



SPÓRT ÉIREANN  
SPORT IRELAND

# Annual Report 2018



[www.sportireland.ie](http://www.sportireland.ie)  
[@sportireland](https://twitter.com/sportireland)



## **Sport Ireland Annual Report 2018**

1. Chairman's Statement
2. Chief Executive's Review

### **Sport Ireland Structure**

3. Sport Ireland Board
4. Sport Ireland Staff
5. Sport Ireland Committee Overview

### **Performance Overview**

6. High Performance
7. Sport Ireland Institute
8. Sport Ireland National Sports Campus
9. Sport Ireland Participation
10. Sport Ireland Ethics
11. National Governing Bodies
12. Organisational Development & Change
13. Sport Ireland Anti-Doping
14. Sport Ireland Coaching
15. Sport Ireland Trails
16. Corporate Activity
17. Research
18. Protected Disclosures Annual Report
19. Sport Ireland Compliance
20. Sport Ireland Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities
21. Appendices

### **Sport Ireland's Vision:**

A world-class sports sector operating to the highest standards of governance and accountability and contributing towards the National Policy objectives for sport.

### **Sport Ireland's Mission:**

Sport Ireland leads the national sports agenda through:

- Communicating the value and leading the thinking on sport
- Promoting an inclusive and fair culture
- Generating value from finite resources
- Building strong sports organisations
- Realising the concept of 'sport for life for everyone'
- Supporting high performance success

### **Sport Ireland's Values:**

Sport Ireland recognises that there are values which are central to development of Sport in Ireland.

**Player:** We respect the right of everyone to invest in, participate in and achieve their potential in sport

**Team:** We work collaboratively to achieve shared goals

**Fairplay:** The development of sport must be based on a strong ethos of fairplay

**Precision:** Sport generates great passion; it must also be exact in showing what it can deliver for individuals and communities

**Research:** Strong research programmes provides an empirical basis for practice and policy

## Chairman's Statement

2018 was a landmark year for Irish sport.

At a strategic level, the publication of the new National Sports Policy was a key milestone for the sports sector. This document provides a detailed blueprint for Irish sport up until 2027. Sport Ireland has been assigned responsibility for a significant number of the 57 actions identified in the policy.

The Board and Executive of Sport Ireland look forward to playing a vital role in the delivery of this policy, which will have a transformative impact on the sporting landscape over the years to come. As evidenced by the comprehensive overview of activity detailed in this report, a strong start has already been made in achieving these objectives.

On the international stage we saw sustained success from our high performance teams and athletes, while the NGBs and LSPs are continuing to support strong participation in sport among people of all ages.

From a high performance perspective, while we saw continued success in sports including athletics, boxing and rowing, 2018 has seen significant breakthroughs for other sports, with hockey, gymnastics and eventing demonstrating a broad range of success. We have been delighted to support our athletes through the Sport Ireland Institute and the addition of world-class facilities on the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus. The Campus has become the focus of high performance sport in Ireland.

The year ended on an important note, with the signing of a ground-breaking & athlete centred partnership agreement between the Sport Ireland Institute and the Olympic Federation of Ireland. This partnership provides for performance support delivery in the period 2018-2022. Close relationships between Sport Ireland and the Olympics Federation of Ireland are vital if Ireland is to realise its potential at the highest level of sporting achievement and we look forward to working closely with the OFI during the upcoming Olympic cycle of events.

Sport Ireland's commitment to fair and clean sport remained a key focus in 2018. Sport Ireland on many occasions joined with our international colleagues to advocate for a just and transparent global anti-doping system free from conflicts of interests. This will remain a priority for Sport Ireland as we seek to protect the interests of all of our athletes and worldwide anti-doping culture.

On the participation front, Sport Ireland's partnership with other agencies was further strengthened by the securing of further Dormant Accounts Funding, which saw a range of new projects being initiated by National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships. A key priority of the Board of Sport Ireland is creating opportunities for people of all ages and backgrounds to become involved in sport and physical activity. The Dormant Account initiatives are closely linked to the National Physical Activity Plan, and there are now more opportunities for people to become active in clubs and organised local events than ever before.

Through Sport Ireland Coaching, Sport Ireland continued to play a lead role in the development of coaches in Ireland on an all island basis. Working in partnership with our recognised National Governing Bodies for Sport and the wider sporting sector, Sport Ireland Coaching leads the implementation of a quality coach and tutor education support programme.

Sport Ireland very much appreciates the support given to us in 2018 by Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport, Shane Ross, and Minister of State for Tourism and Sport, Brendan Griffin, on behalf of the Government. This enabled us to continue our mission to improve standards in high performance sport and to increase participation rates.

Through a substantial budget increase for 2019, the Government has responded very positively to the case made by Sport Ireland and the Irish sporting community with a broad commitment to sport and physical activity. It is vital that our NGBs and LSPs are well supported and the increase in funding for 2019 means that our funded bodies will be well equipped to deliver on their objectives as we look towards the 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games and increasing participation in sport both nationally and in international competition.

Finally, I want to thank and pay tribute to the Executive of Sport Ireland, my colleagues on the Board and Committee Members. I wish also to thank the Secretary General of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport Graham Doyle, the Assistant Secretary Ken Spratt and their staff for their ongoing assistance and support.

**Kieran Mulvey**

## Chief Executive's Review

This is the annual report of Sport Ireland for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

It is submitted to the Minister for Sport as required under section 17 of the Sport Ireland Act, 2015.

This report outlines the major aspects of Sport Ireland's work including;

- the number of people participating in sport and physical activity
- sustaining high performance by ensuring Ireland's performance in elite international sport improves; and
- building the capacity of National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs); and
- continuing the development of the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus

The work of the National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnership is central to Sport Ireland. Ensuring that they have the necessary supports in place to deliver on the investment they receive is of paramount importance.

There was positive news on the participation front in 2018, with the most recent Irish Sports Monitor Report showing that the gender gap in sports participation is narrower than at any point since the Irish Sports Monitor was introduced in 2007, with the network of Local Sports Partnerships and National Governing Bodies continuing to deliver a wide range of programmes targeted at getting more people active on a regular basis. Sport Ireland was again in a position to distribute extensive funding through the Dormant Accounts Fund and the Healthy Ireland Fund, demonstrating a joined up approach across Government departments in recognising the benefits of sport and physical activity.

Sport has a significant role to play in raising the levels of physical activity within the population and, in turn, makes a major contribution to the health and well-being of the nation. As demonstrated in this report, we see encouraging numbers of participants in sport and physical activity right across the country and this is a testament to the participation programmes of the National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships.

On the anti-doping front, 2018 was another difficult year for the global fight against doping in sport. On numerous occasions we joined with international colleagues to express our views on the manner in which the Russian doping scandal has been handled, the treatment of athletes and the governance issues which exist within WADA. We are hopeful that 2019 will be a more

positive year on the international front. Domestically, Sport Ireland has put a big emphasis on strengthening our anti-doping education programme, empowering NGBs to make sure all athletes and coaches are aware of the risk and obligations. At an administrative level, we were delighted to be declared fully WADA Code Compliant in 2018.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport Shane Ross, the Minister of State for Tourism and Sport Brendan Griffin, the officials of the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and the staff of Sport Ireland throughout 2018 in making a strong case for the increased investment in sport. The additional funding secured will have a real impact on the Irish sports sector, allowing for a significant increase in funding to our funded organisations in 2019.

I would also like to extend my thanks to the Board and staff of Sport Ireland for their ongoing excellence in the discharge of their duties.

**John Treacy**

## **Sport Ireland Board**

### **Kieran Mulvey**

Kieran Mulvey is Chairman of Sport Ireland and is the former Director General of the Workplace Relations Commission, a position he held from 1991 to 2016. He is a former General Secretary of the Association of Secondary Teachers, Ireland (ASTI) and Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT). He is a director of Independent News and Media and Chairman of Adare Human Resources. Kieran is a Fellow of the Educational Institute of Scotland and is an Honorary Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD). Kieran holds Honorary Doctorates from the National University of Ireland and University College Dublin. He has undertaken a number of projects for the Government, the European Union and International Labour Organisation.

### **Bernard Allen**

First elected to Dáil Éireann in 1981, Bernard Allen retained his seat at each subsequent general election until his retirement in 2011. A front bench spokesperson for Health, Social Welfare, Environment and Local Government, Foreign Affairs and Tourism, Sport and Recreation, he was appointed Minister of State at the Department of Education and the Environment with special responsibility for Youth and Sport. Bernard is a member of the Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland, Bol Chumann na hEireann, Golfing Union of Ireland, GAA and FAI. Bernard was a board member of the Irish Sports Council.

### **Seán Benton (*to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018*)**

Sean is Chairman of Our Lady's Hospice and Care Services, Harold's Cross and Blackrock; former Chairman of the Education and Finance Board, former Chairman of the Office of Public Works (OPW); previously a Commissioner of the OPW and former Director of Finance at the Department of Health. Seán was a board member of the National Sports Campus Development Authority.

### **Lynne Cantwell (*from 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018*)**

Lynne Cantwell is Ireland's most capped woman in Irish rugby and a former Vice-Captain & Captain for Ireland's 15s & 7s team. She has represented Ireland 86 times over a 13 year period and jointly led Ireland to their first ever Six Nations Triple Crown, Grand Slam title and victory over World Champions, New Zealand 2013/14. Since retiring she has continued to represent and help progress the game.

### **Roy Dooney**

Roy is Chairman of the NSCDA Operations Company Ltd and is a Communications Consultant by profession. Roy was a Member of the National Sports Strategy Group from 1995-1997 and a former Commissioner of the Eircom League. He is a former international athlete who represented Ireland at Marathon, Road and Cross-Country championships at European and World levels. Roy is a former coopted member of the Board of Athletics Ireland. Roy was a board member of the National Sports Campus Development Authority.

### **Mary Dorgan**

Mary is the former Assistant Chief Executive with the Health and Safety Authority. Mary joined the Health and Safety Authority from Waterford Crystal where she had the role of Human Resources Manager. Mary has served on many Boards and committees, more recently National College of Art and Design (NCAD) and currently on the Board of Waterford Healing Arts

### **Frances Kavanagh (to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018)**

Frances Kavanagh was a Director of Sport and Senior Director with Special Olympics Ireland and served as Director of Sport and Competition for the 2003 Special Olympics World Summer Games. She has served on many committees and boards representing Special Olympics at National, European and International level. She is a former Board Member and President of the Federation of Irish Sport and was a board member of the Irish Sports Council and Sport Ireland. She is a member of Sport Ireland's Women in Sport subcommittee.

### **Olive Loughnane (*from 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018*)**

Olive competed as a high performance athlete from 2000 – 2013. She became World Athletics Champion in 2009. She represented Ireland at four consecutive Olympic Games. Since retiring from competitive sport in 2013, Olive has been a member of the Sport Ireland High Performance Committee. She currently works as a Statistician in the Central Statistics Office (CSO) and was previously employed in the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General and Kerry Group Plc. She holds a Bachelor of Commerce and a Masters in Leadership and Strategy.

### **John Maughan**

John Maughan served as Senior Football Manager of Mayo, Clare, Roscommon and Fermanagh and led his county to the 1996, 1997 and 2004 All-Ireland Senior Football Finals. John inspired Clare to win the Munster Football title for only the second time in 1992 and also managed NUI Galway in the Sigerson Cup. John held the position of Captain with the Defence Forces of Ireland and is currently employed by Mayo County Council as a Procurement Officer. John is also a football analyst for RTÉ Radio sport. John was a board member of the Irish Sports Council.

### **Padraic Moran (*from 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018*)**

Padraic is a two-time Paralympian and a former world champion in the sport of Boccia. With over 20 years national and international competitive experience, he possesses a wealth of knowledge across the sports disability sector. Apart from extensive experience in existing disciplines, more recently he has been assisting in developing Power Chair Football within Ireland. He has worked with Youth Sport Trust UK and is currently working with East Coast FM and Sky Ireland.

### **Caroline Murphy**

Caroline is a Broadcaster and Psychologist who runs her own Communications Consultancy. She presents 'It Says in the Papers' on Morning Ireland and has many years' experience of Sports Broadcasting in both Radio and Television. She was a member of the National Sports Campus Development Authority and its representative on the High Performance Committee of the Irish Institute of Sport.

### **Patrick O'Connor**

Patrick O'Connor is a Solicitor, Coroner, Arbitrator and Notary Public. Patrick is a member of a number of professional and regulatory bodies and associations including The Law Society of Ireland, The Chartered Institute of Arbitrators, Mental Health Tribunal, and the World Rugby, Six Nations and IRFU Disciplinary panels. Patrick has previously served as member, chairman or director of a wide range of professional, sporting and philanthropic organisations including the Board of Management of St. Louis Community School, Hope House, the Irish Association of Suicidology, the Judicial Appointments Advisory Board, the Courts Service Board and the Press Council of Ireland. He has held various offices within the Law Society of Ireland most notably as President (1998-99). Patrick was a board member of the Irish Sports Council.

### **Roger O'Connor (*from 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018*)**

Roger is highly qualified as a finance professional, having attained a Bachelor of Commerce Degree and a Master of Business Administration, both from UCD. He has been a full member of the Association of Chartered Certified Accountants since 1997. He has worked in elite professional sport since 2000, holding the positions of Managing Director and Head of Finance & Regulations at ERC, the organiser and rights holder of the Heineken Cup rugby tournament. He is currently CFO of the newly redeveloped Curragh Racecourse.

### **Gary Ryan (*from 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018*)**

Gary Ryan is the UL Beo Project Manager at University of Limerick. He is a twice Olympic Athlete, a World Indoor medalist, a former Director of Coaching for Athletics Ireland and has coached athletes and teams at World European and Olympic level from youths to seniors. He was also Head of Fitness for the Tipperary Senior Hurling team for several years. In his current role he is developing partnerships and programmes in Sport and Physical Activity with high performance, community and industry engagements that benefit individuals, sporting organisations, communities and industry and on the University of Limerick's teaching, service and research output.

## Liam Sheedy

Liam Sheedy is Regional Manager with Bank of Ireland. A former Tipperary hurler he went on to manage his county to All-Ireland Minor glory in 2006 and delivered National League and two Munster titles at senior level before capturing All-Ireland success in 2010. Liam is also a RTE hurling analyst on The Sunday Game. Liam was a board member of the Irish Sports Council.

## Member Attendance at Board Meetings in 2018

	Total
Kieran Mulvey	9
Bernard Allen	9
Seán Benton**	6
Lynne Cantwell***	2
Roy Dooney	9
Mary Dorgan	8
Frances Kavanagh**	5
Olive Loughnane*	3
John Maughan	9
Padraic Moran*	3
Caroline Murphy	7
Patrick O'Connor	8
Roger O'Connor*	4
Gary Ryan***	2
Liam Sheedy	6

*\* Olive Loughnane, Roger O'Connor and Padraic Moran were appointed to the Board of Sport Ireland on 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018.*

*\*\*Sean Benton and Frances Kavanagh's terms expired on 30th September 2018.*

*\*\*\* Gary Ryan and Lynne Cantwell were both appointed to the Board on 19th October 2018.*

## Sport Ireland Staff

<b>CEO Chief Executive</b>
John Treacy, Chief Executive Officer
<b>Finance, Corporate Services and Communications</b>
Jason McLoughlin, Director of Finance, Corporate Services, Governance and Communications
Joanna Gurtman, Finance Manager
Tayo Brown, Finance and Procurement Executive
Nicola Connolly, Finance Executive
Colm McGinty, Sport Ireland Secretary and Director of Strategic Programmes
David Gash, Communications Manager
<b>Participation and Ethics</b>
Una May, Director of Participation and Ethics
Siobhan Leonard, Director of Anti-Doping and Ethics
Gerard Nowlan, Anti-Doping Science Officer
Melissa Morgan, Anti-Doping Testing and Quality Manager
Janine Merriman, Anti-Doping Executive
Bernie Priestley, Code of Ethics Manager
Colin Murphy, Code of Ethics and Information Officer
Emma Jane Clarke, Partnerships and Governance Director
Benny Cullen, Partnership and Governance Manager
Brian Staunton, Sports Partnership Executive
Cormac MacDonnell, National Trails Manager
<b>High Performance and National Governing Bodies</b>
Paul McDermott, Director of High Performance and National Governing Bodies
Niamh O'Sullivan, High Performance Programmes and Planning Manager
Erika Murphy, Grants Manager
Peter Brosnan, High Performance Executive
Shane Califf, National Governing Bodies Manager
Melanie Lettis, National Governing Bodies Executive
Conor Molan, High Performance Monitoring and Evaluation Manager
<b>Research</b>
Peter Smyth, Director of Research
<b>Sport Ireland Coaching</b>
Michael McGeehin, Director of Sport Ireland Coaching
Deirdre Morrissey, PA to the Director
Diarmaid Moloney, IT Technician
Sheelagh Quinn, Head of Corporate Services
Ann McMahan, Administrator
Helen Quain, Administrator
Declan O'Leary, Head of Coaching Services

Adrian Byrne, Coach Education Development Officer
Fiona Larkin, Coach Education Development Officer
Hayley Harrison, Coach Education Development Officer
Yvonne Byrne, Coach Education Development Officer
Tony Wright, Coach Education Development Officer
<b>Sport Ireland Institute</b>
Bernie O'Shea, Receptionist

## Sport Ireland Committee Overview

Committee	Role	No. of Meetings
Audit & Risk Committee	To monitor and review the Sport Ireland internal control and risk management systems; To monitor the integrity of the financial statements, reviewing significant financial reporting judgments; To monitor and review the effectiveness of the Sport Ireland internal audit function.	4
High Performance Committee	To assist and advise Sport Ireland on strategic, investment and operational matters in relation to the High Performance Programme and Institute of Sport.	4
NGB Grants Committee	To consider and recommend NGB grants on an annual basis.	2
Anti-Doping Committee	To assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to the performance of its functions including providing assistance and advice to Sport Ireland on policy formulation relating to the three strands of testing, education and research required under the terms of the council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention, 1989 and providing assistance and advice to the Sport Ireland staff on policy execution.	3
Coaching Committee	To advise Sport Ireland on policy and strategy in relation to the development of Coaching on the island of Ireland.	3
Research Committee	To oversee the Sport Ireland research programme and to report to Sport Ireland on matters relating to the programme.	2
National Sports Campus Committee	The purpose of the National Sports Campus Committee is to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to its functions relating to the development of a national sports campus on the site, in accordance with paragraph 6(4)(a) of Schedule 1 of the Sport Ireland Act, 2015.	5
Eligibility Committee	The role of the Eligibility Committee is to make recommendations to the Board as to whether applicant organisations satisfy eligibility criteria as agreed by the Board.	1
Steering Group to Oversee Government Support for Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie	To oversee the Government support for Ladies Gaelic Football and Camogie.	2

## **High Performance**

Sport Ireland's High Performance Unit assists National Governing Bodies in the delivery of their high performance programmes. These high performance programmes facilitate the ambitions of athletes and teams in reaching finals and achieving medals at European, World, Olympic and Paralympic level. Sport Ireland's High Performance Unit delivers on a number of functions including:

- **High Performance Programme Funding** - Provision of annual investment to NGBs to deliver their performance plans
- **Monitoring and Evaluation** - Tracking and analysing athlete and team performances from junior to senior level. Conducting system wide reviews of the four-year period leading into the Games. Identifying opportunities for short and long-term improvement within the high performance system.
- **Direct Athlete Funding** - Providing funding to targeted athletes and teams to support their training and competition programmes
- **Stakeholder Partnerships** - Working closely with key stakeholders to maximise collaboration opportunities within the high performance system and ensuring alignment with high performance policy

### **High Performance Funding**

Sport Ireland aims to provide the top ten high performance programmes with 80% of available High Performance Programme Funding. This reflects our strategic aim to invest with a clear focus on high potential sports.

At the commencement of 2018, Sport Ireland announced €7.24m in High Performance Programme Funding. This was allocated to 21 National Governing Bodies to support the delivery of their Performance Programmes in 2018. This investment was advanced through the allocation of an additional €1.5m in August 2018. This additional funding was provided to further enhance sports' preparations for the Tokyo Games and was allocated to a range of activities which existed as liabilities within the performance system.

In total Sport Ireland allocated €475,000 to the Olympic Federation of Ireland in 2018. Of this total funding package, €175,000 was allocated through the additional funding received in August 2018 which was provided to progress planning for Team Ireland in Tokyo 2020. Sport Ireland's investment to the Olympic Federation of Ireland is prioritised towards performance related

activities which both directly and indirectly benefit Irish athletes. The Olympic Federation of Ireland supported Team Ireland in major sporting events in 2018 which included the Winter Olympic Games in South Korea and the Youth Olympic Games in Argentina. The Youth Olympic Games saw Ireland achieve one silver medal and two bronze medals.

Sport Ireland allocated €497,500 in funding to Paralympics Ireland to support its administration and operational costs. Of this total funding package, €100,000 was allocated through the additional funding received in August 2018 which was provided to progress planning for Team Ireland in Tokyo 2020. Sport Ireland also provides High Performance Programme funding to Paralympics Ireland which facilitates the delivery of its para programme (€665,000 in 2018). Paralympics Ireland's principle remit is the development and delivery of a High Performance programme while also overseeing the planning and coordination of Team Ireland for the Paralympic Games.

In 2018 Paralympics Ireland hosted the European Para Swimming Championships in the National Aquatic Centre Dublin. Paralympics Ireland successfully delivered a world class para swimming event on home soil for the elite swimmers of Europe. Paralympics Ireland achieved 3 medals at this European Para Swimming Championships and 9 medals at the European Para Athletics Championships in London.

## **Monitoring & Evaluation**

### *International Medals*

2018 was a very successful year for high performance sport in Ireland. Programmes which were supported by Sport Ireland delivered 77 medals at recognised World or European competitions across both junior and senior level.

Of this medal total, 6 medals were achieved at senior World Championship level in events that will be in the Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Sport Ireland considers the achievement of 200 major medals over a 4-year Games cycle as a satisfactory return on investment. The medal achievements of 2018 continue the strong results yielded in 2017, year 1 of the Tokyo cycle (72 medals).

<b>Medal breakdown by competition level</b>	
Medals at senior level:	33
Medals at junior/youth level:	44

<b>Medal breakdown by gender</b>	
Medals won by males:	26
Medals won by females:	44
Medals won by mixed teams:	7

In particular, the historic achievements of the Irish women’s Hockey team in reaching the final of FIH World Cup in London and the silver medal won by the Irish Eventing Team at the World Equestrian Games in North Carolina, which secured a place at the 2020 Olympic Games, were two of the standout performances in 2018.

World championships medals were also won by athletes in Boxing (Kellie Harrington), Para-Cycling (Katie-George Dunleavy & Eve McCrystal), Rowing (Sanita Puspure, Paul O’Donovan and Gary O’Donovan), and Horse Sport (Eventing Team and Pdraig McCarthy) specifically in Olympic and Paralympic events.

The spread of medals across the sports at both senior and junior levels is also notable with medals achieved in Athletics, Horse Sport (Eventing and Showjumping), Boxing, Para Athletics, Para Swimming, Para Cycling, Rowing, Modern Pentathlon, Cycling, Sailing, Canoeing, Gymnastics, Rugby 7s, Hockey, Badminton, and Golf. Overall, the 2018 performances represented strong progress in Ireland’s high performance system with focus in 2019 now shifting to qualification and preparation for Tokyo 2020.

#### *High Performance Committee*

The Sport Ireland High Performance Committee aims to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to the performance of its functions under section 8 (1) of the Sport Ireland Act 2015, relevant to the achievement of excellence in competitive sport. To deliver on this, the Committee is tasked with advising on the strategic and operational planning for the High Performance Unit and the Sport Ireland Institute. Sport Ireland views the High Performance Committee as a model of best practice in governance.

The High Performance Committee includes representatives from the Board of Sport Ireland; the Olympic Federation of Ireland; Paralympics Ireland; Sport Northern Ireland; as well as other individuals with specific expertise in relation to High Performance sport.

### *High Performance Strategy*

As stated in the Government of Ireland's National Sport Policy 2018-2027, Sport Ireland is tasked with leading the development of a new strategy for high performance sport in Ireland. The new high performance strategy will be developed in line with the parameters detailed in the National Sports policy which include the following:

- Defining the direction of high performance sport over the long-term
- Setting out clear and ambitious medal targets over three Olympic/Paralympic cycles
- Developing a multi-annual approach to high performance funding based on the commitment of increased Government investment in high performance sport
- Development of a tiered sport system with up to a maximum of 12 sports and mechanisms to support Olympic/Paralympic medal potential outside the tiered system
- Defining the strategic alignment between Sport Ireland, Sport Northern Ireland, Sport Ireland Institute, and Sport Institute Northern Ireland
- Adherence to the highest standards of corporate governance for all high performance programmes
- Initiatives to improve athlete welfare during and the transition out of their athletic career
- Focused monitoring and evaluation of high performance sport

As referenced in the National Sports Policy, Sport Ireland has completed a number of strategic documents which have advanced high performance sport considerably and set out the next steps to progress the system. The key strategic documents produced by Sport Ireland in recent cycles include the International Carding Scheme Review (2011), London 2012 Debrief, Rio 2016 Review, Tokyo 2018-2020 Investment Process (2017), and Sport Ireland Institute Strategy 2018- 2024 (2018). These documents provide significant detail on the current status of the system, chart the strategic direction for high performance sport, and align with the parameters within the National Sport Policy.

Initiated in September 2018, the strategy development project is overseen by a High Performance Strategic Working Group. This Working Group is chaired by Sport Ireland and comprises of a representative from Sport Northern Ireland; National Governing Bodies of sport; the Department of Transport, Tourism, and Sport; the Olympic Federation of Ireland; Paralympics Ireland; and the Athletes' Commission. A number of consultation sessions took place with various stakeholders

in quarter 4 of 2018, and extensive research was conducted into international best practice. The strategy will be finalised by quarter 2 of 2019.

### **Direct Athlete Funding**

In 2018 Sport Ireland allocated €1.9m through the International Carding Scheme. This Scheme directly supports high performance athletes in their journey towards major international events such as the European and World Championships, and Olympic or Paralympic Games. Carding is primarily awarded to cover the expenses incurred by an athlete in their training and competition programme which are otherwise not funded by their respective National Governing Body. Carding is a criteria based Scheme and is recognised as a mechanism to enhance an athlete's individual performance programme.

In 2018 Sport Ireland approved an important change to the Carding Scheme for the remaining two years of the Tokyo cycle, 2019 and 2020. This change will guarantee athletes two-year funding in 2019 and 2020. The most important benefit from this change will be to allow athletes to fully focus on Olympic & Paralympic qualification and performance, and reduce the negative pressures associated with chasing funding criteria.

In 2018 Sport Ireland allocated €200,000 in funding to the Team Ireland Golf Scheme. This Scheme supports emerging professional golfers in their efforts to establish themselves as regular players on the main international tours. Players seeking inclusion on the Scheme must achieve the published criteria. The Scheme offers a number of supports to players which include; direct player funding; starts in European Challenge Tour events; coaching expertise; and access to the Sport Ireland Institute.

### **Stakeholder Partnerships**

#### *Tokyo 2020*

In 2018 the Olympic Federation of Ireland and Sport Ireland announced a ground-breaking, athlete centred partnership agreement for performance support delivery for the period 2018-2022. This new partnership will deliver a comprehensive performance support programme for Team Ireland, covering athlete life-skills, sports science and medicine as well as various Games readiness activities before, during and after Games time.

Preparations for Tokyo 2020 are now well advanced by both the Olympic and Paralympic Teams. The Olympic Federation of Ireland has announced that Fukuroi City in Japan will host the Team Ireland pre-Games Training Camp whilst Paralympics Ireland have identified Narita City in Japan as their pre-Games preparation base.

It is recognised that the Tokyo Games will be a costly event for Team Ireland. Notwithstanding this, Sport Ireland continues to work closely with both the Olympic Federation of Ireland and Paralympics Ireland in identifying and managing these costs.

In 2018 the first qualification for Tokyo 2020 was secured in the sport of Eventing. An impressive team representing Horse Sport Ireland competed at the World Equestrian Games in September 2018, where two medals were won and an Olympic qualification spot secured. The majority of qualification opportunities will arise in 2019 and 2020.

## **National Governing Bodies**

The National Governing Bodies of Sport (“NGBs”) recognised by Sport Ireland are at the centre of Irish sport. Sport Ireland is committed to developing a strong and diverse NGB sector that delivers for the sporting community in Ireland. NGBs are key delivery agencies for Sport Ireland in the achievement of its strategic and operational goals.

A key focus of Sport Ireland is to assist NGBs to develop sustainable and effective structures to facilitate increased numbers of participants and volunteers in sport. Sport Ireland invests in NGBs in line with its strategic priorities. Investment is made with the specific aim of ensuring the long-term sustainability of NGBs.

The work of the NGB Unit is focused on the ongoing operations, governance and financial management of the NGBs. It also has a key role in liaising with other operational units within Sport Ireland such as High Performance, Coaching, Participation and Anti-Doping.

### **Programme Overview:**

#### Governing Bodies Investment

- In 2018, €10.8 million was paid to 57 NGBs through Core Grant Funding. This grant covers the implementation of strategic plans and participation programmes, coach development, the hosting of events, the employment of professional staff and the administration costs of developing and delivering the sport. Core funding also supports the implementation of the Sport Ireland Code of Ethics and Anti-Doping Programmes.
- During 2018, the NGB Unit worked with both the Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport, and the Department of Health to identify additional investment opportunities for the NGB sector. This resulted in additional NGB support under both the Dormant Account (€1,098,000) and Healthy Ireland (€580,000) Funding Schemes.
- Dormant Accounts Funding was made available to National Governing Bodies to develop innovative sport and physical activity initiatives that aim to engage with one or more of the following beneficiaries:

- The personal and social development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged;
  - The educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged
  - Persons with a disability (within the meaning of the Equal Status Act 2000).
- Healthy Ireland Funding aims at supporting Governing Bodies to deliver innovative, cross-sectoral, evidence-based projects and initiatives that support the implementation of the National Physical Activity Plan.

#### Women in Sport- National Governing Bodies

- In 2018, funding of €600,000 was invested in NGBs through the Women in Sport (WIS) programme.
- The programme was established in 2005 with an aim to increase female participation in sport. It promotes the positive aspects and health benefits of sport and encourages women to take up coaching, volunteer and leadership positions within sport. The Women in Sport initiative also intends to raise awareness of women's sporting events and projects.
- Following an extensive project during 2018, Sport Ireland plan to launch it's new Women in Sport Policy in early 2019, the policy seeks to build on the significant work that has already been undertaken in this area to date.
- National Governing Bodies will continue to be key deliverers for Sport Ireland in this area.

#### Recognition Programme

- Sport Ireland operates a recognition process for organisations wishing to become eligible for support as National Governing Bodies of Sport. The recognition criteria establish minimum requirements for all organisations wishing to apply for Sport Ireland financial support. The current Criteria was revised in October 2018.

- In 2018 Sport Ireland also formally recognised the Irish Ice Hockey Association (IIHA) as a National Governing Body of sport meaning that they are now eligible to apply for funding support.

## Governance

- As outlined in Action 31 of the National Sports Policy 2018 -2027 all NGBs will be required to adopt the Governance Code for the Community, Voluntary and Charity Sector by the end of 2021. Sport Ireland continues to support NGBs in building the Governance capability in their organisations ahead of this deadline.
- Throughout 2018 many Governing Bodies attended a range of our free sector-wide training events in Governance related areas of Cyber Security, Risk Management, Understanding the Governance Code, Data Protection and Good Governance Principles.
- A number of NGBs also availed of free in-house Governance training for Board members in the areas of roles, responsibilities and governance best practice for Boards.
- During 2018 NGBs were provided access to a free of charge E-Learning programme that supports organisations who are adopting the Governance Code. This programme has been developed by the Carmichael Centre and features a range of governance training modules. In addition, it also includes access to a large number of templates for a range of the required organisational documents and policies referred to in the Code.
- The comprehensive range of customisable templates combined with the ability to receive advice on the tailoring of these templates through Sport Ireland’s free Governance Advisory service, is of great assistance to NGBs on their adoption journey.
- Sport Ireland will continue to build the Governance capability in the sector and the following services will continue to be provided free of charge in that regard –
  - Governance and Risk Management Classroom based training for employees and board members
  - In house governance training for Board members on a tailored basis

- Breakfast Seminars focusing on Governance Masterclasses in conjunction with the Institute of Public Administration
  - Provision of E-learning support in relation to understanding and implementing The Governance Code (includes access to required templates and policy documents)
  - Provision of a free Advisory Service (by phone or face to face) to deal with queries on Governance related matters
- As of December 31st 2018, 14 NGBs have fully adopted the Code with an additional 48 NGBs currently on the adoption journey.
  - As of 2018 all Sport Ireland recognised NGBs have included a dispute resolution mechanism within their Constitution. Sports Dispute Solutions Ireland (previously Just Sport Ireland), a function of the Federation of Irish Sport is supported by Sport Ireland and is the mechanism of choice for many of the NGBs. Sports Dispute Solutions Ireland is an independent dispute resolution service for Irish Sport offering both a Mediation and Arbitration facility.
  - Continued monitoring and evaluation of the compliance requirements of NGB funding was carried out by the NGB Support Unit through its Annual Grants Process, Mid-Year Review and NGB Audit programme.

NGB Core & Women in Sport Grants paid are included in Appendix B and F.

## **Sport Ireland Participation**

Sport Ireland's Participation Unit supports a national network of 29 Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs) to co ordinate and promote the development of sport at local level and increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity. The core work of the LSP Network is aligned to the objectives of the National Physical Activity Plan and includes Strategic Community Sports Development, the delivery of National Programmes, Education & Training initiatives, the Sports Inclusion Disability programme, Women in Sport Programmes, Safeguarding and general participation programmes.

Investment in the three major field sports (the GAA, the FAI and the IRFU) is critical for the continued development of participation at grassroots level.

### **Programme Highlights**

- 390,571 people participated in 1,229 locally delivered participation initiatives from the LSPs.
- 25,138 female participants took part in 134 local Women In Sport Programmes.
- 17,526 people took part in the Sport Ireland/Operation Transformation '5k Fun Run' in the Phoenix Park and across Ireland through the 'Nationwide Walks'.
- 32,632 older adults around Ireland participated in Go For Life Programmes, events and workshops.
- 927 people were trained across Cara's Disability Inclusion Training, Inclusive Fitness Training, Autism in Sport training & Inclusive Adventure Activities Training.
- 19 Sport Inclusion Disability Officer positions were supported to encourage participation for people with disabilities in 21 LSPs.
- 24 Community Sports Development Officers were supported to activate local communities through targeted programmes, education and training for clubs and communities in 25 LSPs.
- 5 new Community Sport and Physical Activity hubs were established while providing continued support to 26 existing Community Sport and Physical Activity hubs across the country through Dormant Accounts Funding.

- 13 Urban Adventure projects were initiated across the country to create new opportunities for people living in disadvantaged communities to participate in outdoor adventure sports in urban settings.
- 21 LSPs were supported through Dormant Account Funding to deliver specialised Volunteer training to help empowered volunteers to deliver more physical activity/sport opportunities at community level and to targeted groups.
- 100 Youth Leadership courses were supported across 22 LSPs to enable young people to deliver physical activity sessions to their peers, under the National Sports Education and Training hub through Dormant Accounts funding.

## **Programme Overview**

In 2018, €5.96m was allocated to the Local Sports Partnerships. €646,215 was invested in the Sports Inclusion Disability Programme to roll out a network of 19 Sports Inclusion Disability Officers and support the work of the Cara Centre in facilitating participation for people with a disability. The Sports Inclusion Disability Programme encourages and facilitates people with disabilities to participate in sport and physical activity and develop sustainable clubs and programmes under the National Physical Activity Plan Action 49.

€762,357 was invested in the Community Sports Development Programme which supports 24 Community Sports Development Officers to develop locally led plans and sustainable physical activity programmes under the National Physical Activity Plan Actions 44 & 46. €115,000 was invested in the LSPs under the Women in Sport Programme, which aims to increase women's participation in sport by providing and promoting participation opportunities for women, including women with a disability, women in disadvantaged communities, migrant women, older women and teenage girls. In addition, Sport Ireland contributed a further €607,605 to support programmes for Older People (Go for Life).

Sport Ireland was the national coordinator for the European week of Sport in Ireland in 2018. The week, which was an initiative of the European Commission, ran from the 23rd to the 30th of September and over 500 sporting events were delivered throughout the country over that time including a number of flagship events such as the European Wide #BeActive nights which took place across 5 LSPs, the Great Dublin Bike Ride, #BeActive School Campaign and National Fitness Day. Sport Ireland worked with a variety of different partners for the European Week of

Sport in 2018 and coordinated a national promotional campaign for the week using online promotion platforms.

Sport Ireland, in conjunction with Cycling Ireland again teamed up in 2018 with the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport, Dublin City Council, Fingal County Council, Meath County Council and Healthy Ireland for the Great Dublin Bike Ride, which was held on the 23rd September. This year the number of participants increased from 6,000 in 2017 to 7,000. This was a flagship event in Ireland for the European Week of Sport.

In Field Sports our work has seen the GAA connect with young people in every community in Ireland through the Go Games programmes at club and school level. The FAI provides opportunities in sport for young people particularly those with low participation rates such as young people experiencing social exclusion, young people from migrant communities, those with a disability and women and girls. Meanwhile the IRFU continues its efforts to increase under age participation within schools and community rugby along with specific programmes for girls.

As well as delivering Sport Ireland initiatives the core funding of the Local Sports Partnerships underpins the nationwide rollout of Dormant Accounts Funding and many Healthy Ireland funded initiatives. In 2018, Sport Ireland successfully secured €5m in Dormant Accounts Funding, with over €2.3m directly benefiting Local Sports Partnerships across Ireland. Sport Ireland also secured €754,307 of Healthy Ireland funding for LSP and NGB initiatives.

Five new Community Sport and Physical Activity hubs were established while providing continued support to 26 existing Community Sport and Physical Activity hubs across the country. Community Sports and Physical Activity Hubs increase the number of people of all ages participating in sport and physical activity in their communities as identified under National Physical Activity Plan Action 41. The objective of the Community Sports and Physical Activity Hubs in disadvantaged areas is to bring local people together and provide a home for local clubs and sports organisations. Each Community Sports and Physical Activity Hub is unique, however they all work to certain principles, namely grow participation, engage the local community, promote community leadership, offer a range of sporting opportunities and bring all appropriate partners/ groups/people together.

An evaluation of the first nine Hubs was conducted in 2018 which found that Community Sport and Physical Activity Hubs are perceived as being positive additions to communities. Key success factors that were found across the hubs, such as- having a face of the Hub, creating community leadership and ownership, breaking down the barrier of lack of confidence and vulnerability and

professional expertise provided by the LSP. The findings from this evaluation successfully fed into the development of revised Dormant Account application forms and associated funding decisions in the latter half of 2018.

13 new Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiatives were initiated nationally to create new opportunities for people living in disadvantaged communities to participate in outdoor adventure sports in urban settings, under National Physical Activity Plan Action 37. Opportunities for young people living in disadvantaged communities to experience outdoor adventure sports is limited due to natural environments, distance from traditional outdoor settings (forests, mountains etc.) where activities are usually offered, and need for equipment, supervision, training and support to engage in these sports. The programme aims to create new opportunities for at risk youth in disadvantaged communities and people with a disability.

Youth Leadership, which aligns with the National Physical Activity Plan Action Number 48 'Develop programmes to address transitions and drop out from physical activity and sport', focuses on fundamental leadership qualities and includes, amongst other things, inclusive sport adaptations and culminates in a module on pathways in sport and recreation. This programme develops generic leadership skills that can be applied to a variety of sports and/or recreational situations as well as contributing to the personal development of the learner. The initiative provides training for young people, keeping them engaged, increasing their responsibility and developing their confidence and self-esteem and supports an opportunity for lifelong volunteering. The programme also has the potential to impact on both early school dropout in disadvantaged areas and dropout rates from sport within the targeted age group, with many LSPs linking the programme closely to local School Completion Programmes in their areas.

The volunteer supports initiative aims to successfully identify and assist targeted individuals who are volunteering in disadvantaged communities or with people with disabilities to gain community sport and physical activity leadership skills e.g. as coaches, leaders, referees, committee members etc. The intended outcomes of the initiative are to; increase the number of volunteer leaders in sport, produce a higher quality of volunteer in sport leading to higher levels of participant engagement & empower volunteers delivering more physical activity/sport opportunities at community level and to targeted groups.

## **Sport Ireland Institute**

Under the Sport Ireland Act (2015) Sports Ireland's functions which are delivered in whole or in part by the Sport Ireland Institute are as follows:

- to encourage the promotion, development and co-ordination of, and the achievement of excellence in, competitive sport;
- to support elite athletes in achieving excellence in sport;
- to disseminate information concerning competitive sport or recreational sport

The Sport Ireland Institute works directly with the High Performance National Governing Bodies and provides the following:

- Sport Science and Medicine services
- Athlete lifeskills and advisory support
- HP People Development programmes from our Capability & Expertise department
- Performance planning support
- High Performance Training Centre

## **Programme Highlights**

### *Athlete Performance Impact*

The primary purpose to performance support is to impact athlete performance at major championships. The success at European and World level by Irish athletes across many sports in 2018 have created a greater expectation for sustained success, particularly at Olympic & Paralympic Games. The Sport Ireland Institute performance support team played key roles in the support teams around the bulk of those successes in 2018. The results of the recent Sport Ireland Institute Sentiment Survey of athletes indicates the high level of satisfaction of athletes with the support provided by the Sport Ireland Institute. The satisfaction rating of 4.67 out of 5 (93.4%) is a significant improvement on the 2015 equivalent survey.

### *Statement of Strategy*

Following a nine-month process of consultation, led by an internal steering group, the Board of Sport Ireland approved the Institute's Statement of Strategy 2018-2024. The strategy development included many key stakeholders and has identified a revised vision, mission and six strategic priorities.

This strategy aims to build on ten years of success for the Sport Ireland Institute and maps our priorities in performance support delivery to Irish High Performance Sport over the coming cycles to Tokyo 2020 and Paris 2024.

### *Olympic Federation of Ireland Partnership*

Throughout 2018, officials from the Olympic Federation of Ireland and the Sport Ireland Institute, explored the potential for a closer collaboration and partnership with a view to progressing a new performance support delivery model for the full suite of Team Ireland events from the European Youth Olympic Festival to the Olympic Games.

A detailed model of support was agreed and formal partnership approved by the Boards of Sport Ireland and the Olympic Federation of Ireland. The model founded on four key principles, most notably continuity of care for athletes, has already resulted in closer alignment in the High Performance system and Institute service support to Team Ireland at the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang and the 2018 Youth Olympic Games in Buenos Aires.

### *Head of Performance Support (HOPS) Role*

Following the Rio Games, the Sport Ireland Institute reviewed the structure around our service delivery. This identified that our operation was based on relatively stable multi-professional consulting teams and that the key role in successful similar organisations was the team or project leader. Consequently, we developed a role description for this role in the Institute teams – the Head of Performance Support (HOPS).

The purpose of the Head of Performance Services role is to: *Lead a multidisciplinary support team to deliver tangible performance impact by ensuring that performance services are aligned and integrated around outcomes that are agreed with the Performance Lead to maximise the performance potential of the athletes/teams.*

### *High Performance Centre Usage & the Athletes' Breakfast*

The Tokyo 2020 cycle is the first cycle since the opening of the High Performance Training Centre at the Sport Ireland Institute.

The level of usage of the centre continues to increase with a further 2% increase in 2018 after a 64% increase in 2017.

One of the great successes has been the Institute Athletes' Breakfast which commenced in 2018 led by the Performance Nutrition Team. The breakfast has also allowed support staff and athletes to connect away from the training environment (e.g. S&C and athletes). From a nutrition standpoint it allows athletes to fuel and refuel after sessions and adds to the overall energy availability for the day.

### *Annual Sentiment Survey*

The Sport Ireland Institute issued an annual Sentiment Survey in 2018 to identify the views of athletes as to the impact the Institute has on their performance and programmes.

We set a target for all disciplines to attain a minimum 80% satisfaction rating for 2018. This was exceeded across all support services and operations of the Institute. The response from athletes has been extremely positive in the four key areas examined:

- Quality of support services
- Access and availability of support services
- Staff qualities
- Institute facilities

### **Programme Overview**

The Sport Ireland Institute provides a large range of performance supports to Irish High Performance Sports. The following is a brief summary from each support discipline in 2018:

- *Performance Lifeskills & Advisory Service:* The performance lifeskills team delivered against strategic objectives set across the three main pillars of the service – Education, Performance and Career. 2018 saw the first dual careers network events with the Higher Education Institutions and the launch of the Athlete Friendly Employer Network.
- *Performance Analysis:* Performance Analysis support was delivered in 2018 to Boxing, Diving, Para Athletics and Para Cycling. Sport Ireland Institute hosted the first meeting of the Irish Performance Analysis eXchange (IPAX) in April. In September 2018 Sport

Ireland Institute & SAS, a world leader in analytics, business intelligence and data management signed a ground breaking partnership agreement.

- *Strength & Conditioning:* 2018 saw a continued increase in quantity of S&C support to elite Irish athletes and increased footfall/usage at the Sport Ireland Institute S&C facility. In particular increases in service delivery have been identified with carded athletes and podium potential sports. In 2018, the S&C department delivered regular support to 12 sports covering approximately 110 athletes. The department also offers regular facility and “project support” to another 5 sports. In 2018 the S&C department increased the amount of camp, competition and off-site support it delivers to key carded athletes and sports.
- *Rehabilitation:* A new Athlete Management System was initiated in the Sport Ireland Institute in 2018. We now have medical records for all athletes stored on a centralized system, which allows us to provide monthly status updates and injury/illness audit data. For the first time in 2018, the Sport Ireland Institute provided support to the OFI both pre, during and post Games to the Irish Winter Olympic Team. This support included pre Games medical screening and delivering on-site physiotherapy support for the Games period in PyeongChang.
- *Physiology:* Physiology service delivery supported athletes from 9 sports in 2018. The new HOPS roles identified opportunities to increase our service delivery within endurance sports of swimming and cycling. Additionally, we increased the number of athletes supported with weekly training load monitoring through the new athlete management system. In 2018, physiology commenced supporting Cycling Ireland’s Olympic Track program with 4 training camps supported at their track base in Majorca, Spain and a domestic training and testing camp held at the Sport Ireland Institute in Dublin. Competition support was provided during the European Track Championships, Glasgow. The Physiology department are heavily involved in developing heat, travel and acclimatisation strategies for the 2020 Tokyo Olympic and Paralympic Teams. These will be trialled by athletes during test events in 2019.
- *Performance Nutrition:* The number of athletes and sports serviced by the nutrition team grew significantly in 2018. This service provision was delivered away at camp and within Ireland which is crucial to developing relationships with athletes but also by adapting personalised nutrition plans to suit training camp and competition environments. Named nutritionists are integral members of the service support teams in a range of sports. The nutrition team

coordinated and delivered the HPX Nutrition Symposium held in the Campus Conference Centre in October with over one hundred researchers, practitioners and coaches in attendance. The Performance Kitchen has become the central hub of the athlete experience at the Sport Ireland Institute. The Athlete Breakfast initiative twice weekly have acted as a fulcrum for most other services during the year. This has allowed relationships to build across disciplines, sports and various elements of the high performance community in a natural way within the Institute.

- *Medicine:* The provision of medical services is central to the role of Sport Ireland Institute. Sports medicine incorporates the total medical care of athletes from pre-participation medical screening through to management at consultant level of appropriate illnesses or injuries. The services include diagnosis, investigation, treatment and rehabilitation of injuries and illness occurring during or as a consequence of training and competition. The Sport Ireland Institute has established a rapid access referral system with the National Orthopaedic Hospital at Cappagh and with other centres for specialist opinion and services. The Sport Ireland Institute operates a medical clinic for athletes across four half day clinics per week. In 2019 this service will be extended to four days per week.
- *Capability & Expertise:* The Sparking Performance Programme was launched in 2018. The programme, a bespoke self-directed peer learning network for Performance Directors has been heavily subscribed with 16 participants active on the programme. Patricia Heberle was appointed as the programme lead. A full review of the 2017 HPX Conference was conducted in 2018. Following the review, a new strategy for HPX was finalised with a biennial conference to continue in 2019 and 2021. The 2019 event (November 7th & 8th) will be a closed community event focussing on the theme of Games Readiness for Tokyo 2020. This will be followed in 2021 with an open conference focussed on the lessons learned from the Tokyo 2020 Games cycle and the strategy for Paris 2024 and beyond.

## Sport Ireland National Sports Campus

Sport Ireland National Sports Campus Unit is responsible for implementation of the Master Plan for the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus; overseeing the development of individual facilities on the Campus; the development of strategies and proposals for future facility development and use; and promoting the use of the Campus at all levels from high performance to participation and by members of the public generally. Responsibility for the day-to-day operation of Campus facilities rests with a wholly-owned subsidiary of Sport Ireland.

### Programme Highlights

- **Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena (NIA)** – as one of the flagship developments on the Campus, the completion of Phase 2 of the NIA took precedence throughout 2018. This second phase includes indoor rugby and soccer pitches in what is a landmark development for Ireland. Development will continue into 2019 when the facility will open.
- **Sport Ireland Office** – in August 2018 Sport Ireland took occupation of its newly refurbished head office, which is located in the historic courtyard buildings adjacent to Abbotstown House.
- **Campus Masterplan** – towards the end of 2018 work commenced on the development of a strategic brief that will form the basis of a new Masterplan that will be prepared for the Campus. This brief sets out Sport Ireland’s vision for the Campus over the next 15 years, and competitive tenders will be sought in early 2019 for the preparation of this Masterplan.
- **Upgrade of Hockey Pitch** – in Autumn 2018 design development work commenced on the upgrade of the existing sand-based hockey pitch, to a modern water-based alternative that will provide a much needed training base for our senior hockey teams as they prepare for Olympic qualifier matches. The pitch will be replaced during 2019.

### Programme Overview

The primary focus for 2018 remained the ongoing development of the Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena (NIA), which forms a core element of the Campus Master Plan. Phase 1 of the NIA comprises the National Indoor Athletics Training Centre, the National Indoor Training Centre and the National Gymnastics Training Centre opened in 2017.

The priority during 2018 was on the completion of Phase 2 of the project, which will comprise covered synthetic pitches for rugby, soccer and Gaelic games as well as ancillary facilities –

including changing rooms, strength & conditioning and rehab areas, together with offices, analysis suites and player lounges. The project is due to complete in May 2019.

Sport Ireland also announced plans to construct a new hockey pitch at the Campus in Dublin. The new pitch will be Polytan Polygras Toyko GT (PPTGT) pitch, as will be used at the Tokyo Olympic Games and the 2022 World Championships. The new facility will be installed and ready for use in September 2019 and will allow Ireland's elite hockey players to practise on the same playing surface that will be used in the upcoming Olympics and World Cup. This new pitch alleviates the need for players to travel abroad to train, giving them access to the latest in pitch technology, here in Ireland. It will further reduce their reliance on club-based facilities for training, which are not always readily available. Locating the pitch at the National Sports Campus will also allow players to avail of existing science, medicine and lifestyle support services through the Sport Ireland Institute, also located on the campus.

In late 2018 Sport Ireland commenced work on a major review of the Masterplan for the Campus which has been in operation for 10 years. The updated Masterplan will address a number of key issues including car parking, infrastructural upgrades, public access, road and path upgrades, cycleways etc. The Masterplan will draw inspiration from Sport Ireland's own vision of how the Campus should develop, and what can be achieved. The focus will also shift to the softer or more public orientated elements of the Campus including the creation of a Sports Village with additional offices, athlete accommodation, café and restaurant facilities.

The Unit continues to engage with relevant stakeholders to examine the potential for the development of further, additional facilities on the Campus to benefit sport at all levels from recreation to high performance, and in particular to develop new centres of excellence. The outcome of these discussions will be incorporated into the new Masterplan, forming part of the development programme in the years to come.

### *Campus Operations*

A subsidiary of Sport Ireland, NSCDA (Operations) DAC is responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus facilities including the Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena, the National Aquatic Centre, the National Horse Sport Arena, the National Diving Training Centre, the NSC synthetic and turf pitch facilities, the Campus Conference Centre and the Modern Pentathlon Centre. The company is also responsible

for the day-to-day operation of Morton Stadium, Santry and the maintenance of office accommodation for sports bodies based on the Campus.

During 2018, 1.149m visits were made to the National Aquatic Centre, a 5% increase on 2017. This is the third consecutive year to break the 1m visitor mark, and was the busiest year since the facility came under the direct management of the Campus.

The Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena saw 445,000 people come through the doors. Academy numbers for the year showed positive growth, with almost 4,000 children learning a sport of some kind each week on the Campus.

Summer camps were run over the summer months across a number of sporting disciplines, with an increase on last years figures of 18.5%. These included camps for the first time in Morton Stadium.

Football figures on the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus multi-sport pitches followed a similar trend, increasing by 4.6% from 98,046 in 2017 to 102,515 in 2018.

The Sport Ireland National Sports Campus played host to many significant events in 2018, including the International Paralympic Committee Para-Swimming European Championships, which was broadcast live on TV from the National Aquatic Centre. The Sport Ireland National Sports Campus also hosted the Special Olympics Ireland Games in June.

## **Sport Ireland Ethics**

In accordance with the Sport Ireland Act 2015, Sport Ireland's remit is to develop and disseminate guidelines and codes of practice promoting best practice for the protection of children in sport consistent with child protection legislation.

### **Programme Highlights**

Sport Ireland is fully committed to ensuring that young people are safeguarded in their participation in sport on the island of Ireland.

In February 2018, Sport Ireland launched a number of initiatives in the area of Safeguarding. These are:

- Sport Ireland Safeguarding Audit Framework.
- Safeguarding Guidance for Children and Young People in Sport

*(Formerly Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport)*

- Staying Safe on-line resource.

### **Sport Ireland Safeguarding Audit Framework:**

The main purpose of the Sport Ireland Safeguarding Audit framework will be to support NGB's to strengthen their adherence to safeguarding policies and procedures thereby ensuring that children and young people are protected in sport. The development of this audit framework was extensive and included a consultation process, workshops, pilot testing, and now finally the roll out of the audit tool. This project was completed in conjunction with the National Governing Bodies of Sport and The Ineqe Group.

### **Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Childrens Sport review**

A working group comprised of professional staff from Sport Ireland, Sport NI & the National Governing Bodies of Sport convened to conduct a comprehensive review of the Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Children's Sport. The aim of the group was to ensure that the existing Code was brought into line with current legislation, policies & procedures and best practice in terms of

safeguarding and child protection. Tusla Information and Advice Officers also contributed to this review process.

The review of the Code has been undertaken in order to ensure that the document now reflects the challenges that National Governing Bodies and their clubs face on a day-to-day basis, ensuring that current best practice is followed while also complying with today's relevant legislation.

### **Staying Safe Online**

The Sport Ireland Staying Safe Online resource was published in 2018. This web based information and guidance tool on internet safety is predominately aimed at parents/guardians/coaches/young people involved in Sport.

The resource contains a brief test, which allows users to test their knowledge on what they have learned. Upon successful completion of the test users will be awarded a digital certificate.

### **Programme Overview**

Sport Ireland's Safeguarding Guidance has been developed to specifically support National Governing Bodies of Sport and clubs to ensure they can meet their child safeguarding and child protection responsibilities. This guidance document has been prepared in the context of the challenges that National Governing Bodies and their clubs face on a day to day basis, ensuring that current best practice is followed while also complying with today's relevant legislation.

Over the past 19 years the Code & Ethics and Good Practice for Children in Sport has been implemented at grassroots level across all sports. The implementation of the Code has been driven by the National Children Officers, Local Sports Partnerships and National Governing Bodies of Sport at national and club level and this valuable work needs to be supported and built upon. The new guidance document brings this support to a new level.

#### *Safeguarding 1, 2 & 3 Workshops*

All Sport Ireland Safeguarding 1, 2 & 3 workshops are rolled out by the Local Sports Partnership Network (LSP). These workshops are readily available to the National Governing Bodies of Sport and the various clubs around the country.

In 2018 Sport Ireland educated over 13,000 participants in the area of Safeguarding over its 3 workshops.

#### *Safeguarding 1, 2 & 3 Tutor Training*

Sport Irelands Safeguarding tutor training workshops are offered to Local Sports Partnerships and National Governing Bodies of Sport. On completion of tutor training the participants are then in a position to deliver Sport Ireland's Safeguarding workshops.

In 2018 the Sport Ireland Ethics unit trained 27 Safeguarding 1 and 14 Safeguarding 2 & 3 tutors.

#### *Safeguarding 1: Online Refresher*

Sport Ireland's Safeguarding 1 Online Refresher is a dormant accounts project that was launched in 2017. The online resource is available to all those who wish to refresh their Basic Awareness knowledge (Safeguarding 1). This project was developed in conjunction with the National Governing Bodies of Sport.

To date this resource has been accessed by more than 1,600 participants with the numbers continuing to increase on a daily basis.

#### *Consulting with Young People*

Joint project with Department of Children and Youth Affairs and in line with the National Children's Strategy. Phase 1 of this project was completed in 2018 with a number of NGB's involved in a train the trainers programme. Phase 2 of this project is currently at the toolkit design stage with full rollout of the project expected in the second quarter of 2019.

#### *Parents in Sport Week October 2018*

Over 100 sporting organisations in Ireland and the UK engaged in promoting Parents in Sport Week 2018. Sport Ireland asked NGBs and sports clubs across the county to rally behind the positive, supporting role that parents play.

*Designated Child Safeguarding Meetings (DSCO)*

In 2018 Sport Ireland in conjunction with the NSPCC's Child Protection in Sport Unit hosted a number of cross border information sessions in the area of Safeguarding. These meetings provided training opportunities for safeguarding professionals and also allowed them to raise any concerns or issues they may have in the area of Safeguarding.

## **Organisational Development & Change**

Sport Ireland's Organisational Development and Change (ODC) Unit is primarily focused on providing support to the sports organisations which receive funding from Sport Ireland including National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships. There are several aspects to the unit's work, which include Capability Building, Organisational Development & Change Interventions and Working Groups / Networks.

### **Programme Highlights**

- The ASPIRE Graduate Employment programme ran with graduates placed in eight Sport Ireland funded organisations.
- The ARENA Leadership Development programme ran with senior leaders from 15 different organisations.
- Organisational Development and Change interventions were carried out in five organisations on a tailored and specific basis.
- 94 hours of executive coaching were carried out with 24 sectoral employees from a range of organisations.
- 82 psychometric reports were completed and feedback sessions undertaken with sectoral employees from a range of organisations.
- 798 sector-based employee's/board members were trained in an array of business skill areas.

### **Programme Overview**

#### *Organisational Capability Building*

This refers to the strategic management of Organisational Capability Building (OCB) in client sports organisations across eight capability areas:

- Organisational Leadership
- Change Management
- Risk Management
- Strategic Planning
- Employee Performance Management
- Project Management

- Corporate Governance
- Stakeholder Engagement

Organisational Capability was built through a range of Learning, Advisory & Systems support services which included:

- Training Courses, Workshops and Seminars
- E-Learning
- Executive Coaching
- Psychometric & Behavioral Assessments
- Workplace Mediation
- Expert Advice – HR & Employment Law
- Expert Advice - Capability Building
- Senior Level Recruitment Support

#### *Organisational Development and Change Interventions*

Sport Ireland managed a number of interventions which were delivered on a specific & tailored basis with client sports organisations. Such interventions took place at Individual, Group and Organisation wide level. The underlying purpose of the activity was the continual improvement of Organisational effectiveness within the client sports Organisations. Such interventions focused on areas including Organisational Assessment & Planning, Team Building, Intergroup Relations, Organisational Design and Cultural Change.

#### *Working Groups and Networks*

Sport Ireland facilitated a range of sectoral working groups and networks which comprised of professionals operating in a variety of different career/role types. The purpose of each group is to support peer learning, idea sharing and networking between participants. There are currently three such groups in operation:

- **Leadership, Managing Change, Performance & Projects** (for NGB Chief Executives, LSP Co-ordinators and other sector based Senior Managers)
- **Human Resources** (for sector based Human Resource Management professionals)
- **Stakeholder Engagement** (for sector based Marketing, Communications & PR professionals)

## Sport Ireland Anti-Doping

Under the Sport Ireland Act 2015, Sport Ireland's functions in relation to Anti-Doping include

- to facilitate, through the promulgation of guidelines and codes of practice, standards of good conduct, fair play and the elimination of doping in sport;
- to take such action as Sport Ireland considers appropriate, including testing, to combat doping in sport;
- to plan, implement, evaluate and monitor education and information programmes for good conduct, fair play and the elimination of doping in sport;
- in its capacity as the national anti-doping organisation in the State, to direct the collection of samples, to manage the testing and test results of samples and attend hearings, as required.

### Programme Highlights

- In Competition samples accounted for 20% and out of competition tests for 80% in the national testing programme.
- Number of samples collected increased by 12%.
- Sport Ireland trained a further 32 anti-doping tutors from GAA, Irish Athletic Boxing Association, FAI, Horse Sport Ireland, Badminton Ireland and the Olympic Federation of Ireland. In total there are 83 active Sport Ireland trained tutors.
- In 2018, Sport Ireland trained tutors delivered over 210 anti-doping seminars.
- Over 2,050 individuals completed the online anti-doping e-learning course.
- Over 30,000 wallet cards were distributed to various NGBs and stakeholders.
- There were over 25,000 successful queries in 2018 on the medication checker website [www.eirpharm.com](http://www.eirpharm.com).

### Programme Overview

The annual Sample Collection Personnel training days took place on October 6<sup>th</sup> and December 6<sup>th</sup> 2018 and 45 sample collection personnel attended these sessions and will be accredited for 2019.

There were 58 Therapeutic Use Exemption (TUE) applications in 2018, this was an decrease of 28% from 2017 (n=81) and once again these applications came from a diverse range of sports. Of the 58 applications received, a significant portion were for medications that are not/no longer

included on the World Anti-Doping Agency Prohibited List and therefore no TUE Certificates were granted for these applications. Athletes are reminded to check their medications carefully prior to making a TUE application using the free 'Medication Checker App', MIMS, on [www.eirpharm.com](http://www.eirpharm.com) or [www.globaldro.com](http://www.globaldro.com) before completing the TUE application form.

Of the valid TUE applications made to Sport Ireland in 2018 (n=29) 24 were approved by the Therapeutic Use Exemption Committee on receipt of an up-to-date medical file, while 5 remained as incomplete applications by the end of 2018. Incomplete applications were because of non-receipt of a medical file, the medication ultimately not being used or the athlete awaiting further medical assessment.

Sport Ireland encourages anyone who detects, identifies, witnesses, knows of or has reasonable grounds to suspect that cheating has occurred to come forward and report suspected doping violations. A Report Doping online submission form is available through the Sport Ireland website ([www.sportireland.ie/report](http://www.sportireland.ie/report)) which will help to provide a safe and secure way for members of the public to report matters relating to drugs in sport.

Sport Ireland attended three NADO Leader Summits 2018. NADO Leaders discussions included key international issues including the World Anti-Doping Agency's Governance Structures, the Road Map for Russian Anti-Doping compliance and support for clean athletes. After each meeting, a collective media statement was issued and these statements are available on [www.sportireland.ie](http://www.sportireland.ie).

A new revised World Code will come into effect in 2021. Sport Ireland consulted with athlete and NGBs and provided feedback to the World Anti-Doping Agency in relation to the first and second phase of Code consultation and the mandatory International Standards.

Minister Shane Ross TD and the Chief Executive attended a Roundtable discussion on "Advancing International Commitment to Clean Sports: Reforming the World Anti-Doping Agency" at the White House, Washington DC on the 31<sup>st</sup> of October 2018. U.S. Deputy Director of National Drug Control Mr James Carroll hosted the meeting. A selected group of present and former top international athletes from Canada, Germany, Netherland, Sweden, UK and U.S. together with representatives of Anti-Doping Organisations and Sports Ministers from seven countries (Australia, Canada, Ireland, Germany, New Zealand, Norway and UK). The group agreed that the anti-doping community should lead a collaborative worldwide movement for doping-free sport.

*International Meetings Attended*

NADA Leader Summit	Jan 15-16
Preventing Doping in Professional & Grassroots Sport through Education & Investigation	
Jan 24 -25	
Erasmus + RESPECT Project	Feb 12-13
CAHAMA Meeting	Feb 27
Council of Europe Education Meeting	Mar 7-8
iNADO AGM & Workshop	Mar 19-20
WADA ADO Symposium	Mar 21-23
WADA Investigators Meeting	Mar 27
CAHAMA Meeting	May 2-3
WADA Global Athlete Forum	June 3-5
NADO Leader Summit	June 12-13
Expert Testing Group Meeting	August 16
Council of Europe Education meeting	September 3-4
WADA Governance Working Group	September 5-6
CAHAMA	September 11
USADA Science Symposium	September 28 to October 1
WADA Global Education Conference	October 24-25
CAHAMA Meeting	October 29-30
"Advancing International Commitment to Clean Sports: "Reforming the World Anti-Doping Agency"	October 31
NADO Leader Summit	November 1-2
WADA Athlete Biological Passport Symposium	November 5-7

## **Sport Ireland Coaching**

Sport Ireland Coaching has the lead role for coaching in Ireland on an all island basis. Working in partnership with the NGB's and the wider sporting sector, Sport Ireland Coaching leads the development of coaching in Ireland through the implementation of a quality coach and tutor education support programme.

### **Programme Highlights**

- Continued to work with the NGBs in the development of their Coach Education Courses for their Coaching Pathway, particularly with Canoeing, Surfing, Basketball, Irish Underwater Council and the IRFU
- Aligned Tutor/Coach Developer courses to the National Qualifications Framework in partnership with the QQI
- Finalised booking and planning for iCoachKids conference to be hosted by Sport Ireland Coaching in 2019
- Commenced work on the EU Erasmus + funded project BLUEPRINT
- Continued National Coaching Database development.

### **Programme Overview**

#### *Key Statistics*

- 38 National Governing Bodies ran 1,835 approved coach education courses in 2018 and over 20,000 coaches were certified.
- American Football delivered their first ever CDPI-accredited Introduction to Coaching course in 2018. This was their first coach award on the CDPI and more coach awards will be developed in 2019.
- Cycling Ireland's Ride Leader award is under development. This will be Cycling Ireland's first award on the new Leader Framework
- Special Olympics have developed a new Introduction to Coaching Floorball award.

### *NGB Update*

- Sport Ireland Coaching held an informal coffee morning for NGBs on 14th June in Sport HQ to discuss relevant issues and provide networking opportunities across NGBs.
- 65 people from 40 NGBs attended Sport Ireland Coaching NGB information sessions in Dublin and Limerick in November 2018. These information sessions were an opportunity for Sport Ireland Coaching to update NGBs on developments in Coach Developer and Assessor training, and on developments in Coaching Children. These information sessions were well received by the NGBs and will become an annual event for Sport Ireland Coaching.
- Hockey Ireland re-established their coach education working group to review its coach awards particularly the Level 3 coach award.
- Underwater Council of Ireland are developing a Level 1 underwater hockey coach award and an Adventure Sport Manager award.
- Canoeing Ireland and Irish Surfing Association have agreed to work together to develop a common Flatwater Stand Up Paddle Instructor award
- Some progress made with the GAA on the overhaul of the old tutor course into a Coach Developer course. A Sport Ireland Coaching staff member was invited to sit on the GAA coach education committee, which has reformed after a lapsed period. This committee will review GAA's entire coach education programme and tutor programme.  
In November 2018, Sport Ireland Coaching completed a review of the performance of the Meath Senior Football in advance of the 2019 season. In February 2019 Sport Ireland Coaching will commence a review of the Roscommon GAA player and coaching pathways.
- Camogie delivered a workshop for Level 2 coaches and inter-county coaches.
- Special Olympics Ireland trained presenters for the Sport Ireland Coaching Children programme.
- The IRFU are currently undergoing a major review of their coaching programme. The alignment of IRFU coach awards with the CDPI will be postponed until the IRFU review is complete.

### *European Projects*

Presentation made to European Expert Group on Skills and Human Resources Development in Sport in Croatia on how Sport Ireland Coaching is planning to align coach awards with the National Qualifications Framework in Ireland.

European Blueprint Project: Attended two meetings of the Blueprint project. This project is a 3 year Erasmus+ project for the active leisure sector (i.e. fitness and outdoor sectors) to establish a long-term Blueprint for Skills Co-operation and Employment in Active Leisure. Among other things, the project will look at the European qualifications of Personal Trainer and Outdoor Animator and the incorporation of these qualifications into National Qualifications Framework.

The iCoachKids Erasmus+ project is entering its final year in 2019 culminating with the iCoachKids conference which we are hosting in UL on 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019.

In November 2018, we were informed that our applications for two more Erasmus+ projects were successful. The first of these projects is the PEAK (Policy, Evidence & Knowledge in Coaching) project, which will look at coaching systems in Europe, volunteerism in coaching and women in coaching over three years. The second project is the Creating Insight project which will look at and identify best practice in International Blind Sports Soccer in 2019.

#### *Sport Ireland Coaching Committee*

Under the Sport Ireland Act 2015 a Coaching Committee was established in 2016. The Sport Ireland Coaching Committee held three meetings in 2018. Sean Benton was the Chair for the Committee until his term ended in September 2018. John Maughan was appointed as Chair in December 2018. The purpose of the Committee is to advise Sport Ireland Coaching on policy and strategy in relation to the development of Coaching on the island of Ireland using the Coaching Development Programme for Ireland as a reference point.

#### *QQI Application*

In October 2018, Sport Ireland Coaching submitted an application to Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) to become a QQI provider. Sport Ireland will meet with the final QQI panel on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019. Work has also begun on the documentation of the Coach Developer award in the required QQI template for submission. A Sport Ireland Coaching Quality Group was established with John Maughan as Chair. This group met twice in 2018 and has been an invaluable resource in the development of our application to the QQI.

An examination of other Sport Ireland units offering education and training has commenced and a Sport Ireland Education & Training group has been established.

## Sport Ireland Trails

Sport Ireland Trails continues to support the sustainable development of a recreational trails network in Ireland which includes walking, cycling and water trails (Blueways). The programme promotes standards and good practice for trails and maintains a National Trails Register. Over the coming months Sport Ireland Trails will not only support the trails network but will support and work with a wide range of national and local partners to increase participation in all outdoor sports in Ireland.

### Programme Highlights

- 983 trails were registered under the National Trails Register at the end of 2018
- 117 inspections and advisory assignments were undertaken ensuring trail quality and standards (Sport Ireland Trails introduced a new Audit System for trails in Q4 2018 replacing the Inspection System that was in place for the past 10 years)
- The Irish Wheelchair Association developed '*The Great Outdoors Access Guidelines*' publication with the support of Sport Ireland and the Dormant Accounts Fund
- 11 Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiatives were rolled out through the Local Sport Partnership Network
- [www.irishtrails.ie](http://www.irishtrails.ie) attracted 373,000 visits in 2018 with an increase of 18,000 people visiting our site in comparison to 2017.
- Our Education and Training Programme saw 229 people attending 29 courses in 2018.
- The Feasibility Study commenced for the National Digital Database – Outdoor Recreation Amenities project.

### Programme Overview

Sport Ireland Trails invested a substantial amount into its recreational trail programme in 2018. This allowed for 117 inspections, advisory and registration assignments to take place on walking and cycling infrastructure throughout Ireland. Our Education and Training Programme, which was run for a second consecutive year, aims to build capacity and support agencies and communities throughout the country to plan and develop high quality recreational trail infrastructure.

Sport Ireland Trails continued to lead the Get Ireland Walking initiative in 2018 which aims to promote and encourage more recreational walking for health, fitness and leisure in Ireland. A

range of walking initiatives are now being run under this programme including the Active Community Walking Programme, Schools Walking, Men's Sheds and a Woodlands for Health Initiative. Get Ireland Walking are into their second year of their three-year Strategy and Action Plan working alongside a broad range of partners to ensure all goals and objectives are met by 2020. In addition to a strategy implementation group, two further strategy-working groups were established to coordinate and lead actions in the areas of communications and education.

The Get Ireland Cycling initiative was progressed in 2018 and following consultation with a wide range of stakeholders a report outlining a 'Get Ireland Cycling Strategy Framework' was produced in mid- 2018. Phase 2 of this initiative commenced at the end of 2018 with a view to developing a Get Ireland Cycling Strategy in 2019 following further workshops.

Sport Ireland Trails provided input to the Strategy for the Future Development of National and Regional Greenways which was published in July 2018.

Sport Ireland Trails rolled out the Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative in 2018 for a second consecutive year in eleven counties and secured funding through the Dormant Accounts Programme to continue this initiative with thirteen Local Sports Partnerships in 2019.

Sport Ireland Trails also worked with the Irish Wheelchair Association to develop new guidelines promoting best practice in the provision of facilities for people with disability in the outdoors. Sport Ireland was again the national coordinator for the European week of Sport in Ireland in 2018. The week, which was an initiative of the European Commission, ran from the 22<sup>nd</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of September 2018 and over 500 sporting events were delivered throughout the country over that time including a number of flagship events such as the Great Dublin Bike Ride, #BeActive School Campaign, #BeActive Nights and National Fitness Day. Sport Ireland worked with a variety of different partners for the European Week of Sport in 2018 and coordinated a national promotional campaign for the week using online promotion platforms.

## **Research**

### **The Irish Sports Monitor (ISM)**

The ISM 2017 annual report was published in May 2018, the seventh such report since the ISM was initiated in 2007. The 2017 report looked at participation in sport, recreational walking, and broader physical activity (walking and cycling for transport) along with social participation in sport through club membership, volunteering and attending sporting events. It also included insights into public attitudes towards Government investment in sport, issues around coaching and training of participants, and the role and influence of wearable technology on sports participation.

In December 2018, following a competitive tender process, 2018 Ipsos MRBI was awarded the contract to deliver the next two ISM reports for 2019 and 2021.

### **Children Sport Participation and Physical Activity study (CSPPA)**

The CSPPA research study was administered during 2018 by an all-island consortium of 3<sup>rd</sup> level institutions led by University of Limerick, and involving researchers from Dublin City University, University College Cork and University of Ulster. The project, a follow up to the 2010 CSPPA study, examined sport, physical education and physical activity habits of children aged 10-18 years as well as barriers, motivations and attitudes towards sport and physical activity among this group and the relationship between their involvement in sport and their physical and mental health.

The study is the first all-island research to look at these issues. As well as being delivered by an all-island group it was also funded on an all-island basis by Sport Ireland, Sport Northern Ireland and the Department of Health. Data collection was completed during the year with analysis of results and the drafting of a first report from the project underway by the end of the year. The results from the study will provide baseline indicators around children's participation in sport for the new National Sports Policy published in 2018.

### **Behavioural Science Research**

Using Dormant Accounts funding, Sport Ireland initiated a research project to review the use of behavioural science insights in interventions aimed at increasing participation in physical activity among individuals in disadvantaged communities. Researchers from the Economic and Social Research Institute are delivering the project, the first phase of which involved a review of the

international research literature to identify mechanisms likely to successfully promote physical activity. Based on the findings from this phase of the review, interventions will be developed and evaluated during the second phase. A draft report from the review was received before the end of 2018 with the intervention phase to be developed and implemented during 2019. The project links to Actions 6, 9, 10 and 11 of the National Sports Policy.

### **LSP and NGB Participation Support**

Using data from the Irish Sports Monitor, reports / briefing papers were provided to Cork, Dun Laoghaire Rathdown, Fingal, Meath, South Dublin, Tipperary, Donegal, Dublin City, Galway, Laois and Sligo LSPs in 2018. Presentations were made to Mayo, Monaghan and Dublin City LSP boards as well as to the NGB – LSP networking event in October. NGBs were also offered assistance with research support in the context of their planning. Swim Ireland, Athletics Ireland, Badminton Ireland and Irish Sailing Association all availed of this opportunity.

### **Other projects**

Research support is being provided for the evaluation of programmes funded under Dormant Accounts including Community Sports Hubs, Active Communities Walking programme and Community Sports Coaching programme.

The Research Unit provided significant input into the development of Sport Ireland's participation and women in sport strategy documents.

The Research Unit contributed to a number of inter-Departmental / agency research projects during 2018 including the Irish Physical Activity Research Collaboration (IPARC), Healthy Ageing Positive Ageing Initiative (HAPAI) and the National Physical Activity Plan Research Committee.

## Corporate Activity

- A total of 50 Parliamentary Questions were answered by Sport Ireland in 2018
- Sport Ireland provided sponsorship to the 2018 Irish Times/Sport Ireland Sportswoman of the Year Awards
- Sport Ireland again provided support to Operation Transformation in 2018, including the organisation of the Operation Transformation 5k Run in Phoenix Park in conjunction with Athletics Ireland
- 615 articles featuring Sport Ireland appeared in print national publications in 2018
- Sport Ireland sponsored 'Walk of Life' a supplement dedicated to walking in the Sunday Independent in February 2018
- Sport Ireland Communications Unit continued to provide support in the areas of media, public affairs, corporate communications, events, marketing and digital

## **Protected Disclosures Annual Report**

Section 22 of the Protected Disclosures Act 2014 requires the publication of a report each year relating to the number of protected disclosures made in the preceding year and any actions taken in response to such disclosures.

No protected disclosures were received by Sport Ireland in the reporting period up to 31 December 2017.

## **Sport Ireland Compliance**

Sport Ireland has agreed to ensure that all necessary corporate governance obligations (including obligations under the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies), including those for risk management, internal audit and the Public Spending Code are fully complied with.

### ***Statement on How the Board of Sport Ireland Operates***

- The Board is collectively responsible for leading and directing Sport Ireland's activities. While the Board may delegate particular functions to management the exercise of the power of delegation does not absolve the Board from the duty to supervise the discharge of the delegated functions.
- The Board fulfils key functions, including: reviewing and guiding strategic direction and major plans of action, risk management policies and procedures, annual budgets and business plans, setting performance objectives, monitoring implementation and Sport Ireland's performance, and overseeing major capital expenditure and investment decisions.
- The Board conducts its business in accordance with Sport Ireland's 'Code of Governance and Business Conduct' and any procedures referenced therein. The primary role of the Board in plenary session shall be to decide matters of policy, finance and procedure, to analyse and review the various activities of Sport Ireland and its Staff, to consider recommendations from Committees or other delegated authorities concerning the criteria for awarding financial assistance and to consider applications for financial assistance.

- The Board will at all times comply with the principle of the collective responsibility and authority of Sport Ireland as a body corporate.
- The Board ensures that decisions on major items of expenditure, are aligned with medium and long-term strategies so as to ensure that such expenditure is focused on clearly defined objectives and outcomes.
- The Board shall adopt a statement of strategy for a period of five years ahead. Implementation of the strategy by Sport Ireland shall be supported through an annual planning and budgeting cycle.
- The Board, through the Chairperson, annually consults with the Minister to:
  - define the expectations that the Minister has of Sport Ireland (and Sport Ireland's own expectations);
  - clarify Sport Ireland's role in relation to policy development in the area of sport; and
  - define the parameters surrounding Sport Ireland's resources/income.
- The Board undertakes an annual self-assessment evaluation of its own performance

### ***Board Decision Making & Functions***

The Board of Sport Ireland determines from time to time a formal schedule of matters specifically reserved to it for decision to ensure that the direction and control of the organisation is firmly in hands of the Board. The functions reserved to the Board shall include (save to the extent otherwise determined by the Board) the following matters:

- establishing the processes whereby it recruits a Chief Executive.
- delegation of authority to the Chief Executive to perform the functions and assessment of his/her performance
- receiving and considering regular reports from the Chief Executive on all major elements of Sport Ireland's activities
- approval of expenditure where such expenditure in any one year is expected to be more than:
  - (a) €10,000 in the case of an individual grantee, or

(b) €100,000 in the case of an NGB or other organisation in receipt of a grant, or  
(c) €25,000 on the purchase of goods or equipment from, or in respect of the provision of professional services by, any single supplier

- approval of all capital expenditures above a threshold of €25,000
- approval of strategic priorities and the terms of the strategy, business and implementation plans prepared by Staff
- adoption of an annual budget and corporate plan
- adoption of audit and risk management policies and monitoring and reporting
- approval of annual reports and financial statements
- approval of all major contracts, leases and arrangements in excess of the limits set out in Sport Ireland's financial procedures
- approval of significant amendments to the pension benefits of the CEO and staff;
- establishing a policy on senior management remuneration in line with Government guidelines
- determining the procedures to be followed at the Board's meetings
- approval of significant acquisitions, disposals and retirement of assets of Sport Ireland and its subsidiaries above a threshold of €25,000

### ***Board & Committee Evaluation***

The annual Board Effectiveness and Evaluation Review process, which commenced in March 2018, was completed in June 2018. In 2019, the review will be conducted by an external body, in line with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The Board also formally reviews written reports from each Committee at least annually.

### ***Risk Assessment***

The Board has carried out a robust assessment of the principal risks facing Sport Ireland, including those that may cause Sport Ireland to suffer loss, damage or disadvantage, or not benefit from opportunities available or not achieve its objectives due to unwanted or uncertain internal or external events or actions. Key risks are categorized into one of the following four categories:

- *Strategic Risks*: the inability to achieve Sport Ireland's strategic objectives as set out in the Strategic Plan and also, not availing of opportunities when they arise

- *Operational Risks*: the inability to achieve Sport Ireland’s operational objectives including the inability to prevent a loss resulting from inadequate internal processes and systems
- *Financial Risks*: exposure to financial losses arising as a result of inadequate controls or the need to improve the management of Sport Ireland’s financial assets
- *Reputational and Compliance Risks*: exposure to losses arising as a result of adverse publicity, negative public image and the need to improve stakeholder relationship management. Compliance risk is the threat posed to Sport Ireland’s organisational, or reputational standing resulting from violations of laws, regulations, codes of conduct, or organisational standards of practice.

Risks are measured using two dimensions i.e. the probability of the event occurring (likelihood) and the effect on Sport Ireland should the risk materialise (impact), using the process outlined in Sport Ireland’s Risk Management Policy. In 2018 the principal risks and uncertainties affecting Sport Ireland were:

- The risk of negative impact of legacy legal and financial issues on Sport Ireland’s ability to achieve its core objectives.
- The risk that the financial and staff resources required to deliver on, oversee and control Sport Ireland's broad functions are not provided.
- The risk of a breakdown in control processes and/or project management on the development of the National Sports Campus.
- The risk of non-compliance with statutory regulations pertaining to health and safety and data protection.
- The over-reliance on external funding (Dormant Accounts) to implement the Participation strategy.

## **Sport Ireland Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities**

### **Headline Policy Actions**

- Development of a Sport Ireland annual report for 2017, which fed into the overall Sport Ireland annual reporting process
- Investment via Sport Ireland grants to athletes, LSPs, NGBs, Paralympics, Cara other agencies
- Delivery of Disability Awareness Training to Sport Ireland staff
- Support of staff in Disability NGBs and Cara
- The inclusion of actions related to sport for disabilities in the National Sports Policy 2018-2027
- The hosting of the European ParaSwimming Championships
- The support and success of ParaAthletes across a number of sports
- The development of new coach education awards by IWA-Sport and Special Olympics
- The development and launch of the Sport Inclusion Disability Charter
- A presentation to and briefing of the DTTFAS Accessibility Consultative Committee
- The co-hosting of the National Inclusion Seminar with Cara
- Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport – Accessibility Consultation Committee: Sport Ireland was represented at meetings in 2018

### **Specific Units**

The following was the work conducted by Sport Ireland Units in 2018:

#### **Coaching:**

- Continued to support the development and roll out of coach education awards in the Disability NGBs, specifically IWA-Sport and Special Olympics Ireland
- Liaised with Cara on behalf of Sport Ireland across all areas

#### **Communications**

- **Branding:** Support provided to Cara on events and Cara strategy development
- **National Inclusion Seminar:** Promoted and reported on the National Inclusion Seminar

#### **Participation – Local Sport Partnership Support**

- **Core LSP Investment:**
  - 2018 Core Grant allocated which supported SIDO positions in 20 LSPs and the SIDP.
  - 2019 Core Grant processed which will support SIDO positions in the LSP Network and the SIDP.
- **Cara Centre Investment:**
  - 2018 Core CARA centre investment processed and allocated.
- **Dormant Accounts:**
  - 2018 Dormant Account CARA centre investment allocated and administered.
  - 2018 Dormant Accounts LSP investment towards NPAP Action 49 allocated and administered.
- 2018 Sport Inclusion Seminar supported and well attended by unit staff and LSP representatives.

#### **Participation – Trails**

- Dormant Accounts Project on developing Guidelines for Accessible Trails, with IWA-Sport, readied for launch in early 2019

#### **Participation – Ethics:**

- **DSCO Meeting:** Raised awareness around the issue of Participation in Sport for People with Disabilities

#### **Participation – Anti-Doping:**

- **Testing:** Approx. 20-30 athletes with a disability are on the registered testing pool across athletics, cycling, swimming, and canoeing. Adjustments are made to the testing process to suit individual athletes
- **Education & Prevention:** Worked closely with Paralympics Ireland and IWA Sport to deliver anti-doping education workshops to both national level athletes and high performance athletes

#### **High Performance:**

- Supported the hosting of the 2018 European Para Swimming Championships
- Provided funding to Paralympics Ireland
- Provided direct athlete funding to para athletes

- Supported plans for the 2020 Paralympic Games in Tokyo
- Total Investment to para sport by the High Performance Unit: €1,762,500

**Institute:**

- Provision of services to para-athletes, performance directors and NGBs

**National Governing Bodies - Key Highlights:**

- Support of disability focused bodies under core grant scheme
- Support of disability focused bodies/events under special projects scheme
- Support of disability focused projects under Healthy Ireland and Dormant Accounts funding scheme
- Ongoing NGB Sector / CARA Liaison Person
- Ongoing Member of Sport Ireland Disability Working Group
- Member of Sport Inclusion Disability Charter Working Group
- Judge for CARA National Inclusion Awards
- Speaker at Vision Sports Ireland Inclusion Games
- Funding, Volunteer and Sport Ireland Representative – Water sport Inclusion Games
- Funding and Sport Ireland Representative - World Blind Tennis Championship
- Funding and Sport Ireland Representative - IWAS Games ( Wheelchair & Amputee)Coaching
- Total investment in NGBs: €1,995,000

**Research:**

- Work commenced on drafting a report on participation in sport and physical activity among people with disabilities using ISM data, referencing national policy documents and key informants
- The Washington Group Set of Questions were included in the Children’s Sport Participation and Physical Activity (CSPPA) study undertaken in 2018
- Involved throughout the day of the National Seminar for Inclusion on 27 November and contributed to the development of the Sports Inclusion Charter launched around the Seminar.
- Supported work of Sport Ireland Policy Implementation Group and provided material for CARA Centre on research studies on people with a disability.

## **Organisation Development and Change**

- OD Intervention with Paralympic Ireland and Irish Wheel Chair Association in relation to culture and performance.
- Special care was taken to ensure all ODC interventions were accessible and inclusive for those organisations and employees with a disability.

## **Sport Ireland National Sports Campus:**

- Services provided to people with disabilities via facilities, multi-sport camps, sport academies and Tone Zone gym

## **Human Resources**

- The Sport Ireland is compliant with equality legislation.

## **Investment 2018:**

Sport Ireland made the following investments in 2018:

- National Governing Bodies (Disability) - €1,536,000
- Women in Sport - €2,000
- Paralympics Ireland - €665,000
- Events Hosting: IPC Para Swimming - €50,000 / SOI National Games – €60,000
- International Carding Scheme: Para-Athletes - €482,000
- Local Sports Partnerships: Sports Inclusion Disability Programme - €345,715
- Dormant Accounts Funding: Sailing-Watersport Inclusion Games - €50,000 / Special Olympics Support Programme - €150,000

**APPENDIX A****Freedom of Information**

<b>Programme Area</b>	<b>Number of Requests</b>	<b>Response</b>
National Governing Body	12	Fully Granted -4 , Partially Granted - 2, Not Granted - 1, Records do not exist - 2, Non Sport Ireland Related Request - 1, Dealt with outside FOI - 2,
High Performance Unit	2	Fully Granted - 1, Partially Granted -1 Partially Granted - 2, Dealt with outside FOI - 2
Anti-doping	4	Fully Granted - 1, Partially Granted - 1 Dealt with outside FOI - 1,
Local Sports Partnerships	1	
Corporate Services	2	
<b>Total</b>	<b>21</b>	

**APPENDIX B****NGB Grants 2018**

<b>NGB</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
Angling Council of Ireland	10,000
Archery Ireland	12,000
Athletics Ireland	897,000
Badminton Ireland	320,000
Basketball Ireland	603,000
Baton Twirling Sport Association of Ireland	21,000
Bol Chumann na hÉireann	22,500
Bowling League of Ireland	28,000
Canoeing Ireland	208,000
Cricket Ireland	362,500
Croquet Association of Ireland	5,000
Cycling Ireland	305,000
GAA Handball	95,000
Confederation of Irish Golf	238,000
Gymnastics Limited	230,000
Horseshoe Pitchers Association of Ireland	5,000
Horse Sport Ireland	789,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	432,000
Irish Amateur Wrestling Association	18,000
Irish American Football Association	23,000
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	36,000
Irish Deaf Sports Association	63,000
Irish Fencing Federation	35,750
Irish Hockey Association	260,000
Irish Ice Hockey Association	3,000
Irish Judo Association	72,500
Irish Martial Arts Commission	45,000
Irish Olympic Handball Association	37,000

Irish Orienteering Association	45,000
Irish Sailing Association	323,000
Irish Squash	160,000
Irish Surfing Association	64,000
Irish Taekwondo Union	9,000
Irish Tenpin Bowling Association	27,000
Irish Tug of War Association	22,000
Irish Underwater Council	60,000
Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation	20,000
Irish Wheelchair Association	250,000
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	400,000
Motor Cycling Ireland	48,000
Motor Sport Ireland	137,000
Mountaineering Ireland	193,000
National Community Games	284,000
ONAKAI Karate Ireland	8,000
Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland	63,000
Racquetball Association of Ireland	17,000
ROI Billiards & Snooker Association	63,000
Rowing Ireland	210,000
Rugby League Ireland	15,500
Special Olympics Ireland	1,270,000
Speleological Union of Ireland	10,000
Swim Ireland	827,000
Table Tennis Ireland	107,000
Tennis Ireland	357,000
The Camogie Association	395,000
Triathlon Ireland	113,000
Vision Sport Ireland	35,000
Volleyball Ireland	185,000

Special Projects & Programmes	9,315
FAI Women's National Team	195,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,098,065</b>

**APPENDIX C****High Performance Grants 2018**

<b>NGB</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
Athletics Ireland	910,000
Badminton Union	155,000
Canoeing Ireland	40,000
Cricket Ireland	200,000
Cycling Ireland	430,000
Confederation of Golf in Ireland	450,000
Gymnastics Ireland	195,000
Hockey Ireland	1,020,000
Horse sport Ireland	705,000
Irish Rugby Football Union	270,000
Irish Taekwondo Union	60,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	765,000
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	25,000
Irish Judo Association	70,000
Irish Sailing Association	775,000
Paralympics Ireland	865,000
Pentathlon Ireland	270,000
Rowing Ireland	565,000
Snowsports Association	55,000
Swim Ireland	635,000
Tennis Ireland	175,000
Triathlon Ireland	270,000
Student Sport Ireland	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,935,000</b>

**APPENDIX D**
**INTERNATIONAL CARDING SCHEME**

<b>NGB</b>	<b>Athlete</b>	<b>Category</b>	<b>Award</b>
Athletics Ireland	Thomas Barr	Podium	€40,000
Athletics Ireland	Ciara Mageean	World Class	€20,000
Athletics Ireland	Fionnula McCormack	World Class	€20,000
Athletics Ireland	Brian Gregan	World Class	€16,000
Athletics Ireland	Mark English	World Class	€16,000
Athletics Ireland	Alex Wright	International	€12,000
Athletics Ireland	Brendan Boyce	International	€12,000
Athletics Ireland	Christine McMahon	International	€12,000
Athletics Ireland	Michelle Finn	International	€12,000
Athletics Ireland	Paul Pollock	International	€12,000
Athletics Ireland	Sara Treacy	International	€12,000
Athletics Ireland	Robert Heffernan / Programme	Podium	€40,000
<b>Transition Sport: Athletics Ireland</b>			<b>€224,000</b>
Badminton Ireland	Chloe Magee	World Class	€20,000
Badminton Ireland	Sam Magee	World Class	€20,000
Badminton Ireland	Joshua Magee	International	€12,000
Badminton Ireland (Para)	Niall McVeigh	International	€12,000
<b>Transition Sport: Badminton Ireland</b>			<b>€64,000</b>
Canoeing Ireland	Liam Jegou	International	€12,000
Canoeing Ireland (Para)	Patrick O'Leary	World Class	€20,000
Canoeing Ireland	Jennifer Egan	World Class	€20,000
Canoeing Ireland	Tom Brennan	International	€12,000
<b>Canoeing Ireland</b>			<b>€64,000</b>
Cycling Ireland	Felix English	World Class	€20,000
Cycling Ireland	Lydia Boylan	World Class	€20,000
Cycling Ireland	Lydia Gurley	World Class	€20,000
Cycling Ireland	Marc Potts	International	€12,000
Cycling Ireland	Mark Downey	World Class	€20,000
Cycling Ireland	Robyn Stewart	World Class	€20,000
Cycling Ireland	Shannon McCurley	International	€8,000
Cycling Ireland (Para)	Colin Lynch	World Class	€20,000
Cycling Ireland (Para)	Katie George Dunlevy & Eve McCrystal	Podium	€60,000
Cycling Ireland (Para)	Peter Ryan & Sean Hahessy	International	€18,000
Cycling Ireland (Para)	Ronan Grimes	International	€12,000
Cycling Ireland	Men's Under 23 Development Team	Pool Funding	€10,000
Cycling Ireland	Women's Pursuit Team	Pool Funding	€20,000
<b>Transition Sport: Cycling Ireland</b>			<b>€260,000</b>
Gymnastics Ireland	Rhys McClenaghan	Pool Funding	€25,000

Gymnastics Ireland	Andrew Smith		
		<b>Gymnastics Ireland</b>	<b>€25,000</b>
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Joe Ward	Podium	€40,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Brendan Irvine	World Class	€20,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Kurt Walker	World Class	€20,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Kellie Harrington	World Class	€20,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Sean McComb	International	€3,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Michael Nevin	International	€12,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Christina Desmond	International	€6,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Grainne Walsh	International	€12,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Kieran Molloy	International	€12,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	Michaela Walsh	International	€12,000
		<b>Irish Athletic Boxing Association</b>	<b>€157,000</b>
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	Ian O'Sullivan	World Class	€20,000
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	Aoife Gormally	International	€12,000
		<b>Irish Clay Target Shooting Association</b>	<b>€32,000</b>
Irish Sailing Association	Annalise Murphy	Podium	€40,000
Irish Sailing Association	Ryan Seaton	World Class	€20,000
Irish Sailing Association	Finn Lynch	International	€12,000
Irish Sailing Association	Aoife Hopkins	International	€12,000
Irish Sailing Association	Seafra Guilfoyle	World Class	€20,000
Irish Sailing Association	Aisling Keller	International	€12,000
Irish Sailing Association	Matthew McGovern	International	€10,000
Irish Sailing Association	Pool Funding		€15,000
		<b>Transition Sport: Irish Sailing Association</b>	<b>€141,000</b>
Irish Judo Association	Megan Fletcher	International	€12,000
Irish Judo Association	Ben Fletcher	International	€12,000
		<b>Irish Judo Association</b>	<b>€24,000</b>
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Jason Smyth	Podium	€40,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Greta Streimikyte	World Class	€20,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Michael McKillop	Podium	€40,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Niamh McCarthy	Podium	€40,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Noelle Lennihan	Podium	€40,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Orla Barry	Podium	€40,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Paul Keogan	International	€12,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Patrick Monahan	International	€12,000
Paralympics Ireland (Athletics)	Orla Comerford	International	€12,000
Paralympics Ireland (Swimming)	Ellen Keane	Podium	€40,000
Paralympics Ireland (Swimming)	Ailbhe Kelly	International	€12,000
Paralympics Ireland (Swimming)	Barry McClements	International	€12,000

Paralympics Ireland (Swimming)	Nicole Turner	World Class	€20,000
Paralympics Ireland (Swimming)	James Scully	International	€12,000
		<b>Transition Sport: Paralympics Ireland</b>	<b>€352,000</b>
Pentathlon Ireland	Kate Coleman	International	€12,000
Pentathlon Ireland	Sive Brassill	International	€12,000
Pentathlon Ireland	Natalya Coyle	World Class	€20,000
Pentathlon Ireland	Arthur Lanigan O'Keeffe	World Class	€20,000
		<b>Pentathlon Ireland</b>	<b>€64,000</b>
Rowing Ireland	Paul O'Donovan	Podium	€40,000
Rowing Ireland	Gary O'Donovan	Podium	€40,000
Rowing Ireland	Denise Walsh	World Class	€20,000
Rowing Ireland	Mark O'Donovan	World Class	€20,000
Rowing Ireland	Sanita Puspure	World Class	€20,000
Rowing Ireland	Shane O'Driscoll	World Class	€20,000
Rowing Ireland	Aifric Keogh	World Class	€20,000
Rowing Ireland	Aileen Crowley	World Class	€20,000
Rowing Ireland	Monika Dukarska	International	€12,000
Rowing Ireland	Men's Under 23 Programme	Pool Funding	€40,000
		<b>Transition Sport: Rowing Ireland</b>	<b>€252,000</b>
Swim Ireland	Oliver Dingley	World Class	€20,000
Swim Ireland	Mona McSharry	World Class	€20,000
Swim Ireland	Shane Ryan	World Class	€20,000
Swim Ireland	Conor Ferguson	World Class	€20,000
Swim Ireland	Alex Murphy	International	€12,000
Swim Ireland	Brendan Hyland	International	€12,000
Swim Ireland	Jordan Sloan	International	€12,000
Swim Ireland	Nicholas Quinn	International	€12,000
Swim Ireland	Men's Freestyle Relay	International	€12,000
Swim Ireland	Men's Medley Relay	International	€12,000
		<b>Transition Sport: Swim Ireland</b>	<b>€152,000</b>
Table Tennis Ireland (Para)	Colin Judge	World Class	€20,000
		<b>Table Tennis Ireland (Para)</b>	<b>€20,000</b>
Triathlon Ireland	Russell White	International	€12,000
		<b>Transition Sport: Triathlon Ireland</b>	<b>€12,000</b>
Irish Taekwondo Union	Jack Woolley	International	€12,000
		<b>Irish Taekwondo Union</b>	<b>€12,000</b>
<b>Team Carding</b>			
Hockey Ireland	Team Funding	Pool Funding	€45,000
		<b>Hockey Ireland</b>	<b>€45,000</b>
<b>Athlete Support</b>			
Tennis Ireland	Athlete Support		€15,000

Confederation of Golf in Ireland	Athlete Support	€2,500
Table Tennis Ireland	Athlete Support	€2,500
	<b>Athlete Support</b>	<b>€20,000.00</b>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>€1,920,000</b>

**APPENDIX E****Local Sports  
Partnership Grants  
2018**

<b>Local Sports Partnership</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
Carlow Sports Partnership	158,663
Cavan Sports Partnership	154,812
Clare Sports Partnership	233,083
Cork Sports Partnership	339,196
Donegal Sports Partnership	248,993
Dublin City Sports Partnership	232,887
Dun Laoghaire/ Rathdown Sports Partnership	187,367
Fingal Sports Partnership	158,717
Galway County Local Sports Partnership	211,300
Kerry Recreational & Sport Partnership	178,127
Kildare Sports Partnership	177,479
Kilkenny Recreation & Sports Partnership	206,779
Laois Sports Partnership	214,343
Leitrim Sports Partnership	185,795
Limerick Sports Partnership	349,926
Longford Sports Partnership	145,915
Louth Local Sports Partnership	133,776
Mayo Sports Partnership	247,151
Meath Local Sports Partnership	215,860
Monaghan Local Sports Partnership	155,799
Offaly Sports Partnership	175,477
Roscommon Sports Partnership	144,557
Sligo Sports & Recreation Partnership	257,621
South Dublin County Sports Partnership	177,712
Tipperary Sports Partnership	296,399
Waterford Sports Partnership	277,123
Westmeath Sports Partnership	45,067

Wexford Sports Partnership	156,527
Wicklow Local Sports Partnership	157,687
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,824,138</b>

**Women in Sport  
Grant 2018**

**APPENDIX F**

<b>National Governing Body/Local Sports Partnership</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
Angling Council of Ireland	4,000
Athletics Ireland	35,000
Badminton Ireland	40,000
Basketball Ireland	95,000
Bol Chumann na hEireann	2,000
Carlow Sports Partnership	2,250
Cavan Sports Partnership	2,500
Clare Sports Partnership	3,000
Confederation of Golf in Ireland	15,000
Cork Sports Partnership	5,000
Cricket Ireland	20,000
Cycling Ireland	10,000
Donegal Sports Partnership	4,000
Dublin City Sports Partnership	14,500
Fingal Sports Partnership	4,000
Football Association of Ireland	142,500
GAA Handball Ireland	8,000
Gymnastics Ireland	46,000
Hockey Ireland	35,000
Irish Deaf Sports Association	2,000
Irish Judo Association	6,000
Irish Olympic Handball Association	5,000
Irish Rugby Football Union	114,000
Irish Sailing Association	18,000
Irish Squash	10,000
Irish Surfing Association	7,000
Irish Tug of War Association	6,000

Kerry Sports Partnership	2,000
Kildare Sports Partnership	2,000
Kilkenny Recreation & Sports Partnership	5,000
Laois Sports Partnership	6,000
Leitrim Sports Partnership	3,000
Limerick Sports Partnership	5,650
Longford Sports Partnership	2,651
Mayo Sports Partnership	8,250
Meath Local Sports Partnership	6,600
Mountaineering Ireland	8,000
National Community Games	20,000
Offaly Sports Partnership	1,700
Rowing Ireland	45,000
Sligo Sports & Recreation Partnership	20,350
Swim Ireland	65,000
Table Tennis Ireland	25,000
Tennis Ireland	10,000
Tipperary Sports Partnership	11,500
Triathlon Ireland	15,000
Volleyball Ireland	48,000
Wexford Sports Partnership	2,500
Wicklow Local Sports Partnership	2,549
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>971,500</b>

**APPENDIX G****Youth Field Sport  
Grant 2018**

<b>National Governing Body</b>	<b>Amount €</b>
Football Association of Ireland	2,587,910
Gaelic Athletic Association	3,238,653
Irish Rugby Football Union	2,250,843
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>8,077,406</b>

## Appendix H

### Growth in Grant Expenditure / Analysis of Grants 2013-2018

Grants	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	Total
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000
International Carding Scheme	1,554	1,548	1,788	1,767	1,920	8,577
National Governing Bodies of Sport	10,772	10,859	10,813	11,236	11,098	54,778
Federation of Irish Sport	100	100	100	100	100	500
Local Sports Partnerships	4,878	4,993	5,431	5,757	5,824	26,883
Youth Field Sports	7,226	7,225	7,226	7,226	8,077	36,980
Gaelic Players Association	900	900	900	1,600	2,300	6,600
Women's Gaelic Players Association	0	0	0	500	500	1,000
Older People and Sport	608	608	608	608	608	3,039
Irish Special Schools Sport	25	25	25	25	25	125
Student Sport Ireland	50	50	50	50	50	250
Recreational Sports	50	40	-	-	-	90
Paralympics Ireland	498	325	615	375	398	2,211
Olympic Federation of Ireland	451	354	520	277	475	2,077
Team Ireland Golf Trust	170	200	200	200	200	970
Morton Stadium Grant	150	150	150	150	150	750
Grants under High Performance	7,498	6,556	7,301	7,306	8,935	37,596
Performance Review Grant	-	-	103	-	-	103
University of Limerick- 50 Metre Pool	300	300	300	300	300	1,500
Women's Participation in Sport	953	971	971	972	972	4,838
Sport Ireland Institute PEP Grants	15	8	-	-	-	23
Cycle Series	90	115	115	0	4	324

Get Ireland Active	-	80	-	-	-	80
Bike4Life	-	-	15	-	-	15
Opeartion Transformation	-	32	-	17	-	49
Great Dublin Bike Ride	-	247	218	117	115	697
Campus Capital Grants	650	650	676	650	871	3,497
Sports Partnership Grants	433	517	25	0	475	1,450
Campus NAC Operational Grant	950	1,200	1,320	2,095	2,095	7,660
Irish Open	1,200		250	0	1,250	2,700
<b>Total:</b>	<b>39,521</b>	<b>38,053</b>	<b>39,719</b>	<b>41,327</b>	<b>46,742</b>	<b>243,237</b>

## Appendix I – Anti-Doping Testing Figures

National Governing Body	Comp	OOC	Blood	Total
Athletics Ireland	20	73	71	164
Badminton Ireland	4	0	0	4
Basketball Ireland	4	0	0	4
Canoeing Ireland	0	12	6	18
Cycling Ireland	28	76	75	179
Football Association of Ireland	24	18	0	42
Gaelic Athletic Association	40	76	23	139
Gymnastics Ireland	4	5	1	10
Hockey Ireland	0	6	0	6
Horse Sport Ireland	11	12	4	27
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	4	39	18	61
Irish Judo Association	0	5	1	6
Irish Martial Arts Commission	4	0	0	4
Irish Rugby Football Union	4	102	72	178
Irish Sailing Association	0	6	1	7
Irish Squash	2	0	0	2
Irish Taekwondo Union	0	3	1	4
Irish Tug Of War Association	4	0	0	4
Irish Wheelchair Association Sport	0	3	2	5
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	6	0	0	6
Motor Cycling Ireland	12	0	0	12
Motorsport Ireland	16	0	0	16
Paralympics Ireland	0	43	14	57
Rowing Ireland	6	31	13	50
Snow Sports Association of Ireland	0	4	0	4
Swim Ireland	8	39	30	77
Triathlon Ireland	8	9	5	22
Weightlifting Ireland	4	0	0	4
Total	213	562	337	1112

## Appendix J – User-Pays Testing

<b>National Governing Body</b>	<b>Comp</b>	<b>OOC</b>	<b>Blood</b>	<b>Total</b>
Athletics Ireland	10	0	0	10
European Professional Club Rugby	32	0	0	32
International Association of Athletics Federation	5	3	3	11
International Committee of Sports for the Deaf	4	0	0	4
International Cricket Council	4	0	0	4
International Golf Federation	10	10	0	20
International Paralympic Committee	40	0	4	44
Irish Rugby Football Union	36	0	0	36
Irish Water Safety	6	0	0	6
Six Nations	24	0	0	24
United States Anti-Doping Agency	0	6	1	7
World Rugby	0	29	5	34
Total	171	48	13	232

## Appendix K – Anti-Doping Rule Violations

2018

<b>Sport</b>	<b>In/OOCT</b>	<b>Rule violated</b>	<b>Substance</b>	<b>Substance category</b>	<b>Sanction</b>
Boxing	In Competition	IADR 2.1	carboxy-THC (tetrahydrocannabinol)	S8. Cannabinoids	4 months

IADR 2.1 Presence of a *Prohibited Substance* or its *Metabolites* or *Markers* in an *Athlete's Sample*

# **Sport Ireland**

## **FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**For the year 1 January 2018 to 31 December 2018**

<b><i>Contents</i></b>	<b><i>Page</i></b>
Governance Statement and Board Members' Report	3-9
Statement on Internal Control	10-12
Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General	13-14
Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	15
Statement of Comprehensive Income	16
Statement of Financial Position	17
Statement of Cash Flows	18
Notes to the Financial Statements	19-39

## **Sport Ireland**

### **Governance Statement and Board Members' Report**

For the year ended 31 December 2018

#### **Governance**

The Board of Sport Ireland was established on a statutory basis on the 1st October 2015 pursuant to the Sport Ireland Act 2015. The functions of the Board are set out in section 8 of this Act. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport and is responsible for ensuring good governance and performs this task by setting strategic objectives and targets, and by taking strategic decisions on all key business issues. The regular day-to-day management, control and direction of Sport Ireland are the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the senior management team. The CEO and the senior management team must follow the broad strategic direction set by the Board, and must ensure that all Board members have a clear understanding of the key activities and decisions related to the entity, and of any significant risks likely to arise. The CEO acts as a direct liaison between the Board and the management of Sport Ireland.

#### **Board Responsibilities**

The work and responsibilities of the Board are set out in the Sport Ireland Code of Governance and Business Conduct, which also contains details of the matters specifically reserved for Board decision.

Standing items considered by the Board include:

- disclosure of interests,
- reports from committees,
- financial reports/ management accounts,
- performance reports, and
- reserved functions.

Section 16 of the Sport Ireland Act 2015 requires the Board of Sport Ireland to keep, in such form as may be approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport with consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received and expended by it.

In preparing these financial statements, the Board of Sport Ireland is required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently,
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent,
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that it will continue in operation, and
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.

The Board is responsible for keeping adequate accounting records which disclose, with reasonable accuracy at any time, its financial position and enables them to ensure that the financial statements comply with section 16 of the Sport Ireland Act 2015. The maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information on Sport Ireland's website is the responsibility of the Board.

The Board is responsible for approving the annual plan and budget. An evaluation of the performance of Sport Ireland by reference to the annual plan and budget is carried out by the Board on an ongoing basis with a formal budgetary review being completed at the September 2018 Board meeting.

The Board is also responsible for safeguarding its assets and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Board considers that the financial statements of Sport Ireland give a true and fair view of the financial performance and the financial position of Sport Ireland at 31 December 2018.

### **Board Structure**

The Board consists of a Chairperson and twelve ordinary members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport for terms of between three to five years.

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Date Appointed</b>
Kieran Mulvey	Chairperson	1 October 2015
John Maughan	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Liam Sheedy	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Roy Dooney	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Mary Dorgan	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Caroline Murphy	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Sean Benton	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Patrick O'Connor	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Frances Kavanagh	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Bernard Allen	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Lynne Cantwell	Ordinary Member	19 October 2018
Gary Ryan	Ordinary Member	19 October 2018
Olive Loughnane	Ordinary Member	10 August 2018
Roger O'Connor	Ordinary Member	10 August 2018
Padraic Moran	Ordinary Member	10 August 2018

There was an annual Board Effectiveness and Evaluation Review process which commenced in March 2018 and was completed and reviewed by the Board at the June 2018 meeting.

The Board has established 8 Committees, 1 Steering Group and 1 Advisory Group which are as follows:

1. **Audit and Risk Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of three Board members and two independent members. The role of the Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) is to support the Board in relation to its responsibilities for issues of risk, control and governance and associated assurance. The ARC is independent from the financial management of the organisation. In particular, the Committee ensures that the internal control systems including audit activities are monitored actively and independently. The ARC reports to the Board periodically as required and formally in writing

annually.

The Audit & Risk Committee consists of Mary Dorgan (Chairperson), Roger O'Connor, Frances Kavanagh, Bernard Allen, Walter Johnston. There were four meetings of the ARC in 2018.

2. **Anti-Doping Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of three Board members and six independent members. The role of this Committee is to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to the performance of its functions under section 8 (1)(d) to (g) of the Sport Ireland Act 2015, including:

- To provide assistance and advice to Sport Ireland on policy formulation relating to the three strands of testing, education and research as required under the terms of the Council of Europe Anti-Doping Convention, 1989 and UNESCO's International Convention against Doping in Sport and the World Anti-Doping Code.
- to provide assistance and advice to Sport Ireland's staff on policy execution.

The members of this Committee are Caroline Murphy (Acting Chairperson), Bernard Allen, Pat O'Connor, Brendan Buckley, Bill Cuddihy, Joan Gilvarry, Pat Guiry, Wendy Henderson, Ruth Wood Martin. There were three meetings of this Committee in 2018.

3. **High Performance Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of five Board members and five independent members. The role of the High Performance Committee is to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to the performance of its functions under Section 8(1) of the Sport Ireland Act 2015, relevant to the achievement of excellence in competitive sport.

The members of this Committee are Liam Sheedy (Acting Chairperson), Roy Dooney, Olive Loughnane, Lynne Cantwell, Gary Ryan, Peter Sherrard, Miriam Malone, Peter McCabe, Mike Heskin, Joy Neville. There were four meetings of this Committee in 2018.

4. **Coaching Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises three Board members and four independent members. The purpose of the Coaching Committee is to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to its functions under Section 8(1) of the Sport Ireland Act 2015, relating to the development of coaching and coaches. The members of this Committee are John Maughan (Acting Chairperson), Padraic Moran, Pat O'Connor, Mary O'Connor, Matthew Wilkie, Ruud Dokter, Alan Curran. There were three meetings of this Committee in 2018.

5. **National Sports Campus Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of three Board members and two independent members. The purpose of the National Sports Campus Committee is to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to its functions relating to the development of a Sport Ireland National Sports Campus on the site, in accordance with paragraph 6(4)(a) of Schedule 1 of the Sport Ireland Act 2015. The members of this Committee are Pat O'Connor (Acting Chairperson), Roy Dooney, John Maughan, Ciaran McGivern and Sean Benton. There were five meetings of this Committee in 2018.

6. **National Governing Bodies Grants Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of four Board members. The role of the NGB Grants Committee is to consider and recommend NGB grants on an annual basis.

The members of this Committee are Bernard Allen (Chairperson), John Maughan, Mary Dorgan and Caroline Murphy. There were two meetings of this Committee in 2018.
7. **Eligibility Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of two Board members and two independent members. The role of this Committee is to make recommendations to the Board as to whether organisations applying for grants satisfy eligibility criteria. The members of this Committee are Kieran Mulvey (Chairperson), Mary Dorgan, Frances Kavanagh and Jerry O'Dwyer. There was one meeting of this Committee in 2018.
8. **Research & Participation Committee:** As of year end, this Committee comprises of two Board members and two independent members. The role of the Research Committee is to oversee Sport Ireland's research programme and to report to the Board on matters relating to the programme. The participation function of the Committee is to provide advice and guidance to the Sport Ireland Board and Executive regarding the development and monitoring of a Participation Plan for sport and physical activity, under the Sport Ireland Strategy.

The members of this Committee are Olive Loughnane (Chairperson), Gary Ryan, Sheila O'Flanagan and Frances Kavanagh. There were two meetings of this Committee in 2018.
9. **Steering Group to Oversee Government Support for Ladies Football & Camogie:** As of year end, this Steering Group comprises of one Board member and four independent members. The purpose of this Group is to agree the details of the two-year scheme (2017/18) 'Government Support for Ladies Football and Camogie', to support the programmes included in the joint proposal from the Camogie Association, the Ladies Gaelic Football Association (LGFA), and the Women's Gaelic Players Association (WGPA).

The members of this Group are John Maughan (Chairperson), James Lavelle, Helen O'Rourke, Louise Conlon, Aoife Lane. There were two meetings of this Group in 2018.
10. **Women in Sport Advisory Group:** As of year end, this Advisory Group comprises of one Board member and three independent members. The role of this Group is to provide strategic and practical advice, with the support of the appointed Service Providers, to enhance the delivery, recognition, promotion and development of participation and leadership opportunities for women. The members of this Group are Frances Kavanagh (Chairperson), Mary Dorgan, Sean Benton and Sarah Keane.

#### **Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses**

There were nine Board meetings during 2018. A schedule of attendance at the Board and Committee meetings for 2018 is set out below including the fees and expenses received by each member:

<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Board Meetings Attended</b>	<b>Audit &amp; Risk Committee</b>	<b>Anti- Doping Committee</b>	<b>High Performance Committee</b>	<b>Coaching Committee</b>	<b>National Sports Campus Committee</b>	<b>NGB Grants Committee</b>	<b>Eligibility Committee</b>	<b>Research Committee</b>	<b>Steering Group to Oversee Government Support for Ladies Football &amp; Camogie</b>	<b>Women in Sport Advisory Group</b>	<b>Board Members Emoluments Year ended 31 December 2018</b>	<b>Vouched Expenses 31 December 2018</b>
												€	€
Kieran Mulvey	9											11,970	3,152
John Maughan	9				2	5	2			2		-	5,767
Liam Sheedy	6			3								7,695	1,532
Roy Dooney	9			4		3						-	346
Mary Dorgan	8	4					1	1			4	7,695	3,822
Caroline Murphy	7		3						1			1,924	-
Sean Benton	6				3	3					4	5,772	1,708
Patrick O'Connor	8		2			5	2					7,695	4,842
Frances Kavanagh	5	4					1	1	2		4	5,772	3,843
Bernard Allen	9		2				2					7,695	6,380
Lynne Cantwell	2											1,924	277
Gary Ryan	2											-	-
Olive Loughnane	3			1								-	-
Roger O'Connor	4	1										3,207	285
Padraic Moran	3											3,207	-
<b>Total</b>												<b>64,556</b>	<b>31,954</b>

Under the One Person One Salary (OPOS) principle Roy Dooney, John Maughan, Olive Loughnan and Gary Ryan did not receive a Board fee in 2018. The OPOS principle also applied to Caroline Murrphy from Q2.

### Key Personnel Changes

Olive Loughnane, Roger O'Connor and Padraic Moran were appointed to the Board on the 10<sup>th</sup> August 2018. Sean Benton and Frances Kavanagh's terms expired on the 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018. Gary Ryan and Lynne Cantwell were both appointed to the Board on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018. Liam Sheedy and Mary Dorgan were both re-appointed to the Board on the 19<sup>th</sup> October 2018.

### Disclosures Required by Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016)

The Board is responsible for ensuring that Sport Ireland has complied with the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies ("the Code"), as published by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in August 2016. The following disclosures are required by the Code:

### Employee Short-Term Benefits Breakdown

Employees' short-term benefits in excess of €60,000 are categorised into the following bands:

Annual Salary Bands at the end of the year	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
60,000-69,999	3	2
70,000-79,999	1	2
80,000-89,999	4	4
90,000-99,999	2	1
100,000-109,999	-	-
110,000-119,999	-	-
120,000-129,999	-	1
130,000-139,999	1	-

Note: For the purposes of this disclosure, short-term employee benefits in relation to services rendered during the year include salary, overtime allowances and other payments made on behalf of the employee, but exclude employer's PRSI.

### Consultancy Costs

Consultancy costs include the cost of external advice to management and exclude outsourced 'business-as-usual' functions.

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Legal Advice	339,133	264,713
Technical advice	462,784	410,828
Financial/Actuarial advice	3,014	3,014
Human Resources	9,041	10,824
Business improvement	5,515	72,067
Other	20,384	8,610
<b>Total Consultancy Cost</b>	<b>839,871</b>	<b>770,056</b>
Consultancy Costs Capitalised	493,610	410,828
Consultancy Costs charged to the Income & Expenditure	346,261	359,228
<b>Total Consultancy Cost</b>	<b>839,871</b>	<b>770,056</b>

### Legal Costs and Settlements

The table below provides a breakdown of amounts recognised as expenditure in the year in relation to legal costs, settlements, conciliation and arbitration proceedings relating to contracts with third parties. This does not include expenditure incurred in relation to general legal advice received by Sport Ireland which is disclosed in Consultancy costs above.

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Legal Fees – Legal Proceedings	84,279	552,083
Conciliation and Arbitration Payments	-	139,869
Settlements	-	-
<b>Total Legal Cost</b>	<b>84,279</b>	<b>691,952</b>

Legal fees specifically relate to costs incurred in relation to the legacy legal case taken against the National Sports Campus Development Authority (NSCDA now dissolved) by Dublin Waterworld Limited. These proceedings were continued with the substitution in the proceedings of Sport Ireland in so far as they relate to the NSCDA from 2015. The High Court ruled in favour of Sport Ireland in 2017, however the Court has, as yet, not made an award of costs in the case pending the outcome of the appeal which is expected in 2019.

### Travel and Subsistence Expenditure

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Domestic		
- Board	40,082	33,921
- Employees	132,864	176,869
International		
- Board	897	908
- Employees	50,967	47,285
<b>Total Travel Cost</b>	<b>224,810</b>	<b>258,983</b>

### Hospitality Expenditure

The Income and Expenditure Account includes the following hospitality expenditure:

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Staff hospitality	591	1,441
Client hospitality	-	-
<b>Total Hospitality</b>	<b>591</b>	<b>1,441</b>

### Statement of Compliance

The Board has adopted the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) and has put procedures in place to ensure compliance with the Code. Sport Ireland was in full compliance with the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies for year ended 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kieran Mulvey,  
Chairman

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

\_\_\_\_\_  
John Treacy,  
Chief Executive Officer

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

## **Sport Ireland**

### **Statement on Internal Control**

#### **Scope of Responsibility**

On behalf of Sport Ireland I acknowledge the Board's responsibility for ensuring that an effective system of internal control is maintained and operated. This responsibility takes account of the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016).

#### **Purpose of the System of Internal Control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a tolerable level rather than to eliminate it. The system can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or detected in a timely way.

The system of internal control, which accords with guidance issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform has been in place in Sport Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2018 and up to the date of approval of the financial statements.

#### **Capacity to Handle Risk**

Sport Ireland has an Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) comprising three Board members (as of year-end) and two external members, with financial and audit expertise, one of whom is the Chair. The ARC met four times in 2018.

Sport Ireland has also established an internal audit function which is adequately resourced and conducts a programme of work agreed with the ARC.

The ARC has developed a risk management policy which sets out its risk appetite, the risk management processes in place and details the roles and responsibilities of staff in relation to risk. The policy has been issued to all staff who are expected to work within Sport Ireland's risk management policies, to alert management on emerging risks and control weaknesses and assume responsibility for risks and controls within their own area of work.

#### **Risk and Control Framework**

Sport Ireland has implemented a risk management system which identifies and reports key risks and the management actions being taken to address and, to the extent possible, to mitigate those risks.

A risk register is in place which identifies the key risks facing Sport Ireland and these have been identified, evaluated and graded according to their significance. The Unit and Corporate Risk Registers are reviewed by the ARC on an ongoing basis.

The risk register details the controls and actions needed to mitigate risks and responsibility for operation of controls assigned to specific staff. I confirm that a control environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at management level with corresponding accountability,
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual budget which is kept under review by senior management,
- there are systems aimed at ensuring the security of the information and communication technology systems,
- there are systems in place to safeguard the assets, and
- control procedures over grant funding to outside agencies ensure adequate control over approval of grants and monitoring and review of grantees to ensure grant funding has been applied for the purpose intended.

### **Sport Ireland Facilities DAC Oversight function**

As part of the ongoing oversight of the Sport Ireland Facilities DAC, the Chief Operations Officer reports to the Board of Sport Ireland at every Board meeting with regard to the performance of the campus facilities and any other material issues. Campus facilities activity reports are also examined at every Sport Ireland Facilities DAC Committee meeting.

The draft annual financial statements of the subsidiary are also reviewed by the Sport Ireland Audit & Risk Committee prior to submission to the Sport Ireland Board for approval each year.

### **Ongoing Monitoring and Review**

Formal procedures have been established for monitoring control processes and control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Board, where relevant, in a timely way. I confirm that the following ongoing monitoring systems are in place:

- key risks and related controls have been identified and processes have been put in place to monitor the operation of those key controls and report any identified deficiencies,
- reporting arrangements have been established at all levels where responsibility for financial management has been assigned, and
- there are regular reviews by senior management of periodic and annual performance and financial reports which indicate performance against budgets/forecasts.

**Procurement**

I confirm that Sport Ireland has procedures in place to ensure compliance with current procurement rules and guidelines and that during 2018 Sport Ireland complied with those procedures.

**Review of Effectiveness**

I confirm that Sport Ireland has procedures to monitor the effectiveness of its risk management and control procedures. Sport Ireland's monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the system of internal control is informed by the work of the internal and external auditors, the Audit and Risk Committee which oversees their work, and the senior management within Sport Ireland responsible for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

I confirm that the Board conducted an annual review of the effectiveness of the internal controls for 2018.

**Internal Control Issues**

No weaknesses in internal control were identified in relation to 2018 that require disclosure in the financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:



---

Kieran Mulvey,  
Chairman

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019



## Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

### Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

#### Sport Ireland

#### Opinion on financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of Sport Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2018 as required under the provisions of section 16 of the Sport Ireland Act 2015. The financial statements comprise

- the statement of income and expenditure and retained revenue reserves
- the statement of comprehensive income
- the statement of financial position
- the statement of cash flows and
- the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In my opinion, the financial statements give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of Sport Ireland at 31 December 2018 and of its income and expenditure for 2018 in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 — *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and the Republic of Ireland*.

#### *Basis of opinion*

I conducted my audit of the financial statements in accordance with the International Standards on Auditing (ISAs) as promulgated by the International Organisation of Supreme Audit Institutions. My responsibilities under those standards are described in the appendix to this report. I am independent of Sport Ireland and have fulfilled my other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the standards.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

#### Report on information other than the financial statements, and on other matters

Sport Ireland has presented certain other information together with the financial statements. This comprises the annual report including the governance statement and Board members' report and the statement on internal control. My responsibilities to report in relation to such information, and on certain other matters upon which I report by exception, are described in the appendix to this report.

I have nothing to report in that regard.

**Seamus McCarthy**  
Comptroller and Auditor General

19 December 2019

## Appendix to the report

### Responsibilities of Board members

As detailed in the governance statement and Board members' report, the Board members are responsible for

- the preparation of financial statements in the form prescribed under section 16 of the Sport Ireland Act 2015
- ensuring that the financial statements give a true and fair view in accordance with FRS102
- ensuring the regularity of transactions
- assessing whether the use of the going concern basis of accounting is appropriate, and
- such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Responsibilities of the Comptroller and Auditor General

I am required under section 16 of the Sport Ireland Act 2015 to audit the financial statements of Sport Ireland and to report thereon to the Houses of the Oireachtas.

My objective in carrying out the audit is to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement due to fraud or error. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with the ISAs will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with the ISAs, I exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. In doing so,

- I identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements whether due to fraud or error; design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks; and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- I obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the internal controls.
- I evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures.

- I conclude on the appropriateness of the use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, on whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on Sport Ireland's ability to continue as a going concern. If I conclude that a material uncertainty exists, I am required to draw attention in my report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify my opinion. My conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my report. However, future events or conditions may cause Sport Ireland to cease to continue as a going concern.
- I evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that I identify during my audit.

#### *Information other than the financial statements*

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information presented with those statements, and I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with my audit of the financial statements, I am required under the ISAs to read the other information presented and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or with knowledge obtained during the audit, or if it otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

#### *Reporting on other matters*

My audit is conducted by reference to the special considerations which attach to State bodies in relation to their management and operation. I report if I identify material matters relating to the manner in which public business has been conducted.

I seek to obtain evidence about the regularity of financial transactions in the course of audit. I report if I identify any material instance where public money has not been applied for the purposes intended or where transactions did not conform to the authorities governing them.

I also report by exception if, in my opinion,

- I have not received all the information and explanations I required for my audit, or
- the accounting records were not sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited, or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records.

**Sport Ireland**  
**STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND RETAINED REVENUE RESERVES**  
*For the year ended 31 December 2018*

	Notes	31 December 2018 €	31 December 2017 €
<b>Income</b>			
Oireachtas Grants	2	77,531,491	61,625,757
Dormant Account Grants	2	5,000,000	4,550,810
Own Resources	3	741,917	845,959
Net Deferred Pension Funding	10c	803,000	701,000
Other Income	4	266,392	280,568
Transfer from/(to) the Capital Reserve	9	(16,214,564)	(5,015,557)
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>68,128,236</b>	<b>62,988,537</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Current Grants Payable	5a	46,741,700	41,326,835
Dormant Account Grants	5b	4,510,936	4,469,384
Healthy Ireland Grants	5c	699,246	609,769
Other Programmes	6	5,606,966	6,013,603
Administration	7	605,258	624,683
Staff Costs	8	3,881,290	3,736,391
Retirement benefit costs	10a	694,000	616,000
Depreciation	11	4,377,496	4,327,092
<b>Total Expenditure</b>		<b>67,116,892</b>	<b>61,723,757</b>
<b>Surplus / (Deficit) for the year</b>		<b>1,011,344</b>	<b>1,264,780</b>
Balance Brought Forward at 1 January		1,534,989	270,209
<b>Balance Carried Forward at 31 December</b>		<b>2,546,333</b>	<b>1,534,989</b>

All income and expenditure for the year relates to continuing activities at the Statement of Financial Position date.

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:



Kieran Mulvey,  
Chairman  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019



John Treacy,  
Chief Executive Officer  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Sport Ireland**  
**STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME**  
*For the year ended 31 December 2018*

		Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	Notes	€	€
<b>(Deficit)/Surplus before appropriations</b>		<b>1,011,344</b>	<b>1,264,780</b>
Experience (loss)/gains on retirement benefit	10b	(769,000)	(540,000)
Change in assumptions underlying the present value of retirement benefit obligations	10b	356,000	(208,000)
<b>Total actuarial (loss)/gain in the year</b>		<b>(413,000)</b>	<b>(748,000)</b>
Adjustment to deferred retirement benefits funding		413,000	748,000
<b>Other Comprehensive Income for the year</b>		<b>1,011,344</b>	<b>1,264,780</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:



\_\_\_\_\_  
Kieran Mulvey,  
Chairman  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019



\_\_\_\_\_  
John Treacy,  
Chief Executive Officer  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Sport Ireland**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
*For the year ended 31 December 2018*

	Notes	Year ended 31 December 2018 €	Year ended 31 December 2017 €
<b>Fixed Assets</b>			
Property, Plant & Equipment	12	151,632,943	135,418,379
Financial Assets	13	1	1
<b>Total Fixed Assets</b>		<b>151,632,944</b>	<b>135,418,380</b>
<b>Current Assets</b>			
Receivables	14	693,659	548,119
Cash and cash equivalents		3,777,508	4,745,387
		<b>4,471,167</b>	<b>5,293,506</b>
<b>Current Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)</b>			
Payables	15	(1,924,835)	(3,758,518)
<b>Net Current (Liabilities)/Assets</b>		<b>2,546,332</b>	<b>1,534,988</b>
<b>Retirement Benefits</b>			
Retirement benefit obligations	10d	(14,485,000)	(13,389,000)
Deferred retirement benefit funding asset	10b	14,485,000	13,389,000
<b>Total Net Assets</b>		<b>154,179,276</b>	<b>136,953,368</b>
<b>Representing</b>			
Capital Account	9	151,632,943	135,418,379
Retained revenue reserves		2,546,333	1,534,989
<b>Equity</b>		<b>154,179,276</b>	<b>136,953,368</b>

The Statement of Cash Flows and notes 1 to 21 form part of these financial statements.

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:



Kieran Mulvey,  
Chairman  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019



John Treacy,  
Chief Executive Officer  
Date: 10<sup>th</sup> December 2019

**Sport Ireland**  
**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
*For the year ended 31 December 2018*

		Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	Notes	€	€
<b>Reconciliation of Net Operating Surplus</b>			
Operating (Deficit)/Surplus		1,011,344	1,264,780
Loss/(Gain) on Disposal of Tangible Fixed Assets		242	-
Depreciation	11	4,377,496	4,327,092
Bank Interest Received	4	-	(2,542)
Taxation Paid		-	-
Transfer (from) Capital Reserve	9	(4,377,496)	(4,327,092)
(Increase)/Decrease in Receivables	14	(145,540)	(76,224)
Increase/(Decrease) in Payables	15	(1,833,683)	138,894
		<b>(967,637)</b>	<b>1,324,908</b>
<b>Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities</b>			
<b>Cash Flow Statement</b>			
<b>Net Cash Inflows from Operating Activities</b>		<b>(967,637)</b>	<b>1,324,908</b>
<b>Returns on Investments and servicing of finance</b>			
Bank Interest	4	-	2,542
<b>Capital Expenditure</b>			
Payments to acquire Fixed assets		(20,592,302)	(9,342,649)
Receipts from disposal of Fixed Assets		(242)	-
<b>Net Cash Flows from Capital Expenditure</b>		<b>(20,592,544)</b>	<b>(9,342,649)</b>
<b>Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>			
Capital Grants		<b>20,592,302</b>	<b>9,342,649</b>
<b>Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities</b>		<b>20,592,302</b>	<b>9,342,649</b>
<b>(Decrease)/Increase in Cash</b>		<b>(967,879)</b>	<b>1,327,450</b>
<b>Movement in net funds for the year</b>		<b>(967,879)</b>	<b>1,327,450</b>
Cash at Bank 1 January		4,745,387	3,417,937
<b>Cash at Bank 31 December</b>		<b>3,777,508</b>	<b>4,745,387</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 1. Accounting Policies

The basis of accounting and significant accounting policies adopted by Sport Ireland are set out below. They have all been applied consistently throughout the year.

#### a) General Information

Sport Ireland's primary objectives as set out in Part II of the Sport Ireland Act 2015 are as follows:

- To encourage the promotion, development and co-ordination of competitive sport and the achievement of excellence in competitive sport;
- To develop strategies for increasing participation in recreational sport and to co-ordinate their implementation by all bodies (including public authorities and publicly funded bodies) involved in promoting recreational sport and providing recreational facilities;
- To take such action as is considered appropriate, including testing, to combat doping in sport;
- Where the Board considered it appropriate to do so, to initiate and encourage research concerning either or both competitive sport and recreational sport;
- Where the Board considered it appropriate to do so, to facilitate research and disseminate information concerning either or both competitive sport and recreational sport;
- To develop, promote, operate and maintain Sport Ireland National Sports Campus;

Sport Ireland is a Public Benefit Entity (PBE).

#### b) Statement of Compliance

The financial statements of Sport Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2018 have been prepared in accordance with generally accepted accounting practice including FRS 102, the financial reporting standard applicable in the UK and Ireland issued by the Financial Reporting Council (FRC), as promulgated by Chartered Accountants Ireland.

#### c) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, except for certain assets and liabilities that are measured at fair values as explained in the accounting policies below. The financial statements are in the form approved by the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport with the concurrence of the Minister for Public Expenditure and Reform under the Sport Ireland Act 2015.

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to Sport Ireland's financial statements.

#### d) Consolidated Financial Statements

Sport Ireland Facilities DAC is wholly owned by Sport Ireland and operates and maintains the facilities on the sport campus.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

Sport Ireland is exempt from the requirement to present the annual financial statements as consolidated with the subsidiary. Under Section 9 (g) of FRS102 this is not required under the statutory framework or as part of the format agreed with the Minister for Transport, Tourism and Sport.

The financial statements of Sport Ireland Facilities DAC are presented separately. Further information in respect of the subsidiary is given in Note 13 to the financial statements.

### e) Revenue

#### Oireachtas Grants

Oireachtas grants are generally recognised on a cash basis with the exception of unspent capital grants provided for specific purposes which are deferred and recognised in the year the expenditure is incurred.

#### Refunds of grants paid

Grants paid become refundable in certain circumstances, such as liquidation/dissolution of the recipient company, or if the conditions of the grant are not met. Grant refunds are recognised when it is probable that the money will be received by Sport Ireland and the amount can be estimated reliably; therefore they are accounted for on an accruals basis. There were no Grant refunds in 2018.

#### Interest income

Interest income is recognised on an accruals basis.

#### Other Revenue

Other revenue is recognised on an accruals basis.

### f) Grants Paid

Grants are paid to grantee organisations based on the Sport Ireland funding application process which commences in Quarter 3 each year. Grantee organisations have been made aware of the reporting requirements under circular 13/2014, Management of and Accountability for Grants from Exchequer Funds and Sport Ireland reviews all grantee bodies financial statements to ensure compliance in this regard.

### g) Property, Plant and Equipment

Property, Plant and Equipment are stated at cost less accumulated depreciation, adjusted for any provision for impairment. Depreciation is provided on all property, plant and equipment, at rates estimated to write off the cost less the estimated residual value of each asset on a straight line basis over their estimated useful lives, as follows:

NAC & Campus Facilities	2%	per annum
Campus Facilities (30 Years lifecycle)	3.33%	per annum
Campus Facilities (10 Years lifecycle)	10%	per annum
Campus Facilities (5 Years lifecycle)	20%	per annum
Infrastructure, Master Planning & Design	15%	per annum
Campus Capital Projects Strategy	100%	per annum

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

Land & Buildings (50 Years lifecycle)	2%	per annum
Buildings (30 Years lifecycle)	3.33%	per annum
Office Fit out /Fixtures & Fittings	20%	per annum
Computers & IT Equipment	33.33%	per annum
Motor Vehicles	20%	per annum

Land on Sport Ireland National Sports Campus, Abbotstown House and any assets that are under construction are not depreciated. Once projects under construction are completed relevant depreciation rates are applied.

Residual value represents the estimated amount which would currently be obtained from disposal of an asset, after deducting estimated costs of disposal, if the asset were already of an age and in the condition expected at the end of its useful life.

If there is objective evidence of impairment of the value of an asset, an impairment loss is recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves in the year.

### **h) Financial assets**

#### Other Financial Assets

Sport Ireland Facilities DAC is wholly owned by Sport Ireland and its share capital represents one ordinary share of one Euro par value. Sport Ireland Facilities DAC operates and maintains the facilities on the sports campus.

### **i) Receivables**

Receivables are recognised at fair value, less a provision for doubtful debts. The provision for doubtful debts is a specific provision, and is established when there is objective evidence that Sport Ireland will not be able to collect all amounts owed to it. All movements in the provision for doubtful debts are recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves.

### **j) Payables**

Payables are initially recognised at fair value. Payables are classified as current if payable within one year or less. If not, they are presented as non-current liabilities.

### **k) Employee Benefits**

#### Short-term Benefits

Short term benefits such as holiday pay are recognised as an expense in the year, and benefits that are accrued at year-end are included in the Payables figure in the Statement of Financial Position.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### Retirement Benefits

Sport Ireland operates a defined benefit pension scheme, funded annually on a pay-as-you-go basis from monies provided by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and from contributions deducted from staff and members' salaries. Sport Ireland also operates the Single Public Services Pension Scheme ("Single Scheme"), which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1 January 2013. All single scheme employee contributions are transferred to Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees, and are shown net of staff pension contributions which are remitted to the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport. An amount corresponding to the pension charge is recognised as income to the extent that it is recoverable, and offset by grants received in the year to discharge pension payments.

Actuarial gains or losses arising on scheme liabilities are reflected in the Statement of Comprehensive Income, and a corresponding adjustment is recognised in the amount recoverable from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport.

The financial statements reflect, at fair value, the assets and liabilities arising from Sport Ireland's pension obligations and any related funding, and recognises the costs of providing pension benefits in the accounting periods in which they are earned by employees. Retirement benefit scheme liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method.

### **I) Critical Accounting Judgements and Estimates**

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the amounts reported for assets and liabilities as at the Statement of Financial Position date and the amounts reported for revenues and expenses during the year. However, the nature of estimation means that actual outcomes could differ from those estimates. The following judgements have had the most significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements.

#### Impairment of Property, Plant and Equipment

Assets that are subject to amortisation are reviewed for impairment whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying amount may not be recoverable. An impairment loss is recognised for the amount by which the asset's carrying amount exceeds its recoverable amount. The recoverable amount is the higher of an asset's fair value less cost to sell and value in use. For the purpose of assessing impairment, assets are grouped at the lowest levels for which there are separately identifiable cash flows (cash generating units). Non-financial assets that suffered impairment are reviewed for possible reversal of the impairment at each reporting date.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### Provisions

Sport Ireland makes provisions for legal and constructive obligations, which it knows to be outstanding at the year end date. These provisions are generally made based on historical or other pertinent information, adjusted for recent trends where relevant. However, they are estimates of the financial costs of events that may not occur for some years. As a result of this and the level of uncertainty attaching to the final outcomes, the actual out-turn may differ significantly from that estimated.

### Depreciation and Residual Values

The Board have reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes, and in particular, the useful economic life and residual values of fixtures and fittings, and have concluded that asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

### Retirement Benefit Obligation

The assumptions underlying the actuarial valuations for which the amounts recognised in the financial statements are determined (including discount rates, rates of increase in future compensation levels and mortality rates) are updated annually based on current economic conditions, and for any relevant changes to the terms and conditions of the pension and post-retirement plans.

The assumptions can be affected by:

- (i) the discount rate, changes in the rate of return on high-quality corporate bonds.
- (ii) future compensation levels, future labour market conditions.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 2. Oireachtas Grants

As outlined in Accounting Policy Note 1(e) Oireachtas grants are recognised as income on the basis of the amount of cash received. The Oireachtas Grants received by Sport Ireland from Vote 31 – Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport as shown in the financial statements consist of:

	Sub-head 31	Year ended 31 December 2018 €	Year ended 31 December 2017 €
Recurrent Grant	D.5	55,008,000	51,338,102
Less Refundable Employee Pension Deductions		(109,000)	(85,000)
<b>Total Recurrent Grant</b>		<b>54,899,000</b>	<b>51,253,102</b>
Health Service Executive		-	4,095
Department of Health		-	31,369
Department of Health - Healthy Ireland Fund		778,133	664,655
Capital Funding	B.2	20,945,789	10,502,253
(Deferred)/Reversed Capital Funding	D.5	908,569	(829,717)
<b>Total Oireachtas Grants</b>		<b>77,531,491</b>	<b>61,625,757</b>
Dormant Account Grant: Current	D.6	4,260,090	3,650,813
Dormant Account Grant: Capital	D.6	739,910	899,997
<b>Total Dormant Account Grants</b>		<b>5,000,000</b>	<b>4,550,810</b>

Oireachtas grants comprise of amounts provided by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in respect of the year concerned and represents the grant paid to Sport Ireland. This grant is used for pay, general administration, programme costs and grants to National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships. The amount of recurrent grant received in 2018 was €55,008,000. The Board have adhered to the terms of the Service Level Agreement with the Department. The Board have adequate financial control systems in place to manage grants received from the Department.

Capital grants were received from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport for the construction of the Sport Ireland National Indoor Arena and the The Courtyard Office Accommodation project located on the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus, which was completed in July 2018. Sport Ireland received €20,945,789 from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport in 2018. €908,569 of Capital Funding that was deferred in previous years was recognised in 2018.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

Dormant Account Grants received from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport was €5,000,000 for projects including Community Sports Hub, Community Coaching, Jobseekers Courses, Sports Disability Training and Youth Leadership Training.

Healthy Ireland Grants received from the Department of Health (paid through Pobal) was €778,133 for projects including Get Ireland Swimming, Walking and Cycling, the Great Dublin Bike Ride and Cycle Right.

### 3. Own Resources

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Rental Income	265,000	290,000
Rent from Sports HQ*	113,268	114,753
Anti-Doping Testing Income	111,306	145,708
Player Athlete Services	136,020	64,700
Sport Ireland Institute	63,274	56,369
National Trails Office	15,049	135,029
Coaching Ireland	38,000	39,400
<b>Total Own Resources</b>	<b>741,917</b>	<b>845,959</b>

\* This represents contributions to running costs which are shown under "Sports HQ" see Note 6.

### 4. Other Income

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Bank Interest Received	-	2,542
Income from EU	22,408	-
Great Dublin Bike Ride	65,000	116,803
Sport Northern Ireland	-	44,637
European Week of Sport	177,651	116,000
Other Income	1,333	586
<b>Total Other Income</b>	<b>266,392</b>	<b>280,568</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 5. Grants Payable

#### a) Current Grants Payable

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
National Governing Bodies of Sport *	11,098,065	11,235,971
International Carding Scheme *	1,920,000	1,767,000
Local Sports Partnerships *	5,824,138	5,756,966
Youth Field Sports *	8,077,406	7,225,906
High Performance Grants *	8,935,000	7,306,200
Womens Participation in Sport *	971,500	971,500
Cycling Series Grant	4,000	-
Team Ireland Golf Trust	200,000	200,000
Irish Open	1,250,000	-
Student Sport Ireland	50,000	50,000
Morton Stadium Grant	150,000	150,000
Olympic Federation of Ireland	475,000	277,248
Paralympic Council	397,500	375,000
Irish Special Schools Sport	25,000	25,000
Federation of Irish Sport	100,000	100,000
Operation Transformation	-	16,619
Great Dublin Bike Ride Grant	115,000	116,803
Campus Capital Grant **	871,486	650,017
Sports Partnership Capital Grant - IRFU	475,000	-
NAC Operational Grant **	2,095,000	2,095,000
Older People and Sport	607,605	607,605
University of Limerick - 50 Metre Pool	300,000	300,000
GAA - Inter County Players Support Scheme	2,300,000	1,600,000
Inter County Ladies Football & Camogie Scheme	500,000	500,000
<b>Total Grants Payable</b>	<b>46,741,700</b>	<b>41,326,835</b>

\*Analysis of Grants figures are set out in the Appendices to Annual Report.

\*\* Transactions with Sport Ireland Facilities DAC.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### b) Dormant Account Grants

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Community Sport Hub *	1,074,263	1,245,340
Youth Leadership *	253,480	295,600
Community Coaching *	14,663	206,475
Sports Disability Training	371,000	362,000
Volunteer Support	300,000	12,528
Evaluation	67,654	21,033
Administration	400,000	376,017
Disadvantaged Communities	83,000	324,500
Beat The Street	-	37,566
Ypath	-	45,000
Outdoor Recreation	25,000	74,000
Get Ireland Cycling	100,000	100,000
Get Ireland Walking	93,500	125,500
Get Ireland Swimming	100,750	111,750
Get Ireland Running	100,750	111,750
NGB Participation Funding	659,600	432,800
Various Programmes	867,276	587,525
<b>Total Dormant Account Grants</b>	<b>4,510,936</b>	<b>4,469,384</b>

\*Analysis of Grants figures are set out in the Appendices to Annual Report.

### c) Healthy Ireland Grants

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Special Olympics	68,422	48,799
Great Dublin Bike Ride	64,591	95,324
Operation Transformation	33,044	-
National Fitness Day	22,000	36,000
Get Ireland Swimming	123,000	135,000
Get Ireland Walking	81,200	90,000
Get Ireland Cycling	55,531	6,646
Cycle Right	114,000	135,000
GAA Healthy Clubs	45,000	-
Children Sport Participation and Physical Activity	72,458	63,000
Administration Fee	20,000	-
<b>Total Healthy Ireland Grants</b>	<b>699,246</b>	<b>609,769</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 6. Other Programmes

\*These represent running costs. Income which is directly linked to these costs is shown under "Own Resources" see Note 3.

	RESEARCH	ANTI DOPING	NGB	PR PARTICIPATION	HIGH PERFORMANCE	INSTITUTE OF SPORT	COACHING IRELAND	CAMPUS	TOTAL	TOTAL
	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	2018	31 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2017
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Anti-Doping Testing	-	1,194,008	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,194,008	1,086,604
Research Projects	128,706	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	128,706	213,401
NGB Development	-	-	191,431	-	-	-	-	-	191,431	193,711
Programme Development	-	-	1,868	-	97,414	21,330	-	-	120,612	209,091
EU European Week of Sport	-	-	-	-	135,173	-	-	-	135,173	110,864
National Trails Office	-	-	-	-	70,345	-	-	-	70,345	85,828
National Trails Office Grants	-	-	-	-	55,000	-	-	-	55,000	57,392
Institute Development	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,399,327	-	1,399,327	1,292,406
Sports HQ*	-	-	189,415	-	-	-	-	-	189,415	181,270
Contractors/Outsourced Services	-	-	-	-	104,244	-	219,579	310	324,133	195,963
Tutor Training	-	-	-	-	-	-	21,940	-	21,940	145,359
Campus Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	218,156	218,156	195,704
Staff and Training	-	-	1,210	4,947	5,384	-	1,471	10,922	24,005	14,840
Office Administration Costs	-	22,782	14,978	11,428	39,765	38,408	164,824	94,486	479,314	504,138
Travel, Subsistence & Meetings	-	31,210	6,493	4,813	10,492	19,432	7,415	91,392	172,943	208,963
Professional Fees	-	263,432	6,952	5,535	16,716	-	1,555	1,500	391,826	870,513
Computer Software & Support	-	59,565	-	63,732	749	29,076	55,068	17,506	225,696	114,992
PR, Printing and Stationery	-	-	92	223,456	16,619	-	6,805	7,414	257,934	326,045
Postage and Courier	-	1,204	155	425	3,221	-	204	1,704	7,002	6,519
<b>Total Other Programmes</b>	<b>128,706</b>	<b>1,572,201</b>	<b>412,594</b>	<b>314,336</b>	<b>555,122</b>	<b>108,246</b>	<b>1,856,248</b>	<b>247,174</b>	<b>5,606,966</b>	<b>6,013,603</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 7. Administration

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Staff Expenses and Training	60,715	52,282
Rent and Property	67,243	64,350
Maintenance and Repairs	12,949	9,348
Insurance	2,320	16,312
Telephone	7,070	10,297
Light and Heat	38,876	23,152
Board Members, Travel, Subsistence and Meetings	136,718	141,483
Audit Fees	35,465	39,595
Professional Fees	11,877	48,595
Computer Software and Support	174,375	176,203
Printing and Stationery	24,090	20,077
Postage and Courier	11,877	9,858
Sundry	21,441	13,141
Loss/(Gain)Disposal of Fixed Assets	242	(10)
<b>Total Administration</b>	<b>605,258</b>	<b>624,683</b>

### 8. Remuneration

#### (a) Aggregate Employee Benefits

The total staff complement approved by the Minister at 31 December 2018 was 54 permanent. The average number of employees excluding agency was 45. The aggregate employee and related costs were as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
Salaries	1,947,255	1,688,774
Staff Pension	119,709	207,674
Employers PRSI contributions	193,252	165,512
Staff Holiday Pay Accrual	2,108	2,881
Seconded Staff Charge	69,362	100,835
Campus and Agency Staff	1,549,604	1,570,715
<b>Total Staff Cost</b>	<b>3,881,290</b>	<b>3,736,391</b>
Dormant Account Salaries/PRSI Allocation	152,369	161,632
Dormant Account Operational Support Allocation	144,900	92,532
	<b>4,178,559</b>	<b>3,990,555</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### Staff Costs by Unit

	Salaries	Staff Pension	ER PRSI Contributions	Staff Holiday Pay Accrual	Seconded Staff	Agency Staff	31 December 2018
Administration	356,620	119,709	35,810	2,108	-	230,097	744,344
Research	77,730	-	1,433	-	-	38,908	118,071
Anti Doping	229,958	-	23,657	-	-	159,946	413,561
NGB	77,933	-	8,637	-	-	254,738	341,308
PR	49,762	-	4,559	-	-	75,004	129,325
Participation	208,742	-	21,118	-	-	104,335	334,195
High Performance	268,210	-	28,018	-	-	22,342	318,570
Institute	-	-	-	-	-	430,881	430,881
Coaching Ireland	658,247	-	67,844	-	-	47,001	773,092
DAF / HI Projects	137,332	-	15,037	-	-	144,900	297,269
Campus	20,053	-	2,176	-	69,362	186,352	277,943
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,084,587</b>	<b>119,709</b>	<b>208,289</b>	<b>2,108</b>	<b>69,362</b>	<b>1,694,504</b>	<b>4,178,559</b>

The Dormant Account and Healthy Ireland salaries and PRSI figure of €152,369 represents staff cost allocated against both grant schemes as approved by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport and the Department of Health respectively.

#### (b) Short Term Benefits

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Basic Pay	2,292,876	2,015,918
Overtime	-	-
Allowances	-	-
<b>Total Short Term Benefits</b>	<b>2,292,876</b>	<b>2,015,918</b>

#### (c) Termination Benefits

There were no termination benefits paid in 2018.

#### (d) Key Management Personnel

Key management personnel in Sport Ireland consists of the of the Chief Executive Officer and Sport Ireland Board members. The total value of employee benefits for key management personnel is set out below.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Key Management Personnel	196,303	200,062
<b>Total Key Management Personnel</b>	<b>196,303</b>	<b>200,062</b>

This does not include the value of retirement benefits earned in the year. The CEO is the only member of the Sport Ireland pension scheme included in Key Management and his entitlements in that regard do not extend beyond the terms of the model public service pension scheme.

### (e) Chief Executive Officer Salary and Benefits

The CEO remuneration package for the year was as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Basic Pay	131,747	127,174
<b>Total Salary</b>	<b>131,747</b>	<b>127,174</b>

The CEO is a member of the Sport Ireland pension scheme. The value of retirement benefits earned in the year is not included above.

The CEO received a recoupment of travel and subsistence expenses of €7,875 in the 12 months ended 31 December 2018 (€8,379 in the 12 months ended 31 December 2017).

## 9. Capital Account

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
At 1 January	135,418,379	130,402,822
<b>Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account:</b>		
Amortisation in line with fixed asset depreciation	(4,377,496)	(4,327,092)
Funds Allocated to acquire Fixed Assets	20,592,302	9,342,649
Amount Released on Disposal of Fixed Assets	(242)	-
<b>Net Amount of Transfer for the year</b>	<b>16,214,564</b>	<b>5,015,557</b>
<b>At 31 December</b>	<b>151,632,943</b>	<b>135,418,379</b>

## 10. Retirement Benefit Costs

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### (a) Analysis of total retirement benefit costs charged to the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Current service cost	539,000	466,000
Interest on retirement benefit scheme liabilities	264,000	235,000
Employee Contributions	(109,000)	(85,000)
<b>Total Retirement Benefit Cost</b>	<b>694,000</b>	<b>616,000</b>

### (b) Movement in net retirement benefit obligations during the financial year

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Net retirement benefit obligation at 1 January	13,389,000	12,148,000
Current service cost	539,000	466,000
Interest cost	264,000	235,000
Experience loss/(gain)	769,000	540,000
(Gain)/loss arising from change in assumptions	(356,000)	208,000
Pensions paid in the year	(120,000)	(208,000)
<b>Net retirement benefit obligation at 31 December</b>	<b>14,485,000</b>	<b>13,389,000</b>

### (c) Deferred funding for retirement benefits

The Board recognises these amounts as an asset corresponding to the unfunded deferred liability for retirement benefits on the basis of the set of assumptions described above and a number of past events. These events include the statutory basis for the establishment of the retirement benefit scheme, and the policy and practice currently in place in relation to funding public service pensions including contributions by employees and the annual estimates process. The Board has no evidence that this funding policy will not continue to meet such sums in accordance with current practice.

The net deferred funding for retirement benefits recognised in the Statement of Income and Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves was as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Funding recoverable in respect of current year retirement benefit costs	<b>803,000</b>	<b>701,000</b>

The deferred funding asset for retirement benefits at 31 December 2018 amounts to €14.485m.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### (d) History of defined benefit obligations

	2018 €'000	2017 €'000	2016 €'000	2015 €'000
Defined Benefit Obligations	14,485	13,389	12,148	9,555
Experience losses/(gains) on defined benefit scheme liabilities	769	540	(289)	49

### (e) General description of the scheme

The retirement benefit scheme is a defined benefit final salary pension arrangement with benefits and contributions defined by reference to current “model” public sector scheme regulations. The scheme provides a pension (being 1/80 per year of service), a gratuity or lump sum (being 3/80 per year of service) and spouses and children’s pensions. Normal retirement age is a member’s 65th birthday, and pre-2004 members have an entitlement to retire without actuarial reduction from age 60. Pensions in payment (and deferment) normally increase in line with general public sector salary inflation.

Sport Ireland also operates the Single Public Services Pension Scheme (“Single Scheme”), which is a defined benefit scheme for pensionable public servants appointed on or after 1 January 2013. All single scheme employee contributions are transferred to the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform and all current retirement benefit costs are recoverable from the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport through the pay allocation grant.

This membership rule prevails regardless of the form of the employment contract. Both full-time and part-time staff and permanent and temporary staff join the Single Scheme if their employment commences from 2013 onwards.

The valuation used for FRS102 disclosures has been based on a full actuarial valuation performed on 21 February 2019 by a qualified independent actuary, taking account of the requirements of the FRS in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2018.

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
Rate of increase in salaries	2.95%	3.10%
Rate of increase in retirement benefits in payment	2.45%	2.60%
Discount rate	1.93%	1.98%
Inflation rate	1.80%	1.95%

#### Mortality

62% of PNML00 for males with improvements (see below).

70% of PNFL00 for females with improvements (see below).

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

The mortality basis explicitly allows for improvements in life expectancy over time, so that life expectancy at retirement will depend on the year in which a member attains retirement age (age 65). The table below shows the life expectancy for members attaining age 65 in 2018 and 2038.

Year of attaining age 65	2018	2038
Life expectancy - Male	21.4 years	23.8 years
Life expectancy - Female	23.9 years	25.9 years

### 11. Depreciation of Fixed Assets

	Year ended 31 December 2018 €	Year ended 31 December 2017 €
Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment	4,377,496	4,327,092
<b>Total Depreciation</b>	<b>4,377,496</b>	<b>4,327,092</b>

### 12 (a). Property, Plant & Equipment 2018

	National Aquatic Centre	Infrastructure & Design	Campus Facilities	Land & Buildings	Office Equip/ Computers/ Fixtures & Fittings Furnitures/ Med Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Cost</b>							
At beginning of period	74,005,032	9,349,504	60,768,450	25,156,307	1,812,441	22,286	171,114,020
Additions for the year	-	106,864	18,989,523	1,397,259	98,656	-	20,592,302
Disposals during period	-	-	-	-	(51,944)	-	(51,944)
<b>At 31 December 2018</b>	<b>74,005,032</b>	<b>9,456,368</b>	<b>79,757,973</b>	<b>26,553,566</b>	<b>1,859,153</b>	<b>22,286</b>	<b>191,654,378</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>							
At beginning of period	22,129,395	6,581,829	2,116,571	3,536,853	1,308,707	22,286	35,695,641
Charge for the year	1,480,101	783,978	1,378,868	542,723	191,826	-	4,377,496
Disposals during period	-	-	-	-	(51,702)	-	(51,702)
<b>At 31 December 2018</b>	<b>23,609,496</b>	<b>7,365,807</b>	<b>3,495,439</b>	<b>4,079,576</b>	<b>1,448,831</b>	<b>22,286</b>	<b>40,021,435</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>							
At 1 January 2018	51,875,637	2,767,675	58,651,879	21,619,454	503,734	-	135,418,379
Net Movement for the period	(1,480,101)	(677,114)	17,610,655	854,536	(93,412)	-	16,214,564
<b>At 31 December 2018</b>	<b>50,395,536</b>	<b>2,090,561</b>	<b>76,262,534</b>	<b>22,473,990</b>	<b>410,322</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>151,632,943</b>

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 12 (b). Property, Plant & Equipment 2017

	National Aquatic Centre	Infrastructure & Design	Campus Facilities	Land & Buildings	Office Equip / Computers / Fixtures & Fittings / Furnitures / Med Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
<b>Cost</b>							
At beginning of the year	74,005,032	9,330,649	53,085,988	23,557,829	1,833,720	22,286	161,835,504
Additions for the year	-	18,855	7,682,462	1,598,478	42,854	-	9,342,649
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	64,133	-	64,133
<b>At 31 December 2017</b>	<b>74,005,032</b>	<b>9,349,504</b>	<b>60,768,450</b>	<b>25,156,307</b>	<b>1,812,441</b>	<b>22,286</b>	<b>171,114,020</b>
<b>Depreciation</b>							
At beginning of the year	20,649,294	5,639,882	911,928	3,038,846	1,170,447	22,285	31,432,682
Charge for the year	1,480,101	941,947	1,204,643	498,007	202,393	1	4,327,092
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	64,133	-	64,133
<b>At 31 December 2017</b>	<b>22,129,395</b>	<b>6,581,829</b>	<b>2,116,571</b>	<b>3,536,853</b>	<b>1,308,707</b>	<b>22,286</b>	<b>35,695,641</b>
<b>Net Book Value</b>							
At 1 January 2017	53,355,738	3,690,767	52,174,060	20,518,983	663,273	1	130,402,822
Net Movement for the year	- 1,480,101	- 923,092	6,477,819	1,100,471	- 159,539	1	5,015,557
<b>At 31 December 2017</b>	<b>51,875,637</b>	<b>2,767,675</b>	<b>58,651,879</b>	<b>21,619,454</b>	<b>503,734</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>135,418,379</b>

### 13. Financial Assets

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Sport Ireland Facilities DAC		
Ordinary Share Value	1	1
<b>Total Financial Assets</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

Name	Registered Office	Company	Ownership	Issued Share
Sport Ireland Facilities DAC	IIS Building National Sport Campus Blanchardstown Dublin 15	419329	1	One Ordinary Share of one Euro Par Value

A summary of the subsidiary's results are set out below.

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	(87,836)	39,263
Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	(1,752,197)	(1,664,361)

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 14. Receivables

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Debtors	309,012	271,473
Accrued Income	36,000	20,000
OPW Suspense Account	123,308	125,528
Prepayments	225,339	131,118
<b>Total Receivables</b>	<b>693,659</b>	<b>548,119</b>

### 15. Payables

	Year ended 31 December 2018	Year ended 31 December 2017
	€	€
Creditors	1,061,649	1,616,507
Other Accruals	262,997	183,391
Deferred Income	21,000	-
Due to Department of Transport, Tourism & Sport	123,308	1,031,877
PAYE/PRSI	95,737	95,132
Value Added Tax	272,097	571,712
Relevant Contract Tax	1,031	-
Professional Services Withholding Tax	87,016	259,899
<b>Total Payables</b>	<b>1,924,835</b>	<b>3,758,518</b>

### 16. Lease Commitments

At 31 December 2018 Sport Ireland had no lease commitments.

Sport Ireland occupied a premises at Westend Office Park, Blanchardstown up until July 2018. The Office of Public Works holds a 25 year lease for these premises which was entered into in 1999. Sport Ireland informed the OPW of the intent to move from Westend Office Park to the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus during 2018. Rent was payable on a pay as you go basis until the vacation of the premises in July 2018.

Sport Ireland has a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Limerick dated 15 September 2001, this covers accommodation, light & heat and security provided by University of Limerick to Coaching Ireland. The annual amount paid for rent to the University is €38,000.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

### 17. Related Party Disclosures

Please refer to Note 8(e) for a breakdown of the remuneration and benefits paid to key management personnel.

Sport Ireland adopts procedures in accordance with the guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform covering the personal interests of Board members. In the normal course of business, Sport Ireland may approve grants or enter into other contractual arrangements with entities in which Sport Ireland members are employed or are otherwise interested.

In cases of potential conflict of interest, Board members do not receive Board documentation or otherwise participate in or attend discussions regarding these transactions. A register is maintained and available on request of all such instances.

In the normal course of business the Board may approve grant payments to undertakings in which Board members are employed or may otherwise have an interest. The Board adopted procedures in accordance with guidelines issued by the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform in relation to the disclosure of interests by Board members and these procedures have been adhered to during the year.

The following Board members disclosed an interest in organisations to which grants were approved in 2018:

- Frances Kavanagh is a former employee of Special Olympics who received €1,270,000 under NGB Grants, €59,000 under Dormant Accounts and €68,422 under the Healthy Ireland.
- John Maughan is an employee of Mayo County Council. Mayo Local Sports Partnership is part of Mayo County Council, Mayo Local Sports Partnership received €399,460 under Local Sport Partnership and Dormant Account grants.
- Liam Sheedy is a former member of the Management Committee of the GAA. The GAA received €3,238,653 in Youth Field Sport Grants, €2,300,000 for the GAA Inter County Players Support Scheme and €47,000 under Healthy Ireland and Dormant Account grant schemes.
- Sport Ireland Facilities DAC is wholly owned subsidiary of Sport Ireland and received €871,486 of Capital Grant and €2,095,000 of Operational Grant in 2018.

Sport Ireland has availed of the exemption afforded by paragraph 33.1A from the the provisions of FRS 102 'Related Party Transactions' from disclosing transactions with wholly owned subsidiaries.

- Kieran Mulvey, on behalf of the Government, was the author of a report on the regeneration of Dublin's North East Inner City. Dublin City Sport and Wellbeing Partnership received Dormant Account Funding of €58,500 for the Dublin North East Inner City RAPID Community Sports Project.

## Notes to the Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 December 2018

- Padraic Moran is a member of Paralympics Ireland's Athletes Commission and Boccia Ireland (which is a sub-committee of Paralympics Ireland). Paralympics Ireland received €1,614,500 High Performance funding in 2018.

### 18. Contingent Liabilities

Sport Ireland is involved in a small number of legal proceedings as follows:

Section 34(2) of the Sport Ireland Act 2015 provided that legal proceedings relating to the National Sports Campus Development Authority (NSCDA now dissolved) would be continued, with the substitution in the proceedings of Sport Ireland, in so far as they so relate, for the Authority. Accordingly Sport Ireland has commitments and contingent liabilities in relation to legal costs and potential exposure in relation to claims as follows:

In 2010, in its ruling on the legal proceedings concerning the non-payment of a VAT invoice issued by the former Campus Stadium Ireland Development Company on the creation of the lease on the National Aquatic Centre, the Supreme Court awarded costs in the matter against NSCDA. No claim for costs has yet been received and no provision has been made for these costs which on receipt of a claim will be subject to finalisation and taxing.

In June 2013, Dublin Waterworld Limited (DWW) initiated legal proceedings in the Commercial Court against NSCDA seeking damages pursuant to the VAT proceedings referred to above (i.e. on foot of the actions taken by Campus Stadium Ireland Development/NSCDA to recover VAT on the lease of the NAC). Sport Ireland has made a full provision for its expected legal costs in relation to this case but has not provided for the claim for damages as the outcome of the case is uncertain and the costs cannot be reliably estimated.

In 2017, the High Court ruled in favour of NSCDA (now Sport Ireland) in a separate legal case taken by Dublin Waterworld Limited (DWW), in which that company had sought damages pursuant to the VAT proceedings referred to above. The court has, as yet, not made an award of costs in the case, pending the outcome of the appeal which is expected to be heard in Q2 2019.

The Board has been notified of a contractual claim in relation to the The Courtyard Office capital project. The claim is currently under review. The Board disputes the validity of the claims and is not in a position to estimate any potential liability arising.

Sport Ireland Facilities DAC, a subsidiary of Sport Ireland is also involved in a number of legal cases taken by customers in relation to incidents which occurred in the facilities as operated by the company. The estimated list of claims outstanding at year end as provided by the insurance providers of Sport

## **Notes to the Financial Statements**

For the year ended 31 December 2018

Ireland Facilities DAC amounted to €64,999. The financial statements of Sport Ireland Facilities DAC include full provision for the estimated legal costs associated with these cases.

### **19. Commitments**

Under a Sports Partnership Strategy for the development of the field-sport elements of the Campus Master Plan, Sport Ireland has entered into separate agreements with the GAA, FAI, Hockey Ireland and IRFU whereby Sport Ireland, subject to certain conditions, is committed to granting 99 year leases on certain of its lands (as identified in the Master Plan), at peppercorn rents, to the bodies concerned. The agreements also commits to the provision of matching funding up to €500,000 for the development by each of the bodies of these facilities, totalling €2 million, of which €1,450,000 was paid to the sports bodies up to 31 December 2018.

#### **Capital Commitments:**

An amount of €2,165,237 has arisen as a result of contractual commitments for construction works on the Sport Ireland National Sports Campus facilities in 2018. This represents a reduction of €18,819,516 on the contractual commitments position at year-end 2017 which is largely due to the progress on the construction of Phase 2 of the National Indoor Arena. The construction of Phase 2 of the National Indoor Arena was completed in June 2019.

### **20. Events After the Reporting Date**

No other significant events were noted since the year end.

### **21. Approval of the financial statements**

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Sport Ireland on 10th December 2019.



SPÓRT ÉIREANN  
SPORT IRELAND

Sport Ireland  
The Courtyard  
Sport Ireland Campus  
Snugborough Road  
Blanchardstown  
Dublin 15  
D15 PN0N

[www.sportireland.ie](http://www.sportireland.ie)  
@sportireland