



**Minutes of the UK Sport Board Meeting held  
on 5 February 2020  
at  
UK Sport, 21 Bloomsbury St, London WC1B 3HF**

**Present**

**Chair** Dame Katherine Grainger

**Attendees:** Annie Panter  
John Dowson  
Martyn Worsley  
Mel Young  
Nick Bitel  
Nicky Roche  
Sally Bolton

**Observers:** John Steele EIS  
Anna Deignan DCMS

**UK Sport Staff:** Sally Munday Chief Executive  
Simon Morton Chief Operating Officer  
Sophie du Sautoy Director of Business Services  
Naomi Hicks Director of Communications and Partnerships  
Michael Bourne Acting Director of Performance  
Krystle Fonyonga General Counsel

Paul Buxton Head of Performance Policy & Investment (item 7.1)  
Rob Morini Head of Governance & International Relations (item 7.2)  
John Donnelly Head of Sport Integrity (item 8.1)  
Simon Fountain In-house Lawyer (item 8.1)  
James Bell Head of Culture & Mental Health (item 9.2)  
Claire Stibbon Senior Leadership & Culture Development Advisor (item 9.2)

**Board Secretary:** Jo Greenall



publication.

## **6. Updates from HCSCs and EIS**

MY (**sportscotland**), NB (Sport England) and JS (EIS) updated on recent progress and challenges.

### **7.1 Paris Performance Investment Strategy**

- **Prioritisation**

MB briefly introduced himself to the Board in his new capacity of Acting Director of Performance. Paul Buxton then joined the meeting to present this item. Paul recapped on discussions to date regarding the prioritisation of resources in the Paris cycle; summarised the key issues that now must be resolved and clarified relative priorities ahead of proposing a Prioritisation Policy which will come to March Board for decision. Board agreed that the paper provided gave an accurate summary of the previous 18 months of discussion.

A member enquired when Board would be able to consider the wider variables: Olympic versus Paralympic, Summer versus Winter, size of AR pot/contingency fund, APAs, Performance Allocation of our overall funding. Paul confirmed that variables will be brought to the March Board meeting.

Paul asked the Board if they agreed that investment should reach all athletes with medal potential in Paris and prioritisation at Podium level should focus on how support is provided. Board agreed with the proposed approach and requested that UKS considers impact on Podium decisions of prioritisation at Academy and Progression levels.

Board members recognised it was important that sufficient time was taken to develop a robust social impact strategy. As such, Board agreed they did not want to use social impact as a metric to determine prioritisation. Board also indicated their support for sending a clear signal and expectation to sports upon funding award that social impact is a major priority and their contribution is expected. Board discussed acceleration of the social impact strategy and asked Executive Team to consider acceleration so it could be aligned with the timeframes for organisational strategy development. NH to consider whether the social impact strategy development can be accelerated to bring back to Board earlier than the end of this calendar year.

- **Performance Ventures**

SMo provided Board with a high-level summary of the Performance Ventures project progress to date. Board then discussed whether UKS would be prepared in principle to invest through a Performance Venture-style body and who should own Performance Ventures. The Board supported continued exploration of Performance Ventures and

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the Executive team will progress further work to enable a recommendation to be tabled at a future Board meeting.

## **7.2 International Relations Update**

Rob Morini joined the meeting and presented Board with an update on the latest intelligence from the IR team, with a focus on possible changes to the sport and event programme for the Paris and LA Games. He noted that this area is of increasing significance to UKS performance ambitions and therefore particularly relevant to investment decisions for 2024 and beyond.

## **8.1 Canoeing Report**

Board discussed the independent investigation report into British Canoeing. They were then asked to approve the Executive team recommendations for next steps. The Board asked the Executive team to follow up on specific matters prior to Board decision.

## **9.1 Summer Annual Review Wave 2**

Board confirmed they had all read the paper, acknowledging the outcomes of the Panels and the decisions taken under CEO delegated authority. Also noted in the paper was the change to the overall Tokyo Olympic medal range.

## **9.2 Culture Health Checks Overview**

James Bell and Claire Stibbon joined the meeting and presented the outcomes of the work undertaken in 2019 to collate cultural insights of World Class Programmes across the High Performance System. Board then reflected on the 3 years of Culture Health Check data.

## **10.1 Information Papers**

The Chair referred Board to a list of information papers they had received, and members were given opportunity to raise any questions on these papers:

- Mission Control Dashboard
- Major Events Annual Impact Report
- UK Sport Board Effectiveness Review

## **10.2 Minutes**

The Chair referred Board to a list of minutes from UK Sport Panels and subsidiary body Boards they had received, and members were given

	<p>opportunity to raise any questions on these:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Yorkshire 2019 Board – 17 October 2019 &amp; 12 December 2019</li><li>• EIS Board – 18 September 2019</li></ul> <p><b>11. Any other business</b></p> <p>SMu requested that Board send any comments on the EIS Working Group Terms of Reference to her by email.</p> <p><b>Date of next meeting: 25 March 2020</b></p>	
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