



LONDON SPORTS BOARD

MINUTES

Second Meeting 2006

Held on Thursday 23rd March, 9:00 at Sport England, Victoria House, Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1B 4SE

Present:

Chairman
Philip Lewis

Members:

Prof Steve Hodgkinson
Mr Alex Welsh
Ms Ros Potts
Prof Sue Atkinson
Mr Murad Qureshi

Regional Director:

Matthew Delaney

Officers:

Mr Andy Sacha
Ms Holly Woodford
Mr Andy Couves
Ms Shirley Burgess – minutes
Ms Leigh Simpson – minutes

In attendance:

Cathy Livock - PMP
Helen Delany – PMP

1 Apologies for absence & Declarations of Interest

Apologies were received from Ms Rosi Prescott, Ms Andree Deane, Mr Mike Farlane, Dr Colin King, Mr Mohni Gujral, Ms Lyn Brown, Mr Neil Taylor and Ms Paula Craig. There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting

Point 3 - It was clarified that a Sub Regional playing field strategy had already been written prior to Alex and Murad's meeting at the GLA and the purpose of the meeting was to inform on the strategy.

3 Matters Arising

Point 4 – The issue around the future of the Football Foundation was raised with the existence of the National Sports Foundation. It was confirmed that the two would remain as separate entities with support from the Football Foundation gradually reducing. There is a need to ensure that the two are not funding the same projects and making sense of the single system. It was agreed that Steve Hodgkinson would arrange a meeting with the Football Foundation to discuss closer working relationships.

Point 8 – There have been further discussions between Matt Delaney, Rob McLean, Rosi and Sue that have concluded with proceeding with three physical activity and health coordinators for now and reviewing after July. There is a strong likelihood that there will be one Strategic Health Authority across London (although this has not been confirmed yet) with the Primary Care Trusts staying co-terminus with the local authorities. The need to signal strong relationships between the sub regions and PCT's were expressed.

Point 5 – It was stated that the follow up is needed for setting up a task group to look at issues relating to 2012 and talent development.

5 Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks

This item was submitted to the Board for decision.

Holly Woodford was congratulated on taking up her new role as Head of Delivery. Holly introduced Cathy Livock and Helen Delany from PMP consultants who have carried out monitoring and evaluation on 10 Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks (CSPANS) broken down into 2 per sub region. Cathy presented a summary of the findings, detailing how there are a wide range of CSPAN structures, with the most successful being those that are flexible to their local context and have clear terms of reference, reporting lines and ownership. Not all of the CSPANS examined had action plans and there was a need for more monitoring and evaluation within the networks.

Phillip Lewis expressed the importance of gaining the customers perspective in understanding the success of a network in increasing participation and widening access.

There were some misgivings about the Local Authority's role in CSPAN coordination but it was felt that the Local Authority geographical boundaries should be followed, and that even though the Local Authorities had an important part to play in the partnerships they should not necessarily be leading them. Sue suggested that Local Area Agreements are a key lever to use in implementing the CSPANS over the next year.

Sue agreed to assist Holly in developing a framework over the next 6 weeks.

The board agreed that it is important to build on the CSPANS that are already there, and to think about further resourcing, collating baseline data and ensuring a linked and joined up approach. The need for clarity on whether the CSPANS are a network of deliverers was also established. It was agreed that the London Sports Board are to formulate a framework and sub regions are to set the targets.

If PMP were to carry out any further research it would be useful to devise a way of measuring the success of CSPANS, including using the customers feedback.

Phillip Lewis suggested that it would be useful to invite representatives from a CSPAN to a Board Meeting for feedback and that there is a role for the sub regional partnerships to collect good practice examples.

4 & 8 Chair's Report and Board Engagement (ways of working)

Philip Lewis stated that he was keen to utilise the specific skill sets and experience of board members in the most effective way possible. There was an understanding that all board members were busy people and therefore time spent had to be of a high quality. The board needed to decide the most effective way of operating and in providing support, direction and added value to the regional staff.

Philip suggested that in the light of all the good work that has been carried out through the Partnership recruitment (which was seen as a model of good practice), it would be effective for board members to be given specific responsibilities. It was suggested that with the wealth and breadth of knowledge between board members, there was an opportunity to make better use of member's expertise and become more strategic, perhaps through more regular, early and shorter meetings.

Sue expressed concerns over members working in silos and also requested that a deputy could be sent in her place when she was unable to attend board meetings. This was agreed, however the deputy would not be able to make decisions on behalf of Sue.

Matt Delaney commented on the good feedback received from the investment sub group utilising board members, suggesting that the delivery plan should be brought to the board in order to complement board activity with delivery plan activity.

A special task force meeting will be set up to establish new Board ways of working.

6 Single System/2012/GLA

This item was submitted to the board for decision in order to establish ways of working with regional partners. The recommendation to set up a regional stakeholders group of delivery partners, sub regional directors and Sport England colleagues is a necessary to ensure consistency across the 5 sub regional partnerships and a joined up strategy in order to deliver objectives. The importance of involving health representatives in the delivery agencies group was expressed, and also the importance of targeting the right person in each agency. The board agreed to the recommendation and suggested that Anne Green the 2012 representative should also be involved in the regional stakeholders group.

The list of partnership board members recently recruited was circulated and the high calibre of backgrounds and status was noted. The extraordinary work from the Board members and their involvement in the recruitment was commended and Holly thanked the members for their commitment, which has contributed to 2 partnerships now being "Fit for Purpose". There are still vacancies in the Central, North and West with Chair positions still to fill. The Board agreed that Board members would remain as the chair in these sub regions until a suitable replacement could be found, with the possibility that they could remain as the board member if appropriate and if they were willing to stand.

A very positive message had come out of the Memorandum of Agreement signing evenings with good attendance and clear views that applicants did not have to be recruited onto the board in order to be involved with the partnership.

The Board agreed that we should organise an ALL board members meeting at Victoria House, after working hours.

7 LAP Ltd – LSB

This item was submitted to the Board for discussion and decision. LAP Limited have requested recognition from the London Sports Board and submitted a proposal to the board outlining their potential role and function. Although it was recognised that as LAP Ltd were a company limited by guarantee, the Board could not officially direct them to do anything it was agreed that the board and Sport England would not recognise LAP Ltd as a formal (Pan London) structure within the Delivery System for Community Sport and would discourage any relationship between LAP Ltd and the 5 Sub Regional Partnerships. This was as a result of (amongst other factors) LAP Ltd's failure to submit a robust action plan. It was also felt that the sporting landscape was different now to when LAP Ltd was created and that there was no longer a need for them. The board and the region had worked very hard to simplify the delivery of sport in London and it was felt that involvement of LAP Ltd would confuse matters. It was also noted that the emerging National Sports Foundation would now be the vehicle for delivering many of the outcomes that LAP suggested they could deliver. Concerns were expressed over the confusion around the situation escalating, and it was agreed that a strong message should be circulated to partners explaining that the Board and Sport England does not support LAP Limited. It was also suggested that the ALG should channel LAP funding directly to the London Youth Games.

9 Investment Sub Group - LSB

Andy Sacha thanked board members for their contributions to the investment sub group that have been very useful and noted that the sub group is now working very effectively. The quality of funding applications is also starting to improve.

Phillip Lewis suggested that it would be useful for the Board to see examples of rejected applications and for the level of partnership funding to be presented at Board meetings with the investment sub group report – Andy Sacha to provide.

10 National Sports Foundation

This item was submitted to the Board for information and it was noted from the outset that this was very much still work in progress and not to be shared with external partners at this stage. The National Sports Foundation will be responsible for channelling public and private funding into grass roots sport. It is likely that a proportion of the funding will be allocated to the 'big 5' sports with the remainder divided by the 9 regions to distribute depending on regional priorities. This will be a good opportunity to open up discussions with the private sector that are showing a renewed interest in sport and physical activity with 2012 in mind. It will be important to ensure that there is no duplication with other funding streams. In light of the item discussed around a response to LAP Limited, it was noted that the National Sports Foundation replaces what LAP Limited on a much grander scale.

11 Regional Directors Report

The Regional Director reported on the current staffing structure following the restructure. There are currently 6 vacancies in the team. 2 new staff members have taken up post and Holly has taken up the role of Head of Delivery leaving a vacancy that will be advertised externally. The London Region is therefore working below capacity at the busiest delivery-planning period. We are confident however that we will deliver on all major pieces of work and a report will be brought back to the next Board meeting.

We are embarking on a new delivery process with Tim Garfield as Policy and Improvement Director leading the process from a strong regional perspective. With London Region being the Community Sport Legacy Lead there is also a great opportunity for us to 2012 proof the delivery plan.

Matt reinforced that in an uncertain time leading up to and following a restructure, the team have achieved some amazing work and the Board members echoed these sentiments.

12 AOB

Matt requested that any GLA related issues should be brought to him over the next few days as Matt and Phil are meeting with Peter Lewis next week

Following on from the request for Regional Sports Boards to assign a voluntary sector champion, Alex Welsh had expressed his interest in taking on this role. Any other Board Members wishing to do so should advise Matt. With the importance of volunteering and the voluntary sector to the success of the Olympics, Philip Lewis suggested that this is to become a much bigger issue than it has been in the past.

13 Date of next meeting

The next Board meeting is to be held on May 18th at 9.00 am, Victoria House.

A Board meeting for Partnership Board Members and London Sports Board Members will be scheduled for Late April at Victoria House, after working hours. To be confirmed.

Actions

Steve Hodkinson - arrange a meeting with the Football Foundation and SE regional officers – before the next board meeting

Steve Hodkinson/Philip Lewis – organise a task group to look at future ways of working – before the next board meeting

Leigh Simpson – To organise dates for this meeting.

Prof Sue Atkinson - To assist Holly in developing a CSPAN framework over the next 6 weeks.

Leigh Simpson – To schedule an ALL board members meeting at Victoria House, after working hours.

Board members – e-mail Matt Delaney any concerns/issues with the GLA they might have before Thursday

Andy Sacha - To provide examples of rejected applications at the next Board meeting and to provide the level of partnership funding with the investment sub group report.

LS
24.03.06