



10 May 2016

Dear Colleagues

Sport England Strategy

The new Sport England strategy remains on schedule to be published on 17 May, the Board having met again this week to consider the content and approach. It will, as promised by Sporting Future, be new and different, so we would like people to have the chance to read and digest it fully before having to think about investment applications and the operational detail. We are aiming therefore to publish the investment guide for NGBs by 31 May, so two weeks after the release of our strategy.

Apart from giving us more time to get it right (!), I hope it means the conversations we will have with you after publication will be more productive. We want to give you the chance to really understand the key concepts of our new strategy as this will help us in that initial discussion about where and how we might align and work together. The investment guide will explain our aims and timetable in full, including the approach to talent development.

Commonwealth Games England

The Sport England Board has recently agreed a lottery award to Commonwealth Games England through to March 2019. This funding will support their infrastructure and planning work in preparing and managing a successful Team England to compete at the 2018 Commonwealth Games in the Gold Coast, Australia.

Major Events Engagement Fund

To date through the Major Events Engagement Fund we have supported nearly 20 sports and attracted an additional £500,000 of investment from partners for engagement programmes around the 'Gold Event Series'. Within the next few weeks, we will be receiving the final few applications that we are anticipating for this funding period. This is an opportune time to review the achievements of the fund so far and identify the place for major events support in Sport England's new strategy from 2017. If you have any views please contact Katie.Legg@SportEngland.org.

Emyr Roberts – Moving On

Having been at Sport England for nearly 7 years in the role as Strategic Lead for Talent Development, Emyr has made a decision to leave the organisation.

His plan is to take a well-deserved, short career break and have a few months off over the summer period to re-appraise his future, think about what else there is to achieve and also spend some dedicated quality time with his family and young children. He plans to then consider options and opportunities for a new and different challenge in the autumn.

In his time with us, Emyr has displayed real passion, commitment and technical expertise in talent and high performance sport. He has made a significant contribution and firmly embedded our talent function within the sporting landscape. Emyr has overseen and guided a Sport England talent investment in excess of £200m since he arrived in 2009 from UK Sport, and during the last seven years he has built and led a small but expert talent team. He has developed positive and professional working relationships with a large number of NGBs and other key stakeholders such as UK Sport and Commonwealth Games England.

Emyr has been a popular and well respected colleague within the NGB and Sport Directorate and across the organisation. He will be sorely missed and I am sure everyone will wish him well in his future endeavours. Emyr will be leaving Sport England in June, but in the meantime he will continue to lead and support our talent agenda as we prepare for the launch of our new SE strategy and future investment plans for talent.

His departure means I will be taking a look at the way we manage our talent and performance work, and I will keep you informed once any decisions are made.

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