
Minute of the meeting held in the Scottish Parliament.

PRESENT

Alison Johnstone MSP, Shona Robison MSP, Liz Smith MSP, Tavish Scott MSP, Nanette Milne MSP, Stewart Harris, Hamish Grey, Alan Millar, Lee Cousins, Cammy Watt, Jim Gunn, Jennifer Sandcroft, Charles Mackenzie, Kim Atkinson, Catherine Ronald, Anne Hamilton, Jack McGill, Kenny Stewart, Jane Campbell Morrison, Dougie Arneil, Brian Samson, Charlie Raeburn, Grant Jarvie, Patrick Murphy, Julie Mason, Ian Beattie, Ronnie Sloan, David Matthew, Ian White, Duncan Hamilton, Keith Irving, Ian Findlay, Maureen McGonigle, Mike Wallace, Amanda Cobb, Andy Herd, Robert Gibson, Jeannie Cranfield, Bill Knox, Neil MacGrain, Michael Chisholm, Alan Craw, Greg Coburn, Sharon Drysdale, Derek Grieve, Peter Warren, Judy Anderson, Sharon Clough, Maurice Donahue, Judith MacKinnon, Derek Sangster, Iain Watt, Sharon MacDonald, Craig Mathieson, Stew Fowlie, David Sweetman, Linda MacDonald, Joanna McLaughlin, Hugh Hall, Liza Linton, Jim McIntosh, Bob Aitken, Rick Kenney, Colin Rennie, Diane Cameron, Petra Biberbach, Stephen Neilson, Malcolm Gillies, Edith MacIntosh, Tom Bishop, Peter Nicolson, Roger Scrutton, Archie Robertson, Ian Campbell, Denzel Darku, Rebecca Marek, Dean Wilkinson, Shelagh Jackson and Jennifer Pearson.

APOLOGIES

Margo MacDonald MSP, Jackie Baillie MSP, David Arnott, Oliver Barsby, Dougi Bryce, Rodger Evans, Margaret Ann Fleming, Scott Hastings, Freda Hutchison, David Laing, Suzanne Laing, Garreth Lodge, Alan Martin, David Watt, Torquil MacLeod, Fiona McLeod MSP, Geoff Platt, Richard Simpson MSP and Stephanie-Anne Harris.

Previous Minute:

Proposed by: Grant Jarvie

Seconded by: Liz Smith MSP

Matters Arising:

Chair Alison Johnstone MSP took the opportunity to list those from Scottish sport who received Honours in the Queen's New Year 2014 Honours Awards and offered the Group's congratulations to all recipients. Kim Atkinson explained the SSA's partnership with the Scottish Government in assisting them in gathering high quality nominees from the sports community and explained the procedure for nominating individuals for Honours via the SSA system.

Round Table Discussion

Alison Johnstone MSP, who agreed to chair the meeting in Margo MacDonald MSP's absence, welcomed everyone to the session and sent good wishes to Margo on behalf of the Group. In particular she welcomed speakers Shona Robison MSP (Minister for Commonwealth Games and Sport), Stewart Harris (CEO **sportscotland**), Susan Egelstaff (former Team GB badminton player) and Hamish Grey (CEO, Scottish Golf) to discuss 'A Vision for Legacy 2014 – What Will Sport Look Like After 2014'.

Shona Robison MSP welcomed the opportunity to speak to the Group, congratulating the largest ever attendance at the CPG on Sport meeting. She described 2014 as the biggest year for sport Scotland has ever seen and a great opportunity to realise potential to inspire the next generation. She went on to say that legacy needs to last well after the Games and that the Scottish Government is committed to ensuring this, with legacy having been considered as a priority from the day the Games was awarded. She outlined the Games as a catalyst for a healthier, fitter, more active nation, similar to the Scandinavians in how we see ourselves as an active nation. A lasting and sustainable legacy is the Minister's aim, seeing Scotland prosper, with a long and proud sporting tradition developing long after the Games.

The Minister described both 2014 and the Ryder Cup as sporting spectacles and the task of translating these into real legacy was the main challenge.

She gave the example of Community Sports Hubs, highlighting that following an initial goal to create 100 hubs, there are now 117 and the Government has now raised its goal and hopes to deliver 150 Community Sports Hubs.

Group Contact:

Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5714

Fax: 0131 348 6271

E-mail: peter.warren@scottish.parliament.uk

On other progress the Minister drew attention to the success of the Aberdeen Sports Village, one of Scotland's first facilities which is focused on athletes with disabilities.

On a general level she commented that the Scottish Government is fully committed to supporting clubs, coaches and volunteers.

Interventions – the Minister gave a summary of the following initiatives:

Club Development

- £10 million committed to Club Sport over the next 4 years, supporting sustainable development with 50 clubs likely to benefit e.g. Lothian Disability Badminton Club.
- The Minister explained that the Government is aware that capacity needs to be within clubs to support new members post-2014.

PE in Schools

- The Scottish Government has focused strongly on PE in schools
- She acknowledged that levels of PE previously, were not acceptable
- It's now up the agenda and has been given more priority
- 89% of schools are now delivering against the PE targets
- She identified the development of early interest and the development of key skills as vital for young people
- One of the main challenges is having a system that incorporates quality competitive school sport.

The Minister recognised the contribution of Alison in regularly raising this important topic in the Parliamentary Chamber and of the work of the SSA in regularly raising the agenda.

Active Schools

- Active Schools has seen an £80 million investment over the last few years and has created lots of new opportunities for young people.

Active Places

- Active Places has seen a £10 million legacy fund being made available for facilities investment.

sportscotland

- £104 million has been invested in national facilities since 2007 (excluding CashBack for Communities funding)
- There's the National Performance Centre funding on top of this (£25 million)
- The Minister commented that great facilities enable participation and although not perfect, compared to a few years ago, she has seen a massive improvement
- She also noted the great potential of the new school estate, as well as new facilities such as the Emirates Arena and Commonwealth Pool.

In an Independent Scotland context

- The Minister explained that it'd be remiss of her not to think of sport in a post-Independence context
- She explained that she asked Henry McLeish to chair the Working Group on Scottish Sport, a group looking at the ultimate scenarios should Scotland vote yes in the referendum.

The Minister concluded commenting that Scotland is at the pinnacle of an opportunity it has never seen before and that right now is about making sure Scotland uses the Games as a catalyst for more. The Minister took the opportunity to thank everyone for their help towards this shared goal.

She encouraged the group to keep the momentum around sport well beyond the Games and the Ryder Cup.

The Chair thanked the Minister for speaking and took the opportunity to introduce fellow MSPs present at the meeting: Liz Smith, Nanette Milne and Tavish Scott. She then introduced Stewart Harris of **sportscotland** to speak to the Group.

Stewart Harris, CEO of **sportscotland**, began by thanking the Group for the opportunity to speak in what is the perfect forum. He acknowledged the commitment of many of those in the room who have given their lives to

Group Contact:

Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5714

Fax: 0131 348 6271

E-mail: peter.warren@scottish.parliament.uk

developing community sport. In agreement with the Minister, he re-iterated that Scotland is in the best place it's been in a long time for sport.

Stewart's discussion continued on the following topics:

Post 2014 – what might be different?

- Stewart explained that he sees schools, community, clubs and performance as inter-connected. What they have in common is that they are all underpinned by great people and world class facilities. Combined these make for a world class sporting system. He re-iterated that by world class facilities, this means at all levels – not just Performance Sport. This system is underpinned by the resources of people and facilities
- He commented that what brings all of this together is collaboration of all bodies and this is even more important post-2014 including **sportscotland**, SGBs, local authorities and others
- Building and sustaining this world class system is Stewart and **sportscotland's** priority.

Active Schools

- Stewart gave a bit of background on Active Schools, explaining that its starting point was in 2004. On top of improvements in PE, he said that there is now a workforce in Active Schools to further drive sport forward and to link school sport with community sport.

Stewart explained that at both national and local level strong policy is needed as well as strategy being robust and ambitious with resources to support this – we need to make good choices and to focus on what works.

Challenge at the table?

- As investor of 75%+ of funding in sport in Scotland, Stewart commented that local authorities are under pressure and that there are lots of decisions to be made
- He commented that everyone in the room can help with this to advocate for more resources in sport at a local level by speaking to Councillors and local authorities.

Community Sports Hubs

- Stewart told the Group that he is excited by the results of Hubs to date
- He sees community clubs and organisations as being, and continuing to be, the bedrock of Scottish sport
- He re-iterated the success of now having 117 Hubs in place, bringing people together in communities and aiming to drive growth in participation
- He commented that they have a large role in helping people feel part of their community.

On a general note Stewart highlighted to the Group the power of collecting data in a systematic way and the importance of using evidence to make your case stronger. We all share a vision of increasing participation and engagement in sport through bringing sport back to the heart of communities throughout Scotland.

Scottish Governing Bodies (SGBs)

- Stewart made the point that Governing Bodies do a good job in putting resources into and investing in community clubs
- He sees it as allowing community clubs to grow, develop and sustain themselves
- In particular he mentioned the need to make best use of school facilities, especially as 50% of secondary schools are brand new excellent facilities. Further work is required to ensure that school facilities are used to their full potential.

In summary he stated that communities are the way forward. Clubs need the support of **sportscotland**, SGBs, local authorities and many partners to give them the support and confidence to drive success forward.

Stewart outlined his 'Wish List':

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- That we (sports organisations and partners) all work better together
 - That we all make an effort to drive forward
 - For Community Planning Partnerships to be strengthened through community empowerment and to really empower communities
 - To keep sustaining and working together towards a world class sporting system.

The Chair thanked Stewart for his contribution.

Susan Egelstaff thanked the Group for the opportunity, stating that it's a really exciting year for sport. In terms of legacy, she noted that no major sporting event has succeeded in creating a true legacy and that Glasgow 2014 was the time to make a proper go of this.

She said that legacy is the most important aspect of Glasgow 2014 and if there's one group to impact, that'd be kids. If they can become more sporty and active then they are so much more likely to continue this throughout life.

Susan explained that she was a full-time athlete for 14 years and learned so much from being involved in sport and gained so many transferrable skills eg the health benefits, team building, overcoming challenges, social skills and establishment of a work ethic regardless of background. It gives skills that you can take into any part of your life.

She went on saying that there is no definitive model for a legacy. London 2012 showed that there will be a spike in participation, Scotland have a chance in maintaining this spike. She made comment about the importance of legacy providing the opportunity for kids to find what they're good at through exposure to lots of different sports. She explained that on a recent tour around schools in Scotland she found a real appetite for sport, sparked by London 2012 – there is a sport for everyone, we all just need the opportunity to find ours.

Another area Susan drew attention to was young girls and the influence legacy can have on this group. She highlighted the statistics that only 1 in 10 14 year old girls take part in regular physical activity. She explained that 2014 has provided a better platform for the growth of female sport as well as increased media coverage of it and that this needs to be maintained post-2014; only 5% of sports media in a non-Olympic year covers women's sport.

In regard to facilities Susan commented that new facilities are great, but there's a danger in being complacent that new facilities are enough – sport needs to be accessible. She commented that if parents are not able to assist then often kids are lost to sport. She encouraged more money to be invested in sports clubs with an aim of making sport cheap and easy to access for all. With increased participation the base of the pyramid is widened and eventually more participants will filter through to elite level sport. In summary she said that to reduce the gap between top and bottom participation needs to increase – we need to focus on the grassroots.

In summing up, Susan explained that if when interest increases, capacity is not there, then legacy will likely fail. This work on capacity should have started already and should continue well beyond 2014. Another thing to consider is ensuring there are opportunities across Scotland and not just in the central belt. Susan urged that everyone works together on this as it's too big a job for few to do. In conclusion Susan said that legacy is a real challenge but it'd be great to look back in 10/15 years' time and see that Glasgow started the trend. Her ambition is a Scotland where sport is commonplace and to see in a number of years time that 2014 was the catalyst for this.

The Chair thanked Susan and introduced Hamish Grey, CEO of Scottish Golf to the Group.

Hamish Grey started his discussion by highlighting that for those working in sport, legacy is something that is done day in, day out. He said that Glasgow 2014 and the Ryder Cup just help to accelerate this work.

Hamish gave some background on the build-up to the Ryder Cup, with 11 years having passed from their first bid and that their ambition for legacy is embedded within their strategic plans.

Participation-wise, Hamish explained that there are 597 golf courses across Scotland with 230,000 members; ie about a quarter of all sports club members in Scotland are golf club members, 10% of which are under 18s. He

Group Contact:

Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5714

Fax: 0131 348 6271

E-mail: peter.warren@scottish.parliament.uk

went on stating that it's a significant sport with significant coverage – 7-8% of adults in Scotland play golf regularly. In terms of value, it's worth £1.17 billion per annum to Scotland's economy in a non-Open year and 1 in 125 jobs in Scotland is generated by golf.

Hamish explained the Scottish Golf Union's Strategy:

- To lead their clubs
- To develop champions
- To create the opportunity for everyone to be able to play golf.

He stated there are 7 main pillars to support this:

- More golfers
- More members
- Stronger clubs
- Winning golfers
- Outstanding Championships
- Excellent governance
- Strong partnerships.

Under 'Strong Partnerships' - Hamish explained that this is where the Ryder Cup comes in. Given that their original bid was for 2009, hosting the Ryder Cup in 2014 gave them more time to prepare. Hamish said that Scottish Golf has used the winning of the bid to support their Strategy. He stated that the Ryder Cup has proven a good catalyst in gaining Government support and it's this support that they need to continue to retain after 2014. Hosting the Ryder Cup is estimated to contribute an extra £100 million to the economy.

Club Golf

Hamish explained that in 2002 there was no golf in Scottish schools and no volunteer coaches. He described it as a culture that was competition rich but development poor. Too many young people were lost to the game.

Scottish Golf's focus was to put a national junior programme in place – Government committed funds to this (£0.5 million/year within the Bid regardless of the result of the Bid) and the Club Golf programme was born.

He gave a summary of outcomes for Club Golf since 2003:

- Over 310,000 young people introduced to the game with 80% of Primary 5 pupils being introduced each year
- It linked clubs to schools to continue development with 15 of young people transferring to structured coaching in clubs
- In a survey of new junior members 40% of boys and 50% of girls were introduced to the game through the Club Golf programme – this showed that it really is making a difference.

Hamish summarised that inevitably, this will bring more players to a higher level. Already in their Academy Golf, 48% of players came through Club Golf.

Best Environmental Practice

Hamish explained that they recognise that most courses are also great environmental habitats. To target maintenance of these courses Scottish Golf invested in Wildlife Officers in clubs since 1993 – he indicated that this is a world leading programme. On a general level Hamish said that they encourage clubs to take environmental good practice further.

Legacy

Hamish made the point that legacy is something that has to continue well beyond 2014. Next for them is applying the principles that have worked well for juniors, to adults. They've found that increased interest from juniors has sparked more interest from adults so this has opened up potential to grow the adult game too.

Future Challenges

Group Contact:

Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5714

Fax: 0131 348 6271

E-mail: peter.warren@scottish.parliament.uk

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- Continuing this successful development beyond the Ryder Cup
 - Converting young people to membership and continuing the game for life
 - Applying the principles from junior development to adult development to enhance the family aspect of the game
 - Maintenance of club focus on governance and development planning
 - Key for Scottish Golf is creating a welcoming environment for any beginner.

Alison thanked Hamish for his input, commenting that Club Golf really has transformed the image of golf and that the positive impacts on the wider economy and tourism will have been noted.

Alison then invited questions from the wider group.

Question 1)

Ian Finlay (Paths for All) commented that he agreed with Susan in that legacy is a real challenge. He referenced the Scottish Household Survey which highlighted walking as by far the most popular sport, followed by swimming and then keep-fit. He asked that, given the popularity of walking and the way it sits well with equality and accessibility, **how do we build walking in legacy plans?**

Stewart Harris commented that a lot has already been achieved with walking and that Community Sport Hubs provide a great way to further support walking in the community. He said it was important that the right connections were made in the community, re-iterating that connections, structure and capacity are key.

Shona Robison MSP agreed that walking is a great activity for all, especially older people, those socially excluded and/or those with health problems. She highlighted too the effective link with jogscotland in people using walking as a stepping stone to eventually jogging etc and GP referrals to walking groups.

Hamish Grey highlighted that on average, people walk 4 miles during a round of golf. He explained that around 50% of courses are by coastal paths or walkways and that golf courses are happy to work with other users of the area to make sure they can both make best use of the land.

Question 2)

Liz Smith MSP noted that Stewart Harris had said 50% of new schools have outstanding facilities. She commented that the **school estate is not used enough and questioned how this should be addressed?**

Stewart Harris explained that use of the school estate is not programmed very well. He gave the example of his own basketball club having to train across 4 schools and that clubs shouldn't have to train like that and that programming for facility use could be better. He said that local authorities are open to opening up the school estate more. **sportscotland** plans to repeat the research in a few years to monitor improvements.

Question 3)

Jack McGill brought up the subject of broadcasting coverage of sport. He highlighted that young people are increasingly watching things online, including sport. His question was, given that 2014 presents an opportunity, **is it now time to have a joined up digital strategy?**

Stewart Harris said that he'd be happy to look at strategy and how digital partners can work better together.

Shona Robison MSP commented that there are coverage issues that need addressed, especially in breaking the 'beyond football' mentality. She agreed that young people do get almost all information from the internet though highlighted that broadcasting has a role alongside the internet.

Susan commented that there is still a big gap in newspaper coverage of women, papers almost seem scared to take the leap as they see it as too risky to try.

Shona Robison MSP said that a group has been created to look at how we collectively support women's sport. This is headed up by Dame Sue Campbell.

Sharon MacDonald (Scottish Swimming) said that she supports the points on a digital strategy. They found online streaming very popular but couldn't afford to continue it.

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Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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Question 4)

Stew Fowlie (Scottish Student Sport) asked the speakers **how optimistic they were about keeping the political focus on sport beyond 2014?**

Hamish Grey said that from a golf perspective he is confident as golf has full Government commitment through to 2018. His hope is that by 2018 things will be so good that Government wouldn't want to go back but that this is about more than just funding – partnership working and engagement are also important.

Susan Eglestaff commented that there are a lot of things that can be put in place whether Scotland decides to go Independent or not. She said at the moment it's fashionable to like sport but she is concerned that after 2014 politicians will be distracted with whatever the next popular thing is. She commented that it's really important to ensure the level of interest is sustained.

Shona Robison MSP commented that the legacy build-up has been over such a long time that sport has geared up and gained momentum. She said that as politicians there's a long legacy ambition to deliver and it's definitely beyond 2014. She noted that sport is important to the economy as well as health. She highlighted that a lot of legacy is about ensuring the public don't view the excitement as being over when the Games are over. It's important that the public know the importance and value of sport.

Stewart Harris stated that Scotland's strength is in a systematic and unified approach. He accepted that there's a challenge locally with more uncertainty in local government. However, there's a need to understand what ambitions are locally.

Question 5)

Charlie Raeburn noted Stewart Harris' reference to a world class system and asked, **how do we measure world class?** He suggested that the reason local authorities in Northern Europe do so well is community empowerment of clubs.

Question 6)

Jennifer Sancroft (Judo Scotland) asked **how the Government plans to build development for lesser known sports?**

Question 7)

Denzel Darku (Scottish Youth Parliament) asked **what was being done to get young people who are more deprived into sport?**

Question 8)

Petra Biberbach (Planning Aid Scotland) asked about what was being done in **legacy plans around volunteers?** She commented that as a Club Golf volunteer she gets a lot out of it.

Shona Robison MSP commented that in Scandinavia, it's a lot about the community delivering for itself. She said that in Scotland, sports hubs are a great way of driving this ethos. She explained that the Government has continued to invest in non-Games sports and she recognises the need to further develop these too. In looking at communities of deprivation she drew the Group's attention to the positive effect of CashBack investments. The Minister commented that 50,000 people applied to volunteer at Glasgow 2014 and that the Government is keen to encourage those not successful to volunteer in their communities.

Question 9)

Dougie Arneil (Safeguarding in Sport) asked if **PE in schools is now identified as an intrinsic part of sport development and if competitive sport is part of this?** He also commented that sports clubs are increasingly youth sport clubs with a small adult section and so there needs to be a focus on re-building adult sport. He also suggested that the Government should look at the school year curriculum and how this could better be adapted to allow students to participate more in sport.

Shona Robison MSP stated that PE is an intrinsic part of the sports development system and that **sportscotland** has had long discussions with local authorities to ensure delivery of PE outcomes. She said that sport has been

Group Contact:

Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5714

Fax: 0131 348 6271

E-mail: peter.warren@scottish.parliament.uk

elevated, especially in the primary sector. She commented that there is now an expectation to meet a certain standard and that the Government is committed to funding on growing PE.

Alison thanked the Minister for speaking and asked permission for any questions missed to be emailed to the Minister as the Minister had to leave for another engagement.

Question 10)

Cammy Watt (SFA) asked, in the event of a yes vote, has any significant work been done on the effect on Lottery Funding?

Stewart Harris commented that if Independence was to take place, the £31 million of Lottery funding will need to be replaced. In reply to Denzel's question he explained that **sportscotland** does a lot of good work with Young Scot and Youth Sport Ambassadors. He said there need to be opportunities that are local and accessible and commented that he'd be happy to talk with the Youth Parliament about this. In regard to non-Games sports he explained that some of the smaller sports are getting better at presenting to **sportscotland** what they can do. He said if sports put forward a good pitch, then **sportscotland** will support them. In response to Charlie Raeburn's question Stewart agreed that the Scandinavians have done well in creating empowerment at community level. He commented that if he was in a local authority, he'd focus on training, leadership and young people. He suggested that resources from local authorities going to community groups should be given on agreement to meet outcomes locally. He sees local authorities as having a leadership and training role in community empowerment and one where small amounts of money can gain big benefits.

Derek Grieve (Head of Sport Policy, Scottish Government) confirmed to the group that National Lottery funding will continue post-referendum and referenced page 321 of the Scottish Government's White Paper.

Susan Egelstaff queried where athletes would get funding from in an Independent Scotland. She highlighted that an Independent Scotland would have more athletes looking for full funding by comparison to as part of the UK, many currently receiving UK Sport funding.

Question 11)

Ian Watt (Scottish Highland Games) queried the charging of community groups in a single police authority – this question is to be emailed to the Minister.

Question 12)

Edith MacIntosh (Care Inspectorate) highlighted the work being done with older people in the care sector through the 'Go for Gold Challenge' which promotes physical activity to older adults. She said that between 2012-13, over 2,000 older people have taken part in sport through the initiative. **She commented that it's important not to forget older people and asked, how do we best serve these people?**

Hamish Grey highlighted that the beauty of golf is that it can be played throughout life and that the real legacy of the Ryder Cup is involving the whole family in the game. He also commented that there's a real opportunity for 'Green Prescriptions' (prescribed exercise) linking into health. In replying to questions based around volunteering, he explained that the biggest part of Club Golf's success has been volunteering. He explained that there are two key things – providing the opportunity for volunteering and most importantly, thanking volunteers. He mentioned that there a significant number of tickets for the Ryder Cup that have gone to volunteers.

Question 12)

Tom Bishop (Scottish Cycling) highlighted cycling as a sport that has seen an increase in participation in the adult area of the sport and in a very short time period. It's seen 147% growth over a 3 year period. **Tom highlighted the need to work increasingly in partnership with councils and questioned the best way to do that and grow sport?**

Stewart Harris commented that when communities start to work together, politicians will start to take note. He said it's important for sports groups to put a case forward for what they plan to achieve.

Group Contact:

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Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

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Fax: 0131 348 6271

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Jenny Person (Scottish Cycling) explained that they had been lucky to be able to put some money aside to invest in communications. She commented that a sport with a higher media profile can really grow and develop.

Alison Johnstone suggested all of the group go away with some homework: everyone present at the meeting should do what they can to let local authorities know how important sport is. There are 32 very different local authorities and she stated that we all have to do what we can to keep sport on the agenda.

Alison indicated the date of the next meeting as Tuesday 25th February 2014 and concluded by thanking all speakers and the group as a whole for their attendance.

The date of next Cross Party Group on Sport meeting is 25th February 2014.

Group Contact:

Margo MacDonald MSP

Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh, EH99 1SP

Tel: 0131 348 5714

Fax: 0131 348 6271

E-mail: peter.warren@scottish.parliament.uk