

Introducing UK Sport

Working in partnership to lead sport in the UK to world-class success

Key Facts & Figures

- £310 million to be invested in the World Class Performance Programme over the 'London' cycle' (2009/2013). Up from £265 million for Beijing (2005-2009).
- 47 medals (including 19 gold) in Beijing meant a fourth place finish for our Olympians – the best performance by a British team in 100 years. Followed by Britain's Paralympians – 42 gold medals, 29 silver medals and 31 bronze medals and to a second place finish behind only hosts China.
- 43 medals won in World or European competition in Olympic disciplines in 2009, 149 in Paralympic
- 64 major international events at World and European level being targeted for the UK from 2009-2012 through UK Sport's National Lottery-funded World Class Events Programme
- International Inspiration helping to deliver the London bid's 'Singapore Vision' – already benefiting nine countries with sport-led development projects
- £6 million being invested in Britain's athletes competing in the 2010 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games in Vancouver

Background

Established by Royal Charter in 1997, UK Sport is responsible for investing around £100 million of public funds each year – from both the National Lottery and the Exchequer – in high performance sport. This money is now supplemented by the income from a private sponsorship scheme "Team 2012".

Accountable to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), UK Sport has a very clear remit at the 'top end' of Britain's sporting pathway, with no direct involvement in community or school sport.

Based in London, it employs around 90 staff and is overseen by a Board comprising home country representatives and independent members which meets every two months.

Core Responsibilities

Performance

UK Sport is the strategic lead body for high performance sport in the UK. It invests Exchequer and National Lottery funds in Britain's best Olympic and Paralympic sports and athletes to

maximise their chances of success on the world stage. For London and beyond, a third stream of private sector funding - Team 2012 - complements this public investment.

Using a 'No Compromise' philosophy which targets investment at those most likely to deliver medals at Olympic and Paralympic level, UK Sport works with each sport to provide the best possible support for athletes, providing everything they need from world-class coaches to cutting edge research and innovation, talent identification and Performance Lifestyle support.

Major Events

UK Sport co-ordinates the bidding and staging of major international sporting events in the UK. Working in partnership with national governing bodies, cities and regions and home country agencies, over 120 events of World and European status have been supported through the World Class Events Programme since 1997.

Around £16 million will be invested in the 09-12 programme which has been specifically developed to help prepare the UK for hosting the Olympic and

Paralympic Games in 2012. This programme will not only provide British athletes with valuable experience of competing on home soil ahead of London 2012, but will also help build up a network of suitably qualified volunteers and technical officials.

International

UK Sport works with National Governing Bodies and other partner organisations to help them build positive working relationships with International Federations and other international bodies. This helps ensure Britain has a voice on the world stage by assisting with the appointment of individuals into key roles at such organisations.

Furthermore, UK Sport's well-established international development assistance programme is recognised worldwide. UK Sport is the lead delivery agency for International Inspiration, the project which aims to deliver on the promise made by the London 2012 bid team to 'reach young people all around the world and connect them to the inspirational power of the Games so they are inspired to choose sport'.

Mission 2012

Hosting the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games provides an opportunity to change the sporting landscape in the UK forever; something that UK Sport is approaching with relish.

A £310 million funding package for the London cycle means UK Sport has been

able to set its performance targets for the Games. In the Olympics this is a 'Top Four' finish in the final medal table, secured by winning more medals in more sports than ever before. For the Paralympics the target is to retain the second place secured in Beijing, again winning more medals in more sports.

To achieve this, UK Sport must help every sport maximise its medal potential. The vehicle for doing so is Mission 2012 which provides a regular detailed analysis of each sport's World Class Performance Programme.

This allows UK Sport to use a traffic light system to assess exactly where each sport is at on its journey to 2012. Most importantly it can identify gaps in a particular sports armoury and flag up potential sources of help or support from elsewhere within the high performance network.

The aim is to get all sports 'green' in July 2012. This won't of course guarantee success at the Games, nothing can in high performance sport. But it does mean that British athletes and sports will be best placed to achieve their dreams and make the nation proud.

Anti-Doping

UK Sport was also the National Anti-Doping Organisation for the UK. These responsibilities were transferred to a new, stand-alone organisation, UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) in December 2009.

Legacy Vision for 2012

- Britain's Olympic and Paralympic teams in London winning more medals across more sports than ever before, with creditable performance in all sports
- Creation of a genuine world class, sustainable and well-resourced sporting system that will ensure success continues in 2014, 2016 and beyond
- Use of the UK's enhanced sporting systems, venues and expertise to position the UK as the leading host of major international sporting events in the world
- The UK positioned as a leading player in international sporting bodies
- 12 million children in 20 countries reached by International Inspiration