

minutes



Meeting OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS SELECT COMMITTEE

Date Monday, 15 October 2007 (commencing at 2.00 pm)

Membership

Persons absent are marked with 'A'

COUNCILLORS

Councillor Yvonne Davidson (Chair)

A Councillor Brian Wombwell (Vice-Chair)

Martin Brandon-Bravo OBE

A

Pat Lally

John Carter

Lynn Sykes

Sybil Fielding

A

The Hon Joan Taylor

A Keith Girling

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE

Councillor Chris Baron

Councillor Ken Rigby

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Brian Wombwell and Joan Taylor (both on other County Council business).

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS AND OFFICERS

Councillor Martin Brandon-Bravo declared a personal interest in the rest of the agenda, being a non-executive member of the Amateur Rowing Association.

SUPPORT FOR THE OLYMPICS AND PARALYMPICS

SPORT ENGLAND

Anne Rippon, Head of Performance, Improvement and Communications at Sport England gave a presentation on Sport England's activities and support for work in the region connected with the 2012 Games.

Ms Rippon explained how Sport England was responsible for sustaining and increasing participation in formal and informal community sport by adults over the age of 16. It cooperated with the Youth Sport Trust, which had a similar role for young people, and UK Sport, which supported elite athletes. She drew on information from the Active People Survey to show how sporting activity in the various Nottinghamshire districts compared with regional and national averages.

Sport England was cooperating with emda on the regional strategy for the Games, with an emphasis on encouraging community sport participation. She pointed to ways in which the County Council could help maximise the benefits from the Games.

Councillor Brandon-Bravo perceived a more coordinated approach by the sporting bodies in Scotland and Wales than in England. Ms Rippon responded that the three organisations in England were working on this. Different levels of financial support were a consequence of devolution. In reply to Councillor Carter, she stated that future budgets for the national sports organisations were part of the comprehensive spending review.

Councillor Brandon-Bravo understood that the Games' organisers were still looking for a canoe slalom venue. Ms Rippon expected this to be close to the original site, as the organisers were keen for events to be held in London. Councillor Brandon-Bravo observed that Holme Pierrepont was no further from London than the sailing and equestrian events would be. Councillor Davidson suggested that his point might form one of the Select Committee's recommendations.

Councillor Baron asked how young people with the potential to participate in 2012 would be identified. Ms Rippon replied that they would probably already be known, but there was a need to look further ahead. Councillor Baron referred to the risk of young people dropping out of sport during puberty, and how a small amount of funding might encourage them to continue. Ms Rippon agreed that it might do, and pointed out that some local authorities were inviting local firms to contribute.

EMERGENCY PLANNING AND SAFETY OF SPORTS GROUNDS

Rob Fisher, Head of Emergency Management and Registration gave a presentation on the role of his team in ensuring that sports could be watched safely at certified grounds, and in the preparation of various emergency plans. He explained that if other outdoor venues were used by spectators in the lead up to the Olympics, they would come under the legislation for inspection and certification. Different legislation applied to indoor venues.

WORK PROGRAMME

The programme for the last two meetings of the Select Committee was as follows:

12 November: Tracy Croft (emda); Experience Nottinghamshire; draft final report
17 December: final report

The meeting closed at 3.10pm.

CHAIR

Ref: Olympics/m_15 oct 07