

Minutes of the UK Sport Board Meeting held on 7th December 2005 at UK Sport

Present

Chair Sue Campbell

Members Nick Bitel
Julia Bracewell
Louise Martin
Eric Saunders
Philip Carling
Rod Carr
Chris Holmes

UK Sport Staff	Liz Nicholl	Director, Performance
	Neil Shearer	Director, Corporate Services
	Tim Hollingsworth	Director, Policy & Communications
	John Scott	International Director

Board Secretariat Aimée Wells UK Sport

1. Introduction and Apologies for Absence Action

Chair welcomed members to the meeting.

Apologies were received from Lord Patrick Carter and John Steele

2. Declaration of Interest

Members were reminded of the need to declare their interest in any transactions requiring a decision and to remove themselves from such decision making. This would be formally reported in the minutes and on a register completed at the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Board Meeting held on 11th October 2005

Following discussions outlined below, the minutes of the meeting of the 11th October 2005 were approved and signed by the Chair as an accurate record

Item 12 – Members discussed holding the 2006 meetings around the Home Countries. It was agreed that for the time being future meetings should be held in London. **The date of 8th March 2006 may need to be changed if it coincides with the travel plans for the**

Commonwealth Games.

4. Matters Arising

Tim Hollingsworth updated members on the post-2009 Government consultation on lottery funding highlighting the campaigning that UK Sport is currently undertaking to secure current funding and argue for additional percentage share, along with the Home Country Sports Councils. He advised that the consultation period is due to end in February with the Ministers due to report back on their findings in June (slides attached).

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Members will be advised on progress to date at each Board meeting

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5. Executive Team Report

Chair updated members on the division of John Steele's responsibilities in his absence advising that she was taking on his external commitments; Liz Nicholl has been appointed Interim Accounting Officer whilst the rest of the internal workload is being shared amongst the directors.

The Executive Team Report was tabled and members were taken through the past two month's activity with certain items highlighted for information.

6. Board Events Calendar

Members noted paper UKS 53 2005

7. Worldwide Impact

7.1 Minutes & Recommendations of MESG

The following recommendations were proposed and approved:

a) That UK Sport provide a grant contribution of up to £368,000 towards the staging of the U19 Rugby World Championships 2007. Further conditions are to be added as follows:

- £118,000 of the award is to be held as a ring fenced contingency, which can only be accessed with prior approval of UK Sport.
- UK Sport, in partnership with SCNI, must approve the host venues.

b) That UK Sport provide a grant contribution of up to £482,000 with £98,000 ringfenced as a contingency towards the staging of the World Wheelchair Basketball Championships 2010.

c) That UK Sport provide a grant contribution of up to £250,000 towards the staging of the Paralympic World Cup 2006. Further conditions are to be added as follows:

- Fast Track's fee is to be capped at £94,911.
- £30,000 of the award is to be held as a ring fenced contingency, which can only be accessed with prior written

approval of UK Sport.

- *From 2007 onwards, VISA income must be bought into the event budget.*

7.2 World Class Events 2012 Strategy

John Scott introduced paper UKS 55 2005 and asked members to consider the proposal for additional funding.

Members were advised by the Chair of the Major Events Panel that funding on the WCEP programme has been at standstill since its inception and due to inflation, improved professionalism in event delivery and the increased cost of securing events, there is a widening gap between the budget and the needs of WCEP strategy.

Officers have undertaken a review of the event needs of governing bodies in light of the 2012 decision. The need for increased international competition opportunities for performance athletes combined with the need for more highly skilled technical officials to service the 2012 Games has led to an initial assessment of a requirement for an increase of £1.7m p.a. in the WCEP. The WCEP has been one of the most successful programmes of UK Sport and our support and drive for high quality business plans has resulted in a bid success rate of approximately 80%. This reflects in part the knowledge and reputation that UK Sport funding legitimately brings to a bid, as well as the growth of partnership working.

In reviewing the current list of preferred events, members noted the small number being proposed for Scotland, Ireland and Wales. Members asked that more consideration be given to sharing the benefits of events around the home countries. The lack of world class event facilities in Northern Ireland was noted as a current issue.

John Scott advised that consultation was ongoing with the Home Country event companies and RDAs and that this partnership will be central to spreading events appropriately around the country.

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It was agreed that efforts should be made to increase the WCEP budget. It was also agreed that the Finance Director should review the budgets of UK Sport to establish the levels of funds that can be transferred before external funding is considered.

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8. Performance

8.1 2012 Planning

The Chair stated that the presentation and information given by Peter Keen at the Board Awayday in October, which was approved by all members, formed the basis of the UK Sport bid submitted to the Treasury through the DCMS, ahead of the pre-Budget Report. The case submitted was based on the desire to field the largest and most competitive Team GB of modern times, and included proposals for funding both a medal strategy and those sports seeking representation at the Games for the first time. The Chair explained that while no announcement of additional funding was included in the pre-Budget statement, she remains confident that the case for it was well made and understood within Government, and UK Sport will continue, with its partners, to present it and should remain confident of a positive outcome.

Liz Nicholl updated members on the joint UK Sport/BOA meetings held to date with 23 of the 26 Olympic sports and the challenge ahead for some of the 'new' sports to prepare a UK/GB performance strategy for 2012. Work will begin in January.

8.2 Transfer of Responsibilities

Members were updated on the current status of the transfer, in preparation for the formal handover of EIS, TASS and the Potential Programmes responsibilities on 1 April 2005. Liz Nicholl informed them that a project management structure had been put in place. UK Sport's Project Plan had been devised, shared with DCMS and Sport England, and is being regularly monitored/updated. High level strategic discussions continue with key stakeholders, including regular meetings held with Sport England. The key priority at this stage is agreeing with the Governing Bodies and Sport England the level of potential funding to be transferred, in advance of this being converted into % Lottery share via secondary legislation. One to one meetings were being held with sports to ensure this process is carried out quickly and accurately. It was noted that there may still be a perception in the other Home Countries that the transfer will give advantage to English sports and it was agreed that Tim Hollingsworth would meet with Katriona Bush in sportscotland to discuss PR communication of the transfer and the potential benefit for other Home Country pathways and athletes.

8.3 Future Funding of British Athletes Commission

Kirsty Hay joined the meeting to take members through Paper UKS 56 2005.

Members discussed and agreed the following recommendation:

- ***an increase in award for the British Athletes Commission from £50,000 to £100,000, pro-rata for the remainder of this financial year (05-06) and for each of the remaining years of the Beijing cycle - 2006-2007, 2007-2008 and 2008-2009.***

It was agreed that the BAC would be asked to look into expanding its remit to Commonwealth sports as this knowledge may enhance the work of the BAC. Members would welcome a presentation at a future Board Meeting. Members queried whether Chief Executive was an appropriate title for the lead role in a small organisation such as BAC and it was agreed that this would be discussed with BAC.

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Kirsty Hay left the meeting

9. Drug Free Sport

9.1 NGB Agreement

John Scott updated members on progress with the NGB agreement.

Sports were now returning the agreement but the 'big four' retained objections at the linking of funding to UK Anti-doping Policy compliance. They also objected to compliance being linked to 'grass roots sport'

funding. A recent meeting attended by John Scott was held between the minister and these sports where it was made clear the government supported the policy and expected the sports to be compliant. A letter from the minister confirmed this position and made it clear the government makes no distinction between grass roots and performance sport in terms of anti-doping policy. It was noted that in the case of rugby and tennis, their international federation was already Code compliant so the mandatory aspects of the UK Policy were completely at one with the IF rules. Further, the ICC (cricket) had indicated it would be Code compliant removing any objection from cricket. Only FIFA was still in dispute with WADA and this had been passed to CAS for an opinion.

Lord Carter had met with the sports in order to progress Sport England's One Stop Plan funding and had agreed a June deadline for the sports to have signed up or risk suspension of funding with a December deadline when failure would result in funding being removed.

John Scott explained that meetings were ongoing with Sport England in advising them of our position on the wording of the agreement and that a separate letter would go form UK Sport reinforcing the ability of sports to sign up to the agreement as soon as possible.

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The Board reinforced its commitment to the policy and NGB Agreement and supported the position being taken by officers.

Members noted that they fully supported the policy on Athlete Whereabout's and the current rule stating that athletes inform UK Sport of their whereabouts on 5 out of 7 days. Members were concerned about athletes not reporting in if they linked their 2 non-reporting days together, and were advised that UK Sport actively discouraged this.

10. Corporate

10.1 Finance Report

Neil Shearer took members through paper UKS 57 2005 and highlighted the revised format to integrate the current and plan numbers.

The main items noted were

- Cashflow is positive in the current and plan years.
- The income and expenditure is in surplus at the end of the plan period excluding new commitments made at that point.
- Operational costs in the current UK year are in line with budget.

Board members approved the revised 2005/06 budget and noted the latest year to date results

The funding requirement of the events strategy (para 7.2) would be incorporated as far as possible as a revision to the plan numbers.

10.2 Risk Register

Members noted the changes to the risk register and asked that it be formally submitted to the January Board meeting for review/discussion.

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11. For information

11.1 Major Events & Postholders Conference Feedback

Report circulated to members

12. AOB

The Chair of the MESH noted that as he is currently the only board member on the MESH panel, this would need to be considered at the next Board Meeting as part of the appointment of new panel members.

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A discussion on the performance of Athletics would also take place at a future Board meeting.

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13. Dates for 2006, 1030-1330 UK Sport

17th January
8th March
24th May
25th July
20th September
21st November