Sports Council Northern Ireland continued to audit governing bodies to achieve this. A further two governing bodies achieved a reasonable level of assurance during 2008-09:

- Northern Ireland Archery Society; and
- UB Badminton Union of Ireland.

### *3.5 Talent Identification and Development*

Sports Council Northern Ireland piloted several governing body programmes to assist in the development of talented athletes. These programmes were as follows:

#### *3.5.1 Route 2012*

In partnership with Cycling Ireland and the Irish Sports Council, a cycling talent transfer programme was designed to identify talented athletes from a range of sports that could transfer successfully to track cycling. This was implemented by testing physical attributes to determine their suitability; with the potential to compete in the London 2012 Olympic Games.

### *3.5.2 Talent Orientation Camp*

Sports Council Northern Ireland's second Talent Orientation Camp held in August at the University of Ulster was a huge success. It provided a unique opportunity for 17 young athletes to receive an insight into the world of high performance sport and to critically reflect upon their own talent, ability and potential to succeed at the highest level.

The work was delivered by staff from Sports Council Northern Ireland, SINI, and specific governing bodies of sport. The camp enabled athletes to have access to performance sport staff who ran a mix of conditioning, lifestyle, psychology and injury prevention sessions. Follow up sessions are ongoing with athletes working with a staff member to develop their Physical Competencies on a weekly basis.

One of the highlights of the camp was a visit by Michael Carruth, the 1992 Olympic Welterweight Champion who gave participants an insight into what it was like to compete at Olympic level. The athletes heard how Michael managed to juggle his education and training and the sacrifices he had to make along the way to become an Olympic Champion.

### *3.5.3 Skills Festivals*

Sports Council Northern Ireland hosted a series of skills festivals, in conjunction with Sport North East, Sport South East, the Southern Area Sports Partnership, Ulster Hockey, Ulster Squash, and the Ulster Branch of the Badminton Union of Ireland. These are base level identification programmes aiming to identify young athletes with potential talent in the sports of badminton, hockey, squash, and tennis, offering support for their development through quality coaching.

## *3.6 Coaching*

The coaching strategy for Ireland was launched in September 2008 at the National Coaching Forum. The strategy, which was developed in partnership with Coaching Ireland and the Irish Sports Council, sets out the direction of coaching over the next four years and provides a framework for raising the standard and status of coaching on an all-island basis.

The UK Coaching Framework (2008-16) has progressed from the 'Building the Foundations' to the 'Delivering the Goals' phase with 31 sports. Each of the Home Country Sports Councils and UK Sport have now signed up to implementing the Framework over the next seven years.

The vision outlined in the Framework is to create a cohesive, ethical, inclusive and valued coaching system where skilled coaches support children, adults, players and athletes at all stages of their development in sport. The vision endeavours for this to be world-leading by 2016.

The Framework highlights how sports coach UK plans to work in close partnership with governing bodies and each of the Home Country Sports Councils to enhance the quality and quantity of coaches at all levels of sport. The objective is to help coaches play a key role in increasing sport participation, improving sporting performances and in building a clear career structure for coaches within a professionally regulated vocation.

Sports Council Northern Ireland continues to develop and improve the programme of generic coach education which it currently provides. With a tutor workforce of 50 skilled and available tutors in place, Sports Council Northern Ireland currently offers a range of 17 generic coach education courses across a range of topics. 200 workshops took place last year with over 2000 participants in attendance.

The Sports Council Northern Ireland Coach of the Year Awards, held at the University of Ulster, was an ideal opportunity to raise not only the profile of coaches, but also to acknowledge and commend the contribution that they make to the success of Northern Ireland's sportsmen and women.

Present at the awards, sponsored by Podium4Sport, were 15 finalist coaches who had been nominated in the categories of Youth Sport, Young Athlete Development, Performance Sport, Disability and Lifetime Contribution. Coach Patrick McKillop received the top honour at the Sports Council Northern Ireland Coach of the Year awards.

Northern Ireland Football Manager Nigel Worthington presented Patrick with the Performance Athlete Coach Award and named overall Coach of the Year at the gala ceremony.

Other Category Winners:

- Youth Sport, Joe Norwood, Football
- Young Athlete Development, Dr Ian Walker, Volleyball
- Disability, Gerard McAnulty, GAA
- Lifetime Contribution, Jim Nelson, GAA

### *3.7 Practitioner Development Programme*

The Practitioner Development Programme focuses on developing a workforce of high performance coaches, sports scientists and medical practitioners with the necessary experience, skills and knowledge to improve athlete performance.

In the first year of the programme 13 practitioners received bursaries to further their career pathways. The funding has been used by the practitioners to attend high performance events, to observe high performance athletes, undertake a research project or placement, or to complete a higher education degree. Practitioners attended a series of workshops delivered by Sports Council Northern Ireland in partnership with SINI. The workshops, based on a successful UK Sport model, include the development of high performance competencies essential for those working in a high performance environment; subjects include Striving for Excellence, Teamwork and Collaboration, Influencing, Understanding Others, Communication and Creative Thinking, and Innovative Solutions.

The second year of the programme opened for applications in November 2008; a total of 23 applications were received and 16 have been awarded.

### 3.8 *Anti-Doping*

Anti-Doping information and education workshops were made available to all Northern Ireland athletes. These sessions, delivered by both the Irish Sports Council and UK Sport, were well attended and raised the awareness of Anti-Doping issues, beginning an important process of Anti-Doping Education within Northern Ireland.

### 3.9 *Athlete Support Programme*

*“Assisting Northern Ireland’s talented able-bodied and disabled sportspeople to improve their performance standards and achieve international sporting success”*

A total of 53 awards totaling £264,374 to 22 governing bodies were made under the Athlete Support Programme in 2008-09 in support of 51 individual and two squad training and competition programmes.

Funding from the Athlete Support Programme provides support towards coaching costs, personal training and preparation costs, sports science and sports medicine support, competition costs and personal equipment as identified in an athlete or team’s training and competition programme.

In addition to the above, 17 athletes benefited from Living Costs funding totalling £77,460. The Living Costs extension of the Athlete Support Programme aims to maximise an athlete’s potential by providing funding which will enable them to train on a full-time or part-time basis.

### 3.10 *Youth Games*

Sports Council Northern Ireland was once again delighted to sponsor the Youth Games – a well established sporting initiative designed to boost young people’s participation in sport.

Over 800 young people aged between 12 and 16 competed in sports including badminton, hockey, netball, table tennis, and volleyball. Playing on behalf of the Education and Library Boards, the Youth Games gives young talented athletes an opportunity to experience the adrenalin and expectation of taking part in a tournament of this size.

The Youth Games provide continued opportunities for talented young athletes not only to develop themselves and their sporting performances with some competitors going on to compete at County, Provincial and International Level, but also to interact with children from other schools and communities and build new friendships.

### 3.11 *UK School Games*

The third UK School Games, which took place in Bristol and Bath, were a huge success for competitors from Northern Ireland as they brought home a massive total of 26 medals.

The Games, an exciting initiative designed to encourage more young people to take part in sport and provide them with the experience of being involved in a major multi-sport competitive event, saw our local athletes battling for honours among 1500 competitors in nine sports over four days of competition.

Northern Ireland provided a mixed team of boys and girls to compete in nine sports; Northern Ireland athletes won medals in athletics (5), badminton (1), fencing (5), hockey (2), judo (6), and swimming (7).

### 3.12 *Events Programme*



*“A Sports Council Northern Ireland programme to assist with the bidding for and running of sports events in Northern Ireland”*

A total of £72,000 was awarded to six events from the Events Programme:

Applicant	Event	Amount (£)
Event Direct	Northern Ireland International Horse Show	20,000
Northern Ireland Blind Golf	World Blind Golf Championships	16,000
Athletics Northern Ireland	Irish International Indoor Athletics	15,000
Northern Ireland Blind Golf	British Blind Golf Championships	8,000
Northern Ireland Archery Society	Euronations	8,000
Society One Armed Golfers	World One Armed Golf Championships	5,000
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>72,000</b>

#### *4.0 Sporting Events*

##### *4.1 Between the Bridges Charity Run*

Nearly 5000 walkers, fun runners, joggers, club athletes and local personalities took to the Westlink/M1 to participate in the Between the Bridges Charity Run in aid of Northern Ireland Hospice.

Organised by Cumann Spóirt and Phobail with support from Sports Council Northern Ireland, Belfast City Council, Department for Regional Development, Community Relations Council, Belfast Media Group and Athletics Northern Ireland, this unique event marked the completion of the £103 million Westlink/M1 scheme.

##### *4.2 Belfast City Marathon*

The 27th Belfast City Marathon was a huge success – with a record 15,000 runners taking to the streets of Belfast, making the occasion the biggest mass participation sports event in the Northern Ireland sports event calendar.

Ethiopia's Marashet Jumma smashed the women's record by more than two minutes; Jumma's time of 2:39:22 beat the previous best of 2:41:33, set by Lemma Urge in 2005.

It was a clean sweep of champions all round, as Kenya's John Mutai also held on to the men's crown with a time of 2:16:31.

##### *4.3 Six Nations Championship*

Ireland claimed their first Grand Slam in 61 years in a sensational climax to the year's Six Nations Championship; with victories over England, Scotland, Wales, France and Italy for the first time since 1948.

Played at the Millennium Stadium in Cardiff, the Irish team's performance and triumph brought a close to their winning season. The players, led by team captain Brian O'Driscoll, showed remarkable determination and will to win for Ireland.

The Grand Slam of 1948 was the beginning of a golden era... the team can now kick on and dominate Europe all the way to the World Cup in 2011.

#### *4.4 ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier*

Organised by International Cricket Council (ICC), the ICC World Twenty20 Qualifier was played in August 2008 at Stormont, Belfast. Ireland competed with five fellow Associates in the four day tournament, with Ireland, Holland and Scotland successfully securing a place at the ICC World Twenty20 2009.

#### *4.5 Milk Cup*

Since it began in 1983, the Milk Cup has grown into one of the most prestigious and successful soccer 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 26th year the Milk Cup is recognised as one of the most prestigious international youth football tournaments in Europe.

The 2008 event, once again sponsored by Sports Council Northern Ireland, didn't disappoint with Northern Ireland taking the Elite crown; Manchester United triumphing in the Premier section; and Everton came out top in the Junior category.

#### *4.6 Runher 8K*

Sports Council Northern Ireland was a proud sponsor of the 2008 Belfast Telegraph Runher 8K; an event targeting women only.

Nearly 600 women and girls walked, jogged and ran around Ormeau Park for the inaugural 8k. The race was won by Paralympic star Karen Cromie who had just returned from Beijing, in a fantastic time of 27minutes and 42seconds. An elated Karen thought the event was an excellent opportunity to empower women of all ages to enjoy the walk, and would love to see more disabled people take part next year.

#### *5.0 Corporate Services*

Corporate Services are seen to be the 'backbone' of Sports Council Northern Ireland – 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.

#### *5.1 Human Resources*

Sports Council Northern Ireland was accredited with "One to Watch" status by Best Companies, the work place engagement specialists behind the 'Sunday Times Best Companies to Work For'.

The latest guide recognises Sports Council Northern Ireland as an organisation with great growth potential, and one committed to being one of the best employers in the UK.

Sports Council Northern Ireland is featured in the Best Companies Guide, an annual reference for graduates, which provides independent and unbiased information on some of the UK's best workplaces. The 2008 edition is available at the following address: [www.bestcompaniesguide.co.uk](http://www.bestcompaniesguide.co.uk)

The Best Companies Accreditation was established to acknowledge corporate excellence in the workplace, setting constant standards for businesses of all sizes to aspire to, with results being drawn based upon an employee survey and company questionnaire.

## *5.2 Policy Planning and Research*

Sports Council Northern Ireland is an organisation that is focused on promoting sport and the benefits that can be derived through sport; its aim is to make decisions that are based on evidence.

The Research Unit responds to the need to strengthen the evidence base for informed decision making in sport at all levels, and seeks to put in place a coherent framework for research and evaluation that is responsive to the research needs and priorities in the proposed Strategy as well as the wider social policy agenda.

Sports Council Northern Ireland commissions, communicates and disseminates research projects under the following thematic areas:

- Strategic Measurement and Monitoring Participation;
- Strategic Understanding;
- Impact Evaluation;
- Economic Modeling; and
- Communicating and Disseminating Research Findings.

In 2008-09, Sports Council Northern Ireland commissioned the following research projects, some of which were in collaboration with our key partners:

- Participant Development Literature Review –this review was written as all policies and programme must be underpinned and supported by on-going robust research. The review seeks to identify the main findings and principles associated with Participant Development, the methods used to generate this information, and the strengths and weaknesses of the supporting research. The review looks at the operational definitions of participant development as well as the different models of participant development. It also reviews the Biological domain, Psychological domain and Social domain of Participant Development making several recommendations on the role of Participant Development and the importance of interdisciplinary research within sports coaching research and independent evaluations regarding participant development models, research and proposals.
- The Assessment and Measurement of Physical Literacy in Children - the aim of this research project was to develop a Physical Literacy assessment tool for use with young children. This tool aimed to assess the core motor competencies of children who had received a structured Physical Literacy programme, compared to children who had not. Children's self-perceptions and attitudes towards physical activity and sport were also assessed.

The research found that the measurement tool developed was effective in revealing the differences between children's competence in performing locomotor, body management and object control skills. Furthermore, attitudes towards physical activity were high overall and showed no significant differences between those who received a structured programme and those who did not. However, children's self-perceptions were significantly different between the Fundamental Movement Skills (FMS) and non-FMS groups with the FMS schools scoring more highly. This finding may be indicative of the holistic nature and delivery of the FMS programme which is designed to contribute to children's social, emotional and cognitive development beyond their movement skills.

- Survey of Public Attitudes to Sport and Physical Recreation - the 2008 Survey of Public Attitudes to Sport and Physical Recreation was commissioned to assess the extent to which sport and physical recreation has a positive image amongst the population aged 16-70 in Northern Ireland as a whole and of sub-groups within it. The research also addresses levels of awareness of Sports Council Northern Ireland and assesses views as to what Sports Council Northern Ireland funding should be used for.

There were several key findings from the research such as 59% of those surveyed thought international sporting success by local athletes was very important and 97% agreed or strongly agreed that Sports Council Northern Ireland funding should go to develop young people with sporting talent.

- A Systematic Review of the Literature on Black and Minority Ethnic Communities in Sport and Recreation - this review examines participation in sport and physical recreation by black and minority ethnic communities, one of the segments of the population identified in the government's equality legislation. In conducting this review Sports Council Northern Ireland is concerned with how sporting opportunities might be extended and improved with the goal of informing policy and practice as the concern with increasing participation is twofold: to maximise the recruitment of talent; and to allow all sectors of society to enjoy the presumed benefits of sport.
- A Literature Review of Sexual Orientation in Sport - the sports council in the UK have recognised the social and legal imperatives for sports bodies to support participation among lesbian, gay, and bisexual people, and to oppose homophobia and related discrimination in sport. The purpose of this study was to review and critique the literature on sexual orientation in sport in order to inform equality impact assessments, support the implementation of the UK sports councils' equality scheme and inform the advice given by these agencies on developing sports participation among those people and on tackling homophobia in sport. The review describes gaps in our knowledge, identifies further research needs and also makes policy recommendations.

All these publications can be downloaded from [www.sportni.net](http://www.sportni.net).

## **6.0 Facts And Figures 2008-09**

- 97,597 - People participated in sport and physical activity across all Sports Council Northern Ireland investment areas;
- 27,454 - People from under-represented groups participated in sport and physical activity across all Sports Council Northern Ireland investment areas;
- 36 - Medals were won by athletes from the governing bodies in which Sports Council Northern Ireland invests in and/or athletes on the Athlete Support Programme;
- 53 - Athletes/squads supported through the Athlete Support Programme;
- 6 - Events supported through the Events Programme;
- 4986 - Student days provided by TMC;
- 26 - Local venues are accredited for the Olympics with 3 hubs for the Paralympics;
- 71 - Projects funded through Awards for All;
- 5 - Medals won at the 2008 Beijing Olympic and Paralympic Games; and
- 13 - Practitioners received bursaries through the Practitioner Development Programme.

### **Significant Changes in Fixed Assets**

The movement on fixed assets is set out in note 7 to the financial statements. The net book value of the fixed assets increased from £667,499 to £1,899,023, following a number of new additions and specifically work being carried out on the redevelopment of Tollymore Mountain Centre. Depreciation charge for the year was £240,153. The revaluation reserve is being written off over 5 years thus reducing the depreciation charge to £213,403. A number of assets were also disposed of during the year due to obsolescence.

The Valuation and Lands Agency carried out a revaluation of the buildings at Tollymore Mountain Centre on 1 April 2003. The net book property value at this date was £320,367. The property is now being written off over 5 years due to a re-development of the centre.

### **Retained Funds at the Year End**

The general reserve showed a surplus of £1,364,863 (2007/08: £93,355) for the year.

### **Post Balance Sheet Events**

The SCNI Trust owned the Tollymore Mountain Centre during this financial year; however, in 2009 the courts granted an Order to terminate the SCNI Trust. The lease of the land has been assigned to Sports Council.

DCAL have approved Sports Council underwriting 50% of the loss which arose at the SINI. The loss of £75,041 arose due to fraudulent activity, and to date £65,036 has been recovered. The maximum amount of the liability will be £5,003. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, DCAL gave SINI approval to write off the outstanding amount.

There have been no other significant events since the year-end that would affect these accounts.

## **Research and Development**

The Sports Council commissioned a number of research projects in 2008/09. These were as follows:

- Physical Literacy Research;
- Barriers to Participation in Countryside Recreation by Disadvantaged Groups;
- Community Sport Programme Impact Review (2005-2008);
- Sport In Our Community Investment Programme Report;
- Public Attitudes Survey;
- Countryside Access Study;
- Participant Development Review;
- Survey of public attitudes towards sport and physical recreation in Northern Ireland;
- Sexual Orientation Literature Review; and
- Trends in Outdoor Recreation (1995 - 2008).

## **Future Developments**

The significant developments the Sports Council will focus on in the year 2009/10 are:

- Implementation of a capital Elite Facilities programme;
- Continued implementation of the modernisation programme for Sports Council funded governing bodies of sport;
- Continued delivery of athlete support initiative;
- Continued delivery of the governing body plan programme;
- Continued delivery of the safety in sports grounds programme;
- Progress further the new strategy for the development of sport in Northern Ireland;
- Continue with the working group established to consider the 2010 Commonwealth Games in India (India 10).

## **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.

## Annual Report - Remuneration Report

### Remuneration Policy

The remuneration of senior civil servants is set by the Prime Minister following independent advice from the Review Body on Senior Salaries.

The Review Body takes account of the evidence it receives about wider economic considerations and the affordability of its recommendations.

Further information about the work of the Review Body can be found at [www.ome.uk.com](http://www.ome.uk.com).

The pay award for staff is comprised of two elements; a base pay uplift and a non-consolidated bonus. Both elements are based on performance. The non-consolidated bonuses are payable to a proportion of staff as part of the annual pay award.

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.

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:

<b>Staffing Committee Appointed on 1 January 2008</b>
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 until they reach the normal retiring age of 65. Policy relating to notice periods and termination payments is contained in the Sports Council Staff Handbook and individual Contracts 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.

The notice period or compensation for early termination of a contract is 3 months for the Chief Executive and Directors.

### Audited Remuneration and Pension Entitlements – Senior Staff (Audited Information)

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

<i>Employee</i>	<b>2008-09</b>		<b>2007-08</b>	
	<b>Salary £'000</b>	<b>Benefits in kind £</b>	<b>Salary £'000</b>	<b>Benefits in kind £</b>
Eamonn McCartan <i>Chief Executive</i>	105-110 (includes salary arrears from prior years)	154	95-100 (includes salary arrears from prior years)	154
Shaun Ogle <i>Director of Performance</i>	60-65	154	55-60	154
Nick Harkness <i>Director of Participation</i>	60-65	154	55-60	154
Andrew Sloan <i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	60-65	456	55-60	446

### *Sports Council Members Emoluments*

The Chairman received honorarium totalling £10,584 (2007/08: £2,709 for Chairman and Ex Chairman £7,959). The Chairman's honorarium is not normally recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account. As there was no Vice-Chairman in position during the year, £3,528 of the Chairman's salary was 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; performance pay or bonuses; 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. 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 the Inland Revenue as a taxable emolument. Each individual received a benefit in kind of £154, which relates to luncheon vouchers. The Director of Corporate Services also received a benefit in kind for £302 relating to professional fees.

### *Sports Council Pensions*

The Sports Council participates in the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee Scheme (NILGOSC) and made contributions for 103 employees. During the year 20 were employed for part of the year, and one employee went on a career break.



The NILGOSC scheme is a 'multi-employer', defined benefit scheme, which provides members of participating employers with the benefits related to pay and services at rates which are defined under statutory regulations. To finance these benefits, assets are accumulated in the scheme and held separately from assets of the employers. The scheme is funded by employers participating in the NILGOSC scheme who pay contributions at rates determined by an independent professionally qualified actuary on the basis of regular valuations using the projected unit method. During the year ended 31 March 2009 the Sports Council contributed 15% of pensionable salary. The scheme is contributory with members of staff paying 5-6% of pensionable salary.

Contributions for the year are disclosed in note 5 to the accounts.

### Audited Information

Employee	Accrued pension at age 65 as at 31/3/09 and related lump sum	Real increase in pension and related lump sum at age 65	CETV at 31/3/09	CETV at 31/3/08 *	Real increase in CETV
	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s	£'000s
Eamonn McCartan <i>Chief Executive</i>	30-35 plus 100-105 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 5-7.5 lump sum	769	672	68
Shaun Ogle <i>Director of Performance</i>	15-20 plus 50-55 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 0-2.5 lump sum	312	280	18
Nick Harkness <i>Director of Participation</i>	15-20 plus 55-60 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 0-2.5 lump sum	301	273	16
Andrew Sloan <i>Director of Corporate Services</i>	5-10 plus 20-25 lump sum	0-2.5 plus 0-2.5 lump sum	125	107	13

\* The factors used in calculating CETVs have been updated by the Government Actuary from 1 October 2008. The CETV amounts at 31 March 2008 have therefore been recalculated, upon instruction from the Department of Finance and Personnel, to give more meaningful comparisons with this year's figures. The inflation rate used in the 2008/09 calculation is 5%.

The above figures do not include salary accruals.

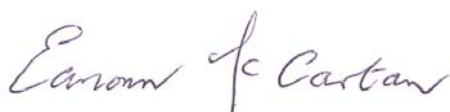
### Cash Equivalent Transfer Values

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 and for which the CS Vote has received a transfer payment commensurate with the additional pension liabilities being assumed. 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 benefits resulting from Lifetime Allowance Tax which may be due when pension benefits are taken.

*Real increase in CETV*

This reflects the increase in CETV effectively funded by the employer. It takes account of 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'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'E' and a stylized 'M'.

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

**Date: 1 February 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 show a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Sports Council's activities at the year-end and of its income and expenditure, total recognised gains and losses and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the accounts, the principal Accounting Officer is required to comply with the requirement of the Government Financial Reporting Manual and in particular to:

- observe the accounts direction issued by DCAL, including the relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- make judgments and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- state whether applicable accounting standards as set out in Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) 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 Northern Ireland; 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. It also sets out the conditions on which grant-in-aid is paid to the Sports Council and the delegations 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. It sets out the terms and conditions under which DCAL allocates grant-in-aid to the Sports Council out of monies provided by NI Assembly or UK Parliament. These terms and conditions 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 an NDPB 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 set by 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 2009 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts, and accords with Department of Finance and Personnel 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.

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.

Sports Council personnel receive significant training. All staff received Fraud Awareness and Grant Funding training delivered by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA). In addition, all new members of staff were taken through an extensive induction programme which includes: employment, finance and accountability arrangements. New staff obtained training on Section 75 by an external consultant, whilst existing staff were given refresher training on the same subject. Credit checks have been introduced for any new staff appointed to a finance related position.

A number of staff obtained training on First Aid at Work, and those whose role involves lifting heavy items attended a Manual Handling course. The Human Resources Officer became certified in the National Examination Board in Occupational Safety and Health in order to assist in liaising with Contractors during any refurbishment work at the House of Sport.

The Human Resources team underwent further training on the revised payroll package, which was primarily aimed at reducing the number of errors on the system.

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. Other training delivered included: Performance Appraisal training; Employment Law; Handling Disciplinary and Grievances and Status of Employees.

Sport Northern Ireland is currently funding a number of people to undertake courses aimed at increasing their knowledge, whilst reducing risk for the organisation:

- Three members of staff are 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;
- The Human Resource Manager is being funded to complete an LLM in Employment Law, whilst the Human Resource Officer became a Member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development;
- One officer is being funded to undertake an MSc in Organisation Management; whilst another is being funded to undertake an LLM in Business Law; and
- The Policy Planning and Research Officer is being funded to undertake an MSc in Social Research Skills.

The Human Resource System continued to be updated with historical information in order to ensure accuracy of reporting and other statistical information.

All new policies introduced during the year have been fully consulted on and screened for Section 75 compliance. Sport Northern Ireland achieved "One to Watch" status in the Sunday Times Best Companies accreditation.

A number of Board and Committee Members attended the “On Board Training” by CIPFA covering their governance and accountability responsibilities.

## **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 subject to regular revision as the risk management process becomes embedded throughout the Sports Council and will be updated to reflect the changing environment of the Sports Council as required. Risk reviews are a fixed agenda item on all management and team meetings.

The Sports Council has a risk register in place which identifies the key risks facing the Sports Council. These have been categorised under 9 headings below. The risk register details management’s assessment of the key risks and associated controls, and actions required to mitigate these risks. Each risk has been assessed for its severity and for the effectiveness of the controls currently operating.

The risk register is also presented for approval to the Audit Committee and Council each year.

### **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.
- 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.

The Sports Council is currently undergoing a review of the Risk Management Policy and Monitoring Policy. These documents are expected to be presented to Council during 2009/10 for review and approval.

### 3. Conflict of Interests

The Sports Council operates a Conflict of Interest policy. 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 assessment and decision-making process.

### 4. Fraud

The Sports Council has an approved Anti Fraud and Corruption policy. The document explains the steps that must be taken where fraud is suspected or discovered and provides guidance specifically regarding attempts at multiple application fraud with the preventative measures detailed. The Sports Council also operates a computerised database of all awards funded and applications received. Users can identify the number of applications/value of awards made to an organisation. Alerts may be placed on the system to ensure users are aware of any issues/problems particular to an organisation, before progressing further with funding.

### 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 and in the sharing of administration functions with other bodies.

The Department of Culture Arts and Leisure 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.

### 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 harmonization 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 additionally 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 will be implemented and mainstreamed throughout the organisation at all levels over the coming months.

#### **Review of Effectiveness**

As Accounting Officer, I also 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 2009/10 via reviewing policies and procedures, training programmes and reassessing contractual agreements.

The Sports Council obtains assurances on its system of internal control through its Audit Committee. The Audit Committee met on 6 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.

The Sports Council internal auditor produced the annual audit assurance statement which provided a satisfactory level of assurance for the year 2008/09.

A quality review of the Internal Audit function was initiated by DCAL and carried out by Business Consultancy Services in early 2008. The purpose of the review was to provide an



opinion on the level of compliance by the Sports Council Internal Audit Function with the Government Internal Audit Standards. The review raised a number of concerns as to the compliance of the audit function with the Standards awarding a 'partial' assurance rating. Subsequent to this review, significant work was undertaken to address the areas of non compliance. These have now been fully addressed and the Permanent Secretary informed on the actions taken by Sports Council.

The 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 who will update Council at the same time. The last review by the Audit Committee took place in November 2010.

Throughout the year I obtained assurance from senior managers, based on information and reports produced by them. I am satisfied that systems of internal control were adequate in 2008/09.

The Sports Council has a procedure in place to ensure that all losses are appropriately handled and reported to DCAL. During the year 2008/09 a number of losses occurred amounting to £4,410. Sports Council also accrued £45,000 in the financial year 2008/09, to cover a proportion of the other parties costs associated with the Judicial Review case.

The Sports Council continues to review systems and controls to ensure that losses are kept to a minimum. All employees of Sports Council have been reminded of the importance of ensuring equipment is kept safe and secure at all times.

#### *Significant Internal Control Problems*

##### **1. Sports Institute Northern Ireland**

In August 2006 the Sports Council undertook an audit of the Sports Institute Northern Ireland. On the basis of misinformation being provided to the Sports Council's audit team and a number of issues regarding accounting practices a member of staff within the organisation raised concerns with senior management. An investigation took place, and in September 2006 the Sports Council was formally informed by the Sports Institute Northern Ireland that a fraud had occurred.

Sports Council undertook a forensic audit of the company to determine the exact value of the fraud. The fraud was calculated to be £75,041 of which £14,587 took place in the financial year 31 March 2006 and £60,454 in the financial year 31 March 2007. Of the total fraud amount £65,036 has been recovered. On the basis of legal advice obtained by the Sports Institute of Northern Ireland, Sports Council wrote to the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure Accounting Officer seeking approval to write off the outstanding amount of £10,005. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, the Department of Culture Arts and Leisure provided approval for the write off.

## 2. Judicial Review

In August 2010, 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.

Sports Council have subsequently reviewed the appeal to consider this issue, and concluded that a reduced award is not appropriate. The Appeals process has now been reviewed and a new process is now in place.

## 3. Other

### (a) Concern over Grant Payments – Issue 1

In 2008/09 Sports Council was advised of a concern regarding payments to one of its grant recipients. Sports Council commissioned a review of the processes and a final report was produced in December 2009 for consideration by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure. The report made a number of key recommendations and the following actions have been agreed to be carried out:

- Follow up verification on expenditure by third parties on behalf of the grant recipient;
- Independent audit of the grant recipient to determine a risk classification;
- Embargo placed on funding to the grant recipient until results of independent audit obtained;
- Future award payments to the grant recipient to be made in line with the new risk classification; and
- Internal audit plan to include testing of other grant recipient payments for the period which was investigated.

### (b) Concern over Grant Payments – Issue 2

In 2009/10, Sports Council was advised of a concern in relation to one of its grant recipients. A review was carried out by Sports Council to determine if the concerns were valid. During the course of the review a hold was placed on payments to the grant recipient.

The conclusion of the review found that there was no evidence of fraud, but the review did highlight an overpayment of £315 and in one instance an invoice had been tampered with, albeit no benefit was incurred by the governing body, nor was there any intention to distort the facts.

Subsequently, the hold on payments has been lifted; a governance re-audit will be conducted; and payments are being made on a retrospective basis until the governance audit is finalised.

### (c) Equipment Repossession

In 2010/11, allegations regarding the misuse of public funds were made to another funder, concerning an organisation which Sports Council also provide funding to. The Community Relations Council in July 2010 alerted Sport Council to this matter.

The grant recipient was supported by Sports Council under its Awards for Sport Programme and received funding of £7,354.99 for the purchase of gym equipment. An investigation was conducted by Sports Council which did not uncover any evidence of fraud by the grant recipient in its administration of the Sports Council grant. However, the organisation is now the subject of a police investigation into its handling of other public funds. As this calls into

question the future sustainability and continuance of the organisation, Sports Council has deemed it appropriate to re-possess all funded equipment pending the outcome of the police investigation.

(d) 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. Sport Northern Ireland received permission from DCAL to settle the claim at £1300 in April 2010.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading 'Eamonn McCartan'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

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

**Date: 1 February 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 2009 under the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986. These comprise the Operating Cost Statement, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses 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**

The Council and Accounting Officer are responsible for preparing the Annual Report, the Remuneration Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure directions made thereunder and for ensuring the regularity of financial transactions. These responsibilities are set out in the Statement of the Council's and Accounting Officer's Responsibilities.

My responsibility is to audit the financial statements and the part of the remuneration report to be audited in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements, and with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

I report to you my opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and whether the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited have been properly prepared in accordance with the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure directions made thereunder. I report to you whether, in my opinion, the information, which comprises the Background Information and the Management Commentary is consistent with the financial statements. I also report whether 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.

In addition, I report to you if the Sports Council for Northern Ireland has not kept proper accounting records, if I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit, or if information specified by the Department of Finance and Personnel regarding remuneration and other transactions is not disclosed.

I review whether the Statement on Internal Control reflects the Sports Council for Northern Ireland's compliance with the Department of Finance and Personnel's guidance, and I report if it does not. I am not required to consider whether this statement covers all risks and controls, or form an opinion on the effectiveness of the Sports Council for Northern Ireland's corporate governance procedures or its risk and control procedures.

I read the other information contained in the Annual Report and consider whether it is consistent with the audited financial statements. This other information comprises the unaudited part of the Remuneration Report, the Chairman's Foreword and the Chief Executive's Statement. I consider the implications for my report if I become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the financial statements. My responsibilities do not extend to any other information.

## **Basis of audit opinion**

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. My audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts, disclosures and regularity of financial transactions included in the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgments made by the Council and Accounting Officer in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are most appropriate to the Sports Council for Northern Ireland's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

I planned and performed my audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which I considered necessary in order to provide me with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error, and that 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. In forming my opinion I also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited.

## **Opinions**

In my opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and directions made thereunder by the Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure, of the state of the Sports Council for Northern Ireland's affairs as at 31 March 2009 and of its net operating costs, the cash flows and recognised gains and losses for the year then ended;
- the financial statements and the part of the Remuneration Report to be audited have been properly prepared in accordance with the Recreation and Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 and Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure directions made thereunder; and
- information given within the Annual Report, which comprises the Chairman's Foreword, Chief Executive's Statement, Background Information, Management Commentary and the unaudited part of the Remuneration Report, is consistent with the financial statements.

## **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.

## **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*

*Date: 4 February 2011*

## Operating Cost Statement

### For the year ended 31 March 2009

	Notes	2009 SCNI £	2009 SINI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
<b>Income</b>						
Grant from Other Activities	2	-	670,045	670,045	-	524,010
Income From Activities	3	511,057	-	511,057	1,307,917	1,308,632
Income from Lottery	3	529,480	-	529,480	692,233	692,233
Other Income	4	96,432	1,503	97,935	59,834	62,841
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>1,136,969</b>	<b>671,548</b>	<b>1,808,517</b>	<b>2,059,984</b>	<b>2,587,716</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>						
Staff Costs	5	3,513,899	392,880	3,906,779	3,066,522	3,430,183
Depreciation	8	214,001	26,152	240,153	208,764	213,188
Release of Revaluation Reserve	17	(26,750)	-	(26,750)	(26,751)	(26,751)
Grants	8	17,895,499	-	17,895,499	12,018,170	12,018,170
Other Operating Costs	8	2,585,516	250,516	2,836,032	1,797,401	1,963,548
Notional Costs	9	17,241	1,672	18,913	(9,367)	(9,367)
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>24,199,406</b>	<b>671,220</b>	<b>24,870,626</b>	<b>17,054,739</b>	<b>17,588,971</b>
<b>Net Operating Cost Before Taxation and After Notional Costs</b>		<b>(23,062,437)</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>(23,062,109)</b>	<b>(14,994,755)</b>	<b>(15,001,255)</b>
Corporation Tax	6	(3,661)	-	(3,661)	(26,622)	(26,622)
<b>Net Operating Cost After Taxation</b>		<b>(23,066,098)</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>(23,065,770)</b>	<b>(15,021,377)</b>	<b>(15,027,877)</b>
Notional Costs	9	17,241	1,672	18,913	(9,367)	(9,367)
<b>Net Operating Costs After Tax and Excluding Notional Costs</b>		<b>(23,048,857)</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b>(23,046,857)</b>	<b>(15,030,744)</b>	<b>(15,037,244)</b>

## Statement of Recognised Gains and Losses

### For the year ended 31 March 2009

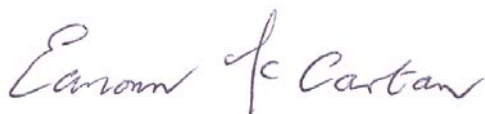
	Notes	SCNI 2009 £	GROUP 2009 £	SCNI 2008 £	GROUP 2008 £
Actuarial (Loss)/Gain and Increase in Pension Liabilities	18	(1,362,000)	(1,454,500)	1,039,000	1,137,000
<b>Total Recognised (Loss)/Gain for the Year</b>		<b>(1,362,000)</b>	<b>(1,454,500)</b>	<b>1,039,000</b>	<b>1,137,000</b>

*All amounts above relate to continuing activities.*

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form part of these accounts.

## Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2009

	Notes	2009 SCNI £	2009 SINI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
<b>Fixed Assets</b>						
Tangible Assets	7a	1,591,678	150,907	1,742,585	582,728	619,759
Intangible Assets	7b	156,438	-	156,438	47,740	47,740
		<b>1,748,116</b>	<b>150,907</b>	<b>1,899,023</b>	<b>630,468</b>	<b>667,499</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>						
Stock	10	10	-	10	33	33
Debtors and Prepayments	11	1,885,579	142,062	2,027,641	648,103	712,353
Cash at Bank and in Hand	12	442,920	26,786	469,706	1,100,200	1,150,385
		<b>2,328,509</b>	<b>168,848</b>	<b>2,497,357</b>	<b>1,748,336</b>	<b>1,862,771</b>
<b>Creditors: Amounts Falling Due within One Year</b>	13	(1,690,461)	(319,755)	(2,010,216)	(1,937,398)	(2,088,864)
Net Current Assets		638,048	(150,907)	487,141	(189,062)	(226,093)
Total Assets less Current Liabilities		<b>2,386,164</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2,386,164</b>	<b>441,406</b>	<b>441,406</b>
<b>Provisions</b>	14	(2,077,000)	(93,000)	(2,170,000)	(794,000)	(796,500)
<b>Total Assets less Total Liabilities</b>		<b>309,164</b>	<b>(93,000)</b>	<b>216,164</b>	<b>(352,594)</b>	<b>(355,094)</b>
<b>Financed By</b>						
Deferred Capital	17	967,800	-	967,800	267,800	267,800
<b>Reserves</b>						
General Reserve	18	1,364,863	-	1,364,863	93,355	93,355
Pension Reserve	18	(2,077,000)	(93,000)	(2,170,000)	(794,000)	(796,500)
Revaluation Reserve	18	53,501	-	53,501	80,251	80,251
		<b>309,164</b>	<b>(93,000)</b>	<b>216,164</b>	<b>(352,594)</b>	<b>(355,094)</b>



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

**Date: 1 February 2011**

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form part of these accounts.

## Cash Flow Statement

### For the Year Ended 31 March 2009

	2009 SCNI £	2009 SINI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
<b>Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(24,436,250)</b>	<b>116,629</b>	<b>(24,319,621)</b>	<b>(13,912,843)</b>	<b>(13,852,873)</b>
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>					
Purchase of Fixed Assets	(1,334,141)	(140,028)	(1,474,169)	(419,964)	(449,477)
Receipts from Disposal of Fixed Assets	13,746	-	13,746	-	-
<b>Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow before Financing</b>	<b>(25,756,645)</b>	<b>(23,399)</b>	<b>(25,780,044)</b>	<b>(14,332,807)</b>	<b>(14,302,350)</b>
<b>Financing</b>					
Grants from DCAL	24,184,000	-	24,184,000	12,792,528	12,792,528
Grants from DCMS	915,365	-	915,365	2,084,635	2,084,635
<b>(Decrease)/Increase in Cash</b>	<b>(657,280)</b>	<b>(23,399)</b>	<b>(680,679)</b>	<b>544,356</b>	<b>574,813</b>

#### Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

##### 1. Reconciliation of Movement in Funds to Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities

	2009 SCNI £	2009 SINI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
(Deficit)/Surplus for the Year	(23,066,098)	2,000	(23,064,098)	(15,021,377)	(15,027,877)
Depreciation	214,001	26,152	240,153	208,764	213,188
Revaluation Reserve	(26,750)	-	(26,750)	(26,750)	(26,750)
Profit on Disposal of Assets	(11,253)	-	(11,253)	-	-
Notional Cost of Capital	17,241	-	17,241	(9,367)	(9,367)
Decrease/(Increase) in Stock	23	-	23	24	24
Decrease/(Increase) in Debtors	(1,237,477)	(77,812)	(1,315,289)	191,398	176,113
(Decrease)/Increase in Creditors	(246,937)	168,289	(78,648)	597,465	668,296
(Decrease)/Increase in Pension Fund Creditor	(79,000)	(2,000)	(81,000)	147,000	153,500
<b>Net cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities</b>	<b>(24,436,250)</b>	<b>116,629</b>	<b>(24,319,621)</b>	<b>(13,912,843)</b>	<b>(13,852,873)</b>

##### 2. Reconciliation of Net Cash Flow to Movement in Net Debt

	2009 SCNI £	2009 SINI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
Cash in Bank and in Hand at 1 April	1,100,200	50,185	1,150,385	555,844	575,572
Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow	(657,280)	(23,399)	(680,679)	544,356	574,813
<b>Cash in Bank and in Hand at 31 March</b>	<b>442,920</b>	<b>26,786</b>	<b>469,706</b>	<b>1,100,200</b>	<b>1,150,385</b>

The notes on pages 54 to 72 form part of these accounts.



## **Notes to the Accounts**

### **For the year ended 31 March 2009**

#### **1. Accounting Policies**

##### *1.1 Basis of Accounting and Consolidation*

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the 2008-2009 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by HM Treasury. The accounting policies contained in the FReM follow UK generally accepted accounting practice for companies (UK GAAP) to the extent that it is meaningful and appropriate to the public sector.

Where FReM permits a choice of accounting policy, the accounting policy which has been 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 Sports Council's accounting policies 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. Without limiting the information given, the financial statements meet the accounting and disclosure requirements of the Companies (Northern Ireland) Order 1986, 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 the Department for the redevelopment of Tollymore Mountain Centre is transferred to a deferred government grant account.

Other income sources are accounted for on a receivable basis and is matched to the expenditure that it finances. This income is taken to the income and 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 Lottery. This covers corporate services provided and charged for: the figure shown as Service to lottery activities in note 3 does not include any amount for rent. No liability has been recognised for rental income due.

#### *1.4 Capital and Revenue Grants Payable*

Grants awarded to organisations and individuals are charged to the Operating Costs Statement in the year to which they relate. Any amounts of unpaid grant at 31 March each year are included as creditors due less than one year in the balance sheet.

#### *1.5 National Lottery Costs*

The Sports Council is required to apportion between its Grant-in-Aid and National Lottery Distribution activities, the costs of services provided from its Grant-in-Aid budget that are directly and demonstrably used on Lottery functions and vice versa.

The costs so apportioned to the National Lottery Distribution activities will be paid from the Lottery Fund to the Grant-in Aid account.

#### *1.6 Research and Development*

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

#### *1.7 Fixed Assets and Depreciation*

Fixed assets are stated in the balance sheet at cost, after applying a capitalisation limit of £1,000 to individual items and pooling of items costing more than £500 and which in aggregate total more than £5,000, and after taking into account the costs incurred in bringing the assets into use but not expenditure properly chargeable to the income and expenditure account. Depreciation has been provided using the straight line method so as to write off each asset, whether individual or pooled, over its estimated useful life. Depreciation is charged in full for the year in which the individual or pooled asset is acquired; no depreciation is charged in the year in which the individual or pooled asset is disposed.

Assets are depreciated over their useful lives as follows: -	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Land & Buildings	5 Years	5 Years
Information Technology (Hardware & Software)	3 Years	3 Years
Fixtures & Fittings	5 Years	5 Years
Specialised Sports Equipment	5 Years	5 Years
Vehicles	4 Years	4 Years

An impairment review is carried out annually and any loss in value is charged to the Operating Cost Statement.

Rent payable under lease agreements negotiated is regularly brought up to current market rates through periodic reviews. Where no economic benefits of ownership accrue, a lease is considered to have the characteristics, not of a financial arrangement, but of the provision of a service and is not capitalised.

#### *Intangible Assets*

Intangible assets relate to the purchase of software and licences. These are included at cost and written off over a 3 year period, which is their useful economic life.

#### *1.8 Operating leases*

Operating lease rentals are charged to the Operating Cost Statement in equal annual amounts over the lease term.

#### *1.9 Notional Costs*

These financial statements make provision for the notional cost of capital employed by the Council. The Income and Expenditure account includes the notional cost of capital employed by the Council calculated as 3.5% of the average capital employed over the financial year. Auditor's notional remuneration is also included as a notional cost. Full details of these costs are given in note 9.

#### *1.10 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 2009.

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 Operating Cost Statement. 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 of Recognised Gains and Losses.

#### *1.11 Value Added Tax*

The Council does not reclaim VAT on purchases.

#### *1.12 Debtors*

Debtors mainly arise from regular users of services at House of Sport and Tollymore Mountain Centre. Bad debt provision is assessed annually.

#### *1.13 Year End Creditors*

Year-end creditors are recognised on the following basis:

- As at close of business 31 March - goods and/or services actually received, put into stock 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 Creditors.

#### *1.14 Stock*

Stock is stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Stocks of stationery are not included in the balance sheet since such stocks are incidental and deemed not to be material to the accounts.

### 1.15 Financial Instruments

Sports Council has adopted FRS25, 26 and 29. There has been no impact on the net assets of the organisation as a result of this.

#### Debtors & Cash at Bank

Debtors & Cash at Bank are classified as 'financial assets', in accordance with FRS 26, and are initially measured at fair value and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method less any impairment, where appropriate.

#### Creditors & Grant Commitments

Creditors & Grant Commitments are classified as 'financial liabilities', in accordance with FRS 26, and are initially measured at fair value, net of transaction costs, and subsequently measured at amortised cost using the effective interest method, where appropriate.

## 2. Grant from Other Activities

	2009 SCNI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
Grant – Other Sources	-	670,045	-	524,010
Total Other Grants	-	670,045	-	524,010

## 3. Income from Activities

	2009 SCNI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
Sports Development	79,762	79,762	72,794	73,509
Tollymore Mountain Centre	173,238	173,238	189,387	189,387
Services to Partners	258,057	258,057	1,045,736	1,045,736
Total Income from Activities	511,057	511,057	1,307,917	1,308,632
Service to Lottery Activities	529,480	529,480	692,233	692,233

## 4. Other Income

Note	2009 SCNI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
Bank Interest Received	17,432	17,435	27,834	27,841
Pension – Net Return on Assets	79,000	80,500	32,000	35,000
	96,432	97,935	59,834	62,841

## 5. Staff Costs

Note	2009 SCNI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
Gross Wages and Salaries	2,845,684	3,135,255	2,351,741	2,664,140
Social Security Costs	201,143	224,460	171,850	193,854
Other Pension Costs	395,124	431,533	273,792	292,675
Temporary Staff Costs	71,948	115,531	37,872	38,247
Early Retirement Costs	-	-	52,267	52,267
FRS 17 Pension	-	-	179,000	189,000
Total Restated	3,513,899	3,906,779	3,066,522	3,430,183

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 111 (2007/08: 104 employees). The average number of temporary staff employed during the year was 1 (2007/08: 2).

The Sports Council operates a special bonus scheme (see CSC 19/89), which makes provision for payments of special bonuses to reward exceptional performance in particularly demanding tasks or situations at any time in the year. These special bonuses take the form of taxable, non-pensionable, lump sum payments. Fifty one awards totalling £9,050 were made in 2008/09, (2007/08: seven awards totalling £4,750).

Under terms and conditions of service, staff are entitled to an issue of luncheon vouchers to the approximate value of 70p per day. The entitlement for full time staff is 55 vouchers per quarter issued quarterly in advance. Part time staff are entitled to luncheon vouchers on a pro rata basis to the full time equivalent.

### **Chief Executive's Remuneration**

The Chief Executive's total remuneration including employer's costs in 2008/09 was £135,176 (2007/08: £117,152). Salary for the Chief Executive includes back pay from previous years. He is an ordinary member of the Northern Ireland Local Government Officers' Superannuation Committee scheme. The Chief Executive was appointed in June 1994 for a contract period of five years. The contract was renewed in 1998 and is termed a permanent post.

As part of the Service Level Agreement with Sports Council Exchequer the Chief Executive's time is now incorporated within the desk charge.

### **Sports Council Members Emoluments**

The Chairman received honorarium totalling £10,584 (2007/08: £2,709). The Ex Chairman and Ex Vice-Chairman of the Sports Council received honorariums totalling £7,959 and £2,625 respectively in 2007/08. The Chairman's honorarium is not normally recharged to the Lottery Distribution Account. As there was no Vice-Chairman in position during the year, £3,528 of the Chairman's salary was 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.

### **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. It is contracted out of the State Second Pension. Employees' contributions are fixed (mostly at the level of 6% of pay). Employers pay the balance of the cost of the scheme. The actual cost will not be known until the final pensioner dies, and employers' contributions are set to meet the expected cost of the benefit. The employers' contributions are reviewed at a series of three yearly valuation exercises. The last formal valuation of the Fund was at 31 March 2007, with the next formal valuation due as at 31 March 2010.

In order to assess the value of the Employer's liabilities in the Fund as at 31 March 2009, 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 FRS17.

The key assumptions for the roll forward valuation at 31 March 2009 are set out below. The figures marked 'real' are net of assumed price inflation.

Assumptions	31 March 2009	31 March 2008
	% p.a. Nominal	% p.a. Nominal
Inflation/Pension Increase Rate	3.1%	3.6%
Salary Increase Rate	4.6%	5.1%
Expected Return on Assets	6.5%	7.3%
Discount Rate	6.9%	6.9%

The average future life expectancies at age 65 are:

	<b>Males</b>	<b>Females</b>
Current Pensioners	19.6 Years	22.5 Years
Future Pensioners	20.7 Years	23.6 Years

The return on the Fund in market value terms for the year to 31 March 2009 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 2008 to 31 December 2008	(16.3%)
Estimated Return for Period from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2009	(23.2%)

The actuary used a number of financial assumptions during the year, which resulted in the following amounts shown in the balance sheet:

Assets (Employer)	31 March 2009			31 March 2008			31 March 2007		
	Long Term Return % p.a.	SCNI Assets £(000)	Group Assets £(000)	Long Term Return % p.a.	SCNI Assets £(000)	Group Assets £(000)	Long Term Return % p.a.	SCNI Assets £(000)	Group Assets £(000)
Equities	7.0%	4,330	4,632	7.7%	5,785	6,187	7.8%	5,349	5,692
Bonds	5.4%	830	888	5.7%	850	886	4.9%	1,001	1,065
Property	4.9%	415	444	5.7%	596	634	5.8%	730	777
Cash	4.0%	356	381	4.8%	113	122	4.9%	81	86
<b>Total</b>	<b>6.5%</b>	<b>5,931</b>	<b>6,345</b>	<b>7.3%</b>	<b>7,344</b>	<b>7,829</b>	<b>7.2%</b>	<b>7,162</b>	<b>7,620</b>

Net Pension Asset as at	31 March 2009 £(000)		31 March 2008 £(000)		31 March 2007 £(000)	
	SCNI Assets	Group Assets	SCNI Assets	Group Assets	SCNI Assets	Group Assets
Estimated Employer Assets	5,931	6,345	7,344	7,829	7,162	7,620
Present Value of Scheme Liabilities	(8,008)	(8,515)	(8,138)	(8,626)	(8,848)	(9,400)
<b>Net Pension Liability</b>	<b>(2,077)</b>	<b>(2,170)</b>	<b>(794)</b>	<b>(797)</b>	<b>(1,686)</b>	<b>(1,780)</b>

The valuation revealed that the Net Pension Asset as at 31 March 2009 is a liability of £2,170,000 (2007/08: £796,500). 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.

Contributions for the year were as follows:

	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Employers	389,793	426,150	279,124	309,381
Employees	167,333	181,875	139,074	152,249
<b>Total</b>	<b>557,126</b>	<b>608,025</b>	<b>418,198</b>	<b>461,630</b>

The following are notes from the actuaries report at the 31 March 2009:

<b>Amount Charged to Operating Cost Statement</b>	<b>31 March 2009 £(000)</b>		<b>31 March 2008 £(000)</b>	
	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>
Service Cost	277	312	391	428
Past Service Cost	-	-	66	66
Curtailement and Settlements	-	-	-	-
Decrease in Irrecoverable Surplus	-	-	-	-
<b>Total Operating Charge (A)</b>	<b>277</b>	<b>312</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>494</b>

<b>Amount Credited to Other Finance Income</b>	<b>31 March 2009 £(000)</b>		<b>31 March 2008 £(000)</b>	
	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>
Expected Return on Employer Assets	(549)	(586)	(520)	554
Interest on Pension Scheme Liabilities	570	606	488	(519)
<b>Net Return (B)</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>(32)</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Net Revenue Account Cost (A)-(B)</b>	<b>298</b>	<b>292</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>459</b>

<b>Analysis of Amount Recognised in Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses</b>	<b>31 March 2009 £(000)</b>		<b>31 March 2008 £(000)</b>	
	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>
<b>Actuarial Gain/(Loss) Recognised in STRGL</b>	<b>(1,362)</b>	<b>(1,455)</b>	<b>1,039</b>	<b>1,137</b>
Cumulative Actuarial Gains and (Losses)	(1,489)	(1,484)	(127)	(29)

<b>Movement in Deficit During the Year</b>	<b>31 March 2009 £(000)</b>		<b>31 March 2008 £(000)</b>	
	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>	<b>SCNI</b>	<b>GROUP</b>
Surplus/(Deficit) at Beginning of the Year	(794)	(797)	(1,686)	(1,780)
Current Service Cost	(277)	(312)	(391)	(428)
Employer Contributions	377	413	278	305
Contributions in Respect of Unfunded Benefits	-	-	-	-
Other Income	-	-	-	3
Other Outgoings (e.g. expenses etc)	-	-	(66)	(66)
Past Service Costs	-	-	-	-
Impact of Settlements and Curtailments	-	-	-	-
Net Return on Assets	(21)	(20)	32	32
Actuarial Gains/(Losses)	(1,362)	(1,454)	1,039	1,137
<b>Deficit at End of Year</b>	<b>(2,077)</b>	<b>(2,170)</b>	<b>(794)</b>	<b>(797)</b>

History of Experience Gains and Losses	31 March 2009 £(000)		31 March 2008 £(000)	
	SCNI	GROUP	SCNI	GROUP
Difference Between the Expected and Actual Return on Assets	(2,296)	(2,453)	(783)	(829)
Value of Assets	5,931	6,345	7,344	7,829
<b>Percentage of Assets</b>	<b>(38.7%)</b>	<b>(38.7%)</b>	<b>(10.7%)</b>	<b>(10.7%)</b>
Experience Gains/(Losses) on Liabilities	-	-	(80)	(80)
Total Present Value of Liabilities	8,008	8,515	8,138	8,626
<b>Percentage of the Total Present Value of Liabilities</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>(1.0%)</b>	<b>(1.0%)</b>
Actuarial Gains/Losses Recognised in STRGL	1,362	1,454	1,039	1,137
Total Present Value of Liabilities	8,008	8,515	8,138	8,626
<b>Percentage of the Total Present Value of Liabilities</b>	<b>17.0%</b>	<b>17.1%</b>	<b>12.8%</b>	<b>12.8%</b>

## 6. Taxation

Sports Council carried out a review of its tax treatment. As part of the review it was identified that Sports Council is subject to corporation tax.

	2009 SCNI £	2009 GROUP £	2008 SCNI £	2008 GROUP £
Corporation Tax Current Year	3,661	-	5,567	5,567
Corporation Tax and Interest Previous Year	-	-	21,055	21,055
Total Corporation Tax	<u>3,661</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>26,622</u>	<u>26,622</u>



**7a. Fixed Assets - Tangible**

	<b>Assets Under Construction</b>	<b>Buildings</b>	<b>Specialist Sports Equipment</b>	<b>Furniture and Fittings</b>	<b>Motor Vehicles</b>	<b>Computer Equipment</b>	<b>Total SCNI</b>	<b>Total GROUP</b>
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost or Valuation								
At 1 April	262,718	447,065	85,338	55,186	75,301	330,054	1,255,662	1,298,733
Additions	771,952	-	57,198	40,425	33,746	287,750	1,191,071	1,331,099
Disposals	-	-	(12,273)	(7,984)	(26,130)	(50,345)	(96,732)	(96,732)
At 31 March	<u>1,034,670</u>	<u>447,065</u>	<u>130,263</u>	<u>87,627</u>	<u>82,917</u>	<u>567,459</u>	<u>2,350,001</u>	<u>2,533,100</u>
Depreciation								
At 1 April	-	284,702	55,490	52,199	44,951	235,592	672,934	678,974
Provided During Year	-	89,413	10,039	1,796	13,539	66,923	181,710	207,862
Disposals	-	-	(12,273)	(7,984)	(26,130)	(49,934)	(96,321)	(96,321)
At 31 March	<u>-</u>	<u>374,115</u>	<u>53,256</u>	<u>46,011</u>	<u>32,360</u>	<u>252,581</u>	<u>758,323</u>	<u>790,515</u>
Net Book Value								
At 31 March 2008	<u>262,718</u>	<u>162,363</u>	<u>29,848</u>	<u>2,987</u>	<u>30,350</u>	<u>94,462</u>	<u>582,728</u>	<u>619,759</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>1,742,585</u>

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

	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Short Leasehold	1,107,620	1,107,620	425,081	425,081

Buildings refer to the Tollymore Mountain Centre, which were valued by the Valuation and Lands Agency (VLA) on 1 April 2003 at depreciated replacement cost of £320,367. The Tollymore Mountain Centre is being re-developed and a number of associated costs with this project have been capitalised. The Centre will not be professionally valued again until the new build is complete. The existing building has 1 year of depreciation remaining.

The land which the Tollymore Mountain Centre resides on was held by the SCNI Trust. Sports Council Northern Ireland acts as the Trustee for the SCNI Trust, and SCNI's Council members therefore have control over this land. The land was placed into the Trust in order to transfer the land from the Central Council of Physical Recreation and to ensure it be protected for sporting use. On the 23 April 2009 the courts granted an Order to terminate the SCNI Trust. The lease of the land has been assigned to Sports Council.

The leases entered into in respect of the land at Tollymore Mountain Centre and Altnadue Quarry have been expensed to the Income and Expenditure Account (see Note 15).

#### 7b. Fixed Assets - Intangible

	<b>SCNI Computer Equipment £</b>	<b>Total GROUP £</b>
Cost or Valuation		
At 1 April	424,455	424,455
Additions	143,069	143,069
Disposals	(27,018)	(27,018)
At 31 March	<u>540,506</u>	<u>540,506</u>
Depreciation		
At 1 April	376,715	376,715
Provided During Year	32,291	32,291
Disposals	(24,938)	(24,938)
At 31 March	<u>384,068</u>	<u>384,068</u>
Net Book Value		
At 31 March 2008	<u>47,740</u>	<u>47,740</u>
At 31 March 2009	<u>156,438</u>	<u>156,438</u>

**8. Operating Costs**

	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Travel & Subsistence	168,029	176,357	108,042	113,939
Recruitment	26,328	34,104	39,336	43,213
Training	103,726	113,424	51,786	62,082
Publications, Printing & Stationery and IT Consumables	106,035	107,318	83,463	85,089
Telephones & Postage	90,954	106,496	101,978	105,475
Professional Fees/Consultancy Fees	395,554	412,965	206,528	218,696
Repairs & Renewals	277,333	283,732	204,381	213,978
(Profit)/Loss on Disposal of Fixed Asset	(11,254)	(11,254)	-	-
Quality Initiatives	1,935	1,935	1,619	1,619
Insurance	55,559	68,610	54,980	67,175
Rent & Rates	153,161	315,855	95,840	190,287
Heat & Light	57,187	57,187	46,501	46,501
Caretaking & Cleaning	33,537	33,537	36,387	36,387
Sundry Expenses	3,115	3,115	1,501	1,801
Bad Debts	359	359	492	492
Committees, Receptions & Publicity	646,903	653,078	443,921	456,032
Promotions & Sponsorships	74,966	74,966	45,363	45,363
Information Services, Journals & Subscriptions	162,818	162,818	78,144	78,144
Sports Development	233,033	233,033	193,724	193,724
Coaches	4,436	4,436	2,434	2,433
Fees and Bank Charges	1,802	3,961	981	1,118
<b>Total Other Operating Costs</b>	<b>2,585,516</b>	<b>2,836,032</b>	<b>1,797,401</b>	<b>1,963,548</b>
<b>Total Grants</b>	<b>17,895,499</b>	<b>17,895,499</b>	<b>12,018,170</b>	<b>12,018,170</b>
<b>Total Costs</b>	<b>20,481,015</b>	<b>20,731,531</b>	<b>13,815,571</b>	<b>13,981,718</b>

Rent charged to the income and expenditure is based on a non-commercial arrangement with DCAL.

The deficit in the income and expenditure account is after charging:

	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Depreciation of owned assets:	214,001	240,153	208,764	213,188
Hire of land:	2,400	2,400	900	900
Hire of other assets:	1,634	1,634	1,634	1,634

**9. Notional Costs**

The income and expenditure account bears a non-cash charge for interest relating to the use of capital by the Sports Council. The basis of the charge is 3.5% (2007/08 – 3.5%) of the average capital employed by the Sports Council during the year, defined as total assets less total liabilities.

	<b>2009 SCNI</b>	<b>2009 GROUP</b>	<b>2008 SCNI</b>	<b>2008 GROUP</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Notional Cost of Capital	(759)	913	(27,367)	(27,367)
Notional Auditors Remuneration	18,000	18,000	18,000	18,000
Total Notional Costs	17,241	18,913	(9,367)	(9,367)

**10. Stock of Luncheon Vouchers**

	<b>2009 SCNI</b>	<b>2009 GROUP</b>	<b>2008 SCNI</b>	<b>2008 GROUP</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Opening Stock 1 April	33	33	57	57
Receipts	12,867	12,867	11,085	11,085
Issued to Staff	(12,890)	(12,890)	(11,109)	(11,109)
Closing Stock 31 March	10	10	33	33

**11. Debtors and Prepayments (Amounts Due Within One Year)**

<b>11 (a). Analysis by Type</b>	<b>Note</b>	<b>2009 SCNI</b>	<b>2009 GROUP</b>	<b>2008 SCNI</b>	<b>2008 GROUP</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade Debtors		24,647	35,077	67,688	67,688
Prepayments and Other Debtors		85,326	216,958	286,859	306,226
Amount Owed by Lottery		1,772,156	1,772,156	272,779	317,662
Grant Claw back		3,450	3,450	20,777	20,777
Total		1,885,579	2,027,641	648,103	712,353

**11 (b). Intra Government Balances**

	<b>2009 SCNI</b>	<b>2009 GROUP</b>	<b>2008 SCNI</b>	<b>2008 GROUP</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Balances with central government	1,900	1,900	-	-
Balances with local authorities	8	8	3,200	3,200
Balances with other government organisations	1,785,593	1,891,548	471,681	516,564
Balances with bodies external to government	98,078	134,185	173,222	192,589
	1,885,579	2,027,641	648,103	712,353

**12. Cash**

<b>Cash at Bank and in Hand</b>	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Bank	442,520	469,306	1,099,800	1,149,985
Petty Cash	400	400	400	400
Total Cash at Bank and in Hand	442,920	469,706	1,100,200	1,150,385

<b>Petty Cash Movement</b>	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Petty Cash – 1 April	400	400	400	400
Petty Cash – 31 March	400	400	400	400
Net Movement in Petty Cash	-	-	-	-

<b>Cash at Bank Movement</b>	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Cash at Start of Year	1,099,800	1,149,985	555,844	575,172
Net Cash Inflow/(Outflow)	(657,280)	(680,679)	543,956	574,813
Cash in Bank at 31 March	442,520	469,306	1,099,800	1,149,985

**13. Creditors (Amounts Falling Due Within One Year)**

<b>13 (a). Analysis by Type</b>	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Trade Creditors	-	126,071	1,276	51,814
Grant Creditor	920,876	920,876	1,632,805	1,632,805
VAT	5,940	5,940	15,985	15,985
Other Tax and Social Security	31,580	31,580	24,043	30,722
Other Creditors	-	-	-	3,447
Accruals	723,525	741,860	256,056	346,858
Deferred Income	8,540	183,889	7,233	7,233
Total	1,690,461	2,010,216	1,937,398	2,088,864

<b>13 (b). Intra Government Balances</b>	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Balances with central government	40,900	40,900	43,724	50,701
Balances with local authorities	21,063	21,063	78,713	78,713
Balances with other government organisations	11,775	187,123	464,566	464,566
Balances with bodies external to government	1,616,723	1,761,130	1,350,395	1,494,884
	1,690,461	2,010,216	1,937,398	2,088,864

**14. Provisions**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2009 SCNI £</b>	<b>2009 GROUP £</b>	<b>2008 SCNI £</b>	<b>2008 GROUP £</b>
Pension Liability	17	<u>2,077,000</u>	<u>2,170,000</u>	<u>794,000</u>	<u>796,500</u>

**15. Leases**

At 31 March 2009 the Sports Council had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as set out below:

	<b>2009</b>		<b>2008</b>	
	<b>Land &amp; Buildings £</b>	<b>Other £</b>	<b>Land &amp; Buildings £</b>	<b>Other £</b>
Operating Leases which Expire:				
Within One Year	-	780	-	872
Within Two and Five Years Inclusive	-	-	-	761
Over Five Years	2,400	-	900	-
Total	<u>2,400</u>	<u>780</u>	<u>900</u>	<u>1,633</u>

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

**16. Commitments**

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

- Surfaces Programme - £182,115;
- Soccer Strategy Programme - £78,047;
- Stadia Safety Programme - £1,103,235;
- Building Sport Programme - £896,983;
- Performance Development Programme -£20,000;
- SINI Capital Build - £55,969; and
- Motor Sport - £273.

Sport Council obtained instruction from Central Procurement Division on 19 January 2009, that it could commence with the contract for the capital redevelopment of the Tollymore Mountain Centre. The total project cost is approximately £3.5m excluding VAT.

Amounts contracted but not provided in the financial statements total £NIL (2007/08: £NIL).

**17. Deferred Capital**

Capital allocations relating to the redevelopment of Tollymore Mountain Centre not yet released

	<b>2009 £</b>	<b>2008 £</b>
At 1 April	267,800	-
Government Grant	700,000	200,000
Adjustment for Previous Year #	-	67,800
At 31 March	<u>967,800</u>	<u>267,800</u>

# Prior year grant had been taken straight to reserves. Adjustment required to reflect true value of grant received to date.

**18. Reconciliation of Movements in Reserves and General Fund**

	<b>General Reserve</b>	<b>Pension Reserve</b>	<b>Revaluation Reserve</b>	<b>Total SCNI</b>	<b>Total GROUP</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
At 1 April	93,355	(794,000)	80,251	(620,394)	(622,894)
Operating Cost	(23,127,857)	79,000	-	(23,048,857)	(23,046,857)
GIA Received From DCAL	23,484,000	-	-	23,484,000	23,484,000
GIA Received From DCMS	915,365	-	-	915,365	915,365
Release of Revaluation Reserve	-	-	(26,750)	(26,750)	(26,750)
Actuarial Gains/(Losses)	-	(1,362,000)	-	(1,362,000)	(1,454,500)
<b>At 31 March</b>	<b>1,364,863</b>	<b>(2,077,000)</b>	<b>53,501</b>	<b>(658,636)</b>	<b>(751,636)</b>

**19. Contingent liabilities****1. Fraud at Sports Institute Northern Ireland**

DCAL have approved Sports Council underwriting 50% of the loss which arose at the SINI. The loss of £75,041 arose due to fraudulent activity, and to date £65,036 has been recovered. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> December 2009, DCAL gave SNI approval to write off the outstanding amount from the lottery fund.

The Sports Institute for Northern Ireland has a contingent liability to repay grants received should certain conditions under which they were awarded cease to be fulfilled.

**2. 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 £43,997.15 for these third party costs and awaits further clarification as to what other costs may be classified as eligible before making any further payments.

**3. Equal Pay**

The former Minister for Finance and Personnel Northern Ireland announced measures in May 2008 to address equal pay issues in the Northern Ireland Civil Service. Sports Council is linked to the civil service pay award system, as it uses the pay scales for remunerating staff, but currently would not be part of central government requirements in relation to equal pay, as it is a Non Departmental Government Body.

There is a potential obligation that Sports Council may have to comply with equal pay legislation and to address any anomalies that may exist in its present pay and grading structures. Sports Council considers that a reliable estimate cannot be made, at this point in time, of the potential liability relating to this issue, including establishing clearly the extent to which the claims may be valid, the groups of staff that might be entitled to a payment and the size of those payments. Consequently, Sports Council do not consider that it is possible to reach a reliable estimate of the obligation, and thus make a provision under the criteria set out in FRS12.

## 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.

Grant/ Contract £	Organisation	Individual	Position	Relationship
1,699,552	Ulster Council of GAA	C Dorris	Investment Assurance Officer	Person Connected – Former Subscribing Member
		S O'Neill	Development Assistant	Person Connected – Part Time Referee
1,059,228	Irish Football Association	K Drennan	Finance Officer	Person Connected – Member
		M Muldoon	Council Member	Ex Board Member
327,317	Netball NI	K Drennan	Finance Officer	Person Connected – Former President
		N Lennon	Development Assistant	Subscribing Member
396,560	Canoe Association NI	T Fisher	TMC Manager	Subscribing Member
		R Gregg	Talent ID Manager	Subscribing Member
		O Hallissey	TMC Senior Instructor	Coaching Panel Member
		N Harkness	Director of Participation and Facilities	Member and Former Squad Member
		M McClure	Countryside Recreation Officer	Former Honorary Officer Subscribing Member
		K O'Hara	TMC Senior Instructor	Subscribing Member
314,057	Mountaineering Ireland	T Fisher	TMC Manager	Subscribing Member
		K O'Hara	TMC Senior Instructor	Subscribing Member
		J Poots	Performance Sport Manager	Person Connected – Subscribing Member
		R Van Ry	Grants Officer	Subscribing Member
		J Waring	Development Officer	Subscribing Member
124,914	Lisburn Racquets Club	D Gaston	Grants Team Manager	Person Connected – Subscribing Member



Sports Council for Northern Ireland Exchequer Account 2008-2009

Grant/ Contract £	Organisation	Individual	Position	Relationship
379,430	CAAN	N Harkness	Director of Participation and Facilities	Member
		O Brown	Council Member	Non-Executive Director
		M McClure	Countryside Recreation Officer	Member
388,700	Basketball NI	HB Hudson	Development Officer	Member of Basketball Club
		N Lennon	Development Assistant	Subscribing Member
48,788	Castlereagh Borough Council	D McAuley	Development Officer	Person Connected - Employee
496,219	Cycling Ulster	M McGreevy	Development Officer	Person Connected – Subscribing Member
821,226	Lavey GAC	C McGurk	Building Sport Manager	Subscribing Member
2,519,458	Ulster Branch Irish Rugby Football Union	C Moore	Performance Consultant	Former Employee
		H McCaughey	Council Member	Ex Committee Member and Current Honorary Officer
		D Walsh	Chairman	Former Non Executive Advisor on Commercial Committee
		B McCargo	Council Member	Subscribing Member
188,793	Glen Rovers GAC	P O'Toole	Development Assistant	Person Connected - Member
997,120	Ulster Branch Irish Hockey Association	D Smyth	Development Officer	Coach
		O Brown	Council Member	Person Connected - Member
202,691	NI Commonwealth Games	L Strong	Development Officer	Person Connected – Former Director
		A Strong	Council Member	Former Director
		D O'Connor	Council Member	Member of Delhi 2010 Committee
		J D'Arcy	Council Member	Former Director
370,308	Ulster Branch Table Tennis Association	L Strong	Development Officer	Person Connected – Former Director
		A Strong	Council Member	Person Connected – Honorary Officer
230,131	Belfast Activity Centre	R Van Ry	Grants Officer	Former Employee and Current Volunteer
175,585	Strabane District Council	P Faithfull	External Member to Places Committee	Employee
222,105	Lagan Valley Orienteer's	M Cowan	Council Member	Former Subscribing Member
245,000	Belfast Royal Academy	B MaCaulay	Council Member	Person Connected - Attends
		D Walsh	Chairman	Governor

Grant/ Contract £	Organisation	Individual	Position	Relationship
24,000	NI Blind Golf	B MaCaulay	Council Member	Provides Professional Assistance through Work
380,970	North Down Borough Council	A Money Penny	Council Member	External Member to Audit and Risk Committee
10,000	Belfast Marathon	A Sloan	Director of Corporate Services	Honorary Member
		D O'Connor	Council Member	Chairman and Honorary Member
3,000,000	University of Ulster	A Strong	Council Member	Employee

**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:

- Hugh McCaughey (Former Chair)
- 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).

During the year, Sports Council made an award of £240,000 to the Sports Institute Northern Ireland.

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 (2007/08: NIL). A bad debt provision of £851 (2007/08: £492) has been made in the accounts for Coaching NI.

During the year losses arose of £4,410. (2007/08: NIL). These related to the following:

Description	Written Down Value £
Theft of a Sports Institute NI Laptop	1,435
Conference – Non Attendance by Recipient	855
Conference – Non Attendance by Recipient	1,464
Specialised Sports Equipment Stores Loss	656
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,410</b>

Sports Council has accrued £45,000 in the financial year 2008/09, to cover a proportion of the other parties costs associated with the Judicial Review case.

## 22. Derivatives and other Financial Instruments

FRS13 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. Post Balance Sheet Event

On the 23 April 2009 the courts granted an Order to terminate the SCNI Trust. The lease of the land at Tollymore Mountain Centre has been transferred to Sports Council.

There have been no other significant events between the year end and the date of approval of these accounts which would require a change to or disclosure in the accounts.

The Annual Report and Accounts were authorised by the Accounting Officer to be issued on 4 February 2011.

## 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 it’s funding via a Sports Council Lottery grant. At the year end 31 March 2009 there was a deficit of £4,000 for the year, and net liabilities of £186,000.

**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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