



**Minutes of the UK Sport Board Meeting held  
on 21 July 2022  
21 Bloomsbury Street, London**

**Present**

**Chair** Dame Katherine Grainger

**Attendees:** George Lucas (virtually, item 1 – item 10.2)  
Annie Panter  
Martyn Worsley  
Mel Young  
Chris Pilling  
Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson  
Chris Boardman  
Sally Bolton

Matt Archibald English Institute of Sport (item 10.3)

**Observers:** John Dowson English Institute of Sport  
Adam Conant DCMS (item 6 onwards)

**Apologies:** Ismail Amla

**UK Sport Staff:** Sally Munday Chief Executive  
Simon Morton Deputy CEO, Director Sporting System & Events  
Sophie du Sautoy Director of Business Services  
Naomi Hicks Director of Engagement & External Affairs  
Kate Baker Director of Performance  
Deborah Kester Director of People  
Ian Robinson Deputy Director Strategy & Operational Excellence  
John Finlay Legal  
Clare Barrell Deputy Director, Head of External Affairs and  
International Relations (item 8.1)  
Esther Britten Deputy Director, Head of Major Events (item 9.1)  
Kevin Woolnough Head of Performance Investment, Policy & Design (items  
10.1 and 10.2)

**Board Secretary:** Jo Greenall EA to CEO (Minutes)  
Jordana Wicks EA to Chair

	<b>ACTION</b>
<p><b>1. Introduction and Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.</p> <p>The Chair noted apologies from IA, and that AC was running slightly late. All other board members and observers were present and the Chair gave a special welcome to Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson who was attending her first UKS Board meeting as the member for Wales, following her appointment as Chair of Sport Wales earlier in July.</p> <p><b>2. Declarations of Interest</b></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>The following conflicts were declared, in addition to the usual conflicts that have been formally declared:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Dowson – items 10.1 and 10.2 (it was agreed as an Observer JD would not need to leave the meeting for these items)</li> <li>• Chris Pilling – declared new membership to the DCMS Covid Loans Committee to be added to the DOI register.</li> </ul> <p><b>3. Chair’s Introductory Remarks</b></p> <p>The Chair acknowledged the busy and exciting summer of events, including the UEFA Women’s EUROs currently taking place and Commonwealth Games Birmingham which would begin in a week’s time. She then gave a brief update on UKS’ Board member recruitment, which she had received assurances from DCMS was likely to be completed ahead of the summer recess.</p> <p><b>4. Approval of the Minutes</b></p> <p>The minutes of the meeting of 18 May 2022 were approved as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p><b>5. Matters Arising and Executive Team Report</b></p> <p>SMu updated on progress with actions from previous meetings and noted anything else significant that Board should be aware of.</p> <p>SMu then handed over to members of the Executive as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SdS updated on the future office location project and the new London office in Canary Wharf</li> <li>• SMu and SMO gave their reflections on the Whyte Review including updates on the response group, policy response, British Gymnastics’ action plan and proposed an upcoming session for Board members to discuss UKS’ policy response</li> <li>• SMO updated on two recent cases heard by the Eligibility Panel</li> </ul>	<p><b>UKS</b></p>

- SMu and SMO gave a general update on progress at UKA following their recent meeting with UKA's Chair and Interim CEO.

AC joined the meeting at 09.50.

TGT left the meeting briefly at 09.58.

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

The England, Northern Ireland and Scotland HCSC Chairs and EIS and DCMS Observers gave updates from their organisations. The Sport Wales Chair gave her update later in the meeting.

## **7. UKS Organisational Health**

### **7.1 Finance and Risk Update & Group Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference**

SdS began by updating Board on the status of National Lottery Fourth Licence and consequential uncertainty that was creating over future income. SdS flagged the risk to good causes around damage payments and the legal costs of the appeal, and the potential of a period without a lottery operator during the transition period.

**Board agreed that a joint letter from Lottery Forum CEOs should be sent to the Gambling Commission to flag these risks.**

TGT re-joined the meeting at 10.29.

Board then asked questions on items within the Finance and Risk board paper including UKS' financial position, cost of living/inflation situation and the corporate risk register.

SdS then talked through details of the new London and Loughborough office location lease commitments and **Board gave their approval to proceed with the Loughborough lease.** Authority to enter in to the London lease would be obtained via email as some details were still being worked through.

**Board then approved an amendment to the Group Audit & Risk Committee Terms of Reference to increase the number of independent external members from two to three. Board also approved the appointment of Scott Smith and Chika Aghadiuno to the Group Audit and Risk Committee.**

### **7.2 Year-end Review of Strategic Plan Progress**

IR led this item, updating Board on year-end 2021/22 progress in implementing UK Sport's Strategic Plan. Board were asked to raise any points/questions on items within the plan and discussion followed.

### **7.3 Annual Report to Board on UKS Compliance with the Code for Sport Governance**

SdS gave a brief overview of the report highlights as detailed in the Board paper, and Board formally acknowledged the information provided in relation to UKS' own compliance with the Code for Sports Governance and work plan for 2022/23.

### **7.4 UKS Culture Health Check Update**

DK gave a brief overview of actions taken in response to the feedback obtained in UK Sport's 2021 Culture Health Check, as detailed in the Board paper. Board formally acknowledged the information and raised some points and questions around the paper.

## **8. Grow a Thriving Sporting System**

### **8.1 International Relations Update**

Clare Barrell joined the meeting to give Board an update on the impact of the year 1 delivery of the 21-25 international relations strategy and to share insight on the major emerging trends and issues in international relations of relevance to UKS's priorities.

Clare shared some recent IR highlights with Board around global partnerships and sport diplomacy: the UK becoming Global Secretariat of the International Working Group of Women in Sport (IWG 22-26), the UK's bid to host the newly created World Para Athletics and World Para Swimming Federations when the two sports transition to independence from the IPC, and ongoing engagement with government on their creation of an international sport strategy to begin in Autumn.

## **9. Inspire Positive Change**

### **9.1 Major Events Panel Recommendations**

Esther Britten joined the meeting and gave Board an overview of a recommendation from the MEP to consider an 'in principle' strategic case for investment of £3m into hosting the 2026 European Athletics Championships in Birmingham, subject to ratification by the MEP at its September 2022 meeting and subject to critical conditions being met by that point.

**Board approved the award in principle and also agreed to delegate authority to the MEP to decide on the exact level of investment (within a £3m envelope) and conditions of award at the September 2022 MEP subject to progression against outlined action plan.**

An update will be brought to the October Board meeting.

## **10. Keep Winning and Win Well**

### **10.1 Milan-Cortina Investment Decisions**

Kev Woolnough joined the meeting and gave Board an introduction to the Milan-Cortina investment recommendations presented. KB and SdS then gave some additional context on the reasoning behind the recommendations.

The Chair then led Board through each recommendation with discussion and check and challenge throughout, and Board approved each in turn.

**The following sport investments were approved by Board:**

Sport	Athletes	Investment	Notes
Curling	22	£6.4m	Includes £200k Progression
Wheelchair Curling	9	£1.4m	
Ski & Snow	18	£7.2m	Includes £350k Progression & £730k National Squads (NS)
Para Ski & Snow	18	£4.7m	
Bobsleigh	7	£1.9m	
Skeleton*	12	£4.8m	Not to be awarded at this point
Skating	0	£1.6m	Includes £350k Progression & £810k NS
Ice Hockey	0	£0.9m	Includes £350k Progression & £375k NS
Luge	0	£0.08m	NS only
Biathlon	0	£0	No Investment
Para Ice Hockey	0	£0	No Investment
Ski Mountaineering	0	£0	No Investment
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>£28.9m</b>	

\*Skelton funding to be ring fenced and the BBSA given further opportunity for discussion. Delegated authority granted to the Executive to proceed subject to satisfactory further discussion with Skeleton

**Board approved further investments for the British Paralympic Association, EIS Performance Innovation and Annual Review Budget Allocation and the full summary of awards and allocations was agreed as follows:**

### Summary of Awards and Allocations

High Performance Athlete Support Programme awards	18,728,933
Core	6,910,000
Progression ( <u>excl</u> Home Nations investment)	1,250,000
National Squads (unfunded sports/disciplines)	2,000,000
<b>Total Sports Awards</b>	<b>28,888,933</b>
British Paralympic Association	193,000
EIS Performance Innovation	1,000,000
Annual Review Budget allocation	918,067
<b>Total (other)</b>	<b>2,111,067</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>31,000,000</b>

AC left the meeting temporarily at 13.34.

### 10.2 Sport Organisation

KB and SMO led this item, seeking approval from Board to progress with the creation and operational planning of an independent sport organisation with the functionality to house world-class programmes. Further to the information shared in paper, Board were asked three headline questions:

- Do they support the creation of a single organisation which has the capacity and capability to house WCPs in place of funding through NGBs in specific circumstances?
- Do they agree to the recommendation of undertaking this through the establishment of an independent body, ideally with UK Sport retaining step-in rights?
- Do they agree that the Executive should progress to full operational planning and create SO, subject to decisions that Board may be taking in respect of Milan Cortina?

AC re-joined the meeting at 13.54.

Board discussed the proposal in depth. One member noted that while they were overall in favour of creating a strategic unit to house winter Olympic sports, they did not agree with the proposal to create an independent body with separate legal entity to do this. **A majority vote was therefore accepted and Board agreed to proceed with the setup of a single organisation, accepting the risks that come with this.** The Executive confirmed they would therefore begin progressing to full operational planning. TGT abstained from the decision making on this item, due to it being her first UKS Board meeting.

GL left the meeting at 14.25 due to a failing internet connection.

**Board agreed that the Executive should work with Bobsleigh and Skeleton and Snowsports to explore and, if considered viable, progress UK Sport investment via a new Sport Organisation at an appropriate point.**

The Chair then asked Board members how they would each like to be involved in the next phase of planning and members fed back their views and availability.

### **10.3 EIS Annual Update from EIS CEO**

Matt Archibald joined the meeting to share the EIS' annual update. This was Matt's first appearance at the UKS Board since his appointment as EIS CEO in February and he therefore started by giving an overview of his background and career journey. He then went on to give a comprehensive update around the EIS' strategy, collaboration with UKS, the first 12 months/next 12 months of the Paris cycle and some risks and opportunities. Board were then given the opportunity to ask Matt some questions.

### **11. Minutes and Information Papers**

Board noted following information papers and minutes from the most recent Panel meetings:

- EIS Board Meeting – 30 March 2022
- Group Audit and Risk Committee – 14 June 2022
- Major Events Panel – 15 June 2022

### **11. Any other business**

N/A

**Date of next meeting: 12 October 2022**