
Report To:	Education & Communities Committee	Date:	9 May 2023
Report By:	Corporate Director Education, Communities and Organisational Development	Report No:	EDUCOM/33/23/TM
Contact Officer:	Hugh Scott, Service Manager Community Learning Development, Community Safety & Resilience and Sport	Contact No:	01475 715450
Subject:	Partnership Agreement with SportScotland		

1.0 PURPOSE AND SUMMARY

- 1.1 For Decision For Information/Noting
- 1.2 The purpose of this report is to seek Committee approval to support SportScotland for a new partnership agreement for a further 4 years with regards to funding the Active Schools and Community Sports Hub provision locally and to confirm the Council's financial commitment to this.
- 1.3 Inverclyde Council works in partnership with SportScotland, the national agency for sport, to invest and support our local Active Schools network. Inverclyde is part of a national programme with engagement from all 32 local authorities from 2005. Active Schools aims to provide increased high quality opportunities for children and young people to take part in sport and physical activity before school, during lunchtime and after school, and to develop effective pathways between schools and sports clubs in the local community.
- 1.4 The aim of the Partnership Agreement between Inverclyde Council and SportScotland is to identify, plan and deliver shared priorities for sport and physical activity, and to secure an in-principal commitment to resources and working together over the period April 2023 – 31 March 2027.
- 1.5 Following ongoing discussions with all local authorities, SportScotland has agreed to increase its financial commitment to Active Schools' staffing by 3.5% in 2023/24. The Council currently funds 40% of the core Active Schools staff budget, with the remainder being funded by SportScotland. SportScotland however has not committed to any further increases for the remainder of the four-year agreement which the service will be required to contain within its budget from 2024/25.
- 1.6 A copy of the Draft Partnership Agreement, which will be updated with the new Council and Partnership Plan outcomes, is contained within appendix 1 of this report.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Committee:

1. approves a new Partnership Agreement between the Council and SportScotland over the period April 2023 – March 2027; and
2. approves the Council's continued financial contribution for the duration of the Partnership Agreement and that the service will contain the additional costs within its budget from 2024/25.

Ruth Binks
Corporate Director
Education, Communities and Organisational Development

3.0 BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 3.1 Inverclyde Council works in partnership with SportScotland, the national agency for sport, to invest in and support our local Active Schools network. Inverclyde is part of a national programme which engages with all 32 local authorities. The national network consists of 400 managers and co-ordinators dedicated to developing and supporting the delivery of quality sporting opportunities for children and young people. Nationally, the Active Schools programme is positioned to deliver on the Scottish Government's priorities within the Active Scotland Framework.
- 3.2 Active Schools aims to provide increased high-quality opportunities for children to take part in sport and physical activity before school, during lunchtime and after school, and to develop effective pathways for participants between schools and sports clubs in the local community.
- 3.3 Active Schools Coordinators work with primary, secondary and additional support needs schools and have a key role in developing a network of volunteers to deliver activity sessions. Collaboration and partnership working is critical to the success of Active Schools. Coordinators work closely with parents, school staff and pupils to provide opportunities which reflect young people's interests and connect to physical education and local community opportunities.
- 3.4 In Inverclyde, the Active Schools team consists of a Senior Active Schools Coordinator and 7.8 FTE Active Schools Coordinators and 1 FTE Community Sports Hub Co-ordinator. Following a review of Active Schools management in 2020 a saving was achieved by removing the Team Leader post in 2020/21 with the full agreement of SportScotland. A new management structure is now in place and overall responsibility for Active Schools sits with the CLD Youth and Sport Team Leader.
- 3.5 The strategic value of a partnership between SportScotland and Inverclyde Council exists as an agreement to deliver local and national priorities and outcomes for sport and physical activity. SportScotland and Inverclyde Council works together to ensure there is clarity in the contribution both organisations make to supporting the delivery of local sport and physical activity provision.
- 3.6 The purpose of this report is to seek agreement for a Partnership Agreement between Inverclyde Council and SportScotland to identify, plan and deliver shared priorities for sport and physical activity, and to secure an in-principal commitment to resources and working together over the period April 2023 – 31 March 2027.
- 3.7 SportScotland and Inverclyde Council works together to deliver the following priorities:
 - **Planning for Sport** - Working together we will ensure that sport and physical activity is strategically planned with accountability to deliver agreed priorities and outcomes.
 - **Active Schools** - Increase the number and diversity of children and young people taking part in sport and physical activity.
 - **Community Sport Hubs** - Support Community Sport Hubs (CSH), local collectives of sports clubs & other community organisations that come together to improve the contribution that sport & physical activity has on a community.
 - **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion** - Reduce inequalities in sport and physical activity and support recovery from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic; and
 - **Places** - We will work together to take a more strategic and integrated approach to the school and sports facilities estate.

4.0 PROPOSALS

- 4.1 The Partnership Agreement contains an annual action plan that provides further detail of how SportScotland and Inverclyde Council will work together over the next four years. The full Partnership Agreement for 2023-27 is contained within appendix 1 of this report.
- 4.2 The four-year agreement details the funding which SportScotland will contribute. They have agreed a 3.5% increase in funding towards the core staffing costs from 2023/24. Details of all Sports Scotland funding for Active Schools is as follows:
- SportScotland will contribute £1,090,952 towards Active Schools core staffing over the next four years and Active Schools operations of £42,000 over the next four years;
 - SportScotland will fund the Community Sport Hub officer in full for the next four years. With estimated inflationary increases this equates to £218,060 over the period. SportScotland will contribute £2,837 for Community Sports Hub operational activities in 23/24, with funding for the remaining 3 years to be confirmed;
 - SportScotland will contribute £6,000 for coaching and volunteering over the four-year period;
 - A further £25,158 will be provided by SportScotland for the cycling fund over the next three years; and
 - The overall funding commitment by SportScotland for 23/24 financial year is £348,216.

5.0 IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The table below shows whether risks and implications apply if the recommendation(s) is(are) agreed:

SUBJECT	YES	NO	N/A
Financial	X		
Legal/Risk		X	
Human Resources		X	
Strategic (LOIP/Corporate Plan)		X	
Equalities & Fairer Scotland Duty		X	
Children & Young People's Rights & Wellbeing		X	
Environmental & Sustainability		X	
Data Protection		X	

5.2 Finance

On the basis of projected pay inflation of 5.5% for 2023/24, 3% for 2024/25 and 2025/26 and then 2% for 2026/27, the core Active Schools employee budget will rise by £62,330 over the four years. These assumptions for pay inflation are in line with those used in the Finance Strategy. The Council currently fund 40% of the core Active Schools staff budget, with the remainder being funded by SportScotland. If the Council maintains its 40% funding of these posts, then SportScotland would need to fund the pay increase for 60% of the budget. Given SportScotland will not commit to an increase in funding, this leads to a recurring gap of £28,710 by 2026/27. This would be contained within the Education and Communities budget.

Based on discussions with SportScotland, it is anticipated that the Community Sports Hub post will be fully funded for the four-year period.

One off Costs

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	Budget Years	Proposed Spend this Report	Virement From	Other Comments

Cost Centre	Budget Heading	With Effect from	Annual Net Impact	Virement From (If Applicable)	Other Comments
Active Schools (Core Posts)	Employee Costs Income	2023/24	£464,280		5.5% Inflation
	Council Funded Funding Shortfall		(£272,740)		40% Contribution
			(£185,710)		
			£5,830		
Active Schools (Core Posts)	Employee Costs Income	2024/25	£478,210		3% Inflation
	Council Funded Funding Shortfall		(£272,740)		40% Contribution
			(£191,280)		
			£14,190		
Active Schools (Core Posts)	Employee Costs Income	2025/26	£492,560		3% Inflation
	Council Funded Funding Shortfall		(£272,740)		40% Contribution
			(£197,020)		
			£22,800		
Active Schools (Core Posts)	Employee Costs Income	2026/27	£502,410		2% Inflation
	Council Funded Funding Shortfall		(£272,740)		40% Contribution
			(£200,960)		
			£28,710		
Community Sports Hub Post	Employee Costs Income	2023/24	£52,255		5.5% Inflation
			(£52,255)		
	Employee Costs Income	2024/25	£53,822		3% Inflation
			(£53,822)		
Community Sports Hub Post	Employee Costs Income	2025/26	£55,437		3% Inflation
			(£55,437)		
Community Sports Hub Post	Employee Costs Income	2026/27	£56,546		2% Inflation
			(£56,546)		

5.3 Legal/Risk

N/A

5.4 Human Resources

N/A

5.5 Strategic

The Partnership Agreement between Inverclyde Council and SportScotland will contribute towards achieving the following:

- Inverclyde Partnership Plan 2023-33.
- Active Inverclyde Strategy.
- CLD 3 Year Plan 2021-23; and
- Inverclyde's strategic outcomes for children and young people.

5.6 Equalities and Fairer Scotland Duty

The Partnership Agreement is intended to contribute towards a reduction in inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage.

(a) Equalities

This report has been considered under the Corporate Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) process with the following outcome:

	YES – Assessed as relevant and an EqIA is required.
x	NO – This report does not introduce a new policy, function or strategy or recommend a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy. Therefore, assessed as not relevant and no EqIA is required. Provide any other relevant reasons why an EqIA is not necessary/screening statement.

(b) Fairer Scotland Duty

If this report affects or proposes any major strategic decision:

	YES – A written statement showing how this report's recommendations reduce inequalities of outcome caused by socio-economic disadvantage has been completed.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant under the Fairer Scotland Duty for the following reasons: Provide reasons why the report has been assessed as not relevant.

5.7 Children and Young People

Has a Children's Rights and Wellbeing Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – Assessed as relevant and a CRWIA is required.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve a new policy, function or strategy or recommends a substantive change to an existing policy, function or strategy which will have an impact on children's rights.

5.8 Environmental/Sustainability

Summarise any environmental / climate change impacts which relate to this report.

N/A

Has a Strategic Environmental Assessment been carried out?

	YES – assessed as relevant and a Strategic Environmental Assessment is required.
x	NO – This report does not propose or seek approval for a plan, policy, programme, strategy or document which is like to have significant environmental effects, if implemented.

5.9 Data Protection

Has a Data Protection Impact Assessment been carried out?

	YES – This report involves data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.
x	NO – Assessed as not relevant as this report does not involve data processing which may result in a high risk to the rights and freedoms of individuals.

6.0 CONSULTATION

6.1 The CMT support the proposals within this report.

7.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 N/A.

Inverclyde Council **sportscotland**

Partnership Agreement

2023 - 2027

Sport for life

sportscotland
the national agency for sport

Purpose

This Partnership Agreement is a commitment between Inverclyde Council and **sportscotland** to identify, plan and deliver shared priorities for sport and physical activity, and to secure an in-principle commitment to resources and working together over the period April 2023 – 31 March 2027

Term of Agreement

The duration of the Partnership Agreement is 4 years and will begin on 01 April 2023.

Commitment to Partnership

The strategic value of a partnership between **sportscotland**, Inverclyde Council exists as an agreement to deliver local and national priorities and outcomes for sport and physical activity.

Principles for Partnership Working

sportscotland and Inverclyde Council will work together to ensure there is clarity in the contribution we make to supporting the delivery of local sport and physical activity provision.

National Strategic Context

The Active Scotland Outcomes framework describes Scotland's ambitions for sport and physical activity. It sets out the shared vision of a Scotland where people are more active, more often.

Active Scotland Outcomes contribute to the delivery of National Outcomes and ultimately to the Scottish Government's overarching purpose of creating a more successful country, with opportunities for all to flourish.

Sport and physical activity provides a range of physical, mental, social, environmental and economic benefits. Sport and physical activity makes a positive and valuable contribution to the strategic objectives and national outcomes outlined in Scotland Performs.

Active Scotland Outcomes

- We encourage and enable the inactive to be more active.
- We encourage and enable the active to stay active throughout life.
- We develop physical confidence and competence from the earliest age.
- We improve our active infrastructure people and place.
- We support wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activity and sport
- We improve opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport.

sportscotland Strategic Context

sportscotland’s Corporate Strategy, Sport for Life, sets out our vision of an Active Scotland where everyone benefits from sport. Our mission is to help the people of Scotland get the most from the sporting system.

sportscotland work together with a wide range of organisations to enhance the sporting system for everyone in Scotland.

Diagram 1: Scotland’s System for Sport



The system visual illustrates how resources are invested by various partners to promote sport and develop the people and places that create sporting opportunities which are delivered in the schools and education, clubs and communities and performance sport environments.

It helps everyone see where they fit in and how they contribute. As a result, people in Scotland take part in sport at the level they choose which has an impact on activity levels, health and other aspects of society and the economy.

Our Approach

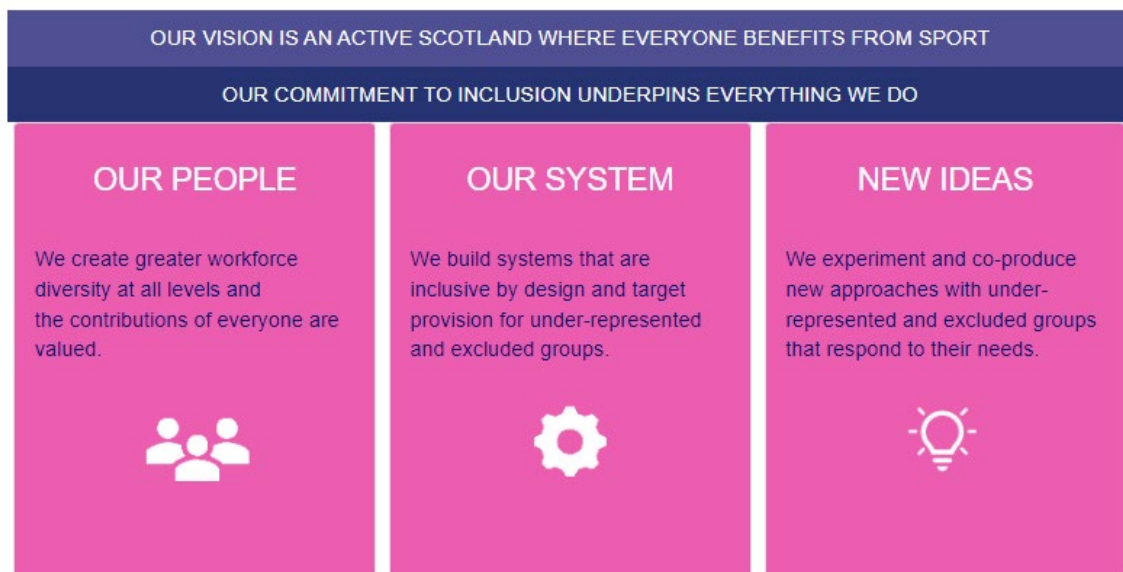
sportscotland's approach is guided by six key principles to deliver the benefits of sport to the people of Scotland. These include:

- Inclusive
- Accountable
- Responsive
- Person-centered
- Collaborative
- World class

Equality, Diversity and Inclusion

sportscotland provides leadership to the sporting sector, to influence and drive the changes needed to address inequalities and ensure everyone has the opportunity to take part.

sportscotland's approach to equality, diversity and inclusion (EDI) brings this commitment to life.



Local Strategic Context

Corporate Plan and LOIP

Inverclyde Council published our Corporate Plan in June 2018 to cover the period 2018 – 2022. This plan set out the vision for Inverclyde Council and demonstrated how it will improve the lives of, and deliver better outcomes for the people of Inverclyde. The focus of this plan was to ensure that Inverclyde is “Getting it right for every Child, Citizen and Community”.

Inverclyde’s Local Outcome Improvement Plan (LOIP) 2017-2022 set out the outcomes that the community planning partners in Inverclyde, known as the Inverclyde Alliance, would seek to improve, which in turn should improve the wellbeing and quality of life of the residents of Inverclyde, with a particular focus on reducing inequality and poverty.

From April 2023 Inverclyde Alliance (the Community Planning Partnership) will be delivering on a new Partnership Plan and Inverclyde Council will have a new Council Plan. While the detail of the outcomes and framework is still to be agreed the direction of travel is that there will be a strong focus on addressing inequalities, supporting wellbeing, and thriving communities. There will be a clear fit with the National Performance Framework in the outcomes we are aiming to achieve.

Active Inverclyde Strategy

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a framework for community planning partners in Inverclyde to work together to increase participation in physical activity, including sport. A range of key stakeholders have been engaged in the development of this strategy including elected members, Inverclyde Leisure, Inverclyde HSCP, **sportscotland**, and other local services. The Active Inverclyde Strategy will be accompanied by a more detailed action plan that will be developed in consultation with local communities. This will ensure that the actions taken to increase participation on physical activity, including sport, meet the needs of communities.

Our vision

‘The people of Inverclyde have the support, encouragement and opportunities to lead healthy, active lives through sport and physical activity’.

Mission statement

‘Working together at all levels we will positively challenge attitudes and behaviours and support residents to enjoy physical activity, including sport as part of their day-to-day lives’.

What are the aims of the strategy?

Physical inactivity is one of the leading causes of premature death in Scotland. Evidence shows that even small increases in activity can help to prevent and treat chronic diseases and improve quality of life.

This strategy aims to reduce inequalities by increasing opportunities for all our residents to improve physical activity whether that be exercise, sport, play, dance, and active living such

as walking, housework and gardening, as a means to promote and embed a culture of inclusion and participation.

The Active Inverclyde Strategy concentrates on four main themes that reflect the areas we believe are pivotal to achieving a reduction in health inequalities and an increase in levels of physical activity: **Active People; Active Communities; Active Partnerships; and Active Environment**. Central to this strategy is the involvement of all clubs, organisations, agencies and participants involved in the development and delivery of physical activity, including sport in Inverclyde.

What do we want to achieve?

- A reduction in health inequalities;
- The development of physical confidence and competence from the earliest age;
- Inactive residents become more active;
- Active residents stay active throughout life;
- Improved active infrastructure, people and places;
- Increased wellbeing and resilience in communities through physical activity and sport (taking into consideration the impact of Covid-19);
- Increased opportunities to participate, progress and achieve in sport; and
- Enhanced facilities and environment due to new investment.

How will we achieve success?

We will work with all partner organisations to identify the actions we need to take in order to achieve our vision. An action plan will be developed to sit underneath this strategy which will provide details of the actions that will be implemented to achieve each of the four themes. These will be developed in collaboration with local communities (geographical and/or of interest), clubs and groups, Sport Governing Bodies, Schools and Third Sector organisations. The action plan will initially focus on recovery from the impact of Covid-19, building on the learning during the pandemic and will be regularly monitored, reviewed and updated with progress reported to all relevant stakeholders.

Education

Inverclyde's Strategic Outcomes for Children and Young People

Inverclyde Education Services has identified strategic outcomes for the children and young people in our early learning centres and schools. These are:

- Enhanced leadership at all levels will impact on learners ensuring that their outcomes continue to improve and are above national averages on all measures.
- All children and young people benefit from high quality learning experiences.
- All children and young people benefit from strong partnerships having been developed with families and the wider community. The ongoing partnerships contribute directly to raising attainment and achievement, and to securing positive and sustained destinations.
- All children and young people make expected or better than expected progress in all learning, but especially in literacy and numeracy, regardless of their background. Young people in Inverclyde use the skills they develop in our schools to achieve positive and sustained destinations.
- All children and young people in Inverclyde experience a high quality curriculum that meets their needs.
- All children and young people feel safe and included in our schools and are achieving their potential.

Ways of Working

Resources

We will work together to align resources and target programmes and interventions that achieve shared priorities.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning

Inverclyde Council will commit to providing **sportscotland** with specified information for each invested programme. **sportscotland** will invest in, contribute to and share national research and information relevant to the sporting system and local partners.

Inverclyde Council will commit to demonstrating impact, share learning to help inform future planning.

Influencing Policy

Inverclyde Council will continue to influence local policy, including politically to support effective delivery of sport and physical activity.

sportscotland will continue to influence national policy to strengthen the system for sport and profile sport's contribution to national outcomes.

Review

We will hold a formal annual review of the Partnership Agreement and progress will be reviewed on an ongoing basis. The format and frequency will be agreed with LA and Leisure Trust (if applicable).

Priorities

sportscotland will work with Inverclyde Council to provide added value by supporting the effective planning, resourcing and delivery of sport and physical activity provision, in a way that is aligned to meeting agreed national and local outcomes.

Inverclyde Council will work with **sportscotland** to deliver agreed sport and physical activity outcomes, and continuously improve the local system for sport.

Specifically, we will work together to deliver the following priorities:

- **Planning for Sport**

Working together we will ensure that sport and physical activity is strategically planned with accountability to deliver agreed priorities and outcomes.

- **Active Schools**

Increase the number and diversity of children and young people taking part in sport and physical activity.

- **Community Sport Hubs**

Support Community Sport Hubs (CSH), local collectives of sports clubs & other community organisations that come together to improve the contribution that sport & physical activity has on a community.

- **Equality, Diversity and Inclusion.**

Reduce inequalities in sport and physical activity and support recovery from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.

- **Places**

We will work together to take a more strategic and integrated approach to the school and sports facilities estate.

Further detail is outlined in the Annual Action Plan, in appendix 1.

Partnership Agreement 1 April 2023 – 31 March 2027

We agree and accept this Partnership Agreement

Between: Inverclyde Council

And: **sportscotland**, Doges, Templeton on the Green, 62 Templeton Street, Glasgow, G40 1DA

Name

Position

Organisation

Signature

date

Name

Position

Organisation

Signature

date

Name

Position

Organisation

Signature

date

sportscotland

Name

Position Partnership Manager

Signature

date

Name

Position Lead Manager

Signature

date

Name

Position Head of School and Community Sport

Signature

date

Appendix 1

Annual Action Plan

Planning for Sport	
We will work together to ensure that sport and physical activity is strategically planned with accountability to deliver agreed priorities and outcomes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Work together to finalise the Active Inverclyde Strategy Action Plan and establishment of the Strategic and Implementation Groups• Work together to strengthen the connection between the LA & SGB's to create opportunities for staff CDP, specific club development and connections into pathways of sport in Inverclyde	Inverclyde Council/sportscotland
Active Schools	
We will work together to increase the number and diversity of children and young people taking part in sport and physical activity.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support planning, staff development and alignment with youth services to strengthen the support offer within Active Schools• Support workforce planning and development, particularly regarding volunteers/deliverers due to numbers impacted by the pandemic• Focus on engaging and increasing secondary school participation.	Inverclyde Council/sportscotland
Community Sport Hubs	
We will work together to support Community Sport Hubs (CSH), local collectives of sports clubs & other community organisations that come together to improve the contribution that sport & physical activity has on a community.	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continue to support the development of CSHs in Inverclyde, the creation of a 4th Hub in Greenock East/Central and the contribution CSHs can make to the Active Inverclyde Strategy• Support workforce planning and development for those responsible for delivering sport and physical activity services within CSHs	Inverclyde Council/sportscotland
Inclusion Projects	
We will work together to further reduce inequalities in sport and physical activity and support recovery from the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic.	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion Projects (Active Schools and Community Sport Hubs)* • LA Inclusion Projects* • Cycling Fund* 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cycling Fund - Grow family cycling participation within Port Glasgow, creating a club within the local CSH. 	Inverclyde Council/ sportscotland
Places	
We will work together to take a more strategic and integrated approach to the school and sports facilities estate	
<p>All stakeholders will work together to gather and share information (bi-annually or more frequently as required) regarding::</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • future capital projects at a Local Authority, club and community level • the rationalisation, closure or other key changes to the sports facilities estate • sport related community asset transfers • the future development of the school estate. 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support the LA with a strategic approach to future investment into facilities 	Inverclyde Council/ sportscotland

*delete if not applicable

Appendix 2 – Resources

Investment Category	Inverclyde Council					sportscotland				
	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	Total	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	Total
Active Schools										
Active Schools (staffing)	216,875	241,356	267,060	294,050	1,019,341	272,738	272,738	272,738	272,738	1,090,952
Active Schools (operational)						10,500	10,500	10,500	10,500	42,000
Community Sport Hubs										
Community Sport Hubs (staffing)	0	0	0	0	0	49,342	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
Community Sport Hubs (operational)						2,837	TBC	TBC	TBC	TBC
People										
Coaching and Volunteering						1,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	6,000
Equality, Diversity and Inclusion										
Cycling Fund						8,386	8,386	8,386		25,158
Total						345,303				