About sportscotland

sportscotland is the national agency for sport in Scotland. Our vision is a Scotland where sport is a way of life, where sport is at the heart of Scottish society and has a positive impact on people and communities.

We believe passionately that sport makes a positive and valuable contribution to personal, community and national wellbeing in Scotland. The power of sport means it contributes to the five strategic objectives outlined in Scotland Performs, which unite all public organisations in Scotland: wealthier and fairer, smarter, healthier, safer and stronger, and greener.

Within this context sport contributes directly to the Scottish Government’s vision of a Scotland where more people are more active more often, and to the Active Scotland Outcomes Framework, as shown in Figure 1. As a non-departmental public body, sportscotland is responsible through Scottish Ministers to the Scottish Parliament. As such, we are guided strategically by the Scottish Government’s Programme for Government.

Figure 1: World class sporting system and strategic context

1 ‘About us’ sportscotland. Available at www.sportscotland.org.uk/about-us/
Our mission is to build a world class sporting system for everyone in Scotland. For us ‘world class’ is an expression of ambition and aspiration to be the best we can be at all levels in sport. We will drive this ambition by focusing on continuous improvement and measuring progress as we develop and support the system.

There are a range of organisations involved in delivering sport in Scotland, including local authorities and their leisure trusts, Scottish governing bodies of sport (SGBs), other representative bodies, sports clubs, higher and further education institutions and third sector organisations. Overall, sportscotland is responsible for around 10% of public funding for sport in Scotland so it is critical that we work in partnership with and provide leadership to the key players involved, both strategically and operationally.

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1. Participation

As set out in our Corporate Plan\(^3\), participation is a headline outcome for sportscotland: “You will have the opportunity to get involved and participate in sport, and stay involved throughout your life”. Our impact measures for participation are:

- We will have increased the number and diversity of people playing sport in schools and sports clubs.
- We will have used the sportscotland School Sport Awards to strengthen the quality of sport within schools, driving strategic quality improvement and impact.
- We will have taken a planned approach to increasing the number, quality and diversity of coaches working in schools and education, and clubs and communities.

1.1 sportscotland policies and plans

We recognise sport as an element of physical activity, which sits alongside other elements including active living, recreational activity, dance, play and exercise. These elements are not mutually exclusive and taken together they help people lead a more active life, whether they think of it as sport, recreation or activity. Indeed, how people define sport is often down to their personal motivations and interpretations.

People and communities in Scotland are at the heart of our thinking. By this we mean people of all ages, from all backgrounds and all walks of life, whether participants or non-participants in sport; athletes; individuals; parents and families.

While our focus is on the development of sport, we work alongside those who have a greater focus on other types of physical activity to ensure people in Scotland find it easy to lead an active life. In particular we recognise that people have sporting lives, throughout which they may stay involved in or dip in and out of sport and sports, whether they participate recreationally or competitively. We want to ensure everyone in Scotland has positive experiences at all stages of their sporting lives, whether they are being introduced to sport for the first time, developing, progressing, or achieving success.

Equalities and Inclusion is one of three priorities for improvement set out in our Corporate Plan 2015-19. The priorities underpinning the sporting system are for the sports sector as a whole to drive improvement in the system. In this context, Equalities and Inclusion is about ensuring that sport is accessible to people, recognising that both inequality and discrimination exist in sport, and that widening access means understanding the needs of people who share the protected characteristics as well as the complexities associated with socio-economic disadvantage, and the exclusion that can be experienced in some rural parts of Scotland. As a sector, sport must recognize and understand this if we are to effectively address issues that may be preventing or constraining people from getting involved and progressing in any aspect of sport.

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Our *Equality at sportscotland* report\(^4\) outlines our progress towards ensuring equality is integrated into our day-to-day work and provides an overview of how we have delivered against our equality outcomes. It also sets out our three new equality outcomes:

- Young people from our most deprived areas, girls and young women and disabled young people will have access to improved sport and physical activity opportunities, enabling them to participate and progress in school sport and club sport.

- **sportscotland** and Scottish sport are supported to embed equalities and inclusion in their work.

- Sports organisations and people working in sport will have an improved understanding and awareness of the needs of people with protected characteristics.

These outcomes are underpinned by our commitment to showing greater leadership, to influence and drive the changes needed to address inequalities and ensure everyone has the opportunity to get involved in sport.

**sportscotland** are currently reviewing and updating our Club Sport Framework and intend to re-publish this as our Club and Community Sport Framework later this year.

### 1.2 sportscotland research and data

In 2016 **sportscotland** and the Equality and Human Rights Commission published a *Equality and Sport Research* report\(^5\) into equality in Scottish sport. The report looks at who currently participates in sport, the barriers to participation, and suggests potential solutions. Key findings include:

This research aims to help improve work within the sport sector in Scotland, in relation to advancing equality, eliminating discrimination and fostering good relations. It consolidates what we know and identifies what we need to know. It will form a building block for priorities for action around equality, for **sportscotland** and its partners in the sport sector.

### 1.3 sportscotland programmes and activities

A range of **sportscotland** programmes and activities, directly and indirectly contribute to removing barriers to participation in sport and physical activity. It is not possible to cover all these here. In line with the questions posed by the Committee, this section focuses on club and community-based activities, rather than school-based activities. We also highlight our programmes and interventions that work through a range of partners.

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The ‘Equality and Sport Research’ report was commissioned and managed by **sportscotland**, funded by the Equality and Human Rights Commission, supported by the Scottish Government, and conducted by Research Scotland.
1.3.1 Community Sport Hubs

The Community Sport Hubs (CSHs) programme is one of sportscotland's key programmes, delivered in partnership with local authorities, leisure trusts, communities and clubs. sportscotland provides investment and national leadership to the development of Community Sport Hubs across Scotland. As of the end of 2016/17, there are now 179 such Hubs across Scotland, with a target of 200 Hubs by 2020. As Hubs are genuinely locally driven, each is unique, and develops its own vision and values in a clear and simple plan. The common thread that binds all Hubs together is that they work to be sustainable, and they follow these five principles:

- Growth in participation
- Understanding community need
- Supporting community leadership
- Offering a range of sports
- Ensuring all the right people are working together

To ensure Hubs are contributing to increasing participation, they are also challenged to:

- Support and develop effective sporting pathways between schools, education and club sport.
- Engage with people who may experience barriers to participation to support their inclusion in activity.

The focus on engaging with the community to understand local need has resulted in each Hub taking a different approach to reaching people who may experience barriers to participation to support their inclusion in activity.

**Examples of Community Sport Hubs work to reduce barriers to participation**

- **The Jack Kane Sports Centre and Craigmillar CSH** in Edinburgh has addressed the cost barriers by delivering a free Easter holiday sports camp, including meals, targeted at local children most at risk of ‘holiday hunger’.

- **Hubs in East Lothian** are also addressing cost barriers, by providing free memberships, coaching, sessions and in some cases equipment to people referred from health providers, schools, social workers and from our looked after and accommodated children support network.

- **Stewarton CSH** in East Ayrshire identified a lack of opportunities for over 50s and responded by starting a walking football club.

- **New Farm CSH** also in East Ayrshire has a mental health badminton programme is now taking direct referrals from GP's allowing for those who have suffered from a range of conditions such as drug & alcohol abuse, post-natal depression, etc. the opportunity to attend a friendly welcoming environment and take part in recreational badminton while socialising with peers offering support.

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6 What is a Community Sport Hub? sportscotland. Available at: [https://sportscotland.org.uk/clubs/what-is-a-community-sport-hub/](https://sportscotland.org.uk/clubs/what-is-a-community-sport-hub/)
In all the cases highlighted, in addition to better understanding the local community, a key factor in the success of these initiatives to remove barriers has been sports clubs working in partnership with a range of organisations, such as the NHS, social work departments, schools, GPs, sport for change organisations, and non-sport third sector organisations. These organisations contribute resource and expertise that the Hubs may not otherwise have access to and recognises the contribution sport can make to multiple outcomes.

1.3.2 Investment and support direct to sports clubs

As stated in our Corporate Plan, sportscotland believes “sports clubs are an essential part of the sporting system and are part of the fabric of their local communities”. sportscotland offers a range of investment and support to help sport clubs develop (regardless of whether or not they are part of a CSH). This support has been extended in recent years and often provides assistance to clubs and community sport providers to remove barriers to participation. This support includes:

- Operating a Direct Club Investment funding programme to support clubs to sustainably grow their active membership. This is a multi-year, flexible funding programme that allows clubs to develop against their specific needs, including those to remove barriers to participation for their local communities. To date, awards have been made to 122 clubs, totaling over £2.9m, covering the period 2013-14 to 2019-20.

- Investing in club and community sport facilities, where the need and impact is greatest and the outcomes are clear. We are committed to ensuring that sports facilities are well planned, and are affordable, accessible and inclusive to people who want to get involved and stay involved in sport and physical activity. We use our expertise in the planning, design and delivery of sports facilities to help clubs and community groups develop their places for sport. We are committed to developing this area of our work, and will continue to offer clubs and community groups support through the publication of guidance notes, case studies and our time. We invest through our Sports Facilities Fund, and have through time limited specific streams including the Legacy 2014 Active Places Fund and the CashBack for Sports Facilities Fund. Our investment through our Sports Facilities Fund is moving progressively towards prioritising projects that will provide opportunities for people to get involved in sport and physical activity who share protected characteristics that are under-represented in sport or are located in or serve SIMD areas.

- Continuing as a funding partner of the Awards for All programme, providing small grants of £500 to £10,000 to sports clubs and community sport providers. Clubs must demonstrate that these grants will contribute to one of the four programme outcomes: people have better chances in life; communities are safer, stronger and more able to work together to tackle inequalities; people have better and more sustainable services and environments; or people and communities are healthier.

- Supporting clubs to become well organised, better connected, well promoted, and sustainable, with great people and places, through an on-line self-improvement tool, housed on sportscotland’s Help for Clubs site.

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1.3.3 SGB development

SGB investment from sportscotland is linked to a single plan for the sport which takes a medium to long term approach showing how the sport will develop, and at the same time contribute to the changes expected from the investment made by sportscotland. sportscotland supports clubs and club development, the sports pathway and people development through a network of professional governing body staff and activities that provide sport-specific expertise.

Whilst sports activities are often small scale and localised, this partnership with SGBs provides sportscotland with the ability to work at a scale and reach which supports sport to systematically address inequalities in and barriers to participation. The relevant headline development outcome for sportscotland’s investment in SGBs is “retaining and where applicable increasing membership through a systematic approach to development”. This is underpinned by a secondary outcome to “increase the number and improve the quality of what clubs offer to better meet the needs of participants”.

The Equality Standard for Sport has been a primary driver for our equality and inclusion work with SGBs. The Standard is a framework for assisting sports organisations to widen access and reduce inequalities in sport and physical activity from under represented individuals, groups and communities. The resulting action plans developed as SGBs progress through the four levels (preliminary, foundation, intermediate and advanced) outline the steps they will take, including removing barriers to participation. Scotland leads the way across the home counties in progression against the Standard, with more SGBs on the upper two levels (13 across intermediate and advanced), than any other home country.

Since 2012, sportscotland has significantly grown the number of SGB Regional Development staff in post, ensuring that there are more professional people working with local sport clubs to help them build their capacity and capability. sportscotland currently invests up to £5.9m annually in SGB development staff, a proportion of which supports around 100 regional development staff across 33 SGBs working directly with clubs and other partners to make clubs sustainable, support their volunteers, help them grow and improve what they offer to their communities. This regional approach ensures that the work with SGBs on equality and inclusion reaches the grassroots of sport and that SGB’s clubs are supported to remove barriers to participation.

In 2017/18, Scottish Government invested an additional £2million in SGBs through sportscotland. This funding is ring-fenced to further support SGBs in delivering the priorities outlined in the Minister’s strategic guidance letter and Scottish Government’s endeavours to improve healthy lifestyles by engaging with individuals who are currently inactive. SGBs will

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The Minister for Public Health and Sport has issued sportscotland with a strategic guidance letter covering the period to 31 March 2018. The strategic guidance supports us to ensure we continue to build on our contribution to the Scottish Government’s key priorities. Alongside our Corporate Plan 2015-19, the strategic guidance is the key driver for our business plan.
be required to expand their reach to the inactive and underrepresented in sport, including women and girls and older people, and to tackle inequality and discrimination in participation in sport particularly in LGBTI discrimination, as well as to further enhance child protection measures. **sportscotland** has worked with SGBs to identify where they can deliver impact, and details of the work being undertaken will be available later in 2017.

### Examples of SGB work to reduce barriers to participation

- **Netball Scotland** have introduced Bounce Back to Netball (BBN) and Walking Netball. BBN aims to attract people back into netball or to give those who had never tried the sport the opportunity to participate in a social rather than competitive environment. Walking Netball is targeted at members of the community who wish to participate in low impact physical activity to enhance their overall health and wellbeing.

- **Royal Yachting Association Scotland** (RYAS) has grown its disability programme. They developed nine RYA Sailability Centres across Scotland offering access to sailing for people with disabilities. Each Sailability Centre is an affiliated club which has adapted its facilities and provision to accommodate people with disabilities.

- **Scottish Squash and Racketball** are focusing on inclusion and participation opportunities for the BME community, partnering with the Al-Farooq Community Centre and Mosque in the Govan area of Glasgow, and the Well Foundation Sport Academy based out of Ravenscraig Regional Centre in Motherwell.

- **Judo Scotland’s** Judo Girls Rock initiative aims to increase participation of young females, a demographic who are currently under-represented in the sport, with a focus on girls from areas of social deprivation, and those girls who are not currently participating in physical activity. The sessions focus on physical movement, based on dance, gradually introducing judo, to maximise engagement. As cost is a barrier to many in the areas these sessions are being delivered in, the sessions are offered at a cost of £1 a session, with a loyalty card scheme.

- **Scottish Rowing** are working with partners to engage youth from areas of high economic deprivation in Glasgow. The Rowing Youth Collective is a youth-led project based at the Firhill Basin on the Forth & Clyde Canal, which aims to engage with young people who would be unlikely to engage at traditional settings and are disengaged with education and sport.

### 1.3.4 Local planning for sport

Local authorities are the major financial investors in sport and physical activity across Scotland, are responsible for over 90% of public expenditure on sport and are the main providers of sports facilities across the country. **sportscotland** is committed to working with all local authorities, associated trusts and community planning partners to strengthen the local infrastructure for sport and contribute to a world class sporting system for everyone in Scotland.

As with SGBs, working with local authorities provides us with the ability to work at scale. Local authorities play a crucial role in ensuring sport is developed and delivered in a manner...
that accounts for community needs and addresses inequalities in and barriers to participation locally.

A key component of our work with local authorities is our commitment to supporting local planning for sport. sportscotland is playing a key role in the leadership and facilitation of developing local strategic plans for sport and physical activity.

We work closely with local community planning partners to develop and deliver integrated plans, informed by local and national data, and contributing to wider local community outcomes, social outcomes and the outcomes for sport and physical activity.

This process has resulted in a broader ownership of the sporting system and increased understanding of how it contributes to wider community plan and national outcomes, ensuring better delivery of services and use of shared resources. There has been strong political engagement and support for strategic planning for sport locally, which, in some instances, has aided the protection of local resources for sport.

To date we have worked with eight local authority areas\(^{11}\) to complete strategies or frameworks and have been responsible for driving collaborative working across multi agency/partners to establish local Leadership Groups to develop new integrated strategies/ frameworks and plans.

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**Examples of local planning for sport to reduce barriers to participation**

- **Dundee - sportscotland** led the facilitation and development of an overarching Physical Activity Strategy for Dundee with four underpinning frameworks; Sport & Recreation, Play, Dance and Active Living. A multi agency leadership group has established with representation from across the health, local authority, university, third sector and other key partners to shape the direction of physical activity in the city. Within the sport and recreation there is a clear flow from a vision of an active city, to a priority that 'everyone will have the opportunity to get involved and participate in sport and stay involved throughout their life', to an outcome that 'Dundee has an increased number of people overcoming barriers to participation allowing them the opportunity to be involved in community sport'.

- **Argyll & Bute - sportscotland** led the formation of a multi-partner Leadership Group including NHS Highlands and Islands, third sector, Council departments and Community Planning Partnership and facilitated the development of a Sport and Leisure Framework. Following committee approval, the full Strategic Leadership Group continues to operate providing accountability for the resourcing and delivery of the priorities and outcomes within the framework. Making sport accessible to everyone is a clear priority within this framework, including affordability, catering for all ages, accessibility of opportunities, and understanding local need.

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\(^{11}\) sportscotland has worked with: Argyll & Bute, Dundee, East Renfrewshire, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, Stirling, Shetland Islands. We are leading and facilitating the development of further strategic plans with Angus, Clackmannanshire, Edinburgh and North Lanarkshire. We are also having discussions with Aberdeenshire, Dumfries and Galloway, and West Dunbartonshire, with regard to support in the forthcoming year.
2. Community & Volunteers

People are one of the three key enablers of the World Class Sporting System that sportscotland works to deliver. Our work in this area covers both leaders and deliverers, whether they are paid or voluntary; coaches, officials, administrators, and professional staff.

2.1 sportscotland policies and plans

Our corporate plan identifies the key need to improve our shared understanding of how sport’s voluntary workforce is changing, including people’s needs, challenges and barriers. This will help identify effective actions to reduce inequality in the workforce for sport, and develop better, more targeted opportunities for workforce development.

Our relevant impact measures in this area are:

- We will have taken a planned approach to increasing the number, quality and diversity of coaches working in schools and education, and clubs and communities.

- We will have used the Coaching Scorecard to drive quality improvement in the development of coaching strategies, ensuring there are more coaches with the right qualifications working in sport and improving opportunities for those currently under-represented in coaching.

- We will have provided a range of leadership opportunities to young people so they are encouraged and supported to reach their potential in leadership roles.

Coaching Scotland, our framework to guide the sport sector’s development of coaches and coaching in Scotland, is currently undergoing a refresh and is due to be re-published later in 2017.

2.2 sportscotland research and data

In the most recent academic year for which data is available (2015-16), there were over 19,000 volunteer deliverers in Active Schools. This is 87% of all deliverers within the programme.

There are over 50,000 qualified and active coaches affiliated to SGBs.

Coaching in Scotland 2017\(^\text{12}\) represents the findings from the largest survey of coaches in Scotland (540 coaches), conducted across multiple sports. The survey results provide valuable evidence for Sports Councils, Governing Bodies of Sport and other organisations who are developing workforce strategies or planning support services for our coaches. Key findings from this report include:

- **Who responded to the survey**: 58% of coaches in the survey were male and 40% were female. 13% were disabled and 97% were white. Two-thirds of the coaches were aged over 35.

- **Volunteering**: Just under three-quarters of coaches in Scotland volunteer some of their time to coach. 59% of coaches volunteer the significant majority of their coaching time.

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(80% or more of coaching is unpaid). Around half of volunteers coach for three hours or less per week.

- **Entry into coaching**: Two key entry stages into coaching are 16-24 and 35-44. The most common reason (71%) for starting to coach is a love of the sport and wanting to share this with others. 24% of coaches started coaching through their children and 20% wanted to start a career in coaching.

- **Benefits of being a coach**: Coaches in Scotland were almost unanimous that being a coach makes them feel proud to help others and make a positive contribution to their community.

### 2.3 sportscotland programmes and activities

As a core area of the world class sporting system and our business plan, sportscotland deliver a significant level of investment to partners and direct activity to support volunteers in sport. We invest in and contribute to coach and volunteer development infrastructure, building the systems and processes that support coaches and other volunteers in sport, including investing in 35 SGBs to support coaching network posts and coaching programme delivery. In 2016-17, we had almost 12,000 attendances by coaches accessing a range of learning and development opportunities, delivered by SGBs and directly by sportscotland. Whilst impossible to cover all of our work in this area, a number of areas relevant to the Committee’s questions are highlighted here.

#### 2.3.1 Coach education: UKCC and multi-skills awards

Working closely with SGBs, we continue to support coach education opportunities, with over 3,300 people offered direct subsidies to complete UKCC qualifications across 26 different sports in 2016-17. This resulted in the largest investment of grants we have ever made in any one year.

Whilst coaching qualifications are not required to start a volunteer’s coaching journey, assisting another coach in a club, they help provide the skills and confidence that can help retain volunteers and allow them to build-up to leading activity on their own. Providing grants direct to individuals to subsidise sport-specific UKCC qualifications is one element of ensuring volunteering in sport is accessible by reducing a potential cost barrier.

Recognising that some volunteers delivering activity will do so in an environment that does not focus on a single sport, sportscotland offers both Introduction to Multi-skills and the Multi-skills Award. These courses are useful for volunteers just getting started in coaching and working with children in a multi sport environment, or can support sport specific coaches to instill fundamental movement skills which help progression within an individual sport. The courses are interactive and focused on creating a positive environment for child development and giving practical knowledge and ideas that can be used right away.

#### 2.3.2 Managing and supporting coaches and other sports volunteers

sportscotland offers ‘Supporting Coaches’ and ‘Volunteer Management for Clubs’ workshops as part of our volunteer management CPD offering to support those that develop and manage their club/organisation.
Supporting Coaches is a 3 hour classroom-based workshop designed to help attendees to recruit, develop, recognise, reward and ultimately retain coaches more effectively. It gives them the opportunity to share their own good practice with others and pick up new ideas. The workshop is aimed at people who have a responsibility for recruiting, developing and retaining coaches, such as coaching coordinators, volunteer coordinators, committee leads, head coaches, manager of coaches, and sport development officers.

Volunteer Management for Clubs is a similar workshop with a focus on recruiting and retaining club committee members. It covers key areas that are required to build a strong network of volunteers within a club, specifically committee members, as well as the abundance of helpers who sometimes do the small things that make the big difference. The workshop is aimed at sports club representatives who may have a role in the recruitment, support & development and recognition & reward of club volunteers that the club needs to develop, manage, administrate and lead their club.

We also provide a range of generic and bespoke volunteer management CPD opportunities to professional staff within the Active Schools Network, which is tailored to the context of volunteers within that programme (e.g. high numbers of parents, and further and higher education student within the volunteer workforce).

### 2.3.3 Young people as leaders

Developing young people as leaders in sport continues to be a priority for sportscotland. We are working in collaboration with partners to ensure young people have access to a range of leadership roles in sport and physical activity and are supported by key individuals and organisations.

We have identified key roles for young people as leaders in sport. The roles are not the only ones that a young person can undertake but they are likely to have the most significant impact on the system. They are young people as deliverers/coaches, technical officials, event/competition organisers, decision makers and ambassadors. We have created a range of opportunities aligned to these roles, including:

- **Young Ambassadors:** Each year, two pupils from each secondary school in Scotland are chosen as Young Ambassadors to promote sport, and motivate and inspire other young people to get involved in sport in their schools, clubs and local communities.

- **Young Decision Makers:** Motivate and engage Community Sport Hub officers to facilitate the involvement of young people as decision makers within hub steering groups.

- **Competition Organiser Training:** Establishing a local network of tutors who train young people to undertake the competition organiser role

- **Young People's Sports Panel:** A panel of young people recruited to take on a leadership role in the sporting system. This then consists of consultation and facilitated engagement with the sport panel on the sporting system and on a range of sportscotland business activity.

In addition, through the sportscotland School Sport Award, we encourage schools to put young people at the forefront of decision making, planning and implementation processes around sport in their school. All 509 schools engaged in the Award in 2016-17 academic year are expected to have an active committee.
3. School Estate

People and communities in Scotland need access to the right quality of sports facilities infrastructure with the capacity to meet their needs and provide a positive atmosphere and culture that makes them feel welcome. All partners need to work collaboratively to ensure that a strategic and integrated approach is taken towards planning, improving, maintaining and protecting this infrastructure. A key focus should be to improve our shared understanding of the needs of sport, to ensure we make the best use of our collective time, investment and expertise in the planning, design and management of sports facilities.

3.1 sportscotland policies and plans

In describing the sporting system, sportscotland recognise the connection between schools, education and places for sport is also important. The role of the school, college and university estate in providing places for sport must continue to be a priority for all partners in order to ensure facilities support opportunities for young people and communities to take part in sport.

Improving community access and usage of the school estate for sport contributes to one of our four Places impact measures:

- We will have made places for sport a more integral part of planning for sport, both locally and nationally.

3.2 sportscotland research and data

The sportscotland School Estate Audit (2013)\(^\text{13}\) provides the most comprehensive source of data on access and usage of the school estate for sport. The headline findings of this report include:

- There are thousands of sports facilities in this overall school estate including sports halls, pitches, multi-use outdoor areas, swimming pools, running tracks, and tennis courts.
- In terms of availability to the community, the majority of this estate is available for public use. 79% of facilities in primary schools and 98% in secondary schools are available for community use.
- The average availability for schools during term time is 4-4.5 hours on weekdays and 7-8 at weekends. During school holidays the average is 8.5 hours for primary schools and 12.4 hours for secondary schools.
- In terms of uptake and use of facilities, around a third of the available time is utilised across the school estate: 35% of indoor space and 19% of outdoor space is used during term time (17% indoor and 19% outdoor during school holidays).
- However it is important to recognise that use of secondary schools (where facilities are in general better suited to a wider range of sports) is significantly higher than primary schools. During term-time 61% of indoor space and 40% of outdoor space is used in secondary schools(43% indoor and 28% outdoor during school holidays).

The main conclusions of this audit were:

- There are a wide range of facilities for sport within the school estate and a wide range of sports take place in these facilities.
- The vast majority of the school estate is available for public use both in term-time and during school holidays.
- A majority of indoor space in secondary schools is used by the community but there is scope to increase the usage of available space across the entire estate.

3.3 sportscotland programmes and activities

Whilst access to the school estate remains the responsibility of local authorities, sportscotland is committed to working with local partners to influence and support the planning and programming of local facilities to maximise the use of the school and wider facilities estate for community sport.

3.3.1 Places planning and design

Our places work is focused on developing a network of quality places that provide people with the opportunity to get involved and stay involved in sport. This includes providing strategic planning advice and support to partners to ensure that a more integrated approach is taken to the planning and development of sports facilities and using our role in the statutory planning process to protect and improve the quality and capacity of playing fields and pitches. Our expertise in the planning, design and delivery of sports facilities is a valuable resource and we use this to make the places where sport happens better.

Our research on the school estate has been a catalyst for better conversations about the capacity and programming of the local estate for sport. Since 2013 sportscotland’s research on access to the school estate has helped improve application and understanding of the school estate. In Glasgow, East Lothian and Perth & Kinross, the research has been used to identify local need, improve planning and programming of local sport, better understand local provision, and better utilise data.

sportscotland’s facilities team has where possible influenced the design of new school projects and the upgrade of existing school facilities, locally and nationally, to provide accessible places which better meet the needs of schools and communities. Guidance14 and support is available to local authorities to make better use of their school estates. However, sportscotland’s input is predicated on the willingness of local authorities to engage us in this work, as there is no statutory obligation on their part to do so.

3.3.2 Sports Facilities Fund

Managing investment and the implementation of projects through our Sports Facilities Fund (SFF) is a core part of our places for sport work. We support projects that deliver the greatest impact on our participation and progression outcomes, and priorities for improvement. During 2016-17, across all places funds (inc. the Legacy 2014 Active Places Fund and the

14 ‘Design Guidance’, sportscotland. Available at: https://sportscotland.org.uk/facilities/design-guidance/
Cashback for Sports Facilities Fund), we invested £7.58m into 33 projects, with a total investment by others of £18.5m.

Where sportscotland receive applications to SFF for school projects, these are only considered where there is a community sport rationale for this, in addition to the school benefit. This allows us to directly influence and contribute to community access to and usage of the school estate in these cases. In considering an application for a school based project, we give detailed consideration to elements such as the community access arrangements, the links to clubs and community groups, the plan for usage, evidence of community need, and the impact of the project. We use our expertise and investment to ensure a project meets the needs of the community as well as the school.

### Examples of investment in school estate for community use

- **Forfar Community Campus** – Opened in February 2017, with £1,250,000 sportscotland investment, a project to rationalise community sports provision in the town by locating swimming pool, sports hall, dance studio, 3G and grass pitches, and tennis courts within the new Forfar Academy Campus. The project delivers significant community sporting benefit, with sports facilities managed by ANGUSalive leisure trust ensuring community access.

- **Castlehead High School** - £75,147 cashback funding to upgrade a pitch from blaes to 3G synthetic surface for football and rugby use. The pitch is used by the community as part of the Paisley West Community Sport Hub and local community clubs.

- **Ellon Academy** – sportscotland’s £500,000 investment in the swimming pool at the new build Academy secured community access to the pool, sports hall, gymnasias and outdoor sports facilities. This investment has allowed us to successfully influence the move towards the Academy becoming a Community Sport Hub.

#### 3.3.3 School-based Community Sport Hubs

The Community Sport Hubs project includes a focus on establishing and developing school-based Hubs. Bringing the school, clubs and community groups together, along with the Hub ethos of understanding community need, can help to ensure that appropriate community access to the school estate is made available and that community usage can be maximised.

As of the end of 2016/17, 54% (96 of 179) of operational Community Sport Hubs are school-based. Community Sport Hubs are delivered in partnership with the local authority, ensuring that there is full commitment to delivering community access to the school estate from the outset.
4. Commonwealth Games Legacy

On your marks: A games legacy for Scotland\(^{15}\) identified sportscotland as one of the partners in delivering the Active legacy of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. This included a commitment that “sportscotland will invest £25.5m on specific elements of the legacy plan, particularly on helping prepare our most talented athletes for major events running up to 2014 and on coaching, volunteering, community sports hubs and facilities”. Within the ‘Active Legacy’, Community Sport Hubs were set out as the primary contribution of sportscotland to the Games legacy.

4.1 sportscotland policies and plans

In our 2009-10 annual report\(^{16}\), sportscotland set out that “specific to the Scottish Government’s Games legacy plan, we are focusing on two key areas. Firstly, we are developing a long-term sustainable community based activity infrastructure through our work on community sport hubs. Secondly, we are working to strengthen and develop Scotland’s performance sport network to provide a world-class system.”

Delivering an active legacy of the Games has always been mainstreamed into our corporate and business plans, rather than sitting separately. As noted by then Minister for Commonwealth Games and Sport, Shona Robison MSP in our 2011-12 annual report\(^{17}\), we used the Games “to accelerate [our] plans, increase the profile of sport, and motivate more organisations and individuals to become involved in sport”.

Within our current 2015-19 Corporate Plan\(^{18}\), this aim continues to be articulated through our participation outcome “you will have the opportunity to get involved and participate in sport, and stay involved throughout your life” and one of three related impact measures:

- We will have increased the number and diversity of people playing sport in schools and sports clubs.

4.2 sportscotland research and data

Whilst Scottish Government is responsible for collecting overall physical activity and sport participation data through the Scottish Health Survey and Scottish Household Survey, sportscotland is responsible for collecting data directly related to our investments. Across our key programmes aimed at increasing participation, the data suggests a positive legacy.

Within the Active Schools programme we have seen growth of over 12% in both opportunities (activity sessions) and participation (participant sessions) between the 2013-14 and 2015-16\(^{19}\).


\(^{19}\) This compares academic year directly before the 2014 Commonwealth Games and the most recent academic year for which full data is available. 2016-17 academic year data can be provided when available.
During our current corporate planning cycle, we have continued to see growth in key indicators relating to number of individuals participating in Active Schools and SGB affiliated clubs, used to measure progress against the relevant impact measure outlined above (see 4.1).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>2015-16</th>
<th>2016-17</th>
<th>Percentage change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Distinct participants in Active Schools</td>
<td>275,298</td>
<td>289,818</td>
<td>+5.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playing Club Members affiliated to SGBs</td>
<td>756,332</td>
<td>773,714</td>
<td>+2.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.3 sportscotland programmes and activities

As noted above, Community Sport Hubs is the primary sportscotland activity delivering against the active legacy of the 2014 Commonwealth Games. However, sportscotland investment in facilities is also relevant to the questions posed by the Committee.

4.3.1 Community Sport Hubs

The development of Community Sport Hubs is covered in section 1.3.1, with further details in section 3.3.3 above. Here we provide some further information about our efforts to ensure community benefit across Scotland.

We have repeatedly increased the scale of our ambitions for Hubs, ensuring that they are being established and benefitting communities across Scotland. Having initially committed to piloting one Hub in every local authority by 2012, a target was then set to establish 100 Hubs by 2014. This was increased to a target of 150 Hubs by April 2016. Having met this target, our intention is to continue to roll out this successful model for community sport to more communities across Scotland. A new target has been set of 200 Hubs by 2020. At the end of 2016-17 there are 179 Hubs operational. Alongside the expansion of the Hubs project, we are committed to continuous improvement of existing Hubs.

One example of this commitment to continuous improvement, ensuring that Hubs provide opportunities to participate in sport and benefits to the communities they serve, is our current focused work with the Hubs located in communities in the lowest 5% of Scottish Index of Multiple Deprivation (SIMD) areas.

We are providing additional support to seven existing Hubs in these communities to enhance their local offer, including undertaking focused work with young people to understand their specific local needs and facilitate their involvement in the development of the Hubs. In keeping with the community-led ethos, each of these Hubs is taking a different approach. The seven existing focus Hubs are in Dundee, Perth, Paisley, North Ayrshire and Glasgow. We are also looking at additional opportunities for new hubs in the most deprived areas.

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Examples of Hubs in lowest 5% SIMD areas delivering community benefits

**Dalry CSH** – Worked with sport and non-sport partners to deliver an intensive 4-week course to 10 unemployed individuals providing sports coaching skills and qualifications, with ongoing employment support and volunteering opportunities. 5 of 10 participants have applied for college, 3 successfully secured places, 2 have applied for relief coaching positions, 3 continuing with further qualifications, 4 volunteering in existing Hub clubs, 2 setting up new Hub clubs (badminton, bowls).

**North Perth CSH** - The Hub identified that a significant number of individuals from the local area who accessed the food bank found it difficult to cook healthy meals. It also found there was a lack of participation from the community in the local clubs. Hub clubs collaborated with Perth and Kinross Council to deliver three blocks of sessions lasting 90 minutes for local families, combining a cooking class, arts and craft activities and a sports session delivered by Hub clubs. Across the three venues 36 families participated in the programme.

### 4.3.2 Investment in Games facilities and equipment for community use

**sports**scotland invested in 7 of the 13 venues used for the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games. This investment helped to ensure that these facilities created a lasting legacy for sport beyond the Games, supporting communities to become involved in sport and physical activity.

The Commonwealth Games venues which received funding from **sports**scotland were:

- **Tollcross Swimming Pool** £930,000
- **Royal Commonwealth Pool** £5,000,000
- **Kelvingrove Pavilion** £100,000
- **Glasgow Green Hockey Centre** £238,000
- **Scotstoun Sports Centre** £5,175,000
- **The Emirates Arena** £15,000,000
- **Strathclyde Park** £600,000

All of these facilities continue to have significant community use, managed through the local operator.

In addition to the investment in Games facilities, by investing £650k we were able to leverage more than £2m worth of sports equipment from Glasgow 2014 Ltd. More than 5,800 pieces of equipment were allocated free of charge across Scotland’s 32 local authorities, benefitting schools, over 30 clubs and 13 facilities. Furthermore 13 SGBs received sport-specific, technical equipment.

Of particular note was the inclusion in this investment of the running track used for the athletics at Hampden Park. Our investment included the dismantling, uplifting and delivering the track to Grangemouth Stadium in Falkirk and Crown Point Sports Centre in Glasgow. This was the first time this has been done anywhere in the world.

This approach allowed us to ensure that the physical infrastructure and sports equipment built and purchased for the Commonwealth Games will not only provide a lasting legacy for community sports participation, but will do so across Scotland.
4.3.3 Additional sports facilities investment and Legacy 2014 Active Places Fund

The facilities legacy of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games was not limited to competition venues. Significant funding has also been directly invested into facilities across the country which has helped the Glasgow Commonwealth Games sports to build on the enthusiasm generated by Games. Between 2007 – when Glasgow was awarded the Games – and 2014, sportscotland invested £24 million to improve a range of swimming, athletics, badminton, boxing, cycling, gymnastics, hockey, lawn bowls, rugby, shooting, squash, and table tennis facilities throughout Scotland.

Recognising that interest in Games sports was not the only active legacy possible from the Games and would not suit all audiences, sportscotland worked with Scottish Government to develop and deliver the Legacy 2014 Active Places Fund. This £10 million fund was launched in 2012 and through five investment rounds a total of 188 projects were supported across all 32 local authorities. The aim of this fund was to support local communities to improve the physical activity infrastructure, encouraging more people to be active or participate in sport and take pride in their local community. Grants have supported a very wide range of projects led by the community for the community - such as new bike or skate parks, outdoor adventure facilities, walking routes and new projects within the school estate.