



Subject	Belfast Boxing Strategy 2023-2024 Quarter 3 Update and extension of programme for 2024-2025
Date	12 March 2024
Reporting officer	David Sales – Strategic Director of City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact officer	Cormac McCann – Lead Officer, Community Provision

Restricted Reports	
Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
If Yes, when will the report become unrestricted?	
After Committee Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
After Council Decision	<input type="checkbox"/>
Some time in the future	<input type="checkbox"/>
Never	<input type="checkbox"/>

Call-in	
Is the decision eligible for Call-in?	Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>

1.0	Purpose of Report or Summary of main Issues
1.1	The purpose of this report is to provide an update on progress on implementation of the Belfast Boxing Strategy for the period up to the end of December 2023 (Quarter 3) and to seek committee approval to extend the Belfast Boxing Strategy and delivery of the related programme for a further year to 31 st March 2025 pending the production of the new Physical Activity and Sports Development Strategy for Belfast.
2.0	Recommendations
2.1	The Members of the Committee are asked:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. to note the progress to date of the strategy annual work plan for the current year 2023/24. ii. To extend the Belfast Boxing Strategy and delivery of the attached Work Programme for 1 year from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025 pending the production of the new Physical Activity and Sports Development Strategy for Belfast
3.0	Main report
<p>3.1</p> <p>3.2</p> <p>3.3</p> <p>3.4</p> <p>3.5</p>	<p><u>Background</u></p> <p>Council agreed, through the January 2018 Strategic Policy and Resources Committee, to provide £200,000 to the Irish Athletic Boxing Association Ulster Branch (IABA) for delivery of an agreed annual action plan supporting the Belfast Boxing Strategy. The current strategy is scheduled to finish on 31st March 2024</p> <p>The IABA provided SP&R with a detailed breakdown of programmes to be delivered under six main areas. Salary – Development Officer and Coaches, Pathways, Events, Coach Education, Club Support and Governance.</p> <p>Following this decision, the Belfast Boxing Strategy Steering Group has met quarterly with the most recent meeting taking place via MS Teams on 25 January 2024. The Steering Group is chaired by the Neighbourhood Services Manager with Council officers, IABA officers and officials and County Antrim Board officials attending. Small variations to the budget across the six areas have been agreed to assist prioritisation in line with the agreed annual action plan and the programme is on schedule to deliver all KPIs within budget.</p> <p><u>Monitoring</u></p> <p>The Leisure Development Unit works directly with IABA officials to verify reporting on performance, vouching actual spend and provides detailed reports for discussion at the Steering Group.</p> <p><u>Performance</u></p> <p>Council agreed a total of 37 Indicators with IABA to monitor delivery of the programmes. IABA have complied with reporting requirements and their performance report for 23/24 Quarter 3 is at Appendix 1. IABA have provided narrative against each of the KPIs to describe progress against each indicator and have advised that they anticipate that all KPIs will be achieved by the end of 23/24</p>

3.6	<p><u>24/25 Action Plan</u></p> <p>Pending the development of council's Physical Activity and Sports Development Strategy. the IABA has asked that committee extend the current strategy and related level of annual support for a further 12 month period. In support of the request, they have developed a new programme action plan relating for 2024/25. The plan is attached at Appendix 2</p>
3.7	<p><u>Financial & Resource Implications</u></p> <p>A total of £200,000 is available within the current financial year to support the current Action Plan. It is likely that the full budget will be expended.</p> <p>A total of £200,000 has been included within the budget estimates for 2024-2025.</p>
3.8	<p><u>Equality Impact/Rural Needs Assessment</u></p> <p>The strategy was equality screened in line with the Council's equality process. The screening showed that there were potential adverse impacts on a number of groups including females and people with a disability and mitigating actions were added to the strategy. Members agreed that an equality screening be undertaken prior to a decision being made in relation to funding for 19/20. Officers finalised this screening and the findings show that progress has been made in increasing the participation of underrepresented groups and this has been reported separately through the Strategic Policy and Resources Committee. The IABA continue to target underrepresented groups in its delivery of the 23/24 programme with particular focus on the events, club based sessions and the non-contact boxing programme.</p>
4.0	Appendices – Documents Attached
	<p>Appendix 1: IABA 2023-2024 Performance Report to end of Quarter 3</p> <p>Appendix 2: IABA 2024-2025 Proposed work plan and Budget</p>