

Consultation Questions

Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a Lasting Legacy for Scotland

RSPB Scotland encourages the Scottish Government to use this international stage to demonstrate exemplary sustainable development - bringing social, economic and environmental benefits to future generations. Many of the "greener" benefits are described in terms of off-setting and reducing negative impacts on the

<p>Question 1: QUESTION 1: Are the benefits you would like from the games covered in this paper?</p>	<p>environment. We would encourage the Scottish Government to integrate into the infrastructure plans elements that will improve the environment not only in terms of good design and energy saving capacity. This "dear green place" needs even more green infrastructure - habitats in the vicinity of the games - lasting legacies where sportspeople, visitors and residents can enjoy exercise close to nature. There are opportunities within the City along the Clyde to restore wetlands to benefit wildlife and people and provide ecosystem services.</p>
<p>Question 2: QUESTION 2: Is there anything else we should be doing?</p>	<p>On page 20 the consultation talks about positioning Scotland as an attractive place to visit, work and study - using the games as an opportunity to express the rich cultural life of Scotland. RSPB Scotland encourages the Government to celebrate the natural heritage of Scotland in this promotional plan. We also encourage targets with regard to energy conservation, recycling and emissions to be ambitious. It will not be good enough to say they meet high standards of today we want to be exemplary for the 2014. Previous commonwealth games have adopted a national wildlife icon as a mascot for the games. Could we not do the same? The golden eagle could, for example, be a fine emblem and raise the profile of the uplands of Scotland. Merchandise bearing the emblem could raise funds for uplands management and species protection.</p>
<p>Question 3: QUESTION 3: How can we, individually or collectively, best achieve these aims?</p>	<p>RSPB Scotland is already represented on the Environmental Forum where we have had an opportunity to respond to plans and provide feedback. We would like to become more involved with delivery of some of the ideas suggested here where environmental enhancement will be the outcome. We congratulate the Government on the establishment of the fund for Commonwealth countries to off-set the emissions generated by the Games. We understand that this will be targetted at climate change adaption and mitigation in Commonwealth countries. RSPB Scotland is part of the Birdlife International partnership with staff, research and projects across the globe. We will be happy to advise to ensure that the Funds are put to best effect.</p>

Question 4: QUESTION 4: Do you have any other comments to offer on what should feature in the final games benefits and legacy plan?

As a member of the Glasgow 2014 Environmental Forum, RSPB Scotland contributed to a short joint paper to the Forum setting out the NGOs shared aspirations in terms of legacy of the games. Please let me know if further copies are required. In the paper we described the Commonwealth Games as a huge opportunity to put Scotland on a path towards a One Planet Scotland. The outcomes described in the consultation go a long way towards reducing the environmental impact of the games on the planet and Scotland however we encourage the Scottish Government to take that next step towards positive sustainable development. Giving that lead to all of the myriad of stakeholders in Glasgow 2014 would be a fantastic legacy.

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