

# Commonwealth Games England



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<b>Meeting</b>	Emergency Board meeting (minutes)	
<b>Date</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> April 2020	<b>Time</b> 14:00
<b>Location</b>	Via Microsoft Teams	
<b>Chair</b>	Ian Metcalfe (IM)	
<b>Present</b>	Paul Blanchard (PB), Chris Simpson (CS), Nigel Walker (NW), Jenny Ashmore (JA), Simon Ball (SB), Caroline Spelman (CSp), Delia Bushell (DB), Ali Jawad (AJ), Denise Lewis (DL)	
<b>Other Attendees</b>	Chris Conway (CC), Jordan Smith (JS) (minutes)	
<b>Apologies</b>	Dawn Newbery (DN)	

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## 1. Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest

IM welcomed the Board to the Emergency Board meeting which had been called due to the COVID-19 global pandemic. Apologies had been received from DN.

## 2. Organisational response to COVID-19

PB gave an update on how the executive team had been functioning and coping during the nationwide lockdown period. PB stressed the importance of welfare and noted that no member of staff or any immediate family had shown any COVID-19 symptoms so far.

The team had been working well virtually and was having a daily catch up via Microsoft Teams, running through the order of the day and discussing any updates or decisions.

PB referred to the CEO report circulated in the Board papers.

PB also drew the Board's attention to the two risk registers that were circulated with the Board papers, which identified specific risks and issues from the COVID-19 situation and the postponement of Tokyo 2020.

PB noted that there was a significant amount of overlap between the two registers and moving forward, some risks would merge. Ahead of the June Board meeting, these specific risks would be fully incorporated into the Organisational and Games specific risk registers respectively.

PB highlighted four key risks:

- Staffing.
- Cyber Risk..
- B2022 date change. Due to the proximity of the European Championships and the changed date for the World Athletics Championships, a change of date for B2022 was likely. However, this situation is very fluid.
- No host for 2026.

SB expressed his concern for the NGBs and questioned how CGE could be supporting them during the pandemic. PB explained that the larger NGBs with less SE funding were the most impacted. This presents an opportunity to reconsider the proposed NGB contributions for the T&T2021 and B2022 Games. The Board agreed this was an area of sensitivity and for the Executive team to liaise with Sport England on this. Board requested that a paper is presented and discussed at the next Board meeting.

**Action point 1: PB to liaise with Sport England regarding their view on reconsidering NGB contributions**

**Action point 2: CC to prepare and present a paper on NGB contributions to the Board at June meeting**

PB added that the CGF remained committed to holding the Youth Games. The current dates now clashed with the rearranged Tokyo dates, so the YG was likely to be pushed back by six weeks.

There were questions around insurance policies and COVID-19 cover.

JA queried if Team Leaders would be affected by SE and NGBs furloughing staff. PB confirmed that FCK had been in contact with the TLs and none had given any indication of such a threat or if the furlough period damage would be significant.

### **3. Impact of Tokyo 2020 postponement on B2022**

IM provided an update on the effect of COVID-19 at the OC and explained that they were working as effectively as they could be during the lockdown. There had a full Board meeting as usual and IM, SB and PB were all involved.

IM also discussed the potential scenario of a B2022 date change, due to Tokyo 2020 being postponed until July 2021. There are three potential clashes with B2022 – UEFA Women's Euros, World Athletics Championships and the European Championships for Athletics, Cycling, Gymnastics and Triathlon. IM noted a number of risks that the clashes would cause, including the availability of top athletes.

IM asked NW, DL and AJ to give some athlete perspective on the situation.

NW agreed with PB that CGE was in the best possible position. It was obvious that World Athletics wants the best outcome and is willing to be flexible. European Championships may be more problematic but if it was impossible to do three events out of three, B2022 is well placed to be chosen before European Championships.

DL was in agreement and stated that all athletes would want to showcase their talent on home soil; this was to B2022's advantage.

AJ noted that he had had various para-athletes contact him regarding B2022 and the impact of the Tokyo postponement. Currently 2022 is the beginning of the Paralympic qualification process for Paris 2024, with the European Championships a key competition for qualification. The IPC would have to reschedule or rethink the timings of this process.

#### 4. AOB

IM briefly provided an update regarding the new Athlete Representative NED. IM and SB had had conversations with the two shortlisted candidates, but a final decision had yet not been made. The quality of both made it hard to choose between the two, and subject to SE acquiescence, IM was inclined to propose that both be appointed. This would be discussed at the upcoming NomCo meeting on Wednesday and then a recommendation would be put to the Board via email within the next few weeks.

There was no other business and IM closed the meeting at 15.45.

<b>Action Summary</b>	<b>Executive Lead</b>	<b>NED Lead</b>
1. PB to liaise with Sport England regarding their view on reconsidering NGB contributions	PB	IM
2. CC to prepare and present a paper on NGB contributions to the Board at June meeting	CC	CS