



Department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport

Nigel Huddleston MP
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Dame Meg Hillier MP
Chair, Committee of Public Accounts
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

29 July 2022

MC2022/10236/DC

Dear Dame Meg,

In accordance with Managing Public Money guidance I enclose a copy of the Departmental Minute, which will be laid on 5 September 2022 notifying Parliament that the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) will be gifting sporting assets following completion of the B2022 Commonwealth Games. This minute is being written during Parliamentary recess as:

- the Games equipment will be distributed immediately after the conclusion of the Games due to the subsequent dissolution of the Organising Committee (the Games is taking place during Summer Recess);
- in order to maximise legacy benefits of the items through rapid dispersal to the local community following the Games;
- any delay in the assets being transferred to Sport England will result in significant unnecessary costs to the public purse for additional storage, security, transport etc.

B2022 is the 'Games for Everyone', and we have a fantastic opportunity to maximise the impact of that objective by ensuring that assets go to where there is the greatest need and improve community access to opportunities. This approach also complements the existing B2022 physical activity and wellbeing legacy plans that have a strong focus on tackling inactivity and engaging underrepresented groups.


With that in mind, and having considered the options available, my position is that the B2022 Organising Committee (OC) should donate the sporting assets that it has acquired to Sport England. They will then be able to distribute those assets to support grassroots sport and physical activity organisations across the West Midlands and beyond.

To ensure communities receive the maximum benefit from this arrangement, the asset dispersal delivery mechanism that is ultimately adopted will adhere to some fundamental headline principles:

- A strong focus on supporting **equality, diversity and inclusion** principles that run throughout the Games and that are intrinsically linked to the 'Games for Everyone' ethos;
- A commitment to **tackling inactivity and engaging underrepresented groups**, aligned to the existing approach to the B2022 Physical Activity & Wellbeing legacy, as well as government's broader approach to sport and physical activity and Sport England's own *Uniting the Movement* strategy; and



- Ensuring that, as far as is possible and practicable, **assets are distributed fairly and equitably**, with reach across the West Midlands region, and beyond where possible.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nigel Huddleston', on a light-colored background.

Nigel Huddleston MP
Minister for Sport, Tourism, Heritage and Civil Society