

# Policy Update

## December 2008

### 1. SPORT & POLITICS

- 1.1 The Queen's speech 2008 – impact for sport and recreation
- 1.2 46 MPs attend 'Subs for Clubs' event, but Treasury fails to deliver
- 1.3 Parliament addresses music licence costs

### 2. FUNDING FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

- 2.1 Big Lottery Fund does big thinking
- 2.2 Government lays legislation to increase society lottery income

### 3. COUNTRYSIDE AND WATER

- 3.1 Safety and quality badges for adventure activities
- 3.2 Government consults on eco-towns Planning Policy Statements
- 3.3 Code of practice for equine welfare
- 3.4 Marine licensing

### 4. COMMUNITIES

- 4.1 Defra Greener Living Fund
- 4.2 £13.5 million invested in Communities for Health

### 5. RESEARCH

- 5.1 Sports club survey 2009



## 1. SPORT AND POLITICS

### 1.1 The Queen's speech 2008 – impact for sport and recreation

The public theme of this year's Queen Speech was the Government's attempts to address the economic downturn. Buried within the detail are three Bills that will have some impact on CCPR members:

The full speech can be found here: <http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/ld200809/ldhansrd/text/81203-0001.htm#08120346000175>

#### **Children, Skills and Learning Bill**

This Bill spells out the anticipated revamp of England's beleaguered qualifications regulators and funders. The regulation of qualifications will pass from the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority to the Office of the Qualifications and Examinations Regulator (Ofqual). Meanwhile, a Young People's Learning Agency will be established to assist local authorities in delivering education for those aged 16 to 19, and a new adult skills funding body will be established as an executive agency of the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills.

These are structural changes and do not indicate a major change in policy direction. Inevitably however, those CCPR members involved in the development, delivery or award of qualifications will need to develop new relationships and get to grips with new systems.

#### **Business Rates Supplements Bill**

This Bill enables upper tier local authorities in England and Wales (and the Greater London Authority) to levy a 2% supplement on business rates for all business properties with a rateable value of over £50,000. The supplement aims to enable local authorities to undertake economic development projects within the relevant area. The Bill places a duty on local authorities to consult prior to imposing the supplement. Where local authorities choose to implement the levy it is likely to capture any sports clubs in the area with significant premises. CCPR will seek further detail on this issue.

#### **The Marine and Coastal Access Bill**

This long-awaited Bill provides for the first time a right to walk around England's coastline. The bill also creates the new Marine Management Organisation which will have wide-ranging powers relating to marine planning and licensing. CCPR will continue to work to secure wider access rights for recreation.

### 1.2 46 MPs attend Subs for Clubs event but Treasury fails to deliver

Forty six MPs showed their support for CCPR's campaign to secure gift aid for junior sports club subscriptions by attending CCPR's 'Subs for Clubs' Parliamentary reception on 18 November. Despite close working with officials prior to the Pre-budget Statement, the Government failed to include this proposal within the measures announced.

#### **What next**

CCPR will continue its campaign to ensure that voluntary sports clubs are rewarded for the good work they do with young people as well as gaining parity with the voluntary arts and heritage sectors, which can already claim gift aid on subscriptions.

## 1.3 Parliament addresses music licence costs

Regular *Policy Update* readers will be aware that the Performing Right Society has been aggressively targeting sports clubs with regard to the purchase of music licences. This heavy-handed approach has now caught the attention of politicians and was the subject of a debate in Parliament on 12 November. Click on the link below for further information:

<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200708/cmhansrd/cm081112/debtext/81112-0026.htm#08111246001320>

### What this means for sport and recreation

The legal situation remains unchanged with sports clubs being required to purchase PRS licences for audio-visual equipment. However the flaws in the current situation are at last being exposed.

### How you can help

If you have experienced this problem and would be willing to be a case study for this issue, please contact Rachel Hudson at [rhudson@ccpr.org.uk](mailto:rhudson@ccpr.org.uk)

## 2. FUNDING FOR SPORT AND RECREATION

### 2.1 Big Lottery Fund does big thinking

The Big Lottery Fund is consulting on its funding strategy for the period 2009-2015. BIG (the biggest of the Lottery good cause funders) has created a dedicated website for this purpose <http://www.big-thinking.org.uk/>. Individuals and organisations are invited to participate either in the full online consultation or shorter online polls. There will also be a series of consultation events, but no hard copy or email option for responses. The consultation closes at the end of February 2009.

### What this means for sport and recreation

This consultation is an opportunity for sport and recreation bodies to influence the largest of the lottery distributors.

### What next

CCPR will seek its members views on this consultation and provide a full response to the Big Lottery Fund. For further information please contact Dominic Goggins ([dgoggins@ccpr.org.uk](mailto:dgoggins@ccpr.org.uk)).

### 2.2 Government to lay legislation to increase society lottery income

CCPR understands that the Government will shortly lay legislation before both Houses of Parliament that would provide for an increase in society lottery income from £2 million to £4 million per draw. This measure requires the approval of both Houses to pass into law.

## 3. COUNTRYSIDE & WATER

### 3.1 Safety and quality badges for adventure activities

Adventuremark is now the official name for the forthcoming non-statutory accreditation scheme for adventurous activities. The Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF) is supporting the establishment of the scheme, which will provide the safety element of the broader 'Learning Outside the Classroom' badge - introduced by DCSF. Adventuremark will be managed by the Adventure Activities Industry Advisory Committee (AAIAC), an independent body representative of the adventure activities sector. AAIAC will also award the quality element of the DCSF 'Learning Outside the Classroom' badge.

Adventuremark will complement statutory licensing of adventure activities by providing accreditation for those activities and situations for which statutory licensing is unavailable. CCPR provides the secretariat to the AAIAC, in partnership with SkillsActive.

#### **What this means for sport and recreation**

The scheme should create a recognisable brand to give confidence to consumers that an activity or centre meets basic safety criteria, removing a possible barrier to participation.

#### **What next**

An information day will be held on 10 December 2008 at Boreatton Park in Shropshire. For further information on the scheme or to register for the information day, please see [www.aaiac.org.uk](http://www.aaiac.org.uk)

### 3.2 Government consults on eco-towns Planning Policy Statements

The draft Planning Policy Statement (PPS) on eco-towns precisely defines:

- what constitutes an eco-town
- what environmental, social, and economic standards these developments should achieve and
- how eco-towns relate to the planning system.

#### **What this means for sport and recreation**

The new out-of-town developments may impact on existing access rights or recreational land. However new developments, if designed appropriately, can increase the opportunity for recreation and active travel.

#### **What next**

Details of the consultation may be found here.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/ppsecotowns>. The deadline for responses is 19 February 2009. CCPR will respond to the consultation and members thoughts and comments are welcome. Please send these to Duncan Carter at [dcarter@ccpr.org.uk](mailto:dcarter@ccpr.org.uk).

### 3.3 Code of practice for equine welfare

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) has launched a consultation on the code of practice for the welfare of equines which would be made under section 14 of the Animal Welfare Act 2006. The purpose of this consultation is to agree the content of the code which would provide practical guidance to owners and keepers of equines on how to meet their statutory responsibilities under section 9 of the 2006 Act (the duty on owners/keepers to provide a duty of care for their animals).

#### What this means for sport and recreation

This Code may impact upon horse riders, stables and riding schools, as well as equine event organisers.

#### What next

The deadline for responses is 31 December 2008.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/welfare-equines-cop/index.htm>

### 3.4 Marine licensing

Under the Marine and Coastal Access Bill, the marine licensing system will consolidate and modernise the two existing Acts which set the framework for the current system – the Food and Environment Protection Act 1985 (FEPA) and the Coast Protection Act 1949 (CPA).

In future a single Marine Licence will replace both the existing FEPA licence and the CPA consent. In England and the relevant UK offshore areas, responsibility for licensing and enforcement passes from the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (and some functions of the Secretaries of State for the Department of Energy and Climate Change and Department for Transport) to the newly formed Marine Management Organisation.

#### What this means for sport and recreation

The new licensing regime will impact mostly upon marinas, coastal developments and dredging activities (and their consequential impact upon angling) and is likely to precede large scale development of off-shore wind farms.

#### What next

A new booklet provides greater detail on the changes and may be found here: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/index.htm>

## 4. COMMUNITIES

### 4.1 Defra Greener living fund

Defra is making £6 million available to support projects and programmes by national delivery partners which will encourage people to adopt greener behaviours. According to Defra, 'to secure funding, applicants will need to draw up and have the ability and reach to implement programmes that influence pro-environmental behaviours in the wider population.'

## What this means for sport and recreation

Governing bodies of sport may be well positioned to apply for funding to encourage good environmental practice in their members. Further information is available at: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/how-do-we-work/third-sector/strategy/greener-living-fund.htm>

## What next

Interested organisations are invited to submit a [first stage application form](#) and a short concept note by 16 December 2008. Those applicants successful at this stage will then be invited to make fuller submissions in January

## 4.2 £13.5 million invested in community health projects

Public health minister Dawn Primarolo has unveiled a package of £13.5 million to improve health in disadvantaged areas. £11 million will be invested in the Communities for Health scheme. This will enable 83 areas to implement local health improvement ideas. Examples cited include councils teaming up with local football teams to promote healthy eating.

## What next

The funding is allocated to local authorities in 83 target areas who then decide which projects and programmes to operate. Details of the 83 areas are available from [ahanson@ccpr.org.uk](mailto:ahanson@ccpr.org.uk).

## 5. RESEARCH

### 5.1 Sports club survey 2009

In order to effectively serve its members, CCPR needs to understand the issues that affect grassroots sport and recreation organisations. Central to this is finding out whether clubs have sufficient funding, members and volunteers to survive, or indeed thrive.

CCPR is currently developing plans for its sports club survey 2009, which will explore these issues. CCPR would be interested to hear from governing body colleagues about those issues which they would most like investigated. Views should be sent to [ahanson@ccpr.org.uk](mailto:ahanson@ccpr.org.uk).

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