
SPORT IN CARDIFF

Purpose of report

1. To provide Members with a review of the outcomes of the Local Sports Plan 2018-19 and to discuss how to respond to key changes in the landscape for sport, including the '*Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015*', the Council's '*Capital Ambition*' and Sport Wales' proposed regionalisation of community sport.

Background

2. In 2014, the Council signed a Joint Venture (JV) agreement with Cardiff Metropolitan University to deliver sports services in the city. The JV agreement set out the vision, priority objectives and underpinning key considerations for sports in Cardiff. Sport Cardiff staff transferred from Cardiff Council to Cardiff Metropolitan University.
3. The stated vision set out in the JV agreement is '*Making Cardiff an active and successful Capital City of Sport with the aim of working with partners to create opportunities for people to get involved in sport to foster a healthy and active lifestyle through sport and excel and succeed in sport at every level*'.
4. The priority objectives are:
 - Sport for children
 - Strong and Vibrant Clubs
 - Coaching, Volunteering and Workforce
 - Competitions
 - Every Child a Swimmer.

5. The JV agreement specifies that each priority objective is underpinned by the following key considerations:
 - BME
 - Women & Girls
 - Disability Sport and Inclusive Opportunities
 - Disadvantaged areas.

6. As part of the JV, Cardiff Metropolitan University provide data for each financial year on the following performance indicators:
 - Total registrations (for children aged 7-16)
 - Total number of sports sessions (for children aged 7-16)
 - Hooked on Sport (retention 20+ session for children aged 7-16)
 - Number of children (aged 7 – 16) engaged through Cardiff Games
 - Number of competitions held (for children aged 7 – 16)
 - Club membership, including Disability (for children aged 7 – 16)
 - Total number of coaches and volunteers recruited, trained & deployed across all priority areas.
 - Total number of volunteer hours across all priority areas.

7. In order to deliver the above, the Joint Venture agreement requires signatory partners to develop a Local Sports Plan, which sets out the delivery mechanisms to achieve the agreed vision and priority objectives. The Local Sports Plan is used to support applications for funding from Sport Wales.

Funding of Sport in Wales

8. There are a number of sources of funding for sport in Wales including: Welsh Government capital grant funding; Sport Wales funding; Federation of Disability Sport Wales; lottery funding; charity funding; funding from foundations, such as the Dickie Bird Foundation; and specific funds, such as the Ron Pickering Memorial Fund. More information is provided in **Appendix 1**, a research guide produced by the National Assembly for Wales Research service.

9. Most funding is via Sport Wales, the national organisation that works on behalf of Welsh Government to develop and promote sports and physical activity

programmes in Wales. Sport Wales uses Welsh Government funding and National Lottery funding to support community sports as well as elite athletes. Funding is available to individuals and clubs, for equipment, coaching, costs associated with establishing a new club and volunteer schemes. There are various grant schemes, including Community Chest grants, Development Grants and A Place for Sport grants, as well as funding for aspiring elite athletes and athletes that are on course to meet Olympia criteria.

10. The Welsh Government sends Sport Wales an annual remit letter that confirms the amount of funding being provided and sets out the priorities and targets that Sport Wales should focus on that year. In 2018-19, the Minister for Culture, Tourism and Sport, Dafydd Elis-Thomas AC/AM, sent a letter outlining the requirements for the remainder of the Administration, until 2020/21. The letter is attached at **Appendix 2** and stresses the need for Sport Wales to maximise its contribution to achieving the goals of the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015 and to develop a Corporate Plan for 2018-2021 that leads to the following outcomes:

Outcomes

- More people meeting the Chief Medical Officers physical activity guidelines
- More people undertake sport and physical recreation on 3 or more occasions per week.
- An increase in sport and physical recreation participation by those most in need or disadvantaged.
- A system that delivers continuous elite sport success while ensuring the safety, well-being and welfare of all sportsmen and sportswomen.

Local Sports Plan 2018-19

11. Cardiff Council, Cardiff Metropolitan University and partners worked together to develop a Local Sports Plan 2018-19. The Plan set out the projects and actions designed to deliver the vision and priority objectives set out in the Joint Venture agreement, demonstrating the reach across Cardiff and within prioritised groups. These were split into four sections, as follows:

- Foundations for Participation
- Participation for Wellbeing
- Sustainable Community Activity
- Workforce.

12. The Local Sports Plan 2018-19 included:

- targets
- information on how the impact of the actions would be demonstrated
- information on partnership working
- costs
- requested funding.

Review of Local Sports Plan 2018/19

13. Cardiff Sports has prepared an annual review, which is available by clicking on the following hyperlink:

<https://spark.adobe.com/page/Olek50gjzp47m/>

14. The review provides qualitative information on the various projects undertaken throughout the year and contains feedback from participants and partner organisations.

15. The Head of Sport Cardiff, Laura Williams, will give a presentation at Committee that highlights some of the key projects in 2018-19. She, and the other witnesses, will also discuss how the Wellbeing of Future Generations Act 2015, the Council's Capital Ambition and Sport Wales review of community funding is affecting the landscape for sport in Cardiff.

Previous Scrutiny

16. This Committee received an update on the Joint Venture at its meeting on 9 November 2017, including a presentation and videos demonstrating the impact that Sport Cardiff has had. At the meeting, Members received headline statistics in terms of engagement, sessions provided and breakdown by neighbourhood ward, gender and ethnicity. Members noted that there had been an overall reduction in 2016/17 and that the explanation given was that this was because there had been a greater focus on extending engagement in order to make a more meaningful impact, rather than maximising the number of one-off engagements, which may have less of an impact.

17. Following the meeting, the Chair wrote to Councillor Bradbury, Cabinet Member Culture & Leisure¹, requesting further information, an explanation of how volunteer hours are quantified and noting that :

'Members are pleased to hear your contentment with the day-to-day working of the Joint Venture partnership; it is heartening to hear that the governance arrangements have proved to be suitable.'

18. In April 2018, Committee received a further update and considered the proposed Local Sports Plan 2018/19. During the meeting Members discussed the following points:

- Small amounts of funding, coupled with dedicated staff and volunteers, can make a huge difference in the delivery of sports across Cardiff
- Need to boost grassroots participation, to give lifelong love of sports and reap associated health and wellbeing benefits
- The work ongoing with 21st century schools programme, ensuring sports provision forms part of this and that this provision is accessible and affordable for local communities
- Year on year decreases in funding mean that there will come a time when activities reduce, as all efficiency savings/ contributions in kind will have been maximised
- Reductions in funding for Sport Wales means that it is more reliant on being able to engage with existing community based projects
- Sport Wales and sport governing bodies need to reach out to communities and shift their focus from elite sport to grassroots participation.

19. Following the meeting, the Chair wrote to Councillor Bradbury, Cabinet Member Culture & Leisure; a copy of the letter is attached at **Appendix 3**.

¹ Letter from Councillor Nigel Howells, Chair ECC to Cllr Bradbury, dated 10 November 2017

Way Forward

20. Councillor Peter Bradbury (Cabinet Member for Culture and Leisure) has been invited and may wish to give a statement. Neil Hanratty (Director of Economic Development), Laura Williams (Head of Sport Cardiff) and Ben O'Connell (Director of Sport, Cardiff Metropolitan University) will attend to give a presentation and answer Members' questions.

Legal Implications

21. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct legal implications. However, legal implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations for decision that goes to Cabinet/Council will set out any legal implications arising from those recommendations. All decisions taken by or on behalf of the Council must (a) be within the legal powers of the Council; (b) comply with any procedural requirement imposed by law; (c) be within the powers of the body or person exercising powers on behalf of the Council; (d) be undertaken in accordance with the procedural requirements imposed by the Council e.g. Scrutiny Procedure Rules; (e) be fully and properly informed; (f) be properly motivated; (g) be taken having regard to the Council's fiduciary duty to its taxpayers; and (h) be reasonable and proper in all the circumstances.

Financial Implications

22. The Scrutiny Committee is empowered to enquire, consider, review and recommend but not to make policy decisions. As the recommendations in this report are to consider and review matters, there are no direct financial implications at this stage in relation to any of the work programme. However, financial implications may arise if and when the matters under review are implemented with or without any modifications. Any report with recommendations

for decision that goes to Cabinet/ Council will set out any financial implications arising from those recommendations.

Recommendations

The Committee is recommended to give consideration to the information attached to this report and received at this meeting and to submit any recommendations, observations or comments to the Cabinet.

Davina Fiore
Director – Governance and Legal Services
31 May 2019