



Rodney Connor B.Sc. (Econ) D.M.S.
Chief Executive

RECEIVED

21 DEC 2007


FERMANAGH
DISTRICT COUNCIL

*Robert Gibson B.Sc.,
Director of Leisure, Tourism & Arts,
Townhall, Enniskillen, Co. Fermanagh, BT74 7BA.
Telephone: 028 6632 5050
Textphone: 028 6632 7969
Fax: 028 6632 8991
e-mail: robert.gibson@fermanagh.gov.uk
www.fermanagh.gov.uk*

Our Ref: RG/JW

19 December 2007

Department of Culture, Arts
& Leisure
Sports Branch
20-24 York Street
BELFAST BT15 1AQ

Dear Sirs

re: **CONSULTATION – “THE NORTHERN IRELAND
STRATEGY FOR SPORT AND PHYSICAL RECREATION
2007-2017”**

The Council has considered this Consultation Draft and would make the following comments:-

- (a) Fermanagh District Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the Consultation Draft of The Northern Ireland Strategy for Sport and Physical Recreation 2007-2017.
- (b) The Council also welcomes the preparation of the Strategy which should ensure that Sport and Physical Recreation are given their proper place and resources for the future. This should also strengthen the links between DCAL, Sport Northern Ireland and the Local Authorities.
- (c) Fermanagh District Council agrees in principle to the planned approach to assist in developing sport and Physical Recreation in Northern Ireland as set out in the Strategy.

The specific responses to the questions posed on Page 3 are:

- ✓1. The proposed format of the Strategy is acceptable.
- ✓2. Yes, however, more emphasis should be put on Health and Well Being.
- ✓3. Yes, the Government should commit to taking action that will develop sport and Physical Recreation in Northern Ireland and must put the necessary finance and resources into this. The Government should partner with Local Authorities to achieve this.

Robert Forde M.C.I.E.H. M.I.O.S.H. M.I.Mgt.
Director of Environmental Health

Robert Gibson B.Sc.
Director of Leisure, Tourism & Arts

Brendan Hegarty B.Sc. F.C.A.
Director of Finance & Information Technology

Gerry Knox B.A.
Director of Technical Services

Desmond Reid F.R.I.C.S. D.M.S.
Director of Building Control



Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure

19 December 2007

- ✓ 4. It is good that targets are set. There would be concern at how and where multi-sports facilities would be situated in rural areas and who would be responsible for them. Fermanagh has a European Geopark which should also be considered in the places for delivery.
- ✓ 5. The key steps do appear to be appropriate, however, QUEST does not appear to be the most appropriate delivery vehicle.
- ✓ 6. The Council will work in partnership with DCAL and Sport Northern Ireland to implement the Strategy. The Council would wish to ensure it has the opportunity to express its views, concerns and ideas on an ongoing basis throughout delivery of the Strategy.
- ✓ 7. The Strategy appears not to have given full weight to the issues involved in creating opportunities in rural areas.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Gibson".

ROBERT GIBSON
Director of Leisure, Tourism and Arts