

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee

Tuesday, 3 March 2026

10th Meeting, 2026 (Session 6)

Sport and physical activity - Note by the Clerk

Background

1. At today's meeting, Members will take evidence from a panel of witnesses regarding issues affecting sport and physical activity in Scotland.
2. At its meeting on 2 December 2025, the Committee agreed certain priorities for its work programme in the lead up to the end of the parliamentary session. Members indicated an interest in a one-off evidence session to revisit the preventative role of sport and physical activity in promoting health and wellbeing.
3. Members also indicated an interest in discussing the forthcoming 2026 Commonwealth Games – including delivery and its impact on encouraging people across Scotland to get into sport. [Evaluation evidence](#) following the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow shows limited evidence of a demonstrable impact on participation levels, with further [2014 legacy](#) reporting finding evidence that the impact on participation from large sporting events “is variable in quality and shows mixed results”.
4. During this parliamentary session, the Committee previously explored the role of sport and physical activity in promoting health and wellbeing as part of its [inquiry into health and wellbeing of children and young people](#), and its subsequent inquiry into [female participation in sport and physical activity](#).
5. The Committee previously took evidence on the Independent Review into Racism in Scottish Cricket at its meetings on [4 October 2022](#) and [24 January 2023](#).
6. The Committee previously undertook periodic scrutiny of the work of sportscotland at its meeting on [11 March 2025](#).
7. [In June 2025](#), the Committee also took evidence from selected stakeholders on the topic of children and young people's participation in sport and physical activity.
8. The topic was also touched on during evidence sessions on [17 June](#) and [23 September 2025](#) on the subject of welfare and sustainability in Scottish youth football.

Today's meeting

9. At today's meeting, Members will take oral evidence from:

HSCS/S6/26/10/1

- Forbes Dunlop, Chief Executive Officer, sportscotland
- Kim Atkinson, Chief Executive Officer, Scottish Sports Association
- Jon Doig OBE, Chief Executive, Commonwealth Games Scotland
- Dr David Meir, Lecturer in Sports Coaching and Development, University of the West of Scotland, and SPICe Academic Fellow

**Clerks to the Committee
February 2026**