

**BIRMINGHAM CITY COUNCIL**

**COMMONWEALTH GAMES, CULTURE AND PHYSICAL  
ACTIVITY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY (O&S) COMMITTEE –  
PUBLIC MEETING**

**1330 hours on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019, Committee Room 6 – Actions**

**Present:**

Councillor Mariam Khan (Chair)

Councillors: Ron Storer and Martin Straker Welds

**Also Present:**

Councillor Ian Ward, Leader

Berna Ucel, Head of Operations & Events, Commonwealth Games 2022

Andrew Slattery, Programme Manager, Commonwealth Games

Amanda Simcox, Scrutiny Officer

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**1. NOTICE OF RECORDING/WEBCAST**

The Chairman advised that this meeting would be webcast for live or subsequent broadcast via the Council's Internet site ([www.civico.net/birmingham](http://www.civico.net/birmingham)) and that members of the press/public may record and take photographs except where there were confidential or exempt items.

**2. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN**

**RESOLVED:**

Noted the resolution of the City Council appointing the Committee, Chair and Members to serve on the Committee for the period ending with the Annual Meeting of the City Council in 2020:

Labour (5) Councillors: Alex Aitken, Mariam Khan (Chair), Zhor Malik, Hendrina Quinnen and Martin Straker Welds.

Conservative (2) Councillors: Ewan Mackey and Ron Storer.

Lib/Dem (1) Councillor Morriam Jan.

**3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR**

Councillor Alex Aitken was elected as Deputy Chair to substitute for the Chair if absent.

#### **4. APOLOGIES**

None.

#### **5. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

None.

#### **6. TERMS OF REFERENCE**

Noted the Commonwealth Games, Culture and Physical Activity O&S Committee's terms of reference.

#### **7. COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2022**

(See document 1).

Councillor Ian Ward, Leader; Berna Ucel, Head of Operations & Events, Commonwealth Games 2022 and Andrew Slattery, Programme Manager, Commonwealth Games 2022 attended for this item and answered Members' questions.

The following were among the main points made during the presentation:

- The Games themselves are not just about sport, they are about bringing people together, improving health and well-being, helping the region to grow and succeed, being a catalyst for change across Birmingham and about changing the perception of the city both nationally and internationally. It is about achieving what Manchester achieved in 2002 and Glasgow achieved in 2014 when they hosted the Commonwealth Games.
- The boost to the regional economy is forecast to be in excess of £1bn. This forecast is based upon the Gold Coast 2018 Commonwealth Games. In 2014 Glasgow and the region's economy was boosted by approximately £840m. Therefore, the Games are delivering better economic benefits with every iteration and our ambition is to exceed what was achieved at the Gold Coast.
- 1,400 new homes will be built in Perry Barr as part of the Athletes Village. The city's housing need is in excess of 90,000 units between now and 2031 and between 50,000 and 60,000 units being accommodated within the city boundary. The Village and the catalyst the Village will provide for further regeneration in the Perry Barr area is part of the Council meeting the housing need.
- Need to recruit in excess of 10,000 volunteers and there is an opportunity to reach out into some of our most deprived communities to recruit volunteers and ensure they not only have a meaningful experience through that process but that they also achieve a meaningful qualification as a result of the volunteer programme.
- There is a cost benefit to Birmingham and the West Midlands. For every pound that we are investing (the local contribution is £184m), the government is investing £3. On top of this we will receive additional money

as we go through the process leading into and out of the Games. We have already received £165m from the government to help us deliver the Games Village and the transport infrastructure that sits around that. A further £20m has come from the West Midlands Combined Authority. This is investment we would not have received without the Games.

- The Festival of Britain will have the Games at the heart of it and the government has set aside £120m. We can expect to receive a proportion of that money in order to deliver the culture programme that we have to deliver alongside the Games.
- We expect there to be £300m of Games contracts that local and regional suppliers can access.
- There are 71 Commonwealth nations with 2.4bn citizens. The Games will be 11 days of sport and have 6,500 athletes and officials in attendance.
- It will be a showcase of this region with venues for the Games being in Sandwell, Solihull, Cannock Chase, Coventry and Royal Leamington Spa.
- Up to £1.6bn global TV spectators.
- 95% of the venues that are needed to deliver the Games are already in place and we only need to build three pieces of infrastructure. This gave us the edge when competing for the Games.
- It is anticipated that over 1½ million tickets will be sold and we can expect a large influx of people, possibly doubling the population of the city during the Games.
- There will be 19 sports, including 8 para-sports and this will be the most diverse Games with the highest proportion of para events.
- There have been some changes to the Sports Programme since the announcement was first made.
  - Due to the popularity in netball and being able to sell more tickets than originally thought, netball will move from the Coventry Arena to the NEC. As a consequence the wrestling and Judo will move from the NEC to the Coventry Arena.
  - Rugby 7s moves from Villa Park to Coventry Stadium mainly due to the premier league season being moved forward because of the World Cup in Qatar.
  - Women's T20 Cricket is newly confirmed and will take place at Edgbaston Stadium. Having the Women's T20 Cricket now means there will be more medals available for female than male athletes and this is the first time this had happened in the Games.
  - Para-table tennis has been added and will take place at the NEC.
- The Village:
  - Phase 1 will deliver approximately 1,400 homes and this will include an extra care home.

- Phase 2 post Games will deliver approximately 500 homes on the adjacent site to the Village and planning consent was given in August 2019. They are retaining the Doug Ellis sports centre and will incorporate a new secondary school.
- Adjacent infrastructure works and improved transport connectivity facilitates approximately a further 3,000 homes in nearby locations and along the A34 corridor. Therefore, approximately 5,000 homes will be built because of the Games.
- Demolition on site started June 2018 and construction started in May 2019. Intended completion is early 2022 in time for the Games.
- 22% of the units in phase 1 will be affordable, which is short of the aspiration in the Birmingham Development Plan of 35%. However, the intention is to improve this via the neighbouring developments.
- Alexander Stadium redevelopment: Planning application was submitted in September 2019 with a decision expected by the end of January 2020.
  - The pre-planning public consultation has now concluded with around 100 responses received and the majority of those were positive. This can be made available if members are interested in this.
  - They have secured Birmingham City University as an anchor tenant, who will be putting their sports faculty at the stadium post Games. This gives a meaningful legacy for the stadium and we will not end up with a “white elephant” as it will get more use post Games than it did beforehand.
  - It will host the opening and closing ceremonies along with the Athletics competition.
  - The project budget is £72m and construction is due to start March 2020 and it is due to be completed late 2021.
  - During the Games it will have approximately 38,000 seats and this will be reduced to 18,000 legacy seating.
  - They are hoping to introduce additional community facilities and they are in talks with Sport England as to how this will be paid for.
  - In a future phase there will be some university accommodation built near to the stadium.
  - The new floodlights will hopefully lead to floodlit athletics in the future.
- Sandwell Aquatics Centre:
  - The planning application was approved in April 2019. Enabling works has now commenced on the site and the site compound has been set up. Major construction work will start before the end of 2019.
  - This will be a meaningful legacy post Games as this will be a community multi-use facility including a 50m, 10 lane pool with a

moveable floor, 25m international standard diving facility, sports hall, dance and cycling studios and gym.

- The Games Bill is going through Parliament and this is necessary for putting some of the small temporary measures in place for this type of event at this scale. This includes touting of Games tickets being prohibited and confirming the Government funding of the Games to the Organising Committee etc.
- The Games Strategic Transport Plan:
  - It was formally published on 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and is a high level approach with five key principles. This includes minimising disruption to everyday users. It is also important to send the message that the city will remain open for those not attending for the Games, as we do not want to deter people from coming to the city, which is what happened in London when they hosted the Olympics.
  - A twelve week period of stakeholder engagement is taking place and the comments will be collated and published in a public report in early 2020. This can be viewed online. Work will then take place with Games partners across 2020 to build in the appropriate level of detail. The updated version of the plan will undergo formal stakeholder consultation.
- The Leader accepts that they have not been doing enough in terms of communication thus far, a proactive and reactive communications strategy of activity is taking place.
- Engagement - this includes:
  - A wider community and residents engagement strategy is being developed both at ward and constituency level. As this is very much a Games for them.
  - They are keen to get Member and peer engagement in the delivery phase.
  - MPs and House of Lords tour of venue/capital projects took place on the 20<sup>th</sup> September 2019 and this may be repeated.
  - Launch of the search for the 'Perry Barr Champions' ambassador programme.
  - Held a Perry Barr business forum and will hold another one in the future.
  - Staff engagement, events and activity will commence early November 2019 to inform, educate and excite our workforce.
  - Members and MPs will receive via email a quarterly factsheet and newsletter from the programme team and it is hoped to get this widely circulated.
- Cross partner roles, responsibilities and governance arrangements have now been finalised for the legacy. Work is now progressing to develop the

governance structures and programme architecture for the three major strands of the legacy work within the Council: Infrastructure; Education; and Community Cohesion and Civic Pride. For the Leader, one of the key measures of success for Birmingham hosting the Games is that after the Games people will look back and say “that was the moment that changed Birmingham for the better”. We will only do that if we build greater community cohesion across all our communities in Birmingham and build civic pride. The Leader is happy to have a discussion as to how the committee can add value to this work.

The Chair mentioned how useful the committee’s visit to the Alexander Stadium and Village was for them, as they did the walk to and from the station, visited the Stadium before the demolition and saw where the Village will be built. The Chair thanked officers for organising and attending this visit.

The following were among the main points made during the discussion with members:

- The Leader is keen to engage with the committee to help add value to the Games and the legacy and is keen for the committee to engage in all aspects. It may also be useful for the committee from time to time go back out to these capital build sites, particularly the Village, as it contains the highest amount of risk in terms of delivering on time and has generated the most interest in the neighbouring areas.
- It is the Council’s responsibility to get the Village built on time. The cost of building the Village is borne by the Council and if there is an overspend then it will be the Council’s responsibility. The Council will be looking to recoup the costs of the Village through the housing sales. Information on InReach will be provided.
- There will be a Cabinet decision later this month regarding the demolition of the flyover. There are consequences if the flyover is left in situ and a whole host of reasons why it needs to be demolished. Firstly, we cannot get the cycle lane down the A34 as far as the one stop shopping centre. Secondly, it does not allow for a Sprint stop at the Village, so 1,400 new homes will be built in one of the best connected locations in the city and would not have a Sprint stop. There is also an issue about access to the One Stop Shopping Centre, as we would be unable to signalise this junction. Finally, phase 2 (plot 10) - cars will be driving right past the windows of the new houses. Importantly, we need to encourage people to get out of their cars and the flyover is part of this agenda.
- The figures for the Aquatic Centre are being worked on and the Leader is happy to come back to the Committee to report on this.
- Coventry City Council is not making a contribution to the Games. There is a contribution coming from the Coventry and Warwickshire Local Enterprise Partnership and this is set at £5m.
- The number of seats and therefore tickets that can be sold in Birmingham is now higher than when the bid was submitted.

- There has been a lot of development in Birmingham over a number of years and the Highways Team in particular has developed a way of minimising disruption.
- There are plans to significantly invest to transform the park where the Alexander Stadium is to increase use. They are happy to forward early illustrations of this.
- There is increasing interest in women's sport, netball is the most popular female sport and the Leader is confident the T20 Women's cricket will be sold out.
- Schools are a key part in children getting involved and the Games is very much about the celebration of youth. They will be bringing this forward through the Culture programme to make sure schools and children are fully engaged. There is also the Urban Games that we are going to run alongside the Games.
- There is a meaningful piece of work the committee can do around legacy, in particular around community cohesion and civic pride. Looking at how we engage with communities so they feel they are part of the Games and the Games are there for them. We can then use that to keep communities looking outwards and not turning inwards. Building on what we have in relation to community cohesion and building on civic pride.
- They are giving some thought to sports presentation to the TV audience.
- 10,000 – 12,000 Volunteers needed:
  - The Organising Committee is responsible for recruiting the volunteers and has not yet procured a trainer.
  - There are likely to be volunteers from the universities and it is important that we have volunteers from deprived communities. There would then be the opportunity to buddy the volunteers up.
  - The Leader is very keen to engage a further education college or university so some of the volunteers can get a meaningful qualification that can assist them to get into work or further education.
- Ticket sales are predicted to be 1.5million. The predictions are based on capacity at the venues and the ability to sell them and this does not include the marathon, road cycling and triathlon events, where people can stand at the roadside. The pricing strategy for the tickets is currently being worked on and the tickets have to be accessible.
- Security and ticket sales are the responsibility of the Organising Committee.
- Members were unaware of who is responsible for what, timescales and how this will be done. The Leader agreed that a guide of who does what - division of responsibilities, including details of what the Team in the Council is doing and the upper tier of the Organising Committee would be provided.

- The Leader suggested that the committee may want to invite people from the Organising Committee to talk about the work they are doing.
- The three ambitions of the Games are: to be the greenest, most diverse and inclusive Games.

### **RESOLVED**

The update was noted and members will be provided with the following:

- Details of who will be managing the affordable homes.
- A guide to who does what (division of responsibilities, including details of what the Team in the Council is doing and the upper tier of the Organising Committee).
- Early illustrations of the transformation of the park.

## **8. WORK PROGRAMME**

(See document 2).

The Chair advised members that she had a meeting with the Leader during the summer to discuss how the Committee could add value to the Games. The Chair has also met with Cat Orchard, Head of Community Partnerships. Thought was given to the legacy and the committee engaging with communities across the city as they want everyone to feel part of the Games. Due to there being already a lot of engagement happening in Perry Barr, it was suggested that members may wish to look at other areas of the city.

It had been hoped that this could have been discussed in more detail at the committee's informal meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2019. However, this did not happen due to lack of attendance. Although, the Chair has mentioned this to some of the committee members and they are on board with doing a piece of work on engagement and speaking to communities. The Chair is happy to send out an invitation to all members informing them of this piece of work and asking if there is anyone they wish the committee to go out to speak to in the community. Questions could be about affordability etc.

The Committee would then present a report to feed into engagement the Council is doing for the Games, which could then also be presented to the Organising Committee.

It was suggested that the consultation/survey could also be put on the Council's website (BeHeard) to capture more views. Members can devise the questions at the November 2019 meeting when Cat Orchard attends. It was suggested that an aid memoire could also be given out.

It was questioned whether on the website there could be a general update on the Games that all communities can access so they know what is going on and what progress has been made.



It was agreed that other regular site visits can be programmed when appropriate.

**RESOLVED:**

The work programme was noted.

**9. DATES OF MEETINGS**

**RESOLVED:**

- The Committee noted the dates of future meetings on the following Wednesdays at 1330 hours in the Council House:-

<u>2019</u>	<u>2020</u>
6 November	15 January
4 December	5 February
	4 March
	1 April
- The Committee also approved Wednesdays at 1330 hours as a suitable day and time each week for any additional meetings required to consider 'requests for call in' which may be lodged in respect of Executive decisions.

**10. REQUEST(S) FOR CALL IN/COUNCILLOR CALL FOR ACTION/PETITIONS RECEIVED (IF ANY)**

None.

**11. OTHER URGENT BUSINESS**

None.

**12. AUTHORITY TO CHAIRMAN AND OFFICERS**

**RESOLVED:-**

That in an urgent situation between meetings the Chair, jointly with the relevant Chief Officer, has authority to act on behalf of the Committee.

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The meeting ended at 15.20 hours.