

Ken Skates AC / AM
Y Dirprwy Weinidog Diwylliant, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Culture, Sport and Tourism



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref
Ein cyf/Our ref SF/KS/0615/15

Professor Laura McAllister
Chair
Sport Wales
Sophia Gardens
Cardiff
CF11 9SW

9 March 2015

Dear Laura,

SPORT WALES REMIT LETTER 2015-16

This letter sets out my key priorities for the coming year and the outcomes I expect Sport Wales to deliver to support our Programme for Government and the 'Future Generations' legislation we expect to come into force in 2015. Before doing that, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you, the Board and staff for the commitment you continue to show to providing the best opportunity for our young people and communities to participate, enjoy and excel in sport.

I am conscious that a major challenge for Sport Wales in this and future financial years will be to manage the reduction in your grant in aid budget while maintaining the progress you have made in supporting increased participation levels and unprecedented success on the world stage.

The current budget pressures across the sector in Wales, particularly for local authorities, will make it difficult, but not impossible to maintain the positive impact sport is having on the health and wellbeing of our communities. Sport Wales will play an important role in mitigating any negative impact by working closely with local authority partners and others. The way community sport and sports facilities are delivered or managed is evolving rapidly and Sport Wales is ideally placed to help shape the landscape to counter the difficult financial climate and to establish a more effective, efficient and resilient infrastructure. It is crucial that additional sources of funding are sought by all sponsored bodies to supplement Welsh Government funding and that stakeholders are encouraged and supported to generate income from the wider public and private sectors. New, smarter and innovative ways of working and funding activities and services must be explored for the sector is to continue to demonstrate its relevance and importance to the lives of people across Wales.

I am aware that to achieve our longer term aims, we must adopt a more flexible approach to our investments and an outcome based focus in managing performance. To that end, this Remit Letter differs from previous years. Its purpose remains to set the strategic priorities and the planned and indicative budgets for future financial years but not to prescribe how the budget should be invested. Instead, I would ask you to consider the outcomes I have set out below and to propose to me through your draft Business Plan, how you intend to deliver against the outcomes and how you plan to measure the progress and impact.

In setting your performance measures for each of the following goals, I would ask you to define relevant population level indicators, programmes and targets. The targets must be output and not input driven and I will expect population level indicators to be between 5 to 10 years in length, programmes to be shorter and targets to be annual.

The objectives that should be paramount in Sport Wales' business planning for the future should demonstrate how you will use public funds to deliver:

A prosperous Wales

Generate wealth and provide employment opportunities for a skilled and well educated population and support an innovative and productive economy that makes more efficient use of resources.

A resilient Wales

Help create a bio diverse natural environment with healthy functioning ecosystems that support social, economic and ecological resilience and the capacity to adapt to change.

A healthier Wales

Maximise people's physical and mental wellbeing, especially in disadvantaged communities, and ensure their choices and behaviours are informed and understood.

A more equal Wales

Address the disparity in healthy life expectancy by narrowing the gap between the most deprived and least deprived communities in Wales and support young people to be aspirational and to achieve their full potential, regardless of their background or circumstances.

A Wales of cohesive communities

Support communities to deliver opportunities that bind and unite them to provide a safe environment in which to live, work and prosper.

A Wales of vibrant culture and thriving Welsh language

Create a population of physically active people by ensuring they have the skills, confidence and access to relevant, good quality opportunities that meet their needs and encourage them to enjoy an active lifestyle through out their lives.

In developing your business plan I would ask you to be mindful of the very helpful future context that the Sport Wales Advisory Group's report, 'Acting Today for an Active Tomorrow', provides for developing sport to meet the needs and demands of the future consumer.

GRANT IN AID FUNDING

The Welsh Government will provide Sport Wales with Grant in Aid funding of £23.497m for 2015-16. The budget is set out in detail below.

Grant in Aid Budget Allocation

	Plans 2015-16 (£000s)
Revenue	
Running Costs	1,327
Current Expenditure	24,704
Current Receipts	(3,658)
Capital	
Capital Expenditure	345
Cash budgets	22,718
Non-Cash	
Depreciation	779
TOTAL GIA	23,497

I expect Sport Wales to adhere to these budget line figures and to report any projected changes as soon as possible through the quarterly monitoring meetings. Payment of grant-in-aid continues to be on condition of compliance with the contents of the Framework Document. Sport Wales' Running Costs for 2015-16 should not exceed £1.327m.

I expect to see the strategic priorities and outcomes within this letter reflected in your Business Plan for 2015-16. I would encourage you to discuss an early draft with the Sports Policy Branch as soon as possible to ensure final approval and sign off in April 2015. Sport Wales' performance will continue to be measured by its progress against the strategic priorities and goals within this Remit Letter, and the agreed outcomes, performance indicators and targets in its business plan.

The arrangements for monitoring Sport Wales' progress against the remit letter and your Business Plan will continue in the form of regular meetings at official level and our quarterly meetings. I would like you to provide a report on your performance in 2014-15 in advance of our summer meeting and a report on your 2015-16 half year performance in advance of our autumn meeting.

Yours ever,



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