



Sport and Recreation

Introduction

The Sports Council for Wales (SCW) is the principal agency for implementing the Welsh Assembly Government's policy for sport and physical activity in Wales and is the main delivery agent for the distribution of the Welsh Assembly Government's investment programmes. The Sports Council is issued with a Remit Letterⁱ annually as a key part of the Assembly Government's sponsorship arrangements.

Overview of current statutory powers of the Assembly

"Sport and recreation" is Field 16 of Schedule 5 of the *Government of Wales Act 2006*. This means that the National Assembly for Wales can seek Measure-making powers over sport and recreation matters through Legislative Competence Orders.

The following secondary legislation responsibilities of the Second Assembly will transfer to Welsh Ministers in the Third Assembly:

- All activities of the Sports Council for Wales
- Funding of sporting activities

Forthcoming EU and Uk primary legislation

- Gambling Act 2005 – Various DCMS Consultationsⁱⁱ
- Sports Ground Safety Legislation – DCMS Consultation ended 13 April 2007ⁱⁱⁱ

EU policy

- The White Paper on Sport will examine the role sport plays in Europe in social and economic terms, its potential to contribute to the Commission's objectives, and the difficulties currently facing sport in Europe. The white paper is expected in June 2007.

Key Welsh Government documents and action plans from the Second Assembly:

- *Climbing Higher*^{iv} is the Welsh Assembly Government's 20-year strategy for sport and physical activity. It is a part of *Health Challenge Wales*^v, a national focus which calls on organisations and individuals in Wales to do more to prevent ill health.

Key strategic aims of Climbing Higher include:

- Free Swimming^{vi}
- Secondary School Sport
- Coaching and Leadership^{vii}
- *Climbing Higher – Next Steps*^{viii} builds on the foundations of the original strategy and outlines a framework for action.

Legacy issues from the Second Assembly

The Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee's legacy paper^{ix} highlighted the following sport and recreation issues for the attention of the Third Assembly:

- To review the progress of the Committee's recommendations arising from its review of football.
- The cost of delivering the 5x60 programme and out of school activity including Active Communities.
- Continuing support for PE in schools.
- Continuing support for the Commonwealth Games.
- Disability sport.

- Lottery funds which might be partly diverted to support the 2012 Olympics.

Useful Links

- The Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee in the Second Assembly produced policy reports on dance in Wales, and the contribution of arts and sport to community regeneration:
<http://www.wales.gov.uk/keypubassemcultwelsport/content/policy-e.htm>
- Final report to the Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee from the Sports Council for Wales:
<http://www.wales.gov.uk/cms/2/CultureWelshLanguageAndSportCommittee/N000000000000000000000000000007/a4865ba32999c1a1619688e9c336fed5.htm>
- Sports Council for Wales:
<http://www.sports-council-wales.org.uk/>
- Sports Council for Wales, 2006, *Framework for the Development of Sport and Physical Activity – From Strategy to Action*:
<http://www.sports-council-wales.org.uk/library-services>
- Sport Policy debate in plenary on 18 October 2006:
http://www.wales.gov.uk/cms/2/ChamberSession/380313AC00046B17000028C300000000/d7256ef00de218f0fd3e2d688f1f75ab.htm#_Toc149034733
- Data relating to the sports and physical activity levels of adults (aged 15+) from 2004-05 and young people (aged 11-16) from 2004 for each Local Authority in Wales can be seen at:
<http://www.sports-council-wales.org.uk/researchandinformation/services/research/sport-and-physical-activity-data>
- The Welsh Assembly Government provides advice on specific planning issues via a series of Technical Advice Notes (TANs). *Technical Advice Note (TAN) 16 Sport and Recreation* provides planning guidance in relation to sporting and recreational facilities. A revised version of TAN 16 was issued for consultation in July 2006:
<http://new.wales.gov.uk/about/departments/depc/epcpublications/PlanPubs/TAN/TAN16?lang=en>
- A Standing Order 31 proposal relating to the definition of playing field was debated in Plenary on 4 October 2006. The second stage of the proposal was debated in Plenary on 23 January 2007.
- Wales is to host the UK School Games in 2009:
<http://www.ukschoolgames.com/>

Further information

For further information on any aspect of sport and recreation, please contact Neil Cox, Members' Research Service (Neil.Cox@wales.gsi.gov.uk), 029 2089 8007

ⁱ Welsh Assembly Government, 7 March 2007, *Sports Council for Wales Remit Letter*

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/403822/403822131/4038221332/1293743/SCWRemit0708e.pdf?lang=en>

ⁱⁱ Current Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) Consultations

http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Consultations/2007_current_consultations/

ⁱⁱⁱ DCMS Consultation on Sports Ground Safety Legislation, 5 March 2007

http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Consultations/2007_current_consultations/sports_ground_safety_legislation.htm

^{iv} Welsh Assembly Government, January 2005, *Climbing Higher: Strategy for Sport and Physical Activity*

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/cultureandsport/sportandactiver recreation/climbinghigher/climbinghigherpublication/?lang=en>

^v Welsh Assembly Government Health Challenge Wales website

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/subsite/healthchallenge/?lang=en>

^{vi} Welsh Assembly Government Free Swimming website

http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/cultureandsport/sportandactiver recreation/free_swimming/?lang=en

^{vii} Welsh Assembly Government *Coaching Plan for Wales*, 2004

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/docrepos/40382/403822/403822131/4038221333/CoachingPlane.pdf?lang=en>

^{viii} Welsh Assembly Government *Climbing Higher – Next Steps*, 2006

<http://new.wales.gov.uk/topics/cultureandsport/sportandactiver recreation/climbinghigher/1196917/?lang=en>

^{ix} 14 March 2007, Culture, Welsh Language and Sport Committee, CWLS (2) 04-07 (p3)