



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
SPORT IRELAND

Sport Ireland
Annual Report
2022

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WHO WE ARE

Established on 1 October 2015, Sport Ireland is the statutory authority tasked with leading, advocating for and providing directed funding for the development of sport in Ireland. This includes participation in sport, high-performance sport, anti-doping, coaching and the development of the Sport Ireland Campus.

Sport Ireland is a body under the aegis of the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media. Sport Ireland supports the delivery of the government's National Sports Policy 2018–2027 which recognises the influence and importance of sport across Irish society. In 2022, the total current expenditure budget for Sport Ireland was €132.4 million. This includes COVID-19 funding of €15 million and Energy Support Scheme funding of €35 million.

OUR VISION

An active Ireland where everyone can enjoy the lifelong benefits of sport and physical activity.

OUR VALUES

At Sport Ireland, we take pride in our leading role in Irish sport. We strive for excellence and to deliver value for money in everything we do, and that Sport Ireland always acts with integrity, upholding the highest ethical standards. It is our goal that Sport Ireland is honest, inclusive and transparent in all its partnership and funding relationships, decisions and actions.

Our values are:



Inclusion



Integrity



Respect



Excellence



Accountability

CHAIRPERSONS STATEMENT

I was delighted and humbled to be appointed as Chairperson of Sport Ireland by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, Catherine Martin TD and the Minister of State for Sport and Physical Education, Thomas Byrne TD in April 2023.

I join Sport Ireland at an exciting time, with the approval of a new five-year strategy (2023-2027) expected shortly. This will build on the progress made during the previous strategic cycle and will set out ambitious plans for Sport Ireland and the sport sector that ensure we deliver best-in-class, sporting experiences throughout the country. Moreover, the plan will highlight the overarching vision of “an active Ireland where everyone can enjoy the benefits of sport and physical activity”. As Chairperson I am committed to this vision.

Sport is central to the social, cultural and community life of Ireland, with it seeing a phenomenal period of achievement of late. As a country ranked 125th in the world in terms of population, Ireland has achieved - and continues to achieve - incredible levels of success in a variety of sports.

2022 was the highest ever recorded medal achievements by Sport Ireland funded programmes at major international events. 105 major medals were won by Irish athletes and teams. In addition to this there have been many other notable successes such as our men’s rugby and women’s football teams on the international stage. Outside of high-performance, there have also been improvements in both participation levels and interest in sport in Ireland.

However, while sport in Ireland continues to flourish and achieve new heights, it is worth noting that sport both nationally and internationally faces a period of unprecedented change compared to the previous strategic cycle. Like all facets of society, sport in Ireland has been confronted by the lasting effects of the global COVID-19 pandemic, inflation, climate change and the UK’s exit from the European Union. These factors, as well as broader social and demographic changes, present significant challenges to the sport sector.

As Chairperson of Sport Ireland, I want to ensure that the sport sector continues to rank as one of the best in the world in terms of its resilience and readiness to successfully adapt to the challenges ahead. I look forward to working with my fellow board members, the Sport Ireland Executive and all stakeholders over the years ahead.



John Foley
Chairperson, Sport Ireland



CEO STATEMENT

As the CEO of Sport Ireland, I am pleased to present this Annual Report, which highlights the progress and achievements of the organisation in 2022 and outlines our efforts in monitoring the development, funding and implementation of our programmes to promote sports, in compliance with government requirements and policies. In 2022, Sport Ireland entered into the final year of our five-year strategy (2018–2022). We continued our commitment to four key strategic pillars: Participation, Performance, High Performance and Governance. Under these pillars, we have made significant strides in creating a world-class sports sector.

Participation remains a priority for Sport Ireland, and we have invested in areas of disadvantage, with a particular focus on teenagers and older adults who have been heavily impacted by the pandemic. Our partnership with our LSPs has been instrumental in providing national coverage for sports participation programmes and services. Through funding and collaboration, we have enabled the LSPs to deliver initiatives that allowed over 433,000 individuals to participate in locally delivered programmes in 2022.

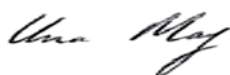
Sport Ireland will work to achieve the increased participation and engagement targets as set out in the National Sports Policy. According to our latest research, which was conducted by Ipsos MRBI on behalf of Sport Ireland, participation in sport increased in 2022 with 43% of the population participating regularly in sport, a 3-percentage point increase since 2021.

Furthermore, we have launched campaigns and initiatives such as the Let's Get Back campaign, Her Outdoors Week and Women in Sport Week to encourage the Irish public, especially women and girls, to engage in sport and physical activity. We have also made significant progress in promoting diversity and inclusion in sport through the implementation of our Diversity and Inclusion in Sport policy, as well as collaborations with various organisations and initiatives.

We recognise the challenges faced by the sports sector due to the COVID-19 pandemic. To address these challenges, we have increased investment in NGBs and provided additional funding to support resilience and recovery efforts.

Our focus on high performance has been guided by our long-term strategy, which aims to support Ireland's potential at the highest levels of competition. In 2022, we invested over €21 million in high-performance sport, including athlete funding and support programmes. In 2022, we recorded the highest ever number of medal achievements by Sport Ireland-funded programmes at major international events. Over 100 major medals were won by Irish athletes and teams.

I am proud of the achievements of Sport Ireland in 2022, and I would like to express my gratitude to all the staff, partners and stakeholders who have contributed to our success. I would like to thank our outgoing chairperson, Kieran Mulvey, for his dedication and skill in overseeing the establishment and success of Sport Ireland.



Dr. Úna May
CEO Sport Ireland



1.

HOW WE WORK

We aim to ensure that Ireland is an active nation where people are encouraged to start and continue to participate in sport, to make progress and to achieve at the highest level.

Key to fulfilling this goal is working closely with our partners to optimise the effectiveness and impact of the agencies, people and places providing sporting opportunity.

To do this, Sport Ireland works to

- support our partners, particularly the national governing bodies (NGBs) and local sports partnerships (LSPs), to increase levels of introductory and sustained participation in sport and physical activity – for all;
- deliver high-performance sport success;
- communicate the value and benefits of sport, and to lead national thinking on the issue;
- develop a stronger and more effective, safer, fairer sports sector with the highest standards of governance;
- increase the number and quality of the coaches, officials, administrators and volunteers;
- promote diversity and inclusion;
- optimise the impact of government investment in sport.

The Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media monitors the effective development, funding and implementation of programmes in compliance with government financial requirements and policy.

Our core partners

Sport Ireland provides support for over 100 sports organisations including 65 NGBs, 10 other funded bodies and 29 LSPs.

National Governing Bodies

1. American Football Ireland	25. Ice Skating Association of Ireland	43. Mountaineering Ireland
2. Angling Council of Ireland	26. Irish Amateur Wrestling Association	44. National Aero Club of Ireland
3. Archery Ireland	27. Irish Athletic Boxing Association	45. National Community Games
4. Athletics Ireland	28. Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	46. ONAKAI
5. Badminton Ireland	29. Irish Ice Hockey Association	47. Orienteering Ireland
6. Basketball Ireland	30. Irish Judo Association	48. Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland
7. Baton Twirling Sport Association of Ireland	31. Irish Martial Arts Commission	49. Racquetball Association of Ireland
8. Bol Chumann na hÉireann	32. Irish Olympic Handball Association	50. Rowing Ireland
9. Bowling League of Ireland	33. Irish Rugby Football Union	51. Rugby League Ireland
10. Canoeing Ireland	34. Irish Sailing Association	52. Snooker & Billiards Ireland
11. Cricket Ireland	35. Irish Squash	53. Special Olympics Ireland
12. Croquet Association of Ireland	36. Irish Surfing Association	54. Speleological Union of Ireland
13. Cycling Ireland	37. Irish Tenpin Bowling Association	55. Swim Ireland
14. Deaf Sports Ireland	38. Irish Waterski and Wakeboard Federation	56. Table Tennis Ireland
15. Diving Ireland	39. Irish Wheelchair Association Sport	57. Taekwondo Ireland
16. Fencing Ireland	40. Ladies Gaelic Football Association	58. Tennis Ireland
17. Football Association of Ireland	41. Motorcycling Ireland	59. The Camogie Association
18. GAA Handball Ireland	42. Motorsport Ireland	60. Triathlon Ireland
19. Gaelic Athletic Association		61. Trout Anglers Federation of Ireland
20. Golf Ireland		62. Tug of War Ireland
21. Gymnastics Ireland		63. Vision Sports Ireland
22. Hockey Ireland		64. Volleyball Ireland
23. Horse Sport Ireland		65. Weightlifting Ireland
24. Horseshoe Pitchers Association of Ireland		

Local Sports Partnerships

1. Carlow
2. Cavan
3. Clare
4. Cork
5. Donegal
6. Dublin City
7. Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown
8. Fingal
9. Galway
10. Kerry

11. Kildare
12. Kilkenny
13. Laois
14. Leitrim
15. Limerick
16. Louth
17. Longford
18. Mayo
19. Meath
20. Monaghan

21. Offaly
22. Roscommon
23. South Dublin County
24. Sligo
25. Tipperary
26. Waterford
27. Westmeath
28. Wexford
29. Wicklow

Funded Bodies

1. Active Disability Ireland
2. Age & Opportunity
3. Federation of Irish Sport
4. Ireland Active
5. Irish Special Schools Sports Council
6. Olympic Federation of Ireland
7. Paralympics Ireland
8. Pentathlon Ireland
9. Snowsports Association of Ireland
10. Student Sport Ireland

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

€82 million

was invested in our National Governing Bodies (NGBs)



This investment ensures NGBs and thousands of grassroots sports clubs across the country could continue to develop and deliver sport at a local level.

105

Major Medals were won across 15 sports in 2022



2022 was the highest ever recorded medal achievements by Sport Ireland funded programmes at major international events. Over 100 major medals were won by Irish athletes and teams.

433,554

people participated in initiatives by Local Sports Partnerships



Our network of 29 Local Sports Partnerships delivered 1,434 participation initiatives in 2022.

92%

of the sector self-declared their compliance with the Governance Code for Sport



There was a 13% increase in compliance by National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs) with the Governance Code for Sport.

>8,000

people surveyed in our regular Irish Sports Monitor survey



The results of this significant survey help us to track activity levels across the Irish adult population.

12

Objectives were set as part of the publication of our first ever Diversity and Inclusion Policy



By enacting this policy, we hope to see more people from diverse communities participating and engaging in lifelong sport and physical activity.

520

acres will be developed as part of the Sport Ireland Campus Masterplan



The Sport Ireland Campus Masterplan was launched in November 2022 by Taoiseach Micheál Martin.

387

athletes received specialist support in the Sport Ireland Institute



The Institute team provided 3,662 direct service support days to 24 sports.

2.

WHAT WE DO

Sport Ireland's Statement of Strategy for 2018–2022 is based on the four key pillars of:

1. **Participation** (lifelong and inclusive sport)
2. **Performance** (playing and competing at a level appropriate to ability)
3. **High performance** (reaching Ireland's potential at the highest levels of competition)
4. **Governance** (driving the development of a highly effective sports sector that will have an impact throughout the country)

Objective 1: Participation

Sport Ireland's Statement of Strategy 2018–2022 targeted an increase in the percentage of the population engaging in sport and physical activity to 46%. It also aimed to reduce the levels of sedentary adults to 19% and to reduce the sport participation gradient between men and women to 2.5%.

The percentage of the population engaging in sport and physical activity in 2019 was on target at 46%. Over the course of the pandemic this dropped to 40% but in 2022 has increased again to 43%.

In 2019 the levels of sedentary adults as measured in the Irish Sports Monitor was 20%, in 2022 this had risen to 21%. While in 2019 the participation gradient between men and women dropped to 3%, progress was hampered over the course of the Covid-19 pandemic, and the gradient was 5% in 2022.

Sport Ireland remains committed to prioritising investment in areas of disadvantage, which have suffered due to the pandemic, as well as the ongoing implementation of the Participation Plan 2021–2024, Women in Sport Policy, Disability Policy, and Policy on Sport and Physical Activity in the Outdoors.

Local Sports Partnerships

Every day, in communities across the country, Sport Ireland's network of LSPs helps people get active by removing the barriers to sport and physical activity. In 2022, Sport Ireland invested €15.2 million in twenty-nine LSPs through Core, Dormant Accounts and Return to Sport funding. In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, Sport Ireland invested €1.2 million in the LSP network to support the resumption of sport and physical activity.

Thanks to this funding, every LSP now has a minimum of five core staff, a coordinator, an administrator, a sports-inclusion disability officer, a community sports development officer and one additional officer, based on local needs. In 2022, LSPs enabled 433,554 people to participate in 1,434 locally delivered participation initiatives.

In November 2022, Sport Ireland held the national launch of the Active Cities project, funded through Dormant Accounts. The vision of Active Cities is to engage, maintain and increase the number of citizens in our cities participating in sport and physical activity, regardless of age and ability. This project is having a positive impact on LSP and local-authority relationships and collaborations. Also funded by Dormant Accounts in 2022 were a further ten community sports hubs, meaning there is now a community sports hub in every county.

Outdoors

In 2022, Sport Ireland continued to promote all developed recreational trails on the National Trails Register. In 2022, 313 trails were inspected, which brought the total number of trails on the register to 868. With support from the Healthy Ireland Fund, Sport Ireland began the eighteen-month implementation phase of a base register and digital database for sport and recreation amenities. The implementation phase includes extensive stakeholder engagement, data procurement, brand development, technical development, evaluation framework development and a communications plan. The database is on track to be launched in 2023.

Also in November, Embracing Ireland's Outdoors: The National Outdoor Recreation Strategy 2023–2027 was launched by the Department of Rural and Community Development. This cross-governmental and cross-organisation strategy was supported by the Outdoors Unit in collaboration with the whole outdoor sector. As a result of the Outdoor Unit's leadership and support in the strategy's development, Sport Ireland has been identified as a key leader in outdoor recreation in Ireland, and the unit is tasked as a lead for several actions within the strategy.

Widening Participation in Sport

Inclusion is a core value of the National Sports Policy 2018-2027. The commitment by Sport Ireland to address inequalities in sports participation is highlighted within three key policies.

1. Sport Ireland's Policy on Women in Sport. (Published 2019)
2. Sport Ireland's Policy on Diversity and Inclusion in Sport. (Published 2022)
3. Sport Ireland's Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities. (Published 2017)

These policies are implemented through a range of measures undertaken directly by Sport Ireland, through the National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs), Paralympics Ireland, Special Olympics Ireland, Active Disability Ireland, and Age and Opportunity Ireland.

A wide range of funding is invested in programmes by our partners to deliver an inclusive sport sector in Ireland. Funding of €607,605 was provided to the Go for Life programme, which aims to help clubs and organisations increase opportunities for their older members to actively participate in recreational sport and a range of physical activities. Sport Ireland and the network of LSPs arranged many different initiatives such as the National BeActive Day, which encouraged people both young and old to meet their physical-activity guidelines in a fun way.

Women In Sport

In July 2021, Sport Ireland announced an investment in its Women in Sport Programme of €4 million over 2021 and 2022. This funding contributed to the implementation of over 150 Women in Sport projects and initiatives in the NGBs and supports Sport Ireland's vision for women in sport as one where women have an equal opportunity to achieve their full potential while enjoying a lifelong involvement in sport.

In 2022, €265,000 in Women in Sport funding was provided to the LSP network. There was also increased funding under Dormant Accounts and Core Funding while additional COVID-19 funding for the sector also created additional participation opportunities. In line with Sport Ireland's Women in Sport Policy published in 2019, Sport Ireland continues to support women's sustained involvement in sport as coaches, volunteers, club members, athletes, advocates, leaders and participants from the grassroots to the podium.

In June 2022, work commenced on the creation of a brand identity for the Girls Get Active project. The brand (Her Moves) is now used by organisations when rolling out physical activity programmes that target teenage girls using certain criteria around programme design. Also in June, a panel of media experts selected twelve candidates for Sport Ireland's successful media training programme targeting female pundits and analysts. Candidates attended three days of training between 18 and 23 July.

In October 2022, Sport Ireland provided support to the Shona Project, organisers of the Shine Festival. With over 2,000 girls attending in person, and up to 15,000 online, the festival was an empowering event featuring speakers on topics such as self-esteem, resilience, career, arts, wellness, mental health, sports, people, the planet and social issues. Support for the Shine Festival is part of a wider Sport Ireland project targeting teenage girls to encourage and motivate them to be more active.

Sport Ireland hosted the first Women in Sport Coaching Conference in December 2022. Attracting over 250 coaches on the day, the event was opened by Minister for Sport Jack Chambers and consisted of multiple guest speakers and breakout sessions.

Diversity and Inclusion

The Sport Ireland Policy on Diversity and Inclusion in Sport was published in May 2022. It expresses our vision for a sport sector that celebrates diversity, promotes inclusion and is proactive in providing opportunities for lifelong participation for everyone. The policy identifies five strategic pillars that highlight gaps and future opportunities for diversity and inclusion in sport and that guide us in our implementation of the policy. Those pillars are Change, Communication, Access, Capacity and Leadership. Twelve high-level objectives were devised under those five strategic pillars that support the delivery of the policy.

The Sport Ireland Diversity and Inclusion in Sport Advisory Group, formed in November 2022, assists, advises and provides guidance to Sport Ireland about its actions regarding the implementation of the policy and the promotion of an inclusive sports sector in Ireland.

The government's Migrant Integration Strategy 2017–2020 recognises the potential for sport to support the integration of migrants through encouraging active participation, volunteering and involvement in governance. Sport Ireland is represented on the Active Citizenship Subcommittee of the Migrant Integration Strategy Monitoring and Co-ordination Committee.

Sport Ireland continued its collaboration with Sporting Pride in 2022, running an annual campaign that supports the LGBTQIA+ community. The aim of the #LetsGetVisible campaign is to acknowledge and support the importance of visibility and representation amongst the LGBTQIA+ community, focusing specifically on the sport sector. In the last quarter of 2022, Sport Ireland commenced a project to develop guidance and support for the sport sector in the area of transgender and non-binary inclusion in sport and physical activity. This project is expected to conclude in 2023.

Objective 2: Performance

National Governing Bodies

During 2020 and 2021, COVID-19 restrictions led to large-scale decreases in sporting activity across the country. National and international competition, participation opportunities, individual and community well-being and social capital were all severely hampered. In response to this threat, the government provided targeted COVID-19 Resilience and Recovery Funds. This investment addressed the immediate financial and operational needs of the sector. Notwithstanding the financial support provided, a number of longer-term, more complex challenges are now emerging. The two-year hiatus in traditional sporting activities, compounded by labour-market shortages, decreased volunteer bases and historic rises in inflation, continue to challenge the sports sector.

In response, 2022 saw an additional €1.155 million being invested in NGBs, bringing the total Core Funding levels up to €15 million. This investment was complemented by further COVID-19 funding of €15 million and Energy Support Scheme funding of €35 million. Throughout 2022, the NGB Unit distributed over €82 million across twelve investment programmes such as Core Funding, Women in Sport, Dormant Accounts and Healthy Ireland. This investment ensures that NGBs and thousands of grassroots sports clubs across the country are able to continue to develop and deliver sport at a local level.

Coaching

Sport Ireland aims to be a leading agency for sports education in Ireland. To meet this ambition, the Certificate in Sports Coach Development was rolled out to NGBs in 2022. The certificate is recognised by Quality and Qualifications Ireland (QQI) and is included on the National Framework of Qualifications as a Level 7 Special Purpose Award. Learners who complete the qualification receive a QQI certificate and 45 credits, which they can use to access further and higher education.

As part of the European Week of Sport, Sport Ireland, in partnership with the LSP network, hosted a series of ICOACHKIDS regional coaching conferences for coaches of children and teenagers – in Donegal, Sligo, Limerick and Waterford.

Safeguarding

Sport Ireland provides training, workshops and audits to support the NGBs in meeting their child-safeguarding and child-protection responsibilities. In 2022, over 6,500 clubs across sixty-two NGBs completed the safeguarding audit. Over 5,600 workshops were delivered through NGBs and LSPs. We also offer tutor training, and in 2022, eleven new tutors were trained to deliver basic-awareness workshops in the areas of safeguarding and child-protection.

Objective 3: High Performance

High-Performance Strategy

The Sport Ireland High Performance Strategy 2021–2032 sets challenging, yet achievable, targets and has detailed clear actions across seven strategic areas. In the first two years of its delivery, Sport Ireland has prioritised the achievement of objectives relative to high-performance investment, athlete supports, world-class coaching and services, and governance (strategic pillars 1–4). The strategy benefitted from increased resources in the early years of its delivery, which have enabled these significant system advancements. This can be evidenced in the continuation of multi-year funding, and athlete supports such as the Athlete Transition Programme and the new player funding scheme for Women's Hockey.

2022 High-Performance Investment

Sport Ireland invested over €21 million in high-performance sport in 2022 (including the Sport Ireland Institute). This investment included:

- €10.721 million to NGBs for the delivery of their high-performance programmes;
- €3.685 million in direct athlete funding through Sport Ireland's International Carding Scheme, the Athlete Career Transition (ACT) programme; the Player Funding Scheme (Women's Hockey); and the Golf Ireland Professional Scheme;
- €950,000 in high-performance operations and administration funding to the Olympic Federation of Ireland and Paralympics Ireland.

In addition, Sport Ireland provided funding of €1.925 million through High-Performance Impact Funding to fifteen NGBs and funded bodies in 2022. Impact Funding ensures that there is a level of flexibility within the high-performance system and an ability to respond positively to performance opportunities or reasonable financial challenges within NGBs.

Sport Ireland Institute

€3.72 million was provided to the Sport Ireland Institute for high-performance support services.

The Sport Ireland Institute provided support to 387 athletes in 2022. It also secured enhanced partnerships as the Official Performance Support Delivery Partner to Team Ireland with the Olympic Federation of Ireland and Paralympics Ireland.

High performance at major international events 2022

In 2022, via NGBs directly supported by Sport Ireland through High Performance Programme Funding, Ireland secured 105 major medals at major international events. This was the largest ever number of major international medals in history. Of these, forty-four were at senior level, with the remaining sixty-one coming from non-senior events (U23/junior/youth level). The high-performance system delivered eight medals at world championships in Olympic sports and twelve medals at world championships in Paralympic sports. The 2022 performance results are a key indicator of progression within the high-performance system, which is accelerated by increased investment.



Across the Paris 2024 Cycle, Ireland has won 167 medals at major international events. This puts Ireland on course to achieve the target of 270 medals across the cycle, as per the government’s Sports Action Plan 2021–2023.

Objective 4: Governance

Anti-doping

Sport Ireland operates the Irish sport anti-doping programme, which is part of an international system of testing. In 2022, the Sport Ireland Anti-Doping Unit completed 1,415 blood and urine tests, on samples collected from twenty-seven different sports.

With a national and international reputation for excellence – which is important for Irish sports and athletes competing at the highest levels, domestically and internationally – the unit operates at the highest standard, as evidenced by the maintenance of ISO certification following an audit in October 2022.

The unit continues to make progress in the areas of testing, education and research, and continues to increase the number of tests in certain sports. It plays an influential leadership role at National Anti-Doping Organizations (NADO) and World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) meetings as a strong voice for clean and ethical sport. Sport Ireland was deemed compliant with the WADA Code in 2022, and also contributed to the Council of Europe’s Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention and its advisory groups on education and science.

Governance Code for Sport

The National Sports Policy 2018–2027 required that all funded bodies adopt the Governance Code for Sport by 31 December 2021 (Action 31). At the end of 2022, ninety-two of the 100 organisations within the sport sector have self-declared their adoption of the code. Four organisations have submitted paperwork that is currently under review by Sport Ireland. And three organisations remain on their ‘adoption journey’, with Sport Ireland awaiting paperwork to be submitted from them in due course.

For those organisations that have yet to fully adopt the code, the onus remains with their leadership and membership to take ownership and accountability for embedding recommended practices or dealing with particular governance challenges. Sport Ireland has engaged with some organisations via a liaison process that continues into 2023 and assists with a more structured approach to the embedding good governance aligned to the code.

Organisational Development and Change

Sport Ireland continued to offer further support to organisations under the Gov-Enhance Governance Support Programme in 2022. Seventeen key events took place, and the programme culminated with the delivery of the Sport Ireland 2022 Annual Governance Conference in November, which was attended by over 130 participants.

The focus of the 2022 conference was the importance of leadership in governance, with a priority for the sport sector in increasing the gender balance within one of its primary leadership groups: its governing board. Minister Jack Chambers TD addressed the conference, and there were contributions and insights on the day from the business, voluntary, charity and sport sectors.

Women in Sport Leadership

In December 2022, Sport Ireland released the latest Women in Sport Leadership snapshot data, highlighting a further increase in the number of women on boards, from 32 per cent in 2021 to 36 per cent in 2022. The snapshot also showed an increase in the percentage of women on the boards of LSPs: from 37 per cent to 39 per cent. Furthermore, 50 per cent of the sporting bodies included in the data had achieved the required target that 40 per cent of their boards be made up of women.

FAI Oversight

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the then Minister for Transport, Tourism & Sport and the FAI for the period 2020-2023 established the framework for the restoration of funding from the Government of Ireland to the FAI, the provision of additional funding over the period 2020-2023 and the responsibilities of each party.

The Governance Oversight Group was established in 2020 under the MOU to oversee, review, and critically assess the FAI's implementation of and adherence to the requirements of the MOU for the period 2020-2023. The Group met a total of 12 times by the end of 2022. From 2020 to the end of 2022, the FAI have made significant progress on its reform agenda in the areas of Governance and Financial Reform.

Notwithstanding the progress to date, all parties agree that there remains work to be completed by the FAI on its reform agenda, and on fully embedding the recommended good governance and internal financial control practices across the Association. Sport Ireland and the FAI continue to liaise on all matters, and we ensure that the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and Department officials are kept informed of progress.

Sport Ireland Campus

In November 2022, the Government reaffirmed its commitment to the phased delivery of the Sport Ireland Campus and approved a new masterplan for its future development. The masterplan provides the framework for the long-term development of the campus over the next 15-20 years incorporating world-class sporting facilities for elite athletes, facilities for recreational and community use, office accommodation for National Governing Bodies and athlete accommodation. The vision for the campus is that it will be a local, national, and international centre for sporting excellence within Ireland, the home for the development of athletes and a focal point for the promotion of sport, health, and wellbeing within the community.

The National Velodrome and Badminton Centre is one of the first projects expected to be delivered under the masterplan. The objective of this project is to contribute to the success of high-performance programmes and to increase participation in both track cycling and badminton with positive impacts on both national pride and social well-being. In December 2022, Fingal County Council notified Sport Ireland of its decision to grant planning permission. The final grant of planning was awarded in January 2023.

Sport Ireland Facilities Designated Activity Company

A subsidiary of Sport Ireland, Sport Ireland Facilities DAC is responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the Sport Ireland Campus facilities. COVID-19 had a significant impact on operations on the Campus during 2021. In 2022, there was a return in visitor numbers compared to the previous two years. 799,681 visits were made to the National Aquatic Centre while there were 462,748 visitors to the National Indoor Arena and 103,172 to the Synthetic pitches. Overall, there were 1.3 million visits to the Campus in 2022, which compares with 1.6 million visitors in 2019, before the pandemic.

Footfall	2022	2021	2020	2019
National Aquatic Centre	799,681	262,390	317,976	1,045,660
Synthetic Pitches	103,172	68,540	81,536	107,101
National Indoor Arena	462,748	111,823	171,850	456,412
Total	1,365,601	442,753	571,362	1,609,173

Challenges

Cost of Living

In 2022, in response to the rising energy costs crisis, all Sport Ireland recognised National Governing Bodies of Sport were invited to apply for support under the Sports Energy Support Scheme (SESS). The purpose of the funding was to support National Governing Bodies of Sport and their affiliated Clubs with the rising energy costs associated with the provision of sport throughout the winter period. Under the scheme, €19.2M was distributed to 30 NGBs, supporting 2,884 clubs throughout the sector.

Campus Development

Our Campus Masterplan lays out an ambitious plan for the development of the Sport Ireland Campus. The delivery of the Masterplan is dependent on the availability of capital funding and external factors including construction inflation.

Global arena

The achievement of major medals occurs in a global arena; it is dependent on stability in these environments to provide Irish athletes an opportunity to compete. Sport Ireland monitors closely actions by various International Federations which have a direct impact on Irish athletes and our medal targets outlined in our strategy.

Staffing and recruitment

Sport Ireland will need to grow our staffing and capacity to embrace the next stage of our development and deliver the expected services to the sports sector and the Irish public. Sport Ireland's ability to recruit and retain staff is impacted by a competitive labour market and is governed by Public Service limits and structures for recruitment and employment.

It's My Time

It's My Time is an award-winning campaign from Sport Ireland, targeted at women over forty who feel like there's just not enough time to add movement, exercise and their favourite pastimes into their day-to-day lives. This campaign was part of the new Sport Ireland Diversity and Inclusion in Sport policy, with its vision of a sport sector that celebrates diversity, promotes inclusion and is proactive in providing opportunities for lifelong participation for everyone.

Repeated studies, including Sport Ireland's Irish Sport Monitor, have shown that women over forty, particularly those from disadvantaged communities, are amongst the least likely to be physically active or play sport.

The key findings, which were instrumental in the development of this campaign, were as follows:

- Nearly half (49 per cent) of all Irish women over the age of forty do not prioritise physical exercise.
- Only 28 per cent of women over forty believe they meet the World Health Organization's recommended exercise guidelines of thirty minutes of exercise five days a week.
- The leading barriers to exercise are being too tired (64 per cent), a lack of time (41 per cent), a preference to do other things (36 per cent) and injury or disability (31 per cent).

CAMPAIGN OVERVIEW

The It's My Time campaign launched on Wednesday, 23 November 2022. The launch day featured a number of excellent initiatives including:

- immersive videos;
- radio advertisements;
- print media;
- digital display ads;
- a national press release;
- national and regional radio interviews with Nora Stapleton, Women in Sport lead with Sport Ireland;
- influencer activity with sport personalities Evanne Ní Chuilinn and Marie Crowe.

THE DELIVERY

There were three important pillars to the delivery of the campaign:

- 1 Digital media
- 2 Social-media and influencers
- 3 Print and radio coverage

DIGITAL MEDIA

The digital element of the campaign featured online display advertisements with local news organisations.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND INFLUENCERS

On Facebook, there was a high amount of reach on both paid and organic posts. Engagements were higher on the organic posts that allowed long-term sharing and commenting. On Instagram, there was a higher reach for our target audience than anticipated; this platform had the most interactions throughout the campaign. A number of female ambassadors were instrumental in bringing awareness to the campaign. The announcement of Vera Pauw as an ambassador pushed the campaign into mainstream media, resulting in an audience of over 6 million. Evanne Ní Chuilinn and Marie Crowe also promoted the campaign on their own social-media platforms, attracting a wealth of coverage.

PRINT AND RADIO COVERAGE

Several LSPs were proposed to feature as guests on their local radio stations. Representatives from both Limerick and Mayo LSP spoke about the campaign as well as the projects they run in their communities that were appropriate for the target demographic of this campaign. Print advertisements were run in the Irish Examiner, Irish Sun, Irish Daily Mirror, The Independent, Daily Mail, Irish Daily Star and The Herald.

THE RESULT

The It's My Time campaign has continued to receive unprecedented positive feedback from the target audience, and won the Gold award for Best Multi-Platform Campaign for Events/Cause (Agency) at the 2023 Social Media Awards (Socksies).

3.

HOW WE ARE RUN

As a statutory agency operating under the Sport Ireland Act (2015), Sport Ireland is subject to a range of statutory obligations and corporate governance obligations under the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies.

Operational Areas

High Performance

Sport Ireland supports the development of systemic and sustainable programmes that yield exceptional performances by athletes and teams at the European, world, Olympic and Paralympic levels. Our remit focuses on investment, governance and strategic actions that lead to positive system outcomes. At Sport Ireland, we oversee the provision of investment to individual athletes, teams and performance programmes. This cohesive funding model is underpinned by the Sport Ireland High Performance Strategy 2021–2032.

Sport Ireland Institute

The Sport Ireland Institute is set up to support talented Irish athletes to achieve sustained levels of excellence in elite sport. By working with a network of highly experienced, quality-assured service providers, Sport Ireland Institute ensures that athletes have access to the sports science and sports medicine they need to achieve sustained levels of excellence in elite international sport.

Campus Development

Sport Ireland is responsible for the development of the Sport Ireland Campus. This includes the implementation of the Campus Masterplan: overseeing the development of individual facilities on the campus; developing strategies and proposals for future facility development and use; and promoting the use of the campus at all levels from high performance to participation by members of the public. Responsibility for the day-to-day operation of campus facilities rests with a wholly owned subsidiary of Sport Ireland.

Sport Ireland Facilities DAC

The Company is a subsidiary of Sport Ireland and is responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the Sport Ireland 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 and maintenance of office accommodation for sports bodies based on the Campus.

Anti-doping

Sport Ireland operates the national anti-doping organisation. Its functions include the implementation of guidelines, codes of practice, standards of good conduct, fair play and the elimination of doping in sport, as well as planning, implementing and evaluating education and information programmes.

Coaching

Sport Ireland has the lead role for sports coaching in Ireland on an all-island basis. Working in partnership with the NGBs and the wider sporting sector, we lead the development of sports coaching in Ireland through the implementation of a quality coach and tutor-education support programme.

Ethics

Sport Ireland's safeguarding remit is to develop and disseminate guidelines and codes of practice promoting best practices for the protection of children in sport consistent with child protection guidance and legislation. To advance this function Sport Ireland engages with over 60 autonomous National Governing Bodies of Sport to raise awareness of and promote behaviours to uphold good practice and fair play in all sport.

National Governing Bodies

The NGBs recognised by Sport Ireland are at the centre of Irish sport and key to achieving our strategic and operational goals. The work of NGBs feeds into and complements the strategic priorities identified in both the National Sports Policy 2018–2027 and the Sport Ireland strategy. Sport Ireland works in partnership with the NGBs to make them more effective in developing their sport and servicing the needs of their members, and one of our main priorities is to strengthen and develop their capabilities.

Participation

Sport Ireland works to increase participation in sport nationwide in line with the National Sports Policy. The objective is pursued through our work with our network of Local Sports Partnerships, our Women in Sport Policy, our work in Outdoors and through the encouragement of Cross Collaboration between the sports sector.

Organisational Development and Change

Support to organisations that receive funding from Sport Ireland, including NGBs and LSPs, is delivered by our Organisational Development and Change Unit. There are several aspects to this unit's work, which include capability building, organisational development and change interventions and networks.

Governance and Strategy

Sport Ireland focuses on managing and coordinating various governance activities, initiatives and strategic programmes through its Governance and Strategy Unit, in accordance with the government's National Sports Policy 2018–2027 and Sport Ireland's strategy.

Research and Innovation

Sport Ireland works in the areas of research, evaluation and innovation to develop insights and to support the generation of solutions in the areas of participation, performance and high-performance sport.

Sport Ireland's Corporate Governance and Compliance

As a statutory agency operating under the Sport Ireland Act (2015), Sport Ireland is subject to a range of statutory obligations and corporate governance obligations under the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. Sport Ireland confirms that the necessary obligations, including those for risk management, internal audit and the Public Spending Code are complied with.

Section 8.4 of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies requires Government Departments to ensure that they have written oversight agreements with State bodies under their aegis which clearly define the terms of the State body's relationship with the relevant Minister/parent Department. The oversight agreement is a written statement between the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and Sport Ireland defining the respective roles and responsibilities of the Department and Sport Ireland and the terms of their relationship. An oversight agreement was in place with the Department for 2022.

Board Members 2022

Kieran Mulvey – Chairperson*

Kieran Mulvey was Chief Executive of the Labour Relations Commission since its inception in 1991 and subsequently took on the role of Director General of the Workplace Relations Commission, retiring in June 2016. Kieran is a former General Secretary of the Association of Secondary Teachers Ireland (ASTI) and Irish Federation of University Teachers (IFUT). Kieran has also acted as a Consultant with the EU and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on matters relating to public management, human resources and industrial relations. He chaired the negotiations which led to the Public Service Croke Park, Haddington Road and Lansdowne Road Agreements. Kieran is a Fellow of the Educational Institute of Scotland and holds an Honorary Doctorate of Laws from the National University of Ireland and UCD.

Lynne Cantwell

Lynne Cantwell is Ireland's most capped woman in Irish rugby and a former Vice-Captain and 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. Lynne is the Women's High-Performance Manager with South Africa Rugby.

Mary Dorgan

Mary is the former Assistant Chief Executive with the Health and Safety Authority. Mary joined the HSA from Waterford Crystal where she had the role of Human Resources Manager. Having previously served on many Boards and committees, Mary has been on the Sport Ireland Board since its establishment in 2015 and has participated as both Chair and member of a number of sub committees. She has a keen interest in all sports and particularly in promoting participation.

Jerry Grant

Jerry Grant has a background in Civil Engineering and is an experienced Director and Executive Advisor in the Utilities and Construction sectors with 25 years at Director Level including roles as director of MC O'Sullivan Consulting Engineers (MCOS), and 10 years as Managing Director of RPS in Ireland. Jerry has held the roles of Specialist Advisor, Head of Asset Management and Managing Director with Irish Water from 2012 to 2018. He is currently Managing Director of Jerry Grant & Associates and External Member of the Governing Body of the Technological University Dublin. Jerry is a member of the Institute of Arbitrators and is qualified in Law & Arbitration as well as being a Chartered Fellow of Engineers Ireland. Jerry was appointed as Chairman of Dublin Port Company in December 2020 and has been a Board Member of Project Woodland since March 2021.

Olive Loughnane

Olive competed as a high-performance athlete from 2000 – 2013. She represented Ireland at four consecutive Olympic Games and became World Athletics Champion in 2009. She is the current Chair of the Sport Ireland High Performance Committee and represents Sport Ireland on the FAI Nominations Committee. Olive holds a B. Comm from University of Galway and a Masters in Leadership and Strategy. The research element of her MA focussed on the delivery of organisational change and implementation of governance reform in the aftermath of an organisational crisis. She currently works as Director of Transformation with the Sea-Fisheries Protection Authority.

Padraic Moran*

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.

Patrick O'Connor*

Pat O'Connor is a Solicitor, Coroner, Arbitrator and Notary Public. Pat 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).

Roger O'Connor

Roger is a highly qualified Sports Business Leader, 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 extensive experience working in elite professional sport, holding the positions of Managing Director and Head of Finance & Regulations at ERC, the organiser and rights holder of the Heineken Cup rugby tournament and as CFO of the newly redeveloped Curragh Racecourse Ltd. Roger's current position is Director, Commercial Affairs with ICON plc.

Ioánáid Ó Muircheartaigh

Ioánáid's career has been in the fields of administration, research, academia and management. He is a former President of NUI Galway. During his term of office, he led the University to a period of unprecedented growth in student numbers, capital developments, research income and philanthropic fundraising. He served as Chair and Board member of the Irish Universities Quality Board (IUQB). His research has been published in international journals and he has served as a visiting professor at Stanford University, the US Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey California, the University of Connecticut and Glasgow University. He has also served on many Boards in the public, private and voluntary sectors. He has been involved in athletics as a competitor at national and international level and was selected as Captain of the first (united) Irish team since 1937 to compete internationally in the European Cup, which was held in Santry in 1967. He also coached athletics, and served on the Board of Athletics Ireland. He plays golf and served as a Board member of the Golfing Union of Ireland, which he has helped guide through the process of combining with the Irish Ladies Golfing Union leading to the establishment of Golf Ireland, a single body to promote the game of golf in Ireland.

Michelle Tanner

Michelle works as Head of Sport and Recreation in Trinity College Dublin. Her work includes strategic development, profile, management, staffing, resourcing and promotion of sport, infrastructural projects, representation, stakeholder engagement and planning. She has responsibility for a portfolio of 67 acres of outdoor sports and 13,000sqm of indoor sports facilities. She has led on projects from inception to completion at various scales, including the acquisition, design and development of key sporting facilities at Trinity College. She is an active Board and committee member, holding officer positions within Student Sport Ireland spanning a 16-year period and is a former international volleyball player with the Irish Senior Team.

Deirdre Ryan

Deirdre is Director of Sustainability and Quality Assurance (Origin Green) in Bord Bia where she is responsible for the management and development of the Bord Bia Quality Assurance programmes with 54,000 farmer and producer members and 300 Origin Green company members. As a member of Bord Bia's Senior Leadership Team, she contributes to the ongoing corporate governance and budgetary management of the organisation, with a particular focus on the Quality Assurance Board. Prior to 2020 she was Head of Corporate Social Responsibility with Lidl Ireland and Northern Ireland and Interim Head of Communications. Deirdre was an international high-jumper with 13 years' experience competing on the senior international stage of sport. She was an Irish Olympian at London 2012 and has competed at multiple European and World Championships, culminating in a 5th place position at the 2011 World Championship in Daegu.

Miriam O'Callaghan

Miriam has been a Senior HR Executive and Project Manager with the HSE with over 30 years' experience in the health services at senior operational level and across various facets of HR, project management & services management. Her expertise includes Hospital and Community Services Management, Employee Relations, Pensions, Recruitment and Project Management. She has been a member of a number of state boards – Employment Equality Agency, Broadcasting Complaints Commission, National Sports Campus Authority of Ireland - and is currently serving on CORU's Physiotherapists Registration Board.

Páraic Duffy

Páraic was Principal of St. Macartan's College, Monaghan for 11 years until he became the GAA's first Player Welfare Manager in 2007. In February 2008 he was appointed Director- General of the GAA and served in the role until his retirement in 2018. Páraic currently serves as Chairperson of the Board of Management of Saint Macartan's College and is President of Ulster Schools GAA. He is a member of the Disputes Resolution Authority, sits on several boards and is Coaching Officer in Scotstown G.A.A. club.

Notes: Kieran Mulvey's term as Chairperson of Sport Ireland was extended for a period of six months from 30th September 2022 to 31st March 2023. Pádraic Moran and Pat O'Connor's terms expired on 30th September 2022. John Foley was appointed as new Chairperson of Sport Ireland in April 2023. Kevin Hoy and Deirdre Mongan were appointed as new members to the Board in April 2023.

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 or Committees 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 of Sport Ireland's performance and culture, overseeing major capital expenditure and investment decisions and preparing the annual report and financial statements.

The Board conducts its business through a culture of integrity and ethical behaviour and 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 is to decide matters of policy, strategy, 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 at all times complies with the principle of the collective responsibility and authority of Sport Ireland as a body corporate.

The Board takes appropriate steps to ensure that it is supplied in a timely fashion with such information as is necessary or desirable to enable Members to discharge their duties satisfactorily.

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 has adopted a statement of strategy for a period of five years ahead. Implementation of the strategy by Sport Ireland is supported through an annual planning and budgeting cycle. The Board has completed a review of actual performance of the 2022 annual plan.

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.

Consistent with governance best practice and the requirements of the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies (2016) the Board undertakes an annual evaluation of its 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 leadership, direction and control of the organisation is firmly in the hands of the Board. The functions reserved to the Board include (save to the extent otherwise determined by the Board) the following matters:

- establishing the processes whereby it recruits a Chief Executive (including succession planning), sets his/her job description, determines the terms of his/her contract (having regard to applicable Government guidelines) and reviews his/her performance;
- 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:
 - €10,000 in the case of an individual grantee, or
 - €100,000 in the case of an NGB or other organisation in receipt of a grant, or
 - €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 projects, Schedule of Frameworks and Contracts and expenditures above a threshold of €100,000 including professional fees (e.g. project management, design fees) both in terms of selection of the provider and the budget to be assigned to the provider, in accordance with Sport Ireland's Gated Approval Process. Note: Capital Projects and expenditures above the €25,000 but below the €100,000, and for which total expenditure can be met from within the current year's capital budget, will require the approval of the Sport Ireland Campus Committee only (with the Board notified of the decision). All projects above this €100,000 threshold, and all projects which will lead to multi-annual contractual commitments, will require full Board approval.
- approval of strategic priorities and the terms of the strategy, business and implementation plans prepared by staff and designed to deliver such priorities, including criteria for evaluating performance;
- adoption of an annual budget and corporate plan on notification of the actual level of available income, setting guidelines for budget variance and monitoring expenditure on a quarterly basis;
- adoption of audit and risk management policies and monitoring and reporting as required on their implementation;
- approval of Annual Reports, Financial Statements, Statements on Internal Control and Assurance Frameworks prepared by Sport Ireland's staff;
- 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, to include the pension benefits of the Chief Executive and other staff (which may require Ministerial approval), and monitoring the implementation of that policy;
- approval of assurances of compliance with statutory and administrative requirements in relation to the approval of the appointment, number, grading, and conditions of all staff, including remuneration and superannuation.
- determining the procedures to be followed at the Board's meetings (and exceptionally when decisions are required between Board meetings) in the form of standing orders. Such standing orders will be reviewed from time to time, but in all events not less than once every three years, and when adopted shall be deemed to form part of the Code;
- approval of significant acquisitions, disposals and retirement of assets of Sport Ireland and its subsidiaries above a threshold of €25,000;
- appointing and directing as many committees or working groups as necessary to assist in the performance of its functions and approving/amending the terms of reference of such committees or working groups as required.
- approval of a decision to suspend, withhold or restore funding to a NGB or other organisation in receipt of a grant as set out at paragraph 6.4.
- approval or rejection of an application for recognition of a NGB.
- setting and monitoring Sport Ireland's culture, in terms of the values and behaviours which deliver the strategy, and obtaining assurance that Sport Ireland's operations are aligned with its culture.
- reviewing, on an annual basis, the implementation of arrangements set out in the Code of Governance and Business Conduct and proposing and approving, if appropriate, any changes to the Code
- approval of the Code of Governance and Business Conduct and ensuring that it is updated regularly in response to evolving governance obligations or circumstances.

- approval of Sport Ireland’s financial policies and procedures and ensuring that they reflect good governance practice and expected norms and institute a process to keep these regularly updated and formally reviewed
- in the absence of the Chairperson at a meeting of the Board, the appointment of an acting Chairperson from the Members present at the meeting.
- approval of the certain matters relating to Sport Ireland Facilities DAC
- approval of the establishment of new subsidiaries of Sport Ireland.

Board & Committee Evaluation

The annual Board Effectiveness Review process commenced in November 2022 and was completed in December 2022. In 2022, the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media noted the pending change to the pivotal position of Chairperson. The Department agreed to defer the requirement to complete an external review of Board effectiveness until late 2023 to allow for the on-boarding of a new Chairperson. The Department agreed that the overarching governance objectives could be achieved by completing an internal review of Board effectiveness in 2022. The Board also reviews reports from each Committee as a standing agenda item at each Board meeting.

Promoting Diversity & Inclusion

There are a number of areas of Sport Ireland’s work that promote Diversity & Inclusion, and these are detailed in the relevant sections of this Report including Sport Ireland’s Policy on Participation in Sport by people with Disabilities, Women in Sport and Ethics.

Gender Balance in the Board membership

As at 31 December 2022, the Board had 5 (45)% male and 6 (55)% female members, with two positions vacant. The Board therefore met the Government target of a minimum of 40% representation of each gender in the membership of State Boards.

The following measures are planned to maintain and support gender balance on this Board:

- The appointment process to the Board of Sport Ireland is a matter for the Minister in accordance with the Sport Ireland Act 2015.
- Sport Ireland will continue to advise the Minister in relation to current vacancies as to the need to promote better gender balance in Board membership.
- Ensuring gender balance is a key consideration in the composition of Sport Ireland Committees.

Risk Assessment

The Board has identified and carried out an appropriate assessment of the principal risks facing Sport Ireland. These include 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.

Sport Ireland's Risk Appetite Statement specifies the amount of risk the organisation is willing to seek or accept in the pursuit of its long-term objectives. It depicts the areas where the organisation has low tolerance for risk (Health & Safety, Ethics (i.e. no appetite for breaches of, or deviations from, best practice standards in the areas of Child Protection and Anti-Doping)) and the areas where the Board of Sport Ireland recognise the need to be innovative and accept a degree of risk (High Performance, Women in Sport, Research). Business Units within Sport Ireland maintain Risk Registers that capture the risks relevant to their operations and associated mitigation measures.

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. Risk Management is a Standing Item at each Board and Audit & Risk Committee meeting.

In 2022 the principal risks and uncertainties affecting Sport Ireland were:

- The sectors progress towards the adoption of the Governance Code for Sport (Compliance Risk).
- The risk that the staff resources required to deliver on, oversee and control Sport Ireland's broad functions, strategic priorities and National Sports Policy deliverables are not provided (Strategic Risk).
- Leadership Turnover in NGBs and the impact on High Performance objectives in a truncated Olympic/Paralympic cycle and uncertain global arena (Strategic Risk).
- Inflation and rising costs (Financial Risk).
- The degree of uncertainty on capital funding to underpin and enable the delivery of major capital projects at the Sport Ireland Campus (Operational Risk).

Emergent opportunities were also discussed at Board level, and these included:

- The development of a new Sport Ireland Statement of Strategy.
- The launch of an ambitious new Campus Masterplan presenting sizeable opportunities for the Sport Ireland Campus to become the heartbeat of Irish sport.
- The development of a new statement of ambition for the network of LSPs, 21 years after the inception of the LSPs.

Some of the key actions taken in 2022 which underpin Sport Ireland's Risk Management approach are included below:

- During the course of 2022, the Board considered the Corporate Risk Register at its February, April and October meetings.
- The Audit & Risk Committee formally reviewed the Corporate Risk Register at its meetings in March and September 2022. The Audit & Risk Committee also reviewed the following Unit Level Risk Registers during 2022:
 - Sport Ireland Facilities DAC (March 2022).
 - Research & Innovation (March 2022).
 - Finance (June 2022).
 - Participation (September 2022).
 - High Performance and NGBs (November 2022).
- The Board completed a review of Sport Ireland's revised Risk Management Policy (which included the Risk Appetite Statement) at its meeting in February 2022.

Internal Audit

Sport Ireland has an outsourced internal audit function. There was an increased and unprecedented level of internal audit activity undertaken by Sport Ireland in 2021 and 2022 due to the allocation of COVID-19 funds to the sector in 2020/2021. As part of Sport Ireland's Internal Audit plan for 2022, several Business Units of Sport Ireland, National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships were selected for audit. 22 internal audit assignments were completed in 2022 (including an external quality review of the effectiveness of Sport Ireland's internal audit function).

The Audit & Risk Committee of the Board of Sport Ireland continue to monitor the status of all audits to ensure recommendations are implemented promptly. With specific regard to the audits of National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships, the Executive continue to monitor progress on the implementation of required recommendations and have scheduled liaison meetings where appropriate.

Freedom of information

Programme Area	Total Number of Requests	Grant	Part-Grant	Refused	Withdrawn	Handled Outside FOI
National Governing Bodies	19	0	15	1	2	1
Anti-Doping	0	0	0	0	0	0
Corporate and Financial Services	11	0	10	1	0	0
High Performance	1	0	1	0	0	0
Participation	6	1	2	1	1	1
Outdoors	2	0	2	0	0	0
Total 2022	39	1	30	3	3	2

Protected disclosures

No protected disclosures were received by Sport Ireland in the reporting period up to 31 December 2022.

Public-sector duty

Section 42 of the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission Act 2014 places a statutory obligation on public bodies to eliminate discrimination, to promote equality of opportunity and to protect the human rights of the people to whom they provide services and to their staff when carrying out their daily work. Sport Ireland has a suite of policy documents that align and support some of the government's national plans and strategies. These include the Women in Sport Policy, the Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities, and Sport Ireland Customer Service Charter. Sport Ireland also has a key role to play in the Migrant Integration Strategy and the LGBTQIA+ Strategy. The associated activity in 2022 within these areas are detailed within the relevant sections of this report.

Furthermore, Sport Ireland notes the three-step approach to implementing the public-sector equality and human rights duty recommended by the Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission to assess, address and report. Sport Ireland adopts a similar approach in identifying gradients that exist in sports participation, designing and supporting programmes that address those gradients and reporting on our progress through our annual report. Action 6 of the National Sports Policy 2018-2027 tasks Sport Ireland with addressing the participation gradients that exist in sport. The duty is a permanent and ongoing obligation, and Sport Ireland will continue to monitor and report on its activities in this regard.

As part of Sport Ireland’s Great Place to Work certification, a staff engagement survey was conducted. Staff were questioned under the “Diversity & Inclusion” category regarding fair treatment in areas such as sexual orientation, race, gender, and age. The results were either in line with or, in some cases, exceeded best practices. These findings helped to reaffirm our commitment to upholding Public Sector Equality and Human Rights obligations.

Sustainability

Our approach to sustainability is to ensure Sport Ireland is environmentally conscious, socially responsible and economically viable. Understanding that it is not only our physical assets but also our day-to-day activities that can have an impact on the planet and the well-being of the community, we have embedded sustainability in both our campus master plan design and our operational plans.

Sport Ireland has adopted a holistic approach to our Sustainability Vision, developed in 2022 as part of the development of a Sustainability Framework. Moving forward, all actions undertaken by our organisation should contribute to the reduction of the impact of activities on the environment, create a better quality environment for people, ensure the resilience of the buildings and campus in the face of future challenges, and reduce the organisation’s vulnerability to environmental risks.

Serving as a guide for the development of our sustainability strategy, our Sustainability Vision outlines aspirational goals across six sustainability pillars: energy, water, materials, mobility, biodiversity and governance.

We understand that implementing sustainability is a constant effort and not a one-off task or project. We want to lead by example, by education, and by open, honest discussions.

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions 2022 v Baseline

Footfall	GHG Baseline (2016-2018)	GHG 2022
Thermal [kgCO2]	3,570,384	4,208,789
Transport [kgCO2]	7,144	20,889
Electricity [kgCO2]	2,337,460	1,869,463
Total [kgCO2]	5,914,987	6,099,140



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
SPORT IRELAND

Sport Ireland Financial Statements

COVID-19 Funding 2022

Grantee	Amount €
Football Association of Ireland	1,500,000.00
Gaelic Athletic Association	1,227,000.00
Special Olympics Ireland	1,075,000.00
Athletics Ireland	989,000.00
Cricket Ireland	801,000.00
Irish Rugby Football Union	647,000.00
Swim Ireland	599,000.00
Horse Sport Ireland	460,000.00
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	405,000.00
Rowing Ireland	405,000.00
Golf Ireland	355,000.00
Badminton Ireland	275,000.00
Triathlon Ireland	260,000.00
Irish Martial Arts Commission	250,000.00
Cycling Ireland	245,000.00
Student Sport Ireland	240,000.00
Basketball Ireland	240,000.00
The Camogie Association	204,000.00
Irish Wheelchair Association Sport	200,000.00
Hockey Ireland	180,000.00
Irish Sailing	175,000.00
Irish Squash	172,000.00
Vision Sports Ireland	170,000.00
Volleyball Ireland	158,000.00
Tennis Ireland	154,000.00
National Community Games	150,000.00
Gymnastics Ireland	150,000.00
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	146,000.00
Mountaineering Ireland	145,000.00
Canoeing Ireland	130,000.00
Paralympics Ireland	119,000.00
Irish Judo Association	112,000.00
Olympic Federation of Ireland	100,000.00
Irish Olympic Handball Association	85,000.00
GAA Handball Ireland	80,000.00
Orienteering Ireland	79,000.00
Baton Twirling Sport Association of Ireland	75,000.00
Irish Surfing	70,000.00
Motorsport Ireland	66,000.00
Table Tennis Ireland	64,000.00
ONAKAI	60,000.00
Rugby League Ireland	55,000.00
Pitch & Putt Ireland	50,000.00

COVID-19 Funding 2022 contd.

Grantee	Amount €
Snooker & Billiards Ireland	50,000.00
Diving Ireland	50,000.00
Archery Ireland	47,000.00
CARA	45,000.00
Racquetball Association of Ireland	42,000.00
Irish Amateur Wrestling Association	35,000.00
Federation of Irish Sport	30,000.00
Bol Chumann na hÉireann	25,000.00
Weightlifting Ireland	25,000.00
Deaf Sports Ireland	25,000.00
Fencing Ireland	25,000.00
Tug of War Ireland	25,000.00
Motorcycling Ireland	25,000.00
Bowling League of Ireland	25,000.00
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	25,000.00
Irish Tenpin Bowling Association	25,000.00
American Football Ireland	25,000.00
Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation	25,000.00
Speleological Union of Ireland	25,000.00
Angling Council of Ireland	25,000.00
Croquet Association of Ireland	25,000.00
Irish Ice Hockey Association	25,000.00
Pentathlon Ireland	25,000.00
Cavan Sports Partnership	57,600.00
Clare Sports Partnership	60,000.00
Cork Sports Partnership	210,800.00
Donegal Sports Partnership	100,000.00
Galway Sports Partnership	10,500.00
Kildare Sports Partnership	32,500.00
Laois Sports Partnership	94,050.00
Leitrim Sports Partnership	81,000.00
Limerick Sports Partnership	98,000.00
Longford Sports Partnership	47,000.00
Mayo Sports Partnership	86,800.00
Meath Sports Partnership	74,800.00
Monaghan Sports Partnership	18,000.00
Offaly Sports Partnership	52,850.00
Roscommon Sports Partnership	11,250.00
Sligo Sports Partnership	60,850.00
Waterford Sports Partnership	75,000.00
Wexford Sports Partnership	8,000.00
TOTAL	15,000,000.00

Energy Grants 2022

Grantee	Amount €
Gaelic Athletics Association	11,730,000.00
Golf Ireland	2,113,500.00
Facilities DAC	1,800,000.00
Football Association of Ireland	1,257,000.00
Aviva Stadium	1,034,000.00
Irish Rugby Football Union	1,010,000.00
Tennis Ireland	740,000.00
Hockey Ireland	239,000.00
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	171,500.00
Irish Sailing	134,000.00
Athletics Ireland	108,000.00
Horse Sport Ireland	107,000.00
Badminton Ireland	100,000.00
GAA Handball	75,000.00
Gymnastics Ireland	75,000.00
Irish Squash	58,000.00
Cricket Ireland	33,295.00
Basketball Ireland	31,000.00
Rowing Ireland	29,000.00
Snowsports Ireland	25,000.00
Swim Ireland	22,500.00
SB Ireland	15,000.00
The Camogie Association	14,000.00
Canoeing Ireland	13,000.00
Pitch & Putt Union of Ireland	8,000.00
Irish Martial Arts Commission	6,800.00
Weightlifting Ireland	5,800.00
Diving Ireland	5,300.00
ONAKAI	4,200.00
Racquetball Association of Ireland	3,280.00
Bowling League of Ireland	3,000.00
Total	20,971,175.00

High Performance 2022 Funding Allocation

Grantee	Amount €
1,041,667	1,041,667.00
346,667	346,667.00
241,667	241,667.00
516,667	516,667.00
693,333	693,333.00
520,000	520,000.00
826,667	826,667.00
1,003,333	1,196,667.00
910,000	1,003,333.00
7,500	910,000.00
1,196,667	7,500.00
226,667	226,667.00
516,667	412,500.00
1,032,684	1,020,000.00
150,000	112,500.00
296,667	1,000,000.00
1,000,000	296,667.00
1,313,333	1,313,333.00
1,070,457	990,457.00
280,000	217,500.00
Total	13,190,643

Direct Athlete Support

Fund	Amount €
International Carding Scheme	3,082,250
Golf Ireland Professional Scheme	300,000
Athlete Career Transition (ACT)	147,250
Player Funding Scheme (Women's Hockey)	150,000
Total	3,679,500

National Governing Bodies 2022 Core Funding

Grantee	Amount €
Angling Council of Ireland	30,000.00
Archery Ireland	30,000.00
Athletics Ireland	1,100,000.00
Badminton Ireland	425,000.00
Basketball Ireland	800,000.00
Baton Twirling Sport Association of Ireland	40,000.00
Ból Chumann na hÉireann	35,000.00
Bowling League of Ireland	60,000.00
Canoeing Ireland	315,000.00
Confederation of Golf in Ireland	350,000.00
Cricket Ireland	500,000.00
Croquet Association of Ireland	25,000.00
Cycling Ireland	416,465.00
GAA Handball Ireland	115,000.00
Gymnastics Ireland	370,000.00
Horsesport Ireland	1,005,000.00
Irish Ice Hockey Association	33,500.00
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	500,000.00
Irish Amateur Wrestling Association	30,000.00
Irish American Football Association	45,000.00
Irish Clay Pigeon Shooting Association	78,000.00
Irish Deaf Sports Association	67,000.00
Irish Fencing Federation	73,000.00
Irish Hockey Association	365,000.00
Irish Judo Association	150,000.00
Irish Martial Arts Commission	75,000.00
Irish Olympic Handball Association	60,000.00
Irish Orienteering Association	75,000.00
Irish Sailing Association	460,000.00
Irish Squash	230,000.00
Irish Surfing Association	125,000.00
Irish Table Tennis Association	168,000.00
Irish Taekwondo Union Ltd	35,000.00
Irish Ten Pin Bowling Association	45,000.00
Irish Tug of War Association	55,000.00
Irish Underwater Council	110,000.00
Irish Waterski & Wateboard Federation	40,000.00
Irish Wheelchair Association	315,000.00
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	500,000.00
Motor Cycling Ireland	50,000.00
Motor Sport Ireland	200,000.00
Mountaineering Ireland	275,000.00
National Community Games	285,000.00

National Governing Bodies 2022 Core Funding contd.

Grantee	Amount €
ONAKI	25,000.00
Pitch and Putt Union of Ireland	95,000.00
Racquetball Association of Ireland	40,000.00
Republic of Ireland Snooker & Billiards Association	80,000.00
Rowing Ireland	411,300.00
Rugby League Ireland	35,000.00
Special Olympics Ireland	1,450,000.00
Speleological Union of Ireland	30,000.00
Swim Ireland	1,050,000.00
Tennis Ireland	715,000.00
The Camogie Association	450,000.00
Triathlon Ireland	265,000.00
Vision Sports Ireland	78,000.00
Volleyball Association of Ireland	230,000.00
Weightlifting Ireland	55,000.00
Total	15,070,265

Local Sports Partnerships 2022 Core Funding

Grantee	Amount €
Carlow Sports Partnership	226,035
Cavan Local Sports partnership	282,221
Clare Sports Partnership	352,041
Co Cork Sports Partnership	582,792
Donegal Sports Partnership	359,329
Dublin City	434,065
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	281,044
Fingal Sports Partnership	350,463
Galway County Sports Partnership	383,236
Kerry Sports Partnership	229,817
Kildare Sports Partnership	355,128
Kilkenny Sports Partnership	306,995
Laois Sports Partnership	324,295
Leitrim Sports Partnership	221,746
Limerick Sports Partnership	503,196
Longford Sports Partnership	273,211
Louth Sports Partnership	307,445
Mayo Sports Partnership	414,695
Meath Sports Partnership	359,847
Monaghan Sports Partnership	205,707
Offaly Sports Partnership	267,630
Roscommon Sports Partnership	258,945
Sligo Sports Partnership	364,668
South Dublin County Council	279,673
South Tipperary	364,637
Waterford Sports Partnership	416,019
Westmeath Sports Partnership	240,296
Wexford Sports Partnership	383,761
Wicklow Sports Partnership	367,376
Technological University Dublin	250,000
Total	9,946,313

Women In Sport Grants 2022

Grantee	Amount €
Angling Council of Ireland	10,000
Athletics Ireland	87,500
Badminton Ireland	30,000
Basketball Ireland	85,000
Canoeing Ireland	52,500
Confederation of Irish Golf	67,500
Cricket Ireland	53,400
Croquet Association of Ireland	14,000
Cycling Ireland	152,500
Fencing Ireland	12,000
Football Association of Ireland	64,000
GAA Handball Ireland	15,000
GAA	35,000
Irish Amateur Boxing Association	50,000
Irish American Football Association	10,000
Irish Gymnastics	75,000
Irish Ice Hockey Association	10,000
Irish Judo Association	30,000
Irish Hockey Association	90,000
Irish Martial Arts Commission	11,500
Irish Olympic Handball	5,000
Irish Orienteering Association	2,500
Irish Rugby Football Union	115,000
Irish Sailing Association	44,000
Irish Squash	15,000
Irish Surfing Association	10,200
Irish Table Tennis Association	23,000
Irish Tug of War Association	15,000
Irish Underwater Council	25,000
Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation	17,500
Irish Wheelchair Association	45,000
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	49,000
Mountaineering Ireland	50,000
Motorsport Ireland	35,000
National Community Games	25,000
Onakai	19,000
Paralympics Ireland & CARA	10,000
Racquetball Association	3,500
Rowing Ireland	87,500
Rugby League	10,000
Speleological Union Of Ireland	1,700
Student Sport	35,000
Swim Ireland	97,500

Women In Sport Grants 2022 contd.

Grantee	Amount €
Tennis Ireland	89,900
The Camogie Association	46,000
Triathlon Ireland	72,500
Vision Sports	10,000
Volleyball Association of Ireland	103,700
Weightlifting Ireland	15,000
Carlow Sports Partnership	12,500
Cavan Sports Partnership	5,100
Clare Sports Partnership	17,000
Cork Sports Partnership	10,900
Donegal Sports Partnership	5,000
Dublin City	14,500
DunLaoghaire Sports Partnership	5,000
Fingal Sports Partnership	13,000
Galway County	12,050
Kildare Sports Partnership	16,000
Kilkenny Sports Partnership	8,000
Laois Sports Partnership	13,500
Leitrim Sports Partnership	2,500
Limerick City Sports Partnership	12,500
Longford Sports Partnership	11,500
Louth Sports Partnership	9,000
Mayo Sports Partnership	17,500
Meath Sports Partnership	24,650
Monaghan Sports Partnership	12,500
Offaly Sports Partnership	7,500
Roscommon Sports Partnership	4,600
Sligo Sports Partnership	22,500
South Dublin County Council	8,000
South Tipperary Sports Partnership	8,000
Waterford Sports Partnership	2,500
Westmeath Sports Partnership	5,900
Wexford Sports Partnership	10,500
Wicklow Sports Partnership	19,500
Total	2,344,100

Sport Ireland

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2022

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Sport Ireland

Governance Statement and Board Members' Report

For the year ended 31 December 2022

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 and accountability of the Board are set out in the Sport Ireland Code of Governance and Business Conduct and the Code of Practice for the Governance of State Bodies. The Board is accountable to the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media 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, who is the Accountable Officer, 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.

Key items considered by the Board include:

- disclosure of interests,
- reports from committees,
- risk management,
- 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 Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media, with the consent of the Minister for Public Expenditure National Development Plan Delivery and Reform, all proper and usual accounts of money received, expended and all property, assets and liabilities including an income and expenditure account and a balance sheet and in particular, shall keep such special accounts (if any) as the Minister may from time to time direct.

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 2022 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 2022.

Board Structure

The Board consists of a Chairperson and 12 ordinary members, all of whom are appointed by the Minister for Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media for terms of between three to five years. As or year-end, there are two vacancies to be filled.

Board Member	Role	Date Appointed
Kieran Mulvey	Chairperson	1 October 2015
Mary Dorgan	Ordinary Member	1 October 2015
Olive Loughnane	Ordinary Member	10 August 2018
Roger O'Connor	Ordinary Member	10 August 2018
Lynne Cantwell	Ordinary Member	19 October 2018
Iognaid O Muirheartaigh	Ordinary Member	21 October 2020
Jerry Grant	Ordinary Member	21 October 2020
Miriam O Callaghan	Ordinary Member	26 July 2021
Páraic Duffy	Ordinary Member	26 July 2021
Michelle Tanner	Ordinary Member	26 July 2021
Deirdre Ryan	Ordinary Member	26 July 2021

The Board has established 11 Committees which are as follows:

1. **Audit and Risk Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and four external 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, Miriam O'Callaghan, Bernard Allen, Walter Johnston, Padraic Moran and Sinéad O'Connor. There were six

meetings of the ARC in 2022.

2. **Anti-Doping Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises two Board members and five 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 Roger O'Connor (Chairperson), Páraic Duffy, Brendan Buckley, Elaine Breslin, David Gillick, Dr. Elizabeth Keane and Ian Weir. Patrick O'Connor also served on the Committee for a period during 2022. There were two meetings of this Committee in 2022.

3. **High Performance Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and six 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 Olive Loughnane (Chairperson), Lynne Cantwell, Deirdre Ryan, Peter Sherrard, Roy Dooney, Mike Heskin, Richard Archibald, Dr. Brian Moore and Natalya Coyle. Joy Neville and Miriam Malone also served on the Committee for a period during 2022. There were five meetings of this Committee in 2022.

4. **Coaching Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises one Board member and eight 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 Iognáid Ó Muircheartaigh (Chairperson), Padraic Moran, Mary O'Connor, Henry Shefflin, Alan Curran, Dr. Fiona Chambers, Cliona O'Leary, Catherine Flanagan and Colin McEntee. Patrick O'Connor and Claire Lambe also served on the Committee for a period during 2022. There were four meetings of this Committee in 2022.

5. **Sport Ireland Campus Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and six independent members. The purpose of the Sport Ireland Campus Committee is to assist and advise Sport Ireland in relation to its functions relating to the development of a Sport Ireland 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 Jerry Grant (Chairperson), Michelle Tanner, Miriam O'Callaghan, John Maughan, Ciaran McGivern, Roy Dooney, Sean Benton, Patrick O'Connor and Jackie Dunne. There were five meetings of this Committee in 2022.

6. **Grants Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and one independent member. The role of the Grants Committee is to consider and recommend National Governing Body and Local Sports Partnership grants (including Women in Sport grants) on an annual basis. The members of this Committee are Mary Dorgan (Chairperson), Olive Loughnane, Jerry Grant and Bernard Allen. There were two meetings of this Committee in 2022.
7. **Eligibility Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and one independent member. 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, Deirdre Ryan and Jerry O'Dwyer. There was one meeting of this Committee in 2022.
8. **Research & Participation Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and three 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 Miriam O'Callaghan (Chairperson), Iognáid Ó Muircheartaigh, Michelle Tanner, John Hart, Sinead Heraty, Dr. Aoife Lane. There were six meetings of this Committee in 2022.
9. **Women in Sport Steering Committee:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members and seven independent members. The role of this group is to support the implementation of the Women in Sport Policy, and to support and guide the work of the Women in Sport Lead. The members of this Steering Committee are Lynne Cantwell (Chairperson), Mary Dorgan, Deirdre Ryan, Mary O'Connor, Joanne Cantwell, John Fulham, John Sweeney, Jenny Egan, Alan Milton and Lisa Fallon. Claire Lambe also served on the Committee for a period during 2022. There were four meetings of this Committee in 2022.
10. **Education & Training Council:** As of year-end, this Committee comprises one Board member, one independent member and nine executive members. The Education & Training Council was established in September 2019 as part of Sport Ireland's application to Quality & Qualifications Ireland as a Higher Education Provider. The Committee oversees the implementation of quality assurance in the education & training programmes offered by Sport Ireland. The members of the Council are Iognáid Ó Muircheartaigh (Chairperson), Michael McGeehin, Fiona Larkin, Alan O'Hare, Siobhan Leonard, Ciara Munnely, Benny Cullen, Hayley Harrison, Paul O'Donovan, Tony Wright and Dr. Mary Beades. There were four meetings of the Education & Training Council in 2022.

11. Succession Planning Committee: As of year-end, this Committee comprises three Board members. The role of this Committee is to assist Sport Ireland on succession planning for Board and Committee members. The members of this Steering Committee are Kieran Mulvey (Chairperson), Mary Dorgan, and Olive Loughnane. Patrick O'Connor also served on the Committee for a period during 2022. There was one meeting of this Committee in 2022.

Note: Sport Ireland wholly owns a subsidiary Company (Sport Ireland Facilities DAC). The primary role of the subsidiary Company is to manage, operate and maintain facilities at the Sport Ireland Campus. As of year-end, the Directors of the subsidiary Company are Roger O'Connor (Chairperson), Jerry Grant, Páraic Duffy, Michelle Tanner, Patrick O'Connor, Susan Grady and Caroline Murphy. There were six meetings of the Board of Sport Ireland Facilities DAC in 2022.

Schedule of Attendance, Fees and Expenses

There were 10 Sport Ireland Board meetings during 2022. A schedule of attendance at the Board and Committee meetings for 2022 is set out below including the fees and expenses received by each member:

<i>Board Member</i>	Board Meetings Attended	Audit & Risk Committee	Anti- Doping Committee	High Performance Committee	Coaching Committee National Sports Campus Committee	NGB Grants Committee	Eligibility Committee	Research Committee	Women in Sport Advisory Group	Education & Training Council	Succession Planning Committee	Board Members Emoluments Year ended 31 December 2022	Vouched Expenses 31 December 2022
												€	€
Kieran Mulvey	10										1	11,970	3,904
Mary Dorgan	10	6				2	1	3			1	7,695	3,485
Patrick O'Connor	6				2	4					1	5,771	401
Lynne Cantwell	9			4				4				7,695	-
Olive Loughnane	9			5		1					1	-	-
Roger O'Connor	10	5	2									7,695	1,354
Padraic Moran	6	3			2							5,771	-
Iognaid O Muircheartaigh	10				4			4		4		7,695	4,347
Jerry Grant	10					5	1					7,695	-
Paraic Duffy	10		1									7,695	2,613
Miriam O Callaghan	10	6				5		6				7,695	2,558
Michelle Tanner	9				4			5				-	335
Deirdre Ryan	8			4			1		3			-	-
Total												77,377	18,997

Under the One Person One Salary (OPOS) principle Olive Loughnane, Michelle Tanner and Deirdre Ryan did not receive a Board fee in 2022.

Key Personnel Changes

Patrick O'Connor and Padraic Moran's terms expired on 30th September 2022.

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 National Development Plan Delivery 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 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
60,000-69,999	1	2
70,000-79,999	5	4
80,000-89,999	2	2
90,000-99,999	3	2
100,000-109,999	4	4
110,000-119,999	-	-
120,000-129,999	-	-
130,000-139,999	-	-
140,000-149,999	1	-
150,000-159,999	-	-
160,000- 169,999	-	-
170,000- 179,999	-	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 the 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 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Legal Advice	161,673	87,614
Technical advice	4,816,409	1,934,462
Financial/Actuarial advice	215,945	351,823
Human Resources	11,509	55,171
Business improvement	143,816	134,169
Other	1,096,489	1,827,631
Total Consultancy Cost	6,445,841	4,390,870
Consultancy Costs Capitalised	4,816,409	1,934,462
Consultancy Costs charged to the Income & Expenditure and Retained Revenue Reserves	1,629,432	2,456,408
Total Consultancy Cost	6,445,841	4,390,870

Legal Costs and Settlements

The table below provides a breakdown of amounts recognised as an 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 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Legal Fees – Legal Proceedings	-	-
Conciliation and Arbitration Payments	-	-
Settlements	5,500	-
Total Legal Cost	5,500	-

Travel and Subsistence Expenditure

Travel and subsistence expenditure is categorised as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Domestic		
- Board	22,649	6,773
- Employees	86,784	12,783
International		
- Board	2,448	955
- Employees **	55,610	11,995
Total Travel Cost	167,491	32,506

**International for Employees include CEO international

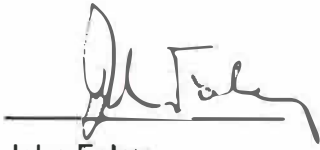
Hospitality Expenditure

The Income and Expenditure Account includes the following hospitality expenditure:

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Staff hospitality	6,004	500
Client hospitality	158	-
Total Hospitality	6,162	500

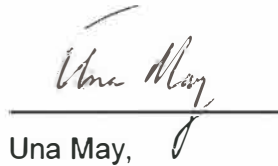
Statement of Compliance

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 the year ended 2022.



John Foley,
Chairperson

23 November 2023



Una May,
Chief Executive Officer

23 November 2023

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 National Development Plan Delivery, has been in place in Sport Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022 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 of three Board members (as of year-end) and three external members, with financial and audit expertise, one of whom is the Chair. The ARC met six times in 2022.

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 in Sport Ireland. The risk register also assigns responsibility to specific staff for the operation of controls. I confirm that a controlled environment containing the following elements is in place:

- procedures for all key business processes have been documented,
- financial responsibilities have been assigned at the management level with corresponding accountability,
- there is an appropriate budgeting system with an annual approved 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 provides assurance that grant funding has been applied for the purpose intended.

Sport Ireland Facilities DAC Oversight function

As part of the ongoing oversight of Sport Ireland Facilities DAC, which is the subsidiary company to Sport Ireland, 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. Sport Ireland has also agreed to inter-company charges through a service level agreement arrangement with Sport Ireland Facilities DAC. In addition, a Performance Service Delivery and Oversight Agreement has been in place since 2020 with the subsidiary company.

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. Control deficiencies are communicated to those responsible for taking corrective action and to management and the Board in a timely manner. 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 2022 Sport Ireland complied with those procedures.

The impact of Covid 19 on the control environment

Sport Ireland took immediate steps at the onset of the Covid pandemic to mitigate the risks in relation to remote working and specifically the lack of a staff presence on-site at Sport Ireland HQ. The risk register was reviewed by the ARC and the Board to ensure Covid related risks were reflected and ranked accordingly. The modified control environment included a revision of all the processes in relation to grant and supplier payments to reflect the new remote working environment. Actions taken by Sport Ireland, which continued during 2022 include:

- Initiate a Covid 19 Business Continuity Plan.
- Transition the Board of Sport Ireland to a remote environment for the purpose of making business decisions.
- Make necessary adaptations to the Sport Ireland physical office environment in line with published guidance and expert assessment.
- Ongoing Covid 19 risk assessment for staff and stakeholders.
- Continual assessment of significant risks pertaining to the Covid-19 pandemic and the agility of Sport Ireland to respond effectively.
- Ensuring robust segregation of duties remains and the adequate cover is in place should specifically approving authorities be unavailable.
- Ensuring all existing data protection and records management policies and procedures continue to apply as normal.
- Assess the potential for weaknesses in internal controls resulting from Covid19 and took measures to monitor and update internal controls where necessary.

Sport Ireland continued to implement a hybrid working model for staff throughout 2022. Senior management will continue to monitor this arrangement during 2023.

Covid-19 Internal Control Considerations

The onset of the Covid-19 pandemic from 2020 has significantly impacted the operations of Sport Ireland, posing operational, health and safety and financial risks and challenges. New activities, reprioritisation of work and pressure to deliver services have impacted Sport Ireland operations and staff. These risks have been assessed, documented on the Risk Register and mitigating actions have been put in place. The risks and required actions are being continually monitored. The resultant challenges in maintaining effective internal controls were assessed by the Board, incorporating guidance issued by the Chartered Institute of Internal Auditors and the Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General.

The Board is of the opinion that there has been no material change to the operation of the internal control environment in Sport Ireland as a result of Covid-19 during 2022.

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 in line with the requirements of the code.

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Foley', written over a horizontal line.

John Foley,

Chairperson

Date: 23 November 2023



Ard Reachtaire Cuntas agus Ciste Comptroller and Auditor General

Report for presentation to the Houses of the Oireachtas

Sport Ireland

Opinion on the financial statements

I have audited the financial statements of Sport Ireland for the year ended 31 December 2022 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 2022 and of its income and expenditure for 2022 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 certain 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

1 December 2023

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 annual 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.

I 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

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.

Sport Ireland
STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND RETAINED REVENUE RESERVES
For the year ended 31 December 2022

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AND RETAINED REVENUE RESERVES

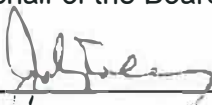
For the year ended 31 December 2022

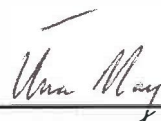
		Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	Notes	€	€
Income			
Oireachtas Grants	2	136,097,581	167,687,222
Dormant Account Grants	2 & 21	12,009,782	8,179,987
Own Resources	3	1,114,298	720,126
Net Deferred Pension Funding	10c	1,035,441	966,756
Other Income	4	444,675	228,033
Total Income		150,701,777	177,782,124
Expenditure			
Current Grants Payable	5a	109,602,548	144,061,465
Dormant Account Grants	5b	12,009,782	8,179,987
Healthy Ireland Grants	5c	1,426,315	1,321,324
Other Programmes	6	9,436,281	8,406,926
Administration	7	1,094,514	963,822
Staff Costs	8	6,152,380	5,646,474
Retirement benefit costs	10a	1,240,000	978,000
Depreciation	11	6,264,783	5,793,974
Total Expenditure		147,226,604	175,351,971
Surplus for the year before transfer from Capital Reserve		3,475,173	2,430,153
Transfer from the Capital Reserve	9	(6,618,625)	1,500,726
Surplus for the year after transfer from Capital Reserve		(3,143,452)	3,930,879
Balance Brought Forward at 1 January		8,312,693	4,381,814
Balance Carried Forward at 31 December		5,169,241	8,312,693

All income and expenditure for the year relate 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:


 John Foley,
 Chairperson
 23 November 2023


 Una May,
 Chief Executive Officer
 23 November 2023

Sport Ireland
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
For the year ended 31 December 2022

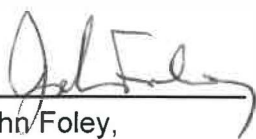
STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME

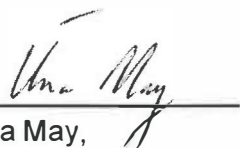
For the year ended 31 December 2022

		Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	Notes	€	€
Surplus for the year after transfer from Capital Reserve		(3,143,452)	3,930,879
Experience (loss)/gains on retirement benefit	10b	(722,000)	(276,000)
Change in assumptions underlying the present value of retirement benefit obligations	10b	7,327,000	(1,154,000)
Total actuarial (loss)/gain in the year		6,605,000	(1,430,000)
Adjustment to deferred retirement benefits funding		(6,605,000)	1,430,000
<i>Other Comprehensive Income for the year</i>		<i>(3,143,452)</i>	<i>3,930,879</i>

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

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:


 John Foley,
 Chairperson
 23 November 2023

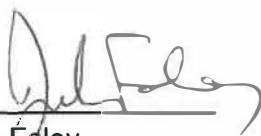

 Una May,
 Chief Executive Officer
 23 November 2023

Sport Ireland
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
As at 31 December 2022


		Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	Notes	€	€
Fixed Assets			
Property, Plant & Equipment	12	152,953,632	146,335,007
Financial Assets	13	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
Total Fixed Assets		<u>152,953,633</u>	<u>146,335,008</u>
Current Assets			
Receivables	14	629,224	629,242
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>30,753,033</u>	<u>17,690,980</u>
		<u>31,382,257</u>	<u>18,320,221</u>
Current Liabilities (amounts falling due within one year)			
Payables	15	<u>(26,213,017)</u>	<u>(10,007,530)</u>
Net Current (Liabilities)/Assets		<u>5,169,240</u>	<u>8,312,691</u>
Retirement Benefits			
Retirement benefit obligations	10d	(16,100,000)	(21,671,000)
Deferred retirement benefit funding asset	10b	<u>16,100,000</u>	<u>21,671,000</u>
Total Net Assets		<u>158,122,873</u>	<u>154,647,700</u>
Representing			
Capital Account	9	152,953,632	146,335,007
Retained revenue reserves		<u>5,169,241</u>	<u>8,312,693</u>
Equity		<u>158,122,873</u>	<u>154,647,700</u>

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

On behalf of the Board of Sport Ireland:



 John Foley,
 Chairperson
 23 November 2023



 Una May,
 Chief Executive Officer
 23 November 2023

Sport Ireland
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
For the year ended 31 December 2022

		Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	Notes	€	€
Reconciliation of Net Operating Surplus			
Surplus for the year after transfer from Capital Reserve		(3,143,452)	3,930,879
Loss/(Gain) on Disposal of Tangible Fixed Assets		-	(324)
Depreciation	11	6,264,783	5,793,378
Bank Interest Received	4	-	-
Taxation Paid		-	-
Transfer (from) Capital Reserve	9	(6,264,783)	(5,793,973)
Decrease/(Increase) in Receivables	14	18	230,813
Increase/(Decrease) in Payables	15	16,205,487	7,281,401
		13,062,054	11,442,175
Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities			
Cash Flow Statement			
Net Cash Inflows from Operating Activities		13,062,054	11,442,175
Returns on Investments and servicing of finance			
Bank Interest	4	-	-
Capital Expenditure			
Payments to acquire Fixed assets		(12,883,408)	(4,293,842)
Receipts from disposal of Fixed Assets		-	919
Net Cash Flows from Capital Expenditure		(12,883,408)	(4,292,923)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities			
Capital Grants		12,883,408	4,293,842
Net Cash Flows from Financing Activities		12,883,408	4,293,842
(Decrease)/Increase in Cash		13,062,054	11,443,094
Movement in net funds for the year			
Cash at Bank 1 January		17,690,980	6,247,887
Cash at Bank 31 December		30,753,033	17,690,980

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 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 2022 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).

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 Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media with the concurrence of the Minister for Public Expenditure National Development Plan Delivery 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 Ireland Campus.

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 Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

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 and ring-fenced 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 2022.

Interest income

Interest income is recognised on an accruals basis.

Other Revenue

Other revenue is recognised on an accruals basis.

f) Grants Payable

Sport Ireland charges all Grant payments to the Income and Expenditure Account on an accruals basis. Grants become payable when the term and conditions are met 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
Land & Buildings (50 Years lifecycle)	2%	per annum

Carparks (40 Years lifecycle)	2.5%	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
Leasehold Improvements	10%	per annum

Land on the Sport Ireland Campus, Abbotstown House, historic infrastructure 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 Sport Ireland 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.

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 Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media 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. Single scheme employee contributions are transferred to the Department of Public Expenditure National Development Plan Delivery and Reform. All other employee pension contributions are transferred to the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

Pension costs reflect pension benefits earned by employees and are shown net of staff pension contributions. 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 Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media.

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.

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.

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 33 Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media as shown in the financial statements consist of:

	Sub-head	Year ended 31 December 2022 €	Year ended 31 December 2021 €
Recurrent Grant	D.5	119,557,110	157,830,700
Less Refundable Employee Pension Deductions		(164,000)	(158,000)
Total Recurrent Grant		119,393,110	157,672,700
Department of Health - Healthy Ireland Fund		1,656,255	1,900,000
Capital Funding	B.2	15,048,216	8,114,522
Total Oireachtas Grants		136,097,581	167,687,222
Dormant Account Grants: Current	D.6	10,314,487	6,594,987
Dormant Account Grants: Capital	D.6	1,695,295	1,585,000
Total Dormant Account Grants		12,009,782	8,179,987

Recurrent Grants:

Sport Ireland charges Grant payments to the Income and Expenditure Account when grants become payable, plus term and conditions are met.

Grants become payable to grantee organisations based on the Sport Ireland funding application process, which commences in Quarter 3 each year to accommodate grant payments the following 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.

This grant is used for paying, general administration, programme costs and grants to National Governing Bodies and Local Sports Partnerships. The amount of recurrent grant received in 2022 was €133,585,935 which included €15,000,000 ringfenced for Covid resilience funding and €35,000,000 specifically for Energy Resilience funding in the sports sector of which an amount of €20,971,175 was recognised as income and the balance included as deferred income. The Board has adhered to the terms of the Performance Delivery Agreement with the Department. And the Board has adequate financial control systems in place to manage grants received from the Department.

DPER Sports Energy Support Scheme:

Sport Ireland received an additional €35,000,000 from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media as a Sport Energy Support Scheme to provide additional financial support for the sport sector. A Sports Energy Support Scheme was run by Sport Ireland during 2022 in relation to this additional funding and grant allocations were made to the sector before year-end in line with Board

approval totalling €20,971,175. The remaining balance of €14,028,825 is expected to be disbursed by Sport Ireland under a similar scheme in 2023 and has been deferred on this basis in line with the change in accounting policy for ring- fenced grants as detailed in Note E Revenue.

Capital Grants:

A Capital grant of €15,048,216 was also received from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in 2022 to maintain and enhance the facilities on the Sport Ireland Campus.

Dormant Account Grants:

The Dormant Account Grant received from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media was €12,000,000 for projects including Community Sports Hub, Sports Disability Training, Volunteer Support and Youth Leadership Training. An amount of €12,009,782 was recognised as income in line with expenditure , leaving a balance of €1,810,231 as deferred income.

Healthy Ireland Grants:

The Healthy Ireland Grant received from the Department of Health was €1,656,255 for projects including Get Ireland Swimming, Walking, Cycling and Running and the 2022 Let's Get Back Campaign.

3. Own Resources

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Rental Income	446,019	338,133
Rent from Sports HQ*	149,343	101,174
Anti-Doping Testing Income	106,020	80,861
Player Athlete Services	218,244	115,198
Sport Ireland Institute	64,980	32,894
Sport Ireland Outdoors	63,113	25,816
Sport Ireland Coaching	66,579	26,050
Total Own Resources	1,114,298	720,126

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

4. Other Income

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Income from EU	93,574	43,153
European Week of Sport	291,272	148,640
Other Income	59,829	36,240
Total Other Income	444,675	228,033

5. Grants Payable

a) Current Grants

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
National Governing Bodies of Sport *	15,070,265	14,111,000
Covid Resilience Scheme****	15,000,000	73,617,001
International Carding Scheme *	3,379,500	3,013,875
Local Sports Partnerships *	9,946,313	9,686,319
Youth Field Sports *	10,440,496	10,470,496
Aviva Stadium Grant ***	2,544,600	2,544,600
High Performance Grants *	13,190,643	11,111,955
Womens Participation in Sport *	2,344,100	1,912,400
DPER Energy Resilience Scheme ****	20,971,175	-
Irish Open	3,785,000	2,200,000
Team Ireland Golf Trust	300,000	-
Student Sport Ireland	60,000	75,000
Morton Stadium Grant	153,732	150,000
Olympic Federation of Ireland	600,000	420,000
Paralympic Council	480,000	400,000
Irish Special Schools Sport	25,000	25,000
Federation of Irish Sport	171,000	115,000
Recreational Sports Grant Scheme	-	40,000
Sport Ireland Facilities Capital Grant **	2,492,663	2,785,897
Sport Ireland Facilities Operational Grant **	2,095,000	5,490,000
Older People and Sport	607,605	607,605
University of Limerick - 50 Metre Pool	300,000	299,301
Sport Ireland Institute PEP Grants	3,665	-
GAA - Inter County Players Support Scheme	5,641,791	4,986,016
Total Grants Payable	109,602,548	144,061,465

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

** Transactions with Sport Ireland Facilities DAC.

*** In recognition of the importance of the continued operation of the Aviva Stadium; in April 2020 the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport agreed to provide a recoupable grant to the FAI for the total

sum of €7,633,800, to cover the license fee payable by the FAI to New Stadium DAC over the three-year period 2020-2022.

This grant is payable by Sport Ireland in three equal instalments over the three year period concerned and will be recoupable by Sport Ireland from the FAI, from 2024 (inclusive) in the form of grant reduction of €1,000,000 per annum, until the full amount of €7,633,800 is recouped. As the grant is being recouped from monies provided by the Exchequer, it being recognised as current expenditure.

**** Covid Resilience Scheme and DPER Energy Scheme. Please see Note 2.

b) Dormant Account Grants

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Community Sport Hub *	1,856,600	1,849,662
Youth Leadership *	556,350	410,870
Campaigns & Promotions	816,720	-
Sports Disability Training	2,907,378	627,252
Volunteer Support	443,428	485,540
Evaluation	174,899	396,327
Administration	450,000	450,000
Get Ireland Cycling	247,500	15,000
Get Ireland Walking	225,000	22,500
Get Ireland Swimming	127,500	150,000
Get Ireland Running	127,500	150,000
Innovation Programmes	917,530	-
NGB Participation Funding	1,108,050	1,068,500
Various Programmes	2,051,327	2,554,336
Total Dormant Account Grants **	12,009,782	8,179,987

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

**Please see Note 21 Prior Year Adjustment

c) Healthy Ireland Grants

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
LSP Grants	308,069	750
NGB Grants	80,971	-
National Fitness Day	13,500	20,000
Age & Opportunity	1,500	-
Get Ireland Swimming	120,000	120,000
Get Ireland Walking	130,000	127,000
Get Ireland Cycling	115,000	113,500
Get Ireland Running	120,000	120,000
Campaigns & Promotions	356,577	350,000
Operation Transformation	-	36,500
Special Olympics	9,000	11,000
GAA Healthy Clubs	9,000	10,000
Research Grants	-	124,542
Outdoors National Digital Database	142,698	268,032
Administration Fee	20,000	20,000
	1,426,315	1,321,324

6. Other Programmes

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

	ANTI DOPING	NGB Communications	PARTICIPATION	HIGH PERFORMANCE	INSTITUTE OF SPORT	COACHING IRELAND	OUTDOORS	CAMPUS	TOTAL	TOTAL
	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	2022	31 Dec 2022	31 Dec 2021
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Anti-Doping Testing	1,418,580	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1,418,580	1,300,877
Research Projects	-	3,000	-	617,626	-	-	-	-	620,626	643,404
NGB Development	-	252,131	-	-	-	-	-	-	252,131	28,000
Programme Development	-	179,595	190,195	384,599	84,312	-	185,008	-	1,023,709	929,319
EU European Week of Sport	-	-	-	284,028	-	7,756	-	-	291,784	175,606
SI Outdoors Inspections	-	-	-	-	-	-	222,599	-	222,599	-
SI Outdoors Grants	-	-	-	-	-	-	75,000	-	75,000	207,863
Institute Development	-	-	-	-	2,503,274	-	-	-	2,503,274	2,409,062
Sports HQ *	-	210,973	-	-	-	-	-	-	210,973	191,526
Contractors/Outsourced	-	-	-	-	242,426	1,776	90,242	-	334,444	331,403
Tutor Training	-	-	-	-	-	54,367	-	-	54,367	57,829
Campus Maintenance	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	204,470	204,470	179,192
Staff and Training	48	5,012	7,860	420	2,119	6,954	1,967	569	27,230	32,702
Office Administration Costs	34,526	29,441	13,874	31,349	20,256	273,069	84,486	27,710	688,745	564,580
Travel, Subsistence & Meetings	20,854	3,323	3,356	50,894	11,398	7,725	8,970	1,398	161,023	21,864
Professional Fees	89,866	12,846	-	-	20,607	-	25,291	-	148,610	138,543
Computer Software & Support	140,147	135,216	25,237	1,461	42,237	131,919	61,762	492	540,346	353,513
PR, Printing and Stationery	10,526	12,051	528,652	48,534	7,551	16,823	6,375	20,753	652,381	838,528
Postage and Courier	1,992	-	275	849	91	1,566	875	250	5,989	3,115
Total Other Programmes	1,716,539	843,588	769,450	1,419,760	188,571	3,183,755	272,784	639,868	9,436,281	8,406,926

7. Administration

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Staff Expenses and Training	156,349	76,192
Rent and Property	32,285	27,354
Maintenance and Repairs	11,776	9,764
Insurance	28,591	27,060
Telephone	8,278	4,715
Light and Heat	6,756	7,403
Board Members, Travel, Subsistence and Meetings	172,370	103,566
Audit Fees	170,735	254,111
OC&AG Audit Fee	35,200	32,000
Professional Fees	93,353	156,337
Computer Software and Support	255,719	187,181
Printing and Stationery	22,308	12,568
Postage and Courier	8,476	7,930
Sundry	55,614	57,965
Minor Value Assets Purchases	36,704	-
Loss/(Gain)Disposal of Fixed Assets	-	(324)
Total Administration	1,094,514	963,822

8. Remuneration

(a) Aggregate Employee Benefits

The total staff complement approved by the Minister at 31 December 2022 was 61 permanent. The average number of employees excluding the agency was 55. The aggregate employee and related costs were as follows:

	Year ended 31/12/2022	Year ended 31/12/2021
Salaries	3,041,743	2,938,623
Employers PRSI contributions	325,004	313,986
Staff Holiday Pay Accrual	14,902	5,206
Campus and Agency Staff	2,770,731	2,388,659
Total Staff Numbers	6,152,380	5,646,474
Dormant Account Salaries/PRSI Allocation	224,040	223,880
Dormant Account Operational Support Allocation	271,760	324,195
	495,800	548,075
	6,648,180	6,194,549

Staff Costs by Unit

	Salaries	ER PRSI Contributions	Staff Holiday Pay Accrual	Agency Staff	31 December 2022	31 December 2021
Administration	684,056	71,936	14,902	757,646	1,528,540	1,295,209
Anti Doping	350,732	37,983		100,890	489,605	597,656
NGB	280,790	30,542		156,888	468,220	524,221
PR	128,964	14,047		49,314	192,325	158,659
Participation	355,787	38,484		437,573	831,844	711,134
High Performance	462,386	49,635		127,987	640,008	629,008
Institute	-	-		573,589	573,589	535,461
Coaching Ireland	756,594	79,946		169,121	1,005,661	893,495
DA/Hi	202,398	21,642		271,760	495,800	548,075
Campus	22,434	2,431		397,723	422,588	301,631
TOTAL	3,244,141	346,646	14,902	3,042,491	6,648,180	6,194,549

The Dormant Account and Healthy Ireland salaries and PRSI figure of €271,760 represent staff cost allocated against both grant schemes as approved by the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media and the Department of Health respectively.

(b) Short Term Benefits

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Basic Pay	3,590,787	3,476,488
Overtime	-	-
Allowances	-	-
Total Short Term Benefits	3,590,787	3,476,488

(c) Termination Benefits

There were no termination benefits paid in 2022.

(d) Key Management Personnel

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

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Key Management Personnel	218,230	251,395
Total Key Management Personnel	218,230	251,395

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 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Basic Pay	140,853	163,327
Holiday Pay	-	12,614
Total Salary	140,853	175,941

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 recoupment of travel and subsistence expenses of €7,019 in the 12 months ended 31 December 2022 (€903 in the 12 months ended 31 December 2021).

9. Capital Account

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
At 1 January	146,335,007	147,835,734
Transfer from Income and Expenditure Account:		
Amortisation in line with fixed asset depreciation	(6,264,783)	(5,793,974)
Funds Allocated to acquire Fixed Assets	12,883,408	4,293,842
Net Movement for the year	6,618,625	(1,500,132)
Amount Released on Disposal of Fixed Assets	-	(595)
OPW Funding Allocated to acquire Fixed Assets	-	(53,031)
Net Amount of Transfer for the year:	6,618,625	(1,553,758)
OPW Funding Released To Fixed Assets	-	53,031
Total Net Transfer for the year	6,618,625	(1,500,726)
At 31 December	152,953,632	146,335,007

10. Retirement Benefit Costs

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

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Current service cost	1,082,000	944,000
Interest on retirement benefit scheme liabilities	322,000	192,000
Employee Contributions	(164,000)	(158,000)
Total Retirement Benefit Cost	1,240,000	978,000

10. (b) Net Retirement Benefit Obligation

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Net retirement benefit obligation at 1 January	21,671,000	19,274,000
Current service cost	1,082,000	944,000
Interest cost	322,000	192,000
Experience loss/(gain)	722,000	276,000
(Gain)/loss arising from change in assumptions	(7,327,000)	1,154,000
Pensions paid in the year	(370,000)	(169,000)
Net retirement benefit obligation at 31 December	16,100,000	21,671,000

The Pension Liability recognised at 31 December 2022 is lower than that recognised at 31 December 2021, this is largely due to the gain due to change in assumptions.

Financial Assumptions

Discount Rate

The discount rate is the rate of interest used to discount post-employment benefit obligations and is determined by reference to market yields on high quality corporate bonds. The yields available on AA and AAA corporate bonds of appropriate duration were used at the date of valuation to determine the discount rate of 3.65% per annum (1.50% at 31 December 2021).

Inflation

The assumed rate of price inflation is 2.65% at the valuation date, this is consistent with the European Central Bank's long-term target for inflation, adjusted to reflect current implied inflation based on market yields and swap yields (2.20% at 31 December 2021).

Salary Increase

Salaries are assumed to increase at 1.15% above inflation at 3.80% per annum (3.35% at 31 December 2021).

Pension Increase

Pensions in payment are assumed to increase in line with general salary increases i.e., 3.30% fixed per annum (2.85% at 31 December 2021).

(b) 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 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Funding recoverable in respect of current year retirement benefit costs	1,404,000	1,136,000
Pensions paid in the year	(368,559)	(169,244)
Funding Recoverable	1,035,441	966,756

The deferred funding asset for retirement benefits at 31 December 2022 amounts to €16,100,000.

(c) History of defined benefit obligations

	2022 €'000	2021 €'000	2020 €'000	2019 €'000
Defined Benefit Obligations	16,100	21,671	19,274	15,968
Experience losses on defined benefit scheme liabilities	722	278	1,046	(107)

(d) 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 National Development Plan Delivery and Reform and all current retirement benefit costs are recoverable from the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media 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 March 2023 by a qualified independent actuary, taking account of the requirements of the FRS in order to assess the scheme liabilities at 31 December 2022.

The principal actuarial assumptions were as follows:

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
Rate of increase in salaries	3.35%	3.35%
Rate of increase in retirement benefits in payment	2.85%	2.85%/2.2%
Discount rate	1.50%	1.50%
Inflation rate	2.20%	2.20%

Mortality

58% of PNML00 for males with improvements (see below).

62% of PNFL00 for females with improvements (see below).

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 2022 and 2042.

Year of attaining age 65	2022	2042
Life expectancy - Male	22.1 years	24.3 years
Life expectancy - Female	24.4 years	26.4 years

11. Depreciation of Fixed Assets

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
Depreciation of Property, Plant and Equipment	€ 6,264,783	€ 5,793,973
Total Depreciation	€ 6,264,783	€ 5,793,974

12 (a). Property, Plant & Equipment 2022

	National Aquatic Centre	Infrastructure & Design	Campus Facilities	Land & Buildings	Office Equip / Computers / Fixtures & Fittings Furnitures / Med Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Cost							
At beginning of the year	74,053,414	13,320,030	85,216,217	26,965,565	2,135,093	22,286	201,712,605
Additions for the year	-	4,229,928	6,565,339	1,709,952	378,189	-	12,883,408
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	74,053,414	17,549,958	91,781,556	28,675,517	2,513,282	22,286	214,596,013
Depreciation							
At beginning of the year	28,050,772	9,858,147	9,586,975	5,928,037	1,931,381	22,286	55,377,598
Charge for the year	1,481,068	1,692,154	2,321,139	665,437	104,985	-	6,264,783
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 December 2022	29,531,840	11,550,301	11,908,114	6,593,474	2,036,366	22,286	61,642,381
Net Book Value							
At 1 January 2021	46,002,642	3,461,883	75,629,242	21,037,528	203,712	-	146,335,007
Net Movement for the year	(1,481,068)	2,537,774	4,244,200	1,044,515	273,204	-	6,618,625
At 31 December 2022	44,521,574	5,999,657	79,873,442	22,082,043	476,916	-	152,953,632

12 (b). Property, Plant & Equipment 2021

	National Aquatic Centre	Infrastructure & Design	Campus Facilities	Land & Buildings	Office Equip / Computers / Fixtures & Fittings / Furnitures / Med Equipment	Motor Vehicle	Total
	€	€	€	€	€	€	€
Cost							
At beginning of the year	74,005,032	10,187,496	84,267,212	26,864,856	2,073,540	22,286	197,420,422
Additions for the year	48,382	3,132,534	949,004	100,709	63,212	-	4,293,842
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	(1,659)	-	(1,659)
At 31 December 2021	74,053,414	13,320,030	85,216,216	26,965,565	2,135,093	22,286	201,712,605
Depreciation							
At beginning of the year	26,569,704	8,581,081	7,276,937	5,308,970	1,825,710	22,286	49,584,688
Charge for the year	1,481,068	1,277,065	2,310,038	619,067	106,735	-	5,793,973
Disposals during the year	-	-	-	-	(1,064)	-	(1,064)
At 31 December 2021	28,050,772	9,858,146	9,586,975	5,928,037	1,931,381	22,286	55,377,598
Net Book Value							
At 1 January 2020	47,435,328	1,606,415	76,990,275	21,555,886	247,830	-	147,835,734
Net Movement for the year	(1,432,686)	1,855,469	(1,361,034)	(518,358)	(44,118)	-	(1,500,727)
At 31 December 2021	46,002,642	3,461,884	75,629,241	21,037,528	203,712	-	146,335,007

13. Financial Assets

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Sport Ireland Facilities DAC		
Ordinary Share Value	1	1
Total Financial Assets	1	1

Name	Registered Office	Company	Ownership	Issued Share
Sport Ireland Facilities DAC	IIS Building Sport Ireland 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 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Surplus/(deficit) for the year	31,189	53,618
Accumulated Surplus/(Deficit)	387,278	356,089

14. Receivables

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Debtors	385,082	219,869
OPW Suspense Account	-	70,273
Deposits	11,670	
Prepayments	232,472	339,100
Total Receivables	629,224	629,242

15. Payables

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
		€
Creditors	3,774,991	2,035,032
Other Accruals	5,847,718	5,465,700
Due to Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media	-	70,273
Deferred Income	15,839,056	1,820,013
PAYE/PRSI	134,787	141,509
Value Added Tax	250,970	221,496
Credit Cards	8,552	2,942
Relevant Contract Tax	7,048	4,537
Professional Services Withholding Tax	349,895	246,028
Total Payables	26,213,017	10,007,530

16. Lease Commitments

As at the 31 December 2022 Sport Ireland had a nine year and four-month lease commitment remaining with Shannon Commercial Properties. The ten-year lease agreement was entered into by Sport Ireland on the 1 May 2022 to provide office accommodation for Sport Ireland Coaching.

	Year ended 31 December 2022	Year ended 31 December 2021
	€	€
Payable within one year	54,105	-
Payable within two to five years	216,420	-
Payable after five years	234,455	-
Total Lease Commitments	504,980	-

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 National Development Plan Delivery 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 National Development Plan Delivery 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 2022:

- Padraic Moran is a member of Boccia Ireland (which is a subcommittee of Paralympics Ireland). He declared a conflict with regard to agenda items discussing funding to Paralympics Ireland.
- Páraic Duffy was previously Ard Stiúrthóir of the GAA. He declared a potential perceived conflict with regard to agenda items discussing funding to the GAA.
- Jerry Grant is an external member of the Governing Body of Technological University Dublin. He declared a conflict with regard to a discussion on funding to Technological University Dublin.
- Sport Ireland Facilities DAC is a wholly owned subsidiary of Sport Ireland and received €2,492,663 of Capital Grant and €2,095,000 of Operational Grant in 2022. The subsidiary also received €1,800,000 as part of the DPER Energy Resilience Scheme.
- Sport Ireland has availed of the exemption afforded by paragraph 33.1A from the provisions of FRS 102 'Related Party Transactions' from disclosing transactions with wholly owned subsidiaries.

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. In June 2013, Dublin Waterworld Limited (DWW) then 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 made a full provision for its expected legal costs in relation to this case but did not provide for the claim for damages as the outcome of the case was uncertain at the time and the costs could not be reliably estimated. In 2017, the High Court ruled in favour of NSCDA (now Sport Ireland) in this case taken by Dublin Waterworld Limited (DWW), in which that company had sought damages pursuant to the VAT proceedings referred to above.

In 2019 the Plaintiff initiated an appeal process disputing the 2017 High Court ruling. Following this, in July 2019 Ms Justice Irvine gave judgment on behalf of the three member Court of Appeal upholding the essential part of the 2017 decision of the High Court, in that it found that the Board of CSID was justified in issuing the proceedings it did to seek to recover VAT from DWW. The Court of Appeal subsequently awarded NSCDA/Sport Ireland the costs of the appeal and Sport Ireland continue to consult with the Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media in relation to the award of costs issue and the pursuance of same from the plaintiff. On this basis, no provision for any further costs in relation to this matter has been made by Sport Ireland as currently, no contingent liability exists.

Note: 'CSID' refers to Campus Stadium Ireland Development Ltd, the legal precursor to the National Sports Campus Development Authority (NSCDA).

The Board has been notified of a contractual claim in relation to The Courtyard Office capital project. The Board disputes the validity of the claim and Sport Ireland continue to negotiate the final account with the contractor under their terms of the contract and hope to resolve this matter in 2023.

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 Ireland Facilities DAC amounted to €246,000. This amount has been fully provided for in the 2023 financial statements of Sport Ireland Facilities DAC.

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 commit 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 2022.

Capital Commitments:

An amount of €7,356,986 has arisen as a result of contractual commitments for construction works on the Sport Ireland Campus in 2022.

20. Events After the Reporting Date

No other significant events were noted since the year end.

21. Prior Year Adjustment

Comparative figures have been restated to reflect a change in accounting policy for ring-fenced grants provided for specific purposes under the Dormant Account grant heading. Previously these were accounted for on a cash receipts basis. The accounting policy has been changed whereby these grants are now deferred and recognised in the year the expenditure is incurred under the Dormant Account grant heading. As a result the amount previously recognised in 2021 for the Dormant Account grant was reduced by €1,820,013 to €8,179,987 with a corresponding increase in deferred income recognised at 31 December 2021. This has resulted in a reduction in the surplus from €5,750,892 to €3,930,879. This change in accounting policy has been reflected in Note 2 and Note 15.

22. Approval of the financial statements

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Sport Ireland on the 4th of April 2023.



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
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