

Glasgow 2014 Legacy Team
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Dear Sir/Madam

2014 COMMONWEALTH GAMES LEGACY

Please find attached the response from the member and officer working group on Sport and Physical Activity to the Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland consultation paper.

Yours sincerely,



Alan Clark
Active Schools Manager

RESPONSE TO THE QUESTIONS.

1 ARE THE BENEFITS YOU WOULD LIKE FROM THE GAMES COVERED IN THIS PAPER?

A number of benefits within the consultation document concur with the view of Highland Council Education Culture and Sport Committee Members. It is pleasing to see support in the legacy document for widening participation, promotion of tourism, cultural activities and support for volunteering and coach development.

There are however a number of specific issues that relate to the rural nature of Highland particularly in relation to transport ,access to sport, representation by Highland athletes on the national stage ,support from national governing bodies ,support for talent identification and support of regional coaching that we would like to see included in the paper.

The models used in the paper often reflect an urban approach and the legacy benefits require to fit with a rural location where access to the benefits generated by the games will be more difficult to achieve.

We would like to see opportunities for all Highland schoolchildren to be given free access to spectate the games and support for travel to make their participation possible.

There are also other 2014 legacy benefits that we would wish considered for inclusion in the final legacy paper with funding attached to support the implementation of the ideas.

2 IS THERE ANYTHING ELSE WE SHOULD BE DOING?

In relation to a healthier Scotland we would like to suggest the following specific additions to the legacy document.

Physical literacy and sport in schools

- Provide additional support for play opportunities for young people and provision of high quality physical education delivery in schools for all young people aged 3-18.
- Provide clear guidance on what high quality Physical Education means and identify priority learning experiences for physical literacy development.
- Clarify the role of schools sport and its importance in the competition pathway and provide support for schools sport competition and events with school staffing complements.
- Support for the development of pathways from school PE programmes, school sport festivals and competitions to out of hours sport and community based sport.
- Provide support to bring coaching expertise into schools.
- Support sport leader qualifications in a consistent way within schools.

- Provide financial support to the Active Schools programme in secondary schools.
- Provide support for schools and local authorities to develop junior commonwealth games competitions

Coaching and Volunteering

- The Highlands Volunteering in sport development officer post was very successfully integrated into the Highland Active Schools, sport and club networks and was working very effectively in an integrated way . Funding was withdrawn from this programme in April 2008 we believe because they were less successful elsewhere. In Highland these posts helped support the recruitment and training of a significant number of volunteers. This investment in staffing is vital to support the number of volunteers that will be needed for the 2014 Commonwealth games and who will contribute to participation and support for sport locally. We would therefore highly recommend that **sportscotland** re-instate funding to provide Volunteering in Sport posts.
- Improve training programmes and provide better support for coaches going through qualification processes including exploring and implementing mentoring more effectively.
- Accredit learning by coaches and volunteers
- An important issue at present is the change to UKCC Level 1 - the Scottish Executive are supporting NGBs towards the increased cost of the new structure but it is still expensive and very time consuming for people to qualify. These people (in the majority) are volunteers – we need to simplify and ease things for our volunteer workforce.
- Invest in Coaching as a recognised profession thus reducing pressure, burn out and a feeling of undervaluation of volunteers. There will always be a need and place for volunteers but we should not be expecting volunteers to be our main delivery mechanism for the starting blocks of people's experience in sport.

Club development

- Help clubs become more robust, better able to recruit and support volunteers and members.
- This is something often considered to be wrong in Scottish Sport – we do not invest in support for clubs properly. Not all clubs want to be supported or developed but many do and would benefit from professional officers trained in a co-ordinated fashion to understand the club culture better and support them carefully, sensitively and properly to maximise benefit. Therefore, we should be seeking to appoint Club Development Officers or look into the recently deleted Volunteering in Sport Development Officer posts to see if their roles could be appropriately re-established for the benefit of sport. These posts would be crucial in developing a volunteer workforce for the Games in 2014.

Sports partnerships

- Provide support for sports partnerships to provide leadership for sport locally in the 6 area institute areas developing 6 **sportscotland** hubs to support area institute sport.
- Provide support for regional development squads at a level just below the area Institute of Sport standard to bring through more talented athletes and sportsmen and women.

Facilities

- Provide more high quality regional based facilities for sports participation and excellence that are accessible by public transport at times people can use them.
- Develop the community model with sport club use of school facilities linked to school sport and physical activity programmes.
- Provide levels of support for areas of rural deprivation which have little or no access to sport facilities.
- Support Local Authorities to extend and improve access arrangements to sports facilities, particularly for talented athletes. Some excellent sports facilities only open for limited hours because of staffing cost pressures. There are examples of the most talented athletes who could participate in finding it difficult to access training times because of limited opening hours.

3 HOW CAN WE, INDIVIDUALLY OR COLLECTIVELY, BEST ACHIEVE THESE AIMS?

- Further develop and support partnership working between the national agency for sport, Local Government and National Governing Bodies.
- Provide sustainable and secure funding streams to support the legacy priorities.

4 DO YOU HAVE ANY OTHER COMMENTS TO OFFER ON WHAT SHOULD FEATURE IN THE FINAL GAMES BENEFITS AND LEGACY PLAN?

- Government lead and stimulate investment in the legacy and provide a fund for “legacy” projects designed to help achieve all of the above.
- Look at the “Calgary” model in which revenue from games was reinvested in sports development .This reinvestment should cover all areas of Scotland including the Highlands.
- Scottish Government to lead with joined up 2012/2014 thinking.
- Provide leadership to help generate a feel good factor around sport.
- Provide a quality assurance framework around sport provision.

Specific legacy benefits to Highland .

In Highland ,an area of one third of Scotland and an area equivalent to the size of Belgium , supersparsity and urban deprivation are issues for communities who do not have easy access to sport and facilities.

The following would be seen a potential legacy benefits for communities in Highland

- **Provide financial support for the re-instatement of sportscotland volunteering in sport post.**
- **Provide targeted funding specifically towards extending sports facility opening hours for athlete access.**
- **Provide support for regional development squads for talented athletes**
- **Provide support for the development of Highland sports facilities so that rural communities can benefit from access to good quality sports facilities.**
- **Provide support in the form of free tickets for every school child in Highland to attend one of the Commonwealth games events.**