



West Lothian Council

COUNCIL EXECUTIVE

GLASGOW 2014 - DELIVERING A LASTING LEGACY FOR SCOTLAND - A CONSULTATION PAPER

REPORT BY HEAD OF CULTURAL SERVICES

A. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To note the Council's response to the Scottish Governments' consultation paper "Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland"

B. RECOMMENDATION

That Council Executive endorses the response to Scottish Governments' consultation paper "Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland", as outlined within this report.

C. SUMMARY OF IMPLICATIONS

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| I Council Values | Working in partnership

Making best use of our resources |
| II Policy and Legal (including Strategic Environmental Assessment, Equality Issues, Health or Risk Assessment) | This response would contribute towards the Council's 'sport for all strategy'. |
| III Resources - (Financial, Staffing and Property) | To be identified during the period August 2008 - April 2009 |
| IV Consultations | Social Policy
Health and Care Partnership
Sport and Recreation Services |

D. TERMS OF REPORT

- 1** Three major sporting events are to be staged in Britain between 2012 and 2014, two of which will be held in Scotland. The Olympic Games in 2012 will be held in London and the Commonwealth Games will be held in Glasgow in 2014. Furthermore, the Ryder Cup will also take place in 2014 at Gleneagles. These major sporting events provide an excellent platform to promote sport and physical activity among the population of Scotland. This platform should be fully utilised to increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity as well as contributing to the health improving agenda.
- 2** The Scottish Government published a consultation paper on 15 February 2008 entitled "Glasgow 2014 – Delivering a lasting legacy for Scotland". Key stakeholders including Local Authorities were invited to respond to the consultation paper, with a deadline for responses of Friday 9 May 2008.
- 3** The Olympic Games in 2012 and more specifically, the Commonwealth Games in 2014, will have a role to play on the development of sport and the promotion of physical activity in Scotland. This will also impact on the Government's health improvement agenda for the nation. This report has been considered by two of the Council's Policy Development and Scrutiny Panels – Health and Care and Culture and Leisure.
- 4** The Commonwealth Games will attract around 6,000 athletes from 72 Commonwealth Countries. The athletes will participate in 17 sports including athletics, aquatics, boxing, badminton, squash, weightlifting, lawn bowls, hockey, rugby 7s (men), netball (women) cycling, shooting, wrestling, judo, gymnastics, table tennis, triathlon. There will also be integrated events for Elite Athletes with disabilities.
- 5** The major sporting events including the Commonwealth Games will focus considerable attention on such things as sports provision, sports infrastructure, lifestyle issues, participation in physical activity, health and international co-operation.
- 6** The Scottish Government consultation paper highlights a wide range of benefits that impact on a significant number of national priorities. These benefits include economic development and regeneration, expanding opportunities for people to succeed from nurture through to lifelong learning, helping people to sustain and improve their health, contribute towards safer and stronger communities and help improve Scotland's environment.
- 7** The consultation paper invites key stakeholders to consider four questions. The Council has already considered how it might support the Commonwealth Games in a paper that was approved by the Policy, Partnership and Resources Committee (February 2006). The questions and the Council's response are outlined in Appendix 1.
- 8** To maximise opportunities within West Lothian and to develop and deliver an action plan, it is proposed to establish a working group with representatives from key Council Services, Community Health and Care Partnership and appropriate partner organisations. It is proposed that the working group would be called The West Lothian Olympics and Commonwealth Games Working Group. It is likely that this group would meet on a quarterly basis to consider ways in which the Council could support the games and generate benefits for the communities of West Lothian.
- 9** The working group would liaise with the Scottish Government and examples of the kind of issues that the working could consider are noted below.

- a) Adoption of a developing Commonwealth country
 - b) Volunteering - recruitment and training of volunteers to support local and Commonwealth Games events.
 - c) Identifying and promoting opportunities for West Lothian citizens to participate in sport, physical recreation and or physical activities.
 - d) Promoting programmes with positive health messages - eg food, nutrition, mental health
 - e) Promoting a West Lothian wide programme for Cardio Pulmonary Resuscitation programme to encourage groups and individuals to become proficient at resuscitation procedures.
 - f) Staging complementary sporting events for sports not included in the Commonwealth Games programmes.
 - g) Mounting a local seminar to explore the potential of the Games for West Lothian
- 10** There is currently little evidence that previous major games staged around the world have left a legacy beyond the "bricks and mortar." It therefore must be emphasised that if there is to be a strong legacy for these Games, there must be both a "hearts and minds" and "fiscal" commitment to establish such a legacy.

E. CONCLUSION

The major sporting events being staged in 2012 and 2014, including the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow provides an excellent opportunity to promote sport, physical activity and health for the benefit of West Lothian residents.

The Scottish Government's consultation paper highlights a wide range of benefits that impact on significant number of national priorities. West Lothian Council is committed to supporting these events and in particular, the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow in 2014. The Council Executive is asked to endorse the response outlined in Appendix 1.

F. BACKGROUND REFERENCES

Policy, Partnership and Resources Committee Paper - 2 February 2006 (the Bid for the Commonwealth Games 2014 to be held in Glasgow).

The Scottish Government: Glasgow 2014 – Delivering a Lasting Legacy for Scotland, *A Consultation Paper*

Appendices/Attachments: Glasgow 2014 – Delivering a Lasting Legacy for Scotland: Response from West Lothian Council

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Date: 22 April 2008

APPENDIX 1

Glasgow 2014 - Delivering a Lasting Legacy for Scotland - A Consultation Paper

Response from West Lothian Council

Question 1

Are the benefits you would like from the Games covered in this paper?

The consultation paper does describe many potential benefits to people in Scotland. In particular the benefits cover a number of national priorities including, economic development and regeneration, expanding opportunities for people to succeed from nurture through to lifelong learning, helping people to sustain and improve their health, contribute towards safer and stronger communities and help improve Scotland's environment.

It should be recognised that Scotland is a fairly large geographical area with a significant number of communities located some distance from Glasgow, which will be the main centre of activity for the Commonwealth Games. The Scottish Government and Local Authorities should liaise closely to ensure that there is a commitment across the whole of Scotland and that there will be positive outcomes and a lasting legacy throughout the country.

Question 2

Is there anything else we should be doing?

West Lothian Council is committed to use the Commonwealth Games to strengthen the community links with the developing countries of the Commonwealth. For example, West Lothian Council has agreed to consider "adopting" a Commonwealth country during the Commonwealth Games. A suitable country will be identified and supported with access to training and related facilities, prior to and during the duration of the Commonwealth Games. The Scottish Government may wish to promote this concept with other Local Authorities.

To enhance communication and support we suggest that it may be useful if the Scottish Government facilitates a national seminar for Local Authorities. This seminar could consider how Local Authorities might ensure that there is a genuine lasting legacy from the games and the role that the Local Authority could play in supporting the Commonwealth Games.

It would helpful if the Scottish Government could consider financial support for Local Authorities and its key partners to support the games and local initiatives.

Question 3

How can we, individually or collectively, best achieve these aims?

West Lothian Council, in agreeing to support the bid for the Commonwealth Games in Glasgow 2014, identified a number of ways in which the Council could be actively engaged in supporting the games. These included:

- Promoting the games and assisting in the recruitment and training of volunteers
- Adopting a team in the four years prior to the Commonwealth Games. The Council felt that it might be appropriate to consider supporting a national team where there are common strengths and traditions with West Lothian but where there is limited access to resources, for example, bowling.
- The provision of sports facilities for training, particularly for smaller national teams
- Using the games to strengthen local sporting infrastructures

- Identify exemplars of good practice
- Staging complimentary sporting events for sports not included in the Commonwealth Games programme
- Establish a Commonwealth Games working group to formulate and deliver a local action plan
- Mount a local seminar to explore the potential of the games
- Schools who could consider a range of Commonwealth projects ahead of the games. These could include Geography, History, Modern Studies, Modern Languages, Physical Education, Sport and Health related subjects.
- Develop appropriate curriculum support material which would be used in schools to promote the games, increase participation in sport and physical activity and health through the curriculum

Question 4

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

The consultation paper as stated above highlights a number of benefits and impacts on national priorities from the Commonwealth Games. While we believe that this is the case, there is a need to focus on the key benefits and impacts relating to sport, physical activity and health.

A lasting legacy should be evident throughout Scotland and not just in the area of Glasgow and its surrounding communities. It would therefore seem appropriate for the Scottish Government and Local Authorities throughout Scotland to commit time and resources with a view to strengthening infrastructures for and participation in sport, physical recreation and active living. In doing so, the important national agendas of community health and wellbeing, community safety and international co-operation will be improved.