

## **Culture Committee CC 06-03(p.4)**

**Date:** 26 March 2003

**Venue:** Committee Room 1

**Title:** Draft Final Report on the Quinquennial Review of the Sports Council for Wales

### **Purpose**

1. To consult the Committee on the draft Final Report on the Quinquennial Review of the Sports Council for Wales. Standing Order 9.7 provides that the subject committees shall keep under review the discharge of public functions in their field by public bodies. Following the receipt of the Final Report and the Committee's views, the Minister for Culture will advise the Cabinet on the Report's findings and then announce the Welsh Assembly Government's response. The intention is that there should then be an opportunity for Plenary debate before the review is finally concluded.

### **Recommendation**

2. That the Committee comments on the findings of the draft Final Report at Annex A. The Terms of Reference are set out in Appendix A of the Report.

### **Background**

3. The Quinquennial Review of the Sports Council for Wales was formally commissioned by the Minister for Culture, Sport and Welsh Language and the Minister for Finance, Local government and Communities in September last year following consultation with Committee on the Terms of Reference.

4. The review has been carried out by GCL Management Consultants, the first stage of the Review resulted in an Interim Report that was presented to the Committee last December. The Culture Minister and the Finance Minister subsequently agreed the broad thrust of the conclusions and recommendations of the Interim Report and in particular agreed that the functions currently provided by the Council should be retained and that an independent national sport body for Wales (*the Council*) should be retained to cover both sports development programmes and SPORTLOT funds distribution. They also commissioned the second stage of the review, covering strategic effectiveness and corporate governance.

## **The Final Report**

5. The draft Final Report is attached at Annex A. It makes 47 new recommendations, set out in the Implementation Plan that follows the Executive Summary. The findings of the review result from a wide-ranging consultation with stakeholders and partners as well as within the Sports Council. The overall conclusion of the Review is that the Council:

- Is well led in relation to established agendas, but slow in responding to change;
- Has been an effective lottery distributor and developer of elite athletes;
- Needs to concentrate much more on advocacy and relationship management with a wide range of stakeholders;
- Needs to re-evaluate priorities for delivery of objectives;
- Needs to review, document and communicate priorities for funding of sports; and
- Needs to significantly improve its planning processes and provide a better supported case for funding.

## **Compliance**

7. The Review has been undertaken in accordance with the published Quinquennial Review guidelines. In addition to its participation in the Review, the Sports Council has been consulted on all matters of fact.

## **Action for Committee**

8. The Committee is asked to comment on the draft Final Report before submission to Ministers.

## **Contact point**

Financial Planning Division.