

Policy Update

May 2008

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1. LONDON OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES

Two separate Parliamentary Committees have recently released reports urging the Government to prepare clear and budgeted plans to achieve a legacy of increased sporting participation as a result of the London 2012 Games.

1.1 Culture, Media and Sport Committee report

On 30 April, the House of Commons Culture, Media and Sport Committee published *London 2012: The Next Lap*, which includes a section on the legacy for community sport. Having taken evidence from a number of organisations and individuals, including CCPR, the Committee set out a series of conclusions on the progress made towards ensuring a legacy of increased sports participation. The report refers repeatedly to CCPR's contributions and expresses concern at the lack of strategic planning for a participation legacy. For example:

- *The profusion of commitments, promises and plans for using the potential of the Games to increase participation in sport being developed, whether real or rumoured, is bewildering; but none of what is proposed amounts to a single, comprehensive, nationwide strategy.*
- *We are disappointed that, fifteen months after publication of our initial Report on preparations for the Games, no comprehensive plan for maximising participation in sport has been published.*

The Committee's analysis of existing spending commitments around participation legacy also led to concern: *'We suggested in our previous Report on preparations for the Games that the inclusion of the £183 million for community sport legacy within the Public Sector Funding Package might in fact be a rebranding exercise for programmes which were going to be sponsored by Sport England in any case. We conclude that our suspicions were correct.'*

Ultimately, whilst the Committee agrees that the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games offers a significant opportunity to spark interest in sport, it expresses real concern around the planning and delivery of a participation legacy. The report stated: *'We have yet to see what is in the Legacy Action Plan; but it will need to do more than describe Sport England programmes if it is to provide a strategy for using the opportunity of the Games to build participation. Whatever strategy document is produced, it will need to define the roles of each of the many partners involved, including local authorities, Government departments and their agencies, Regional Development Agencies, Sport England, operators of leisure facilities, and individuals. It will also need to set expectations and suggest ways of meeting them.'*

To read the full report, please visit the following page: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm/cmcmds.htm#reports>

1.2 Public Accounts Committee 2012 budget report

The Public Accounts Committee's report into the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games unsurprisingly focuses primarily on budgeting issues. It identifies weaknesses in budgeting at the bid stage, which led to the dramatic increase in costs announced in March 2007. Of more interest to CCPR's members, however, are the Committee's findings regarding preparations to achieve a legacy of increased sporting participation. In a similar vein to the Culture, Media and Sport Committee the report notes that *'the Government has set out five high level legacy promises but more detailed plans have not yet been finalised.'* The Committee also goes on to recommend that *'the legacy planning should now be completed and the Department should make sure that the plans set out: quantified objectives and how they will be achieved, how and by whom success will be evaluated, and who will be accountable.'*

What this means for sport and recreation: CCPR is encouraged that both Committees are taking an interest in legacy matters as this maintains pressure on the Government to develop a clear plan to achieve a sporting legacy as a result of the Games. The Government's responses to the reports will need to address this issue.

2. REGULATION AFFECTING SPORT AND RECREATION

2.1 Independent Safeguarding Authority details

The Home Office has announced that from 12 October 2009 individuals wishing to work or volunteer with children and/or vulnerable adults in a 'regulated activity' will need to register with the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA). The cost for an individual to apply to register with the ISA will be a one-off, lifetime fee of £64.00. There will, however, be no charge for volunteers.

What this means for sport and recreation: Whilst some aspects of this legislation still require clarification it is clear the majority of sports volunteers and employees working directly with people aged 18 and under on one or more occasions a month will be required to register. For the latest ISA information please visit the ISA's website (www.isa.gov.org) where you can register to receive regular updates.

Scope: The ISA service will extend to England, Wales and Northern Ireland, although arrangements for application and appeals may differ slightly in Northern Ireland. A separate but aligned scheme is being set up in Scotland under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Bill. Anyone included on a Barred List in Scotland will also be barred from working with children and vulnerable adults across the UK.

What next: CCPR will continue to liaise with colleagues in the Department for Children, Schools and Families to outline the needs of sport in relation to this scheme.

2.2 Points based migration system

Following 18 months of detailed negotiations with CCPR and other sporting bodies, the Border Agency has published further details of its new migration system, which applies to individuals from outside the European Economic Area. In summary the new system will result in little change for most sports people, although some will fall under Tiers 2 & 5 of the Points Based System.

What this means for sport and recreation:

Visits of 6 months or less

- Current non-visa nationals will require no visa.
- Current visa nationals will require a visa as they do today (currently £65). Full details of future visitors visas are still to be clarified
- Sportspeople that need a special visa under current legislation, will enter through Tier 5. Those entering under Tier 5 for less than 3 months will not need entry clearance, but will require a certificate of sponsorship.

Visits of 6-12 months

- Entry under Tier 5 of PBS

Visits of 12 months or more

- Entry under Tier 2 of PBS

For CCPR's briefing on this issue please visit:

<http://www.ccpr.org.uk/ourcampaigning/uk/consultationsandbriefings/>

What next: CCPR is very pleased with the outcome of its negotiations to date and will continue to work with the Home Office and Border Agency to ensure the new system works for sport. If after reading CCPR's full briefing you need to clarify whether your sport is affected by the latest proposals please contact James MacDougall (jmacdougall@ccpr.org.uk).

2.3 Gambling Commission – Licence conditions and codes of practice

The Gambling Commission's [Licence Conditions and Codes of Practice \(LCCP\)](#) were published on 1 June 2007 and have been in force since 1 September 2007. It has since become clear that some existing provisions need clarification or amendment and that some new provisions are also required. The Commission considers that there are enough of these issues to warrant setting out proposals for a revised version of LCCP to come into effect from January 2009.

The Gambling Commission is consulting on its proposed revisions until 3 July 2008 and the consultation documents are available at <http://www.gamblingcommission.gov.uk/Client/mediadetail.asp?mediaid=352>

Scope: UK

What this means for sport and recreation: Licence condition 15 places a duty on betting operators to inform sports governing bodies of suspicious betting practice. The Gambling Commission proposes to clarify this condition further to assist national governing bodies with investigating suspicious practice, whilst also abiding by data protection legislation.

What next: CCPR will respond to the consultation and would welcome members' views. These should be sent to Andrew Hanson (ahanson@ccpr.org.uk).

3. COUNTRYSIDE AND WATER

3.1 The Marine Bill

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs published its draft marine bill on 3 April 2008. The key issues covered in this wide-ranging Bill are:

- the creation of the Marine Management Organisation (MMO)
- planning in the marine area
- licensing activities in the marine area
- marine nature conservation
- the management of marine fisheries
- the reform of inland and migratory fisheries
- modernisation and streamlining of enforcement powers
- an administrative penalties scheme for domestic fisheries offences and
- access to coastal land.

The Bill is therefore likely to impact on a number of CCPR's members organisations whose activities take place in or near the marine environment.

Scope: The Bill is primarily UK-wide, but in some areas the devolved administrations will develop parallel legislation. See page 20 of the draft bill for clarification.

What next: DEFRA's consultation on the Bill closes on 26 June 2008. CCPR will be responding and would welcome observations and comments from members. These should be sent to Duncan Carter (dcarter@ccpr.org.uk) For further information, please see <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/marinebill/>

3.2 CROW Act Relevant Authority Guidance

Natural England (NE) has a duty to provide guidance to the "relevant authorities" that administer local restrictions on open access rights in England under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000 (CROW). In Winter 2006/07 NE consulted on proposed amendments to the Relevant Authority Guidance.

The revisions in their final form have now been approved by the Secretary of State, and have thereby taken effect legally. Both the revised guidance and this report are accessible via the Natural England website: www.openaccess.gov.uk. Should you have any questions about it or the guidance, please contact the Open Access Contact Centre on 0845 100 3298.

4. SPORT AND THE ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Eco-towns consultation

The Department for Communities and Local Government has published its proposals to create 15 eco-towns throughout England. The document outlines the key features of eco-towns and gives details of those bids which have successfully reached the next stage of assessment.

What this means for sport and recreation: Unsurprisingly the proposals focus a great deal on zero carbon construction, but reference is also made to planning, and the importance of active travel within this.

What next: CCPR will respond to the consultation which closes on 30 June 2008. CCPR would welcome members' views, which should be sent to Duncan Carter (dcarter@ccpr.org.uk). For further information please visit <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/doc/ecotownsconsult.doc>

5. EDUCATION

5.1 Building Schools for the Future

On 9 April 2008 the Department for Children, Schools and Families launched a consultation seeking views on a range of proposals for the management of waves 7 to 15 of the Building Schools for the Future programme.

Scope: England

What next: CCPR will respond to the proposals. This response will highlight the importance of including planning for sport at all stages of the procurement process and not just as an add on, as well as the importance of engaging with the relevant sports bodies. The deadline for responses is 4 July 2008. Please forward any comments on this issue to Duncan Carter (dcarter@ccpr.org.uk)

For further information, please see:

<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/conDocument.cfm?consultationId=1538>

5.2 Changes to education funding bodies

The government recently announced that as part of its ongoing reforms around skills, the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) will cease to operate from 2010. The £7 billion in funding currently allocated to the LSC will be transferred to local authorities, who will be given responsible for education and training for 14-19 year olds and ensuring that young people remain in education or training until the age of 18. The LSC will work closely with local authorities and others to manage the transition with shadow sub-regional arrangements due to be put in place from January 2009.

The government will also direct £4 billion a year through a new Skills Funding Agency to administer the public money going to FE colleges and training organisations providing training and skills for adults, post-19. The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills is currently consulting on this proposed change www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/conDetails.cfm?consultationId=1520

What this means for sport and recreation: These changes will affect the public funding of qualifications across the age range, from school age children to further education and to adult learning. SkillsActive, the Sector Skills Council for Active Learning and Leisure, will play a key role in ensuring that the new framework meets the needs of sport and recreation. CCPR will continue to support SkillsActive in this work.

What next: CCPR will respond to the DIUS consultation outlining the important role of sport in further education and adult learning.

5.3 Fair Play – Department for Children, Schools and Families consultation

The Government's Children's Plan aims to improve play opportunities for children. The proposals include making public space more child-friendly by placing a stronger focus on spaces for play in the planning system; providing training for people who design and manage public space; supporting local community ownership of space suitable for play; and supporting more positive relationships between adults and children in public space.

What this means for sport and recreation: The consultation offers the opportunity to help children develop physical literacy through play, thereby laying the foundations for a future active lifestyle. It also provides an opportunity to raise the profile of physical activity within public space planning.

What next: CCPR will respond to the consultation which closes on 18 July 2008. CCPR would welcome members' views, which should be sent to Duncan Carter (dcarter@ccpr.org.uk). For further information please visit <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/consultations/conDetails.cfm?consultationId=1543>

6. RESEARCH

6.1 Sport Volunteer Research Network Event

The Sport Volunteer Research Network is a group of individuals and organisations interested in fostering the development of research into sport volunteers in the United Kingdom and is seeking to attract as many interested members as possible.

The group next meets on Wednesday 4 June from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Sport England's offices in London where there will be a presentation by Mike Locke, Director of the Institute for Volunteering Research, on the Volunteering England project, *The Impact of Sport Volunteering*. Lunch will be provided, followed by the business of the group, including discussion of current and future sport volunteering research. The event is free to anyone who wishes to attend.

For further details, or to book a place at this event, please email the Chair of the Sport Volunteer Research Network, Dr. John Schulz, at J.B.Schulz@soton.ac.uk. Also, the SVRN website, currently under construction, carries more details of the day's agenda: www.svrn.soton.ac.uk.

6.2 Sports participation on the up

Earlier this month, Sport England released interim results of the latest Active People survey, which showed that the number of adults (aged 16 plus) across England who regularly participate in sport and active recreation has increased, with the 55s and over showing the biggest growth spurt.

The percentage of adults participating in 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport or active recreation three times a week increased by 0.7 per cent from 19.0 per cent in the period mid September 2005 to mid December 2005 to 19.7 per cent in the period mid September 2007 to mid December 2007. This is equivalent to 359,423 more adults taking part. It was the 55s and over who contributed the biggest leap in participation in sport and active recreation, with a 1.3 per cent increase, from 10.9 per cent to 12.2 per cent.

For more information, please visit the Sport England website:

http://www.sportengland.org/index/news_and_media/news_pr

7. ONGOING CONSULTATIONS

7.1 Review of informal adult learning

The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills is consulting on how best to invest £210 million per annum in adult learning until 2010-11. The consultation document clearly recognises that learning to participate in sport and recreation is a legitimate form of adult learning, which is encouraging.

CCPR's response will emphasise the benefits that investing in sport and recreation can bring. The consultation documents are available at <http://www.adultlearningconsultation.org.uk/>. The deadline for responses is 15 May 2008. Please forward any views on this issue to Helen Davies, CCPR Education and Training Development Officer (hdavies@ccpr.org.uk).

8. COMPLETED CONSULTATIONS

8.1 Independent Review of the Primary Curriculum

This review aimed to achieve greater flexibility within the curriculum and raised the question of 'whether pupils should continue to be introduced to... physical education and sport in year one'. CCPR's response made clear that it was essential to children's future physical literacy that they are introduced to a broad based physical education curriculum as early as possible.

If you do not wish to receive this service or would like to register other colleagues to receive this email, please let us know by registering at www.ccpr.org.uk/sign-up