

Policy Update

January 2009

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1. LONDON 2012

1.1 Looking for new Inspire Mark projects

The Inspire Mark was launched in June 2008 by the Government Olympic Executive (GOE) and LOCOG to promote non-commercial projects which have been inspired by the 2012 Games. Derived from the core London 2012 brand, the Inspire Mark has already been awarded to the UK School Games, the Greater London Authority's Summer of Sport and 36 local Cultural Olympiad projects. The GOE and LOCOG intend to award the mark to a further limited number of programmes that deliver sport, volunteering, environment, education and business outcomes, and are already in discussions with several other government and third sector projects.

Scope: UK

What Next:

The GOE is now inviting applications for national and local projects to be amongst the first to be awarded the Inspire Mark. If your organisation is planning potential Inspire Mark projects, please email inspire.mark@culture.gsi.gov.uk for more information.

1.2 Designation of Olympic Route Network

The Department for Transport has announced plans to create an Olympic Route Network (ORN), to ensure that the 80,000 Olympic and Paralympic participants and officials are able to travel efficiently to venues. The ORN will be a temporary designation, and roads will return to normal usage following the Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Scope: Primarily London, but also including routes to venues outside London during relevant times.

What Next:

The consultation runs until 19 March 2009, and members wishing to respond should visit <http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/olympicroutenetwork/>

2. PLANNING

2.1 Planning Act 2008

The Planning Act 2008 introduces the Community Infrastructure Levy, whereby planning authorities may charge a fee to organisations that gain permission to develop their premises. CCPR is concerned that this extra cost may deter sports clubs from improving their facilities for the benefit of their community.

Scope: England

What Next:

The charity sector has secured an exemption for charities undertaking development to support their charitable purposes. The Act also contains scope for the Government to provide further exemptions under regulations providing certain criteria are met. CCPR will continue to seek an exemption for sports clubs.

2.2 Draft guidance on Local Transport Plans

The Department for Transport is consulting on the guidance it provides to local transport authorities on their duty to prepare a local transport plan. The consultation runs until 9 April 2009 and further information is available at: <http://www.dft.gov.uk/consultations/open/draftguidanceltp/>

3. COUNTRYSIDE & WATER

3.1 Integrated Coastal Zone Management

DEFRA has recently launched a “strategy for promoting an integrated approach to management of coastal areas in England.” This sets out the Government’s vision for coastal management and objectives. To view the document please see <http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/pdf/environment/iczm/iczm-strategy-england.pdf>

Scope: England

For further information please see <http://www.defra.gov.uk/marine/environment/iczm.htm>

3.2 Water Protection Zones

This consultation follows on from one on diffuse water pollution from agriculture conducted in 2007. DEFRA concluded that in the light of that earlier consultation, the need to provide a power to regulate where necessary in order to implement the Water Framework Directive would be best met by simply updating the existing power to designate Water Protection Zones (WPZ).

This power would be available for use where appropriate under the River Basin Management Plans now being developed by the Environment Agency with the aim of achieving good chemical and ecological status in inland and coastal waters by 2015.

Scope: Primarily England, with some aspects of the consultation affecting Wales

What this means for sport and recreation

These regulations may impact on activities that take place on or near the water, or facilities located in WPZs.

What Next:

For further information please see <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/water-protection-zones/index.htm> The deadline for responses is 31 March 2009.

3.3 Inflation-linked funding settlement for National Parks

The Government has announced a new three-year financial settlement for England’s National Park Authorities (NPA). Despite a difficult financial climate, the Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Hilary Benn MP has awarded NPAs an inflation-linked increase in budgets.

Scope: England

For further information please see <http://www.nationalparks.gov.uk/enpaa/whatsnew/npa->

What this means for sport and recreation

The draft guidance has heavy emphasis on public transport and little to say about cycling and walking.

What Next

CCPR will respond to this consultation and would welcome members' views which should be sent to dcarter@ccpr.org.uk. CCPR's current view is that the guidance should include greater reference to active modes of transport and recreation.

4. FINANCE & FUNDING

4.1 Changes to Awards for All in England

Awards for All in England is currently a joint Lottery grants programme supported by Arts Council England, Big Lottery Fund, Heritage Lottery Fund and Sport England. However, following a review of the programme, from 1 April 2009 each of the lottery distributors will operate their own small grants programmes. Applications can still be made under the current arrangements until 31 March 2009.

Overall, across all the distributors, it is anticipated that new money available for small grants in 2009-10 will be comparable to money that was available to community groups through Awards for All in 2008-2009. The new programmes are:

- **Big Lottery Fund**
A new small grants programme from 1 April 2009 awarding grants of £300 to £10,000 to local communities in 2009-2010.
- **Sport England**
Small grants for sports ranging from £300 to £10,000.
- **Arts Council England**
Small grants through their existing 'Grants for the arts' programme, supporting awards between £1,000 and £100,000.
- **Heritage Lottery Fund**
Small grants through the existing 'Your Heritage' (£3,000 to £50,000) and 'Young Roots' (£3,000 to £25,000) schemes.

Scope: England

What Next:

Potential small grants applicants will need to contact the relevant distributor to ascertain whether their proposal will qualify for funding.

4.2 Funding for Training

Skills Minister Lord Young has announced that from January 2009 funding rules will be relaxed so that voluntary organisations will be able to access the Government skills programme Train to Gain. This will enable employees to undertake:

- * Stand-alone accredited training modules and part-qualifications in areas such as business systems, communications, customer service, finance and cash flow management, and risk management;
- * Fully funded Level 2 qualifications and subsidised level 3 qualifications, regardless of whether the employee already has a qualification at this level.

The overall budget for Train to Gain, which is free to all employers, is set to rise to £1bn by 2010-11.

Scope: England

What next:

National sport and recreation organisations interested in accessing Train to Gain funding for their employees should contact SkillsActive. Regional or area-based organisations should contact their local Learning and Skills Council.

5. YOUNG PEOPLE

5.1 Children and Young People's Workforce Development Strategy

The Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) has launched its strategy for ensuring that all young people working with children have the skills to make this 'the best country in the world for children to grow up in'. Whilst the skills of teachers and child social and health workers lie at the heart of the strategy, paid and unpaid workers in sport are explicitly mentioned, and Steve Grainger of the Youth Sport Trust was part of the strategy development group.

The strategy sets out a common core of skills and knowledge that 'people must demonstrate in order to be considered competent at even the most basic level for working with children'. This includes 'multi-agency working' – the area of failure that contributed to the tragic deaths of Victoria Climbié and Baby P. It is not clear from the strategy what is expected from the sports workforce but the strategy commits to providing access to all necessary training for sports workers. The DCSF will work with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport to develop a strategy specific to the sports workforce.

Scope: The strategy applies to England, but will link with other home country plans.

What next

The DCSF will hold a written consultation on the strategy in 2009 with details available at www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations. A number of consultation events will also be held with details available at www.everychildmatters.gov.uk.

5.2 £46 million of grants for children, young people and families confirmed

Over the next 2 years more than 100 voluntary sector organisations have been awarded funding as part of a £46 million fund designed to improve the life chances of children and young people.

This Department for Children, Schools and Families funding will enable over 100 voluntary organisations to help communities across the country and work towards fulfilling the Every Child Matters agenda. The funding supports a wide range of activities including play facilities, young carers, youth homelessness services and relationships and parenting help.

What this means for sport and recreation

It is not clear how much of the funding may benefit sport and recreation. However one recipient is the Football League Trust's 'Make Every Goal Count' programme, which will provide multi-sports activities, two evenings weekly in 44 of the most deprived estates in England.

Further details on the programme can be found at: <http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/strategy/voluntaryandcommunity/cypfgrant/>

6. RESEARCH ROUND-UP

6.1 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 discovering whether clubs have sufficient funding, members and volunteers to survive, or indeed thrive. As mentioned in December's *Policy Update*, CCPR is planning the launch of its Sports Club Survey 2009, which will explore these issues.

CCPR will be holding a focus group with governing body colleagues to find out what issues they would most like investigated. This group will take place w/c 16 March and members are welcome to attend. If you are interested in attending or if you would like to register any views, please email our new Research Officer Lindsay Sutherland lsutherland@ccpr.org.uk

7. ONGOING CONSULTATIONS

7.1 Big Lottery Fund – Big Thinking

The Big Lottery Fund consultation on its funding strategy for the period 2009-2015 continues until February 2009. To respond to the consultation visit <http://www.big-thinking.org.uk/>. CCPR would also welcome members' views which should be sent to Dominic Goggins dgoggins@ccpr.org.uk

7.2 Eco-towns Planning Policy Statements

This Communities and Local Government Consultation continues until 19 February 2009 with details available at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/planningandbuilding/ppsecotowns>. CCPR would welcome members' views, which should be sent to Duncan Carter dcarter@ccpr.org.uk

7.1 DCMS Consultation on proposals to introduce a levy under section 123 of the Gambling Act 2005

This Culture, Media and Sport consultation runs until 31 March 2009. Section 123 of the Gambling Act 2005 allows the Secretary of State to introduce a statutory levy on gambling companies to fund initiatives to minimise the harm that gambling can cause. Although the primary focus of the funding envisaged by this consultation is on the individual, including research into addiction, CCPR believes there is scope to argue that an equivalent 'harm' threatens sport and intends to respond to this end.

Members' views should be sent to Dominic Goggins dgoggins@ccpr.org.uk