



The Scottish Sub Aqua Club

The Cockburn Centre,
40 Bogmoor Place,
Glasgow, G51 4TQ
Tel/Fax 0141 425 1021
Email: hq@scotsac.com
Website www.scotsac.com

By e-mail: glasgow2014legacy@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Consultation Paper
Scottish Government
Area 2 – F(S)
Victoria Quay
Edinburgh
EH6 6QQ

Wednesday, 07 May 2008

Glasgow 2014 – Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland Response by The Scottish Sub Aqua Club (SSAC)

Introduction

The Scottish Sub Aqua Club welcomes this consultation and the opportunity to contribute to the Legacy Plan for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games.

The Scottish Sub Aqua Club is the national governing body for snorkelling and diving in Scotland, and is recognised and supported by **sportscotland**. We represent the interests of 1500 recreational divers across 70 clubs throughout Scotland and northern England. SSAC is one of the longest established diving organisations in the world, having been formed in 1953. SSAC is run entirely by volunteers, delivering quality diver training and events.

The awarding of the Commonwealth Games to Glasgow in 2014 provides Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport and the wider sporting sector with an opportunity to create a step change in the sporting landscape within Scotland. It is crucial that the planning and action to ensure that the Games are a success starts now and is driven by clear political leadership and a will to make it happen. Whilst diving is a non-competitive sport and not a CWG sport, it is important that the needs of this sport are not marginalised.

The broader potential benefits to our sport include improvements in facilities and infrastructure, increased participation, particularly amongst children and young people in water based activities.

Key issues

For SSAC, the key priorities relating to the legacy are:

- ***Physical education and sport in schools, with particular increased emphasis to water based activities***
- ***Facility access and provision***
- ***Volunteering, including coaching***

Registered in Scotland No. SC313935 VAT No. 596708289
The Scottish Sub Aqua Club is a Company Limited by Guarantee
Registered Office: 40 Bogmoor Place, Glasgow, G51 4TQ

Supported by
 **The National Lottery**®
through sportscotland | **sportscotland**

Physical Education

SSAC believes that providing additional opportunities for participation of water based activities is a positive step in preparing children and young people with a range of skills and confidence for a variety of sporting environments. A minimum of two hours of varied physical education per week, delivered by qualified specialists can be complemented with out of school sporting activities delivered by the voluntary sector.

Facilities

SSAC is particularly keen to prioritise the need for appropriate facility access and provision with a focus on accessible swimming pools. Our Members and Clubs make daily use of pools throughout the country, in schools, leisure centres and private facilities and have found increasing difficulty in securing access and times to such facilities due to closure, other sports or local restrictions. Failure to secure facilities to host comprehensive training sessions for children and adults results in a lower participation level and inability to progress for all age groups.

We support the view of the Scottish Sports Association that by July 2014, every school with sports facilities should be open for clubs in the evenings, weekends and during holiday periods.

Volunteering

SSAC is fortunate to have a strong base of committed volunteers with a wealth of experience and knowledge. However, the demands of modern life mean many volunteers have difficulty in contributing large volumes of time. We suggest a priority is placed on developing the support available to volunteers in sport. Just because volunteers provide their services for free, does not mean there is no cost, and we should not expect sporting volunteers to contribute without offering basic expenses, equipment, training and support to perform their role

The role of governing bodies

SSAC will continue to provide leadership for the sport, and provide support to our clubs in the development of volunteers, accessing facilities, and widening participation opportunities. In addition, governing bodies are able to provide detailed support for compliance with legislation and best practice such as child protection and equity.

Summary

The 2014 Commonwealth Games provides Scotland with an opportunity to create a lasting legacy of increased participation, improved facilities and better support for the volunteers delivering sporting opportunities.

SSAC is a member of the Scottish Sports Association fully supports their response to this consultation.

This response is submitted on behalf of a national governing body for sport. We are happy for our response to be made available to the public and for Scottish Government policy teams to contact me again in the future.