



# Minutes of the UK Sport Board Meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2013

## Present

**Chair** Sue Campbell

**Attendees:** Brian Henning  
Jonathan Vickers  
Mark Hanson  
Philip Kimberley  
Rod Carr  
Richard Lewis  
(part)

**UK Sport Staff** Liz Nicholl Chief Executive  
David Cole Chief Operating Officer  
Sophie du Acting Finance Director  
Sautoy  
Debbie Lye Director International Development  
(Part of Meeting)  
Vanessa Wilson Director of Commercial and  
Communications  
Simon Morton Director of Major Events and  
International Relations (Part of  
Meeting)  
Simon Timson Director of Performance

## In attendance

Vijay Parbat Legal Advisor  
Vikki Head, Performance Programmes  
McPherson(part)  
Jonathan Sport Investment Manager  
Bennett (part)

**Board Secretary** Jackie Freeman UK Sport

### 1. Introduction and Apologies for Absence

### Action

The Chair welcomed Members to the meeting. Apologies were received from Laura McAllister, Louise Martin, Chris Holmes and Frances MacLeod, DCMS. Chair welcomed Brian Henning, Chair of Sport Northern Ireland, to his first meeting.

## Declaration of Interest

Members were reminded of the need to declare their interest in any items requiring a decision and unable to participate in decision making in relation to those interests. PKi declared a conflict around a reference to Hockey in the Executive Team Report.

### 2. Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments to the minutes of the meeting of 11/12<sup>th</sup> December 2012 and they were approved as a true record of the meeting.

### 3. Matters Arising

LN reported that engagement with HCSCs to discuss how a world class system could provide broader benefits to sports across the UK more generally is being planned for February.

At the previous meeting, Board had requested that UK Sport develop KPIs to track progress over the course of the next cycle. These will be brought back in outline at the March Board meeting with a view to being finalised at the meeting in June.

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DC reported that he had followed up with the British Athletes Commission (BAC) to confirm that an appropriate agreement exists with the BOA's Athlete group to ensure there is no duplication/overlap of activity.

DC also confirmed that BOA would be submitting a request for investment in Rio pre Games camps to be discussed at May Board.

### Chair's Update

Board had received copy of a letter from the Cabinet Office advising that they were content with the proposal not to proceed with the formal merger of UK Sport and Sport England subject to a number of conditions including strategic connectivity, economic benefits and co-location. Chair thanked the Board for their significant support throughout the discussions.

### 4. Executive Report

LN introduced the Executive Team Report.

- Attached to the report was a copy of an overview of the Winter Sport performances to date. A further, more detailed, end of season and annual review report will be presented to Board in June. .
- The terms of several Major Events Panel Members are due to expire on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013. The Major Event team had planned to undertake a review of the composition and operation of the Panel prior to the expiry date but this was postponed due to the appointment of a new Panel Chair. **Board therefore agreed a two-month extension for Louise Martin, Jonathan Vickers, David Collier, Rob Holt and Nigel Walker.** Details of the outcome of the Major Event Panel review would be brought back to a further meeting.
- SM reported that the International Relations Investment Principles have been updated to make them compatible with the changes that Board previously approved to the 2013-17 IR Strategy. The changes were set out in paper UKS 07 which was attached to the Executive Team Report. A number of drafting points within the proposed

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principles were identified by JV. **Board agreed the revised Investment Principles subject to JV working with SM to produce a final version.**

- DC informed Board that the first of the Rio Funding Trigger deadlines falls at the end of January whereby sports need to have submitted evidence of a long-term strategic plan and for a board evaluation and skills audit to have been completed. Hockey, Weightlifting and Rowing had all requested an extension to the deadline for reasons outlined in the Executive Team Report. **Board agreed to approve the extensions.**
- DC gave an update on British Ski and Snowboard (BSS) and Snowsport Scotland and reported that progress is being made to resolve outstanding issues. In view of this, Board were asked to approve continuation of funding to BSS for the whole period up to September 2014. This represents WCP funding of £568,700 for the period 1 April 2013 to 30 September 2014 (with an additional £145,950 in Athlete Personal Award budget). Board will be kept apprised of the outcome of the mediation process (if followed). **This was approved by Board**

A copy of the Communications Report had been circulated prior to the meeting and VW explained that the breakdown of qualitative media mentions, although analysed by the UK Sport Communications team, is based on data from an independent agency.

### **5.1 Tour de France update**

Esther Nicholls, Head of Major Events, joined the meeting.

SM introduced paper UKS 01 which outlined a request from Welcome to Yorkshire for UK Sport to provide financial support to the Tour de France in 2014. Board discussed in detail the principle of retrospective funding to major events where a bid had been submitted without securing UK Sport support. The Board also discussed the potential risks presented to the UK's hosting reputation and UK Sport's role and reputation.

After detailed discussion of the request from Welcome to Yorkshire, Board decided that it would consider an application for financial support from Welcome to Yorkshire but that it would reserve judgement on making any exceptions to its policies until the application had been through due process. The Board would require the application to go through the same assessment process that UK Sport requires of all major sporting events. This process will consider the strategic case for investment based on the potential impacts of the events and will scrutinise the financial and logistical viability of the proposed hosting plans. It is anticipated that a recommendation would be brought to the Board meeting in March following a meeting of the Major Events Panel in February.

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Esther Nicholls left the meeting.

### **6.1 Finance Update**

SdS introduced the finance update in paper UKS 02. The full year forecast outturn as at 31 December 2012 is breakeven on Exchequer funds and a surplus of £33.66m on the Lottery funds. The surplus on lottery funds will be used towards the Rio Investment decisions as previously agreed with Board. Current year Lottery income is showing a small favourable variance on the DCMS projections and savings have also been made on operational spend areas. These factors have enabled some further front line activity to

be carried out before the financial year end. SdS confirmed that Income and Expenditure will continue to be closely monitored in the run up to the year end.

### **7.1 Standards in Sport**

DC introduced paper UKS 03 and confirmed that work on the wider conduct policy, as discussed at the previous meeting, is now taking place. JV and RC offered their support to join a working group. However, in the interim approval was being sought on the specific issue of whether Athletes and Athlete Support Personnel (ASP) with unspent convictions in relation certain serious criminal offences should be considered ineligible to receive UK Sport funding. With the introduction of new ASPs to the system for the Rio cycle and with new athlete nominations being submitted it was important for UK Sport to confirm its policy stance in this area. Board agreed that Athletes or Athlete Support Personnel who receive or would like to receive UK Sport funding or receive publicly funded benefits through the World Class Programme but have a criminal conviction for certain serious criminal offences which have not been forgotten in law (i.e. an 'unspent conviction') would not be eligible to receive funding or publicly funded benefits from UK Sport until such time as the rehabilitation period for their offence has ended. Board emphasised that Athletes and NGBs should be made aware not only of the process but also the associated procedures for consideration of dis-applying the principle and also appeal.

### **7.2 LOCOG London 2012 database**

SM introduced paper UKS 04 which gave an update on UK Sport's involvement in a consortium to manage the London 2012 database. A decision on the bid would be announced shortly but SM talked Members through next steps, if successful. PKi noted that NGBs were keen to have ownership of this data if possible to support their commercial activities. SM assured Board that UK Sport's involvement would provide structured access to NGBs and Home Country Sports Councils on an on-going basis, but that data ownership could not be transferred to individual NGBs. UK Sport's specific interest would be in relation to the Gold Event Series and the potential to work alongside NGBs in the promotion of spectating and volunteering opportunities at forthcoming major international events.

### **7.3 The merger of IDS and the II Foundation**

DL introduced paper UKS 05 which updated Board on the merger of International Development through Sport (IDS) and the International Inspiration Foundation which is due to take place on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013. The merged charity will continue to benefit from the specific international sport development and sport for development expertise of UK Sport. DL explained the model of the new charity and spoke about the vision, mission and strategic priorities. The first meeting will take place in February when Board appointments will be confirmed.

The next phase is to develop plans around the relationship with UK Sport which will include a Service Level Agreement for delivery along existing lines and to develop a new development strategy for the Charity.

JB and VM joined the meeting. SM and DL left the meeting.

## **8. Representations from Sport**

DC gave Board members an update of the appeals process and reminded Board that the Annual Review point presents an opportunity to reconsider the progression of each of the sports. Notification of Board's decision will be issued to sports by Friday 1 February 2013. With regards to any appeals, DC

confirmed that the deadline for formally notifying UK Sport will start from the date of notification.

Board then adjourned for a confidential session to hear representations from the following sports and organisations: Table Tennis, Wheelchair Fencing, Weightlifting/Powerlifting, Wrestling, Men's and Women's Basketball, Sitting Volleyball, Beach and Indoor Volleyball and the Sports Aid Trust (TASS).

In arriving at its decisions the Board reaffirmed its support for the vision "For the UK to be at least as competitive in Rio 2016 as we are now, but with a stronger, more sustainable high performance sport system".

During the adjournment Board decided that with regards to Table Tennis, Weightlifting/Powerlifting, Wrestling, Sitting Volleyball and Indoor Volleyball and the Sports Aid Trust, it would not reconsider its decisions of 12 December 2012 but made general and/or operational commitments to work with these sports and Sports Aid Trust through this challenging time.

Board also endorsed the recommendation of the Executive Team that it would liaise with the Beach Volleyball, review their updated 2013-17 budget and consider an increase in the unit cost per athlete up to the generic unit values associated with World Class Programme investment.

Board did reconsider its decision of 12 December 2012 in relation to both Wheelchair Fencing and Men's and Women's Basketball. On the basis of new and further compelling performance information, Board confirmed that the priority band for Men's Basketball should be amended from band 8 (little prospect of a top 8 finish) to priority band 7 (possible 4th-8th finish), alongside the Women's team. Board also agreed that Wheelchair Fencing should be moved up to priority band 6 (likely 4<sup>th</sup> -8<sup>th</sup> finish).

Having considered affordability and the need to prioritise investment across the high performance system to achieve this vision, the Board decided to extend its investment into priority band 7, differentiating between sports on the basis of having the potential to progress from a possible 4-8<sup>th</sup> finish in Rio to a podium finish in 2020.

Board agreed therefore to make awards to Wheelchair Fencing and Men's and Women's Basketball and that the award for both sports should be confirmed for one year only, with planning figures for subsequent years subject to the achievement of performance conditions within the initial year to be discussed and agreed with UK Sport officers. Progress against these performance conditions will be considered at the Annual Review point.

Board agreed that the quantum of both awards should be confirmed following detailed engagement of UK Sport Officers with both sports.

## **9. Board Events Calendar**

This was noted.

## **10. Date of next meeting**

Date of next meeting 20<sup>th</sup> March 2013.

