

Health, Social Care and Sport Committee
Tuesday, 11 March 2025
8th Meeting, 2025 (Session 6)

sportscotland: Sport and Physical Activity in Scotland

Background

1. Following on from previous inquiry work, Members of the Committee have indicated their desire to undertake further scrutiny of the sport and physical activity aspect of the Committee's remit, in particular, current issues affecting participation.
2. The Committee has therefore taken advantage of an available gap in its current work programme to invite representatives of sportscotland to give evidence on this theme.
3. Acting as Scotland's national agency for sport, sportscotland financially invests in and works alongside Scotland's sporting governing bodies to promote physical activity in Scotland, as well as supporting governing bodies to ensure that they are fit for purpose.
4. The [sportscotland Governance Framework](#) outlines the standard of governance expected from sports governing bodies. [SPICe have also prepared a briefing](#) which further outlines the legislative and governance landscape in Scottish sport, and provides an overview of sportscotland's specific role within that landscape.
5. The Committee has previously undertaken significant scrutiny into areas of policy that are likely to be covered at today's meeting.
6. Members previously took evidence from sportscotland as part of its scrutiny of the issue of racism in Scottish cricket – once on [4 October 2022](#) and again on [24 January 2023](#).
7. The Committee also conducted an inquiry into female participation in sport and physical activity in 2023. At the conclusion of that inquiry, the Committee's [inquiry report](#) made a series of recommendations that are relevant to the remit of sportscotland in terms of its funding responsibilities and oversight of sports governing bodies.
8. In 2022, the Committee also held an [inquiry into the health and wellbeing of children and young people](#). This inquiry and aspects of the Committee's concluding report and recommendations will also be relevant to the remit of sportscotland.

Today's meeting

9. At today's meeting, Members will have an opportunity to put questions to senior representatives of sportscotland regarding sport and physical activity in Scotland, including current issues affecting participation.

Clerks to Committee
March 2025