



**Minutes of the UK Sport Board Meeting held
on 30 March 2021
Microsoft Teams Meeting**

Present

Chair Dame Katherine Grainger

Attendees: Annie Panter
George Lucas
Ismail Amla
John Dowson
Lawrence Conway
Martyn Worsley
Mel Young
Nick Bitel
Nicky Roche
Sally Bolton
Chris Pilling

Observers: Francesca Broadbent DCMS
Sir David Tanner EIS (items 7.3 onwards)

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
Debbie Jenssen Performance Directorate Lead
John Finlay General Counsel
Ian Robinson Head of Corporate Strategy (items 7.1 & 7.2)
Paul Buxton Performance Policy Consultant (item 7.4)
John Donnelly Head of Sport Integrity (item 7.5)
Rob Morini Acting Deputy Director of Governance and International Relations (item 7.6 & 8.1)

Board Secretary: Jordana Wicks

	<p>Prior to the start of the formal Board Meeting, the Chair and members met for a one hour session on Board Effectiveness.</p> <p>1. Introduction and Apologies for Absence</p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting which took place over Microsoft Teams. The Chair stated that Francesca Broadbent was in attendance as the DCMS observer, but that going forwards this would be the new Head of Sport, Adam Conant.</p> <p>There were no apologies, but it was noted that Sir David Tanner would be attending from approximately 13.15, owing to a prior commitment and that Lawrence Conway would need to leave at 15.00.</p> <p>2. Declarations of Interest</p> <p>Members were reminded of the need to declare their interest in any items and to remove themselves from such decision making when required.</p> <p>In addition to the usual conflicts that have been formally declared, the following were noted in respect to the agenda items of the day:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sir David Tanner – Item 7.1, EIS Investment and Priorities. <p>It was confirmed that Sir David had not received the paper and that this item would be taken before he was due to attend the meeting.</p> <p>3. Chair’s Introductory Remarks</p> <p>As part of her introduction, the Chair informed board that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ismail Amla had taken on the role of UKS Observer on the EIS Board and would also be taking over from Sally Bolton as Board Diversity and Inclusion Champion. • Martyn Worsley has taken on the role of Chair of the UKS Remuneration Committee, replacing the Chair herself. It was explained that this is in view of some governance guidance that it is best practice for a NED rather than the Chair of the Board to Chair a sub-committee. The Chair will still attend the Remuneration Committee as a member. • Sir David Tanner’s interim role of Chair of the EIS is to be extended whilst recruitment is ongoing. <p>4. Approval of the Minutes</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 4 February 2021 were approved as a true record of the meeting.</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
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5. Matters Arising and Executive Team Report

SMu updated on progress with actions from previous meetings and noted anything else significant that Board should be aware of. She reported that the new National Squads Support Fund (NSSF), which will see up to £2.4m invested into a further eight sports, was announced earlier in the week and had received very positive early feedback from the sports. NH provided a media update on messaging around the Games and also on integrity and ethics issues. SMO then elaborated on integrity, referring to live issues, the general landscape and details of some of the areas that UKS is actively exploring – which Board had a short discussion on.

6. Updates from DCMS, HCSCs and EIS

MY (**sportscotland**), NB (Sport England), GL (Sport NI), LC (Sport Wales) and FB (DCMS) updated on recent progress within their organisations and home countries.

NB stated that his term as Sport England Chair is due to end next month and that recruitment for his replacement is ongoing. The new Chair, when appointed, will become the Sport England representative on the UKS Board, subject to ministerial approval, marking the end of NB's eight year tenure.

7.1. EIS Investment and Priorities

Ian Robinson joined the meeting for this item.

Board discussed the revised EIS Strategic Plan for year one of the Paris Cycle and the 'plan for a plan' for years 2 to 4 of the Paris Cycle. It was noted that this had already been approved by the Group Audit and Risk Committee and the EIS Board. Following discussion, check and challenge, **Board approved the year one plan and confirmed their support for the years 2 to 4 'plan for a plan'.**

7.2. UKS Strategy

IR stayed on for this item and firstly focused on the final wording of UKS' Purpose, Mission and Ambitions and the plans to communicate those more widely. **Board noted the final wording for external communication. Board gave their input and subject to some suggested amends, agreed with the proposed high-level outcomes underpinning the three Paris Cycle Ambitions** of 'Keep Winning and Win Well', 'Grow a Thriving Sporting System' and 'Inspire Positive Change'.

For the second part of this item, IR explained the purpose of the first iteration of a 2021-22 Annual Operating Plan (AOP) and talked through the Executive's planned strategic focus and priority initiatives for 2021/22. **Board discussed and then approved the plan.**

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7.3 Finance and Risk

Sir David Tanner joined the meeting.

SdS opened this three part item by presenting the final forecast of the 17-21 cycle and the forecast closing reserves for use in the Paris Cycle. **Board approved the financial position as well as the appointment of Laura Duncan as a new independent member of the Group Audit and Risk Committee.**

For the second part of the item, SdS provided Board with an update of the 21-25 Financial Plan, noting what had changed since the December Board Meeting, including risks and opportunities and the 21-22 budgets for delivery of the Annual Operating Plan. **Board approved the allocated funds and went on to have an exploratory discussion on the small unallocated sum and the risks and opportunities to take into account when considering committing these. It was agreed that the Executive would take away the Board feedback and present recommendations for allocation of these funds to a future meeting.**

Discussion moved on to Mega Events and a proposal that UK Sport works alongside DCMS as part of a joint unit with responsibility for overseeing UK government support and assurance of the 2030 FIFA World Cup feasibility and bid. **Following discussion, Board agreed to this and approved that UK Sport enters into a grant agreement with the 2030 FIFA World Cup Bid Company subject to a confirmed grant commitment from DCMS for commensurate and additional funding for this purpose.**

SdS moved on to seek Board approval for specific items presented which were within budget but exceeded Officer delegated authority. **Board approved investments into the Athlete Medical Scheme, a bid to host the International Working Group on Women and Sport, an uplift in EIS funding to ensure HoPS support for all WCPs and the APA transitional policy.**

Finally, SdS talked through UKS and EIS's considerations for future provision of pension benefits. **Board approved the proposal.**

7.4. Representations Referrals

SdS spoke on this item, with Paul Buxton joining the meeting for any questions.

Following British Canoeing's recent representations to the Board regarding the Paris investment decision for their sport, the Board decided that new significant facts had been presented and supported with evidence. The Executive therefore gave the Extreme Canoe submission further consideration in order to make a recommendation to Board. Board were firstly asked to consider increasing investment to British Canoeing to explore the potential for success in extreme slalom. **Board approved a one-year award of £99,000 for this purpose. Board agreed with a**

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recommendation that no changes are made to the investment in flat-water canoeing until an evaluation of the athlete cohort can be undertaken post Tokyo. On a further recommendation regarding the cost of shared infrastructure between flat-water and para-canoe, Board opted to make no change.

Lawrence Conway left the meeting at 14.50.

7.5 Eligibility Policy

John Donnelly joined the meeting for this item.

Board reviewed some proposed amendments to the Eligibility Policy and the appointment of a new chair of the Eligibility Panel.

Board agreed that Kwadjo Adjepong would be the new chair until March 2023 and Laura Austin the subsequent chair from April 2023 until December 2024 (Kwadjo and Laura are independent members of the Panel).

Board also agreed that the Eligibility Panel should be asked to report annually to board, summarising its activities, any themes arising and any matters for board consideration.

Board agreed the proposed amendments to the Policy, however the Executive was asked to revisit the proposed approach to assessing misconduct.

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7.6 Governance Code Review

Rob Morini joined the meeting for this item.

Board had received a paper containing recommended changes to UKS and Sport England's Code for Sport Governance. RM explained the extensive review that had been conducted by UKS and SE's governance teams and that a public announcement is planned for 20 April, pending a response from government. **Board approved the proposed changes.**

8.1 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion KPIs

Board had received a paper for formal acknowledgment regarding the proposed approach to determine Outcomes and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) for the recently approved Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (ED&I) strategy. They were asked to provide any feedback by email.

8.2 Stakeholder Engagement Strategy

Board had received a paper for formal acknowledgment regarding UK Sport's stakeholder engagement strategy. They were asked to provide any feedback by email, particularly around audience tiering and the

recommendations presented.

9.1. Information Papers

The Chair referred to an information paper Board had received on Cyber Security KPIs and Report. Board were invited to send any feedback by email.

9.2 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 opportunity to raise any questions on these:

- Major Events Panel – 3 March 2021
- Group Audit and Risk Committee – 17 March 2021

10. Any other business

Nothing to note.

Board were reminded of some upcoming optional meetings and activities.

Date of next meeting: 12 May 2021