Mr Neil Findlay MSP
Convener
Health and Sport Committee
T3.60
The Scottish Parliament
Edinburgh
EH99 1SP

Our ref: A17064084
24 April 2017

Dear Neil,

Thank you for your letter of 15 March to Shona Robison MSP, Cabinet Secretary for Health and Sport, regarding the funding for the jogscotland programme. I am replying in my capacity as Minister for Public Health and Sport.

I very much welcome and appreciate the contribution which the jogscotland programme plays in supporting people across Scotland to become more active. Since 2008, Scottish Athletics have been provided with £730,000 directly for the jogscotland programme. In the last few years, the grant has been paid to Scottish Athletics by sportscotland.

As I said in my letter to Miles Briggs, the investment by sportscotland in 2016-17 of £65,000 for the pilot system was to intended to put the jogscotland programme on a more sustainable footing by providing Scottish Athletics with the ability to fully demonstrate the impact which the programme is having and to develop a database to generate future commercial income. Along with this investment, an additional supplementary investment of £50,000 was provided by sportscotland to further support the transition of the jogscotland programme to a more sustainable model.

In terms of the budget allocations to Scottish Governing Bodies of Sport (SGBs) for 2017/18, whilst initial meetings between sportscotland officials and SGBs have taken place, they have not been given formal confirmation of their allocations for 2017/18. Further to this, I announced on 4 April an additional £2 million investment in sports governing bodies which will be distributed by sportscotland to help offset the reduced revenue from the National Lottery. SGBs receiving a share of the additional funding will be asked to help meet the Scottish Government’s priorities on reducing inequalities in sports participation. This means encouraging more women and girls to take part in sport, achieving 50/50 gender balance on boards, and greater engagement with LGBT communities, disadvantaged communities and other under-represented groups. It is hoped that this additional funding will help protect interventions that seek to improve levels of physical activity at a population level, such as jogscotland, going forward. SGBs will be informed of their investment settlement shortly, once discussions are concluded.

St Andrew’s House, Regent Road, Edinburgh EH1 3DG
www.gov.scot
You may also be interested to know that on 5 April, SAMH announced a new collaborative partnership with Scottish Athletics to deliver the ongoing operations of jogscotland. This partnership developed as both organisations have a shared belief in the value of physical activity and sport as a means to achieve both physical and mental wellbeing.

I hope this is helpful background for the Committee.

best wishes,

Aileen

AILEEN CAMPBELL