



Response to the Review of Sport and Physical Activity in Jersey

29 NOVEMBER 2023

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The Assistant Minister with responsibility for sport has published this response to the independent review of the formulation and delivery of policies and strategy for sport and physical activity.

The Terms of Reference for the review were:

1. To review how the government's sport and physical activity strategy and policies are formulated and implemented.
2. To review if the existing arm's-length partner's structure, organisation, management and delivery remains appropriate, relevant and fit for purpose to meet the Council of Minister's Common Strategic Policy and ministerial priorities of the Minister of Economic Development, Tourism, Sport and Culture (MEDTSC).
3. To produce a report on the review findings, including recommendations.

With the exception of Recommendation 10 and 17, the Assistant Minister Deputy Lucy Stephenson accepts the recommendations in full.

Delivery and funding (recommendations 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 20 and 21)

- A review of funding available for sport and physical activity is being undertaken. This will include Jersey Sport's budget and programme delivery to ensure value for money and alignment with the Council of Minister's Common Strategic Policy and ministerial priorities, as well as looking at other sport and physical activity funding across Government. This review will be completed by September 2024 and will inform how sport and physical activity programmes will be delivered and funded from 2025. This work will also include a review and consideration of the Inspiring an Active Jersey Strategy to ensure it remains relevant and fit for purpose to meet ministerial priorities across Government.
- Jersey Sport welcomes recommendation four and 11 and has started the process required. The review of delivery and zero-based budget process will help increase understanding of the impact of the programmes delivered and the value for money each provides.
- Ministers agree with and accept the recommendations to strengthen the provision of advice on safeguarding queries for sports organisations. A review has already begun into strengthening the support provided and this will be completed by March 2024.
- The Minister for Children and Education is very supportive of the recommendation regarding improving provision for school sport and PE, particularly in local primary schools.
- Ministers fully understand the additional benefits that participation in sport and physical activity bring, particularly the value to health and wellbeing evidenced in the Value of Sport Report [insert link]. Ministers will work to identify additional funding for sport where possible. Work on this has already begun with a bid for £150,000 being recommended in the Government Plan 2024-2027 to support performance athletes to thrive.

- Actions recommended for Jersey Sport to undertake in relation to fundraising and clarity around delivery have been welcomed by the organisation. Work is already underway to bring forward a fundraising strategy and resource for implementation. The outcome of the Government review into funding for sport and Jersey Sport will be complete by September 2024.
- Jersey Sport accepts recommendation 14 and the review of delivery will lead to a welcome discussion with the Government around how sports development should be better funded.

Reporting and monitoring (recommendations 2, 3, 8, 9, 10, 12, 18, 19)

- The Minister recognises the importance of strong reporting and monitoring processes, supported with appropriate resources. A Sport Sector Officer was appointed in early 2023 who, together with the Sector Lead, provides a single point of contact for Jersey Sport in relation to contractual, commissioning and governance matters.
- An officer Sport and Physical Activity Network was established in 2023 and the Terms of Reference for a Sport and Physical Activity Ministerial Group are currently being established.
- Ministers have discussed the relative benefits and disbenefits of re-establishing the work of the sport and facilities team into a single Department, reporting to a single Minister, however the current structure works well, and they do not believe this would bring any significant benefits at this time. The Assistant Minister with responsibility for sport is now also Assistant Minister for Infrastructure. The Department for the Economy Sport Sector Officer works closely with the Head of Operations in the Infrastructure Department and cross-department ministerial meetings.
- Jersey Sport has recently undertaken a review of its internal reporting processes including reporting of key performance information to our Board and to the Department for the Economy. The organisation is committed to good Governance and continually reviews our processes and reporting. We accept recommendation two and this is part of our ongoing Governance processes.
- Jersey Sport review the skills matrix for our Board regularly and this is used when appointing new Directors to the Board. Jersey Sport will publish the skills of Board members on our People Page of the Website early in 2024.
- Jersey Sport through our Safe and Sustainable Standards and resource bank provide guidance on a range of factors. This includes equality and inclusion and we run training in partnership with Liberate in this area. We accept the recommendation to develop 'standalone' detailed guidance on equality and inclusion and will bring this forward in Q1 2024.

Training (recommendation 1)

- The Government is committed to ensuring staff receive relevant training. Training on the management of grant agreements was identified as a priority in 2023 and will be provided to relevant staff in early 2024.