



LONDON SPORTS BOARD

LSB(06)

MINUTES

First meeting 2006

Held on Thursday 9th February, 09:30 at Sport England, 3rd Floor, Victoria House, Bloomsbury Square, London, WC1B 4SE

Present:

Chairman

Philip Lewis

Members:

Prof Steve Hodgkinson

Mr Alex Welsh

Ms Ros Potts

Ms Rosi Prescott

Mr Neil Taylor

Ms Lyn Brown

Ms Andree Deane

Regional Director:

Matthew Delaney

Officers:

Mr Jonathan Bruck

Mr Rob McLean

Ms Shirley Burgess – minutes

In attendance:

Mr John Harkin – Health & Physical Activity Advisor

1 Welcome, Apologies and Declarations of Interest:

The chairman welcomed everyone to our first meeting this year.

Apologies were received from Prof Sue Atkinson, Dr Colin King, Mr Murad Qureshi, Mr Mohni Gujral, Mr Mike McFarlane and Ms Paula Craig. Paula's absence was as a result of her sad loss and the Board expressed their heartfelt condolences to her and her family.

There were no declarations of interest.

2 Minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record.

3 Matters arising:

Point 8 – Alex visited Murad at the GLA and had a very positive meeting, which led to Sub Regional playing field strategy being written. Alex stated that there was need for a report on the impact of 2012 on playing fields. There was a need to be pro-active rather than re-active. The region will have 2 additional planners, which will improve output of planning applications and leverage to work with Local Authority planning departments.

Neil has taken up the post of interim chair for the North Sub Region.

4 Chairman's Report:

The chairman reported that the visit from the Beijing Sports Board delegation in December was both successful and interesting. It was a good opportunity for the region to do something different and has created an important link in view of the Olympics. He congratulated all those concerned and expressed his thanks to Shareena for putting the event together.

We have had a request from the Japanese sports board since the Chinese visit

Steve has made a link with the Chinese education group and will be meeting with them in the near future.

Philip and Andy Sacha (replacing Matt) attended the London 2012 Co-ordinating Group meeting, they were the only representative from a purely sports body there. They had the opportunity to talk about the work of Sport England and the relationships with the 5 Olympic boroughs. Minutes of the meeting were included with LSB meeting papers. The question on the future of Sport in London was raised. It appears that the GLA is developing a strategy to encompass a number of new areas including sport, which would effectively increase responsibilities and create a larger budget for the mayor's portfolio. It was suggested that the London Region might need to consider its position. The mayor is looking at a plan for the strategic overview of London and, would want to sign off and appoint board members. After much discussion it was suggested that more information was needed and a good contact would be Phil Willis at the GLA. Matt is in the process of compiling a formal response to the GLA paper.

Phil mentioned that a few members were coming to the end of their term in office and he would be reviewing this with those members affected.

He reported that Steve had attended the Regional Chairs Dinner in his absence and invited his feedback to the board. Steve reported on discussions at the meeting with Dave Richards of the Football Foundation and regional representation on the board. Intentions to fund projects that less than the current 70% football.

Jon Bruck works with Roger Reed re funding issues and will continue to do so.

It was suggested that 50/50 match funding may not necessarily attract the best project and alternatives should be considered if we are to increase participation.

Football strategy has been updated to include hub sites in each borough for multi sports.

CCPR – wants board representation from each region. Tim Lamb is on Sport England main board.

Philip suggested Football Foundation and CCPR be put on the May meeting agenda.

5. Single System and Embedding 2012

This item was submitted to the board for discussion and decision. It reminds us of how far we have come. The Olympics has added to the mix so we need to look at how 2012 fits with our delivery system.

It was noted that the Nation & Regions group was missing from the diagram circulated. The purpose and direction of the Sport in London Co-ordination working group run by the GLA was called into question. Some members were unclear about the direction the group was taking and perhaps Sport England should be leading this group.

The 5 sub regions are now in place and partnerships is the delivery mechanism. It was suggested that there should be a regional stakeholders group to make policy decisions.

The Sport in London group was set up to deal with 2012 and an additional group may cause confusion. It appears that Sport in London agenda was widening and are planning a sport summit in April – (to share best practice). The group discussed areas such as clarity of role for SE and who might provide the clarification; Retaining autonomy and protecting the delivery system; Defending our mandate of 1% target; Having a representative on the group who can sift through the information and highlight any issues; making sure partnerships work as quickly as possible to ensure that sports doesn't miss out and focussing on the object of 1%.

The board will set up a tasks group to look at issues relating to 2012 and avoid wasteful duplication. Lyn as agreed that the group could meet at her offices at the House of Commons.

It was suggested that the Sport in London summit and Sport England summit had many overlaps and could be merged in to one

The board agreed the following:

- Stick to the current plan
- Clarify and influence role of Sport in London group
- Agree the dates of our Seminar/Summit
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Restructure is still in progress and has affected the regional staffing. Andy was conducting interviews today. Some posts have been filled and others will need to be advertised externally. There will now be a third team – Improvement and Performance – dealing with both internal and external performance. There will be two additional planners and a 2012 development manager. The team has now increased to twenty-one.

6. Talent Development/Building Capacity

The Sport England main board agreed to invest £62.2m some time ago. (London's share £6.261m). This investment was a welcome one and we need to make it work. There are a number of proposals. This is new money and as to be matched from CiF, therefore we will need to ring-fence some CiF funds. The policy is still being shaped. There is a list of priority sports and regions will be able to fund 15 sports out of a list of 36. A project plan will be developed by end of February. Region will need to develop a delivery plan. There was much discussion and it was noted that there might be a problem with potential partnership funding.

We are currently working on two projects, which could link, to talent ID:

- Potential CiF application in Newham
- Baseball/softball setting up facility looking for talent.

We need to consider the demographics and ensure flexibility. It would be helpful to get an ex-world-class athlete on the board. Steve mentioned that three centres of excellence were being looked at an London should be put forward as one. – This would certainly help (stay in sport) retention. Members are asked to feedback comments to Matt.

7. Investment Sub Group.

The investment sub committee met on 24th January to considered four applications for funding. The board noted the sub committee's decisions as set out in LSB (06) 1.3 Appendix 1.

8. Health:

Rob McLean and John Harkin joined the meeting for this discussion.

John is the Sports and Physical Activity Advisor for the North East sub region; Sport England and North East London Strategic Health Authority (NELSHA) jointly fund his post. His role is to make

strategic links at the local level – interfacing at grassroots e.g. with health trainers, advocacy etc. it is envisaged that there will be one Strategic Health Authority for London and work will be from the top down. John's report shows there is a lot happening but its all independent rather than joined up.

Rob mentioned that the Strategic Health Authority restructuring gives us the opportunity to use the sub regional structure more effectively. A Memorandum of Understanding is being developed. 2nd year objectives are being discussed in readiness for April.

A key issue is shortfall of staff in sub regions; south areas have not yet engaged with the South health and physical activity co-ordinators.

The board agreed the recommendations as set out in paper LSB (06) 1.6

Springhill: The board was told that the funds maybe decommitted and allocated to other projects. Matt will draft a letter in response to article written in a magazine in relations to funding/investment in swimming pools.

Sport England could play a lobbying role for swimming pools. Much more could be made of PPP initiatives.

9. Facilities and Investment Team:

The board is asked to note the progress and achievement of the team to date.

Areas highlighted:

- Current restructuring will give the region 2 additional planners and much needed support to Peter.
- The Regional Director wrote to members of the Islington Planning subcommittee regarding Sport England's objections re proposal to close Lamb's Squash Club. The proposal conflicts with the national planning policy guidance (PPG17), which aims to maintain adequate supply of sports facilities.
- London 2012: Andy attended the 2012 Co-ordination working group (see draft minutes included with board papers) There will be a part funded 2012 co-ordinators post. Andy is currently covering this post.

10. Development Team:

The board is asked to note the progress and achievements of the team:

Partnerships Advisors have now been appointed. Thanks expressed to those board members who were involved in the recruitment exercise.

The chairman recognised that this was a difficult time for staff members and wished to thank everyone for their continued hard work during this period of restructuring.

The meeting was interrupted by an evacuation exercise at 12 pm after which members dispersed and the meeting concluded.