



New Olympic/Paralympic Style School Sport Competition
Consultation on how National Lottery Funding can support competitive school sport

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Introduction

1. On Monday 28 June 2010 Jeremy Hunt (Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport) and Michael Gove (Secretary of State for Education) announced the creation of a new **Olympic/Paralympic style school sports competition**. The new competition is a key part of the Government's plans for a lasting sporting legacy from hosting the London 2012 Games.
2. **Sport England is seeking views on how best lottery funding might support the new initiative.** This would represent additional funding over and above what we have committed to invest in community sport between April 2009 and March 2011 to create a world leading community sport system.
3. The Department for Culture, Media and Sport is leading the development of the plans to create the new Olympic/Paralympic style school sport competition working in partnership with the Department for Education, Sport England, the Youth Sport Trust, the British Olympic Association, the British Paralympic Association and other partners including National Governing Bodies of Sport.

What will the new school sport competition look like?

4. The new Olympic/Paralympic style school sport competition aims to revive the culture of competitive sport in schools. Every school¹ in England, and subject to the agreement of the devolved administrations schools in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, will be given the opportunity to get involved. So every school child will have the chance to take part.
5. The new competition will not be a single event. Rather it will be a package of events and activities, harnessing the power of the Olympic and Paralympic Games to inspire a generation of young people to get involved in competitive sports. The competition will run at four levels:

Level 1 – Intra School Competition

- a. There will be more competition in every school. From the school year 2010/11, every primary and secondary school will be encouraged to hold an annual Olympic/Paralympic style day every summer. This will be the culmination within every school of an enlarged programme of intra school competition (for example class or form matches). The first Olympic/Paralympic style days, involving around 500 schools as a pilot, will take place during the summer school term in 2011; with every school being able to take part by the summer school term in 2012.

¹ Primary, Secondary and Special Schools plus independent schools

Level 2 – Inter School Competition

- b. Next there will be more competitions between schools through a rolling programme of leagues and tournaments. The first tournaments and leagues will be trialled in a selection of areas from the autumn 2010; with rolling competitions across the whole country from January 2011.

Level 3 – County Festivals of Sport

- c. Children and young people will progress from the inter school tournaments/leagues to one of up to 60 new County festivals of Sport. These will incorporate the finals of inter school competition in every area, and showcase the best of local competitive sport. There will be nine pilot festivals – one in each of the Government Office regions – during the summer 2011, with England wide coverage in summer 2012.
- d. Each area will establish an organising committee which will be chaired by a Head Teacher and bring together the local schools, school sport partnerships, the county sports partnerships and other local partners. Whilst we would expect these core groups to be part of every local organising committee we anticipate variations and difference in terms of their overall make up and the other partners. What will be key is that the committees are locally owned and driven.

Level 4 – National Event

- e. The country's most talented young sports people will have the opportunity to take part in a high profile national event to showcase their talents within school sport. The first national event will take place in summer 2012. The schools of the competing athletes will be recognised and rewarded for their participation.
6. There will be specific attention paid to the creation and promotion of meaningful competition opportunities, across the four levels, for young people with disabilities, with special schools integrated into the programme.
 7. Schools' and pupils' achievements will be recognised and rewarded through a national competitive school sport league database.
 8. National Governing Bodies of Sport will have an important role to play across all levels of the new competition.

The budget

9. Overall we propose to invest **up to £15.5 million** of lottery funding between 2010-13 to stage the first cycle of the competition. The table on the next page sets out the headline distribution of the budget. **It is important to explain that the table sets out what we estimate needs to be invested at each level of the competition the actual lottery awards will be based on demonstrating need.**

	2010-13
Levels 1-2 Intra and Inter School Competition	Up to £4.75m
Level 3 County Festivals	Up to £5.2m
Level 4 National Event	Up to £4.75m
League Database	Up to £0.4m
Monitoring and Evaluation	Up to £0.15m
Running Costs and Contingency	Up to £0.25m

Our proposals for the first cycle run over a number of years because we would be testing out different aspects of the new school sports competition. There are also additional one off start up costs for example piloting the new County Festivals of Sport or the set up of the league database.

10. Going forward each cycle will run over one year and we propose to invest **up to £10 million** of lottery funding per year. The table below sets out the headline distribution of the budget. **Again it is important to explain that the table sets out what we estimate needs to be invested at each level of the competition the actual lottery awards will be based on demonstrating need.**

	Each Additional Cycle
Levels 1-2 Intra and Inter School Competition	Up to £2m
Level 3 County Festivals	Up to £3.2m
Level 4 National Event	Up to £4m
League Database	Up to £0.1m
Monitoring and Evaluation	Up to £0.1m
Running Costs, Contingency and Inflation Allowance	Up to £0.6m

11. It is envisaged that the new Olympic/Paralympic style school sport competition, once established, will run indefinitely and become an important part of the sporting landscape. Our initial funding commitment invests funding to support the first three cycles (2010-13, 2013-14 and 2014-15) of the school sport competition. In total that would see a lottery investment of up to **£35.5 million** between 2010-15.

12. Sport England will also ensure that no more than 2% of the overall award budget is spent on our own administration of the funding.

How we propose to distribute the lottery funding

13. We propose to distribute the funding through a mixture of solicited and open funding applications.

Solicited funding

- a. We propose that funding to support **levels 1 and 2** of the school sport (intra and inter school) competition and the development support needed to create the organising committees for the new County Festivals of Sport (**level 3**) should be put in place by a solicited funding application. At levels 1 and 2 this would fund the development support and resources needed to significantly increase the amount of intra and inter school competition, plus the concept development of the league database. We propose to solicit a funding application from the Youth Sport Trust – the school sport landscape delivery partner – subject to the outcomes of this consultation. Initially we would solicit for the first round of the competition (2010-13).

Open funding

- b. We propose that there should be an open competition to select who runs each of the **County Festivals of Sport** in 2012. Organisations will be able to bid to run individual or multiple festivals. We believe that organisations bidding to run the festivals should do so in partnership and with the agreement of the local organising committee.

We are going to pilot the new County Festivals of Sport during the summer school term in 2011 in nine areas. Funding for the nine pilots is being put in place, during this consultation, through soliciting applications from the pilot local organising committees.

We propose that the open competition to run the 60 festivals in 2012 will start after pilot events have taken place in 2011.

- c. We propose that there should be an open competition to select the organisation or organisations who will run the new **National Event** (Level 4). Our plans would be for applications to open in the autumn 2010 with the successful applicant(s) announced by April 2011.

- d. We propose that there should be an open competition to select the organisation who undertakes the **monitoring and evaluation** programme. Our plan is for the tendering exercise to start in October 2010 and that it would follow OJEU rules.
- e. We propose there should be an open competition to select the organisation which who will operate the **league database**. Our plan is for the tendering exercise to start in January 2011 and that it would follow OJEU rules.

Consultation questions

- 14. We really would like to hear your views on our proposals which we believe represent the best way of supporting the new Olympic/Paralympic style school sport competition. In particular we would like your views on:
 - a. How relevant are the proposals to you, your local school and community?
 - b. What are the features of the proposals that you most like or dislike?
 - c. Are there any additional areas we should be seeking to develop?
 - d. Are there any areas we should omit or re-shape?
 - e. Are the proposals likely to encourage your local school or children to take part?
 - f. Have we struck the right balance between solicited and open funding?

Timeline/How to take part in the consultation

- 15. The consultation will run for just over ten weeks. It starts on **Thursday 5 August 2010** and closes at **5 pm on Friday 15 October 2010**. Sport England appreciates that this represents a slightly tighter timeline than what we have normally followed (the convention is that Lottery Consultations run for around 12 weeks). **We will do all that we can to take account of any comments received after 15 October.**

16. To have your say and take part in the consultation you can:
- a. **email** your views to schoolcompetition@sportengland.org; or
 - b. **write** to Cassie Yashpal at Sport England, 3rd Floor, Victoria House, Bloomsbury Square, London WC1B 4SE. Please mark the envelope “**School Competition Consultation**”.

Sport England
5 August 2010