***Development Board Report April 2024 – Phil Robinson***

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| **Pathways (Playground to Podium)** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April 2024 Update** | **Previous Update** |
| Clubs and Schools (Foundation & Fundamentals), Flahavans, | Support the delivery of Fundamental & Foundation programmes within 15 clubs across NI  Deliver 10 NGB led programmes to 200+ participants (StarTrack, Panthers)  Support 5 club-led programmes with 150+ participants  Redevelopment & relaunch of Rising Stars programme with 2 regionalised squads with 60 participants  Support delivery of 10-12 Sportshall Athletics events with over 1000+ participation opportunities  Create standardised F&F programme for use across multiple partners (LA’s, schools, clubs)  Support delivery of new programmes e.g. Intro to Throws, Beginner Fell Running, to counteract current trends & build on current interest in the sport to increase participation. | * Q4, CCDO met with a further 2 clubs in order to give guidance regarding introducing junior sections to their clubs as well as making contact with a Northwest club regarding,   establishing a foundations programme.   * Q4, Panther’s participation maintained strong within term 2, term 3 signup and comms plan in place ahead of Q1. 3 x StarTracks organised and communicated (Newry, Magherafelt and Belfast) to coincide with the Easter Holidays. * CCDO Supported 5 out of 5 club lead programmes reaching 200+ participants (Junior & Senior). * Q4; Rising Stars Term 3 registration complete and due to begin (8th of April to 17th of June). The relaunch and new coach recruitment process seems to have worked very well based on the feedback from parents and athletes as well as the coaching team. * Q4, CCDO in communications with Lisburn City Council regarding hosting a sports hall athletics event for local schools.   (Additional to Sport NI target)   * Resource complete and being trialled within the MPT Panthers programme, Term 3 is due to finish on 11th of June. Q1, discussion needed regarding the development of the Panthers programme and dissemination of the resource, based on the strong registration, attendance, and participant/parental feedback across Terms 1 to 3.   (Area additional in Sport NI submission)   * Q4; Teachers CPD Workshop: Delivered   A365 Organised for Q1  Area additional in Sport NI submission | * The Club and Coach Development Officer (CCDO) supported 7 out of 15 Fundamental and Foundational programmes. The CCDO found when offering support to clubs, that many were already facilitating F&F programmes at their respective clubs. However, due to the CCDO’s endeavours within this area across Q1-3, two more clubs have approached the CCDO in Q4.      * CCDO coordinated and facilitated 12 NGB led programmes with 627 participants. * CCDO Supported 5 out of 5 club lead programmes reaching 200+ participants (Junior & Senior). * 1 / 2 Rising Stars programmed delivered, 50 applications received, 40 invited to attend selection, 30 of which were invited to attend the sessions at MPT, 22/25 have regularly attended Term 1 & 2. Due to lack of coach availability the 2nd Rising Stars squad was not viable. However, members of the selected squad based at MPT have a regional representation. (Term 1:20th November to 18th December Term 2: 8th of January to 11th March). * 2 Sportshall Athletics events facilitated (Ards BC 12th December and Mid Ulster 20th Feb), with 200 participants. Clear area for improvement, continuing to work with LA’s and schools: * Resource complete and being trialled within the MPT Panthers programme, Term 3 is due to finish on 11th of June. Q1, discussion needed regarding the development of the Panthers programme and dissemination of the resource. * Introduction to Throws: Delivered   Fell LiRF: Delivered  Preparation for Endurance: Delivered  Sprints Workshop: Delivered |

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| **Partnerships** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April 2024 update** | **Previous Update** |
| Clubs  Local Authorities  Run NI  The Daily Mile (TDM)  ParkRun | Provide support to 30 clubs through visits annually to support sustainability.  ANI Club Self-Assessment Tool with 10 new clubs registered.  Through Run NI, over 500 participation opportunities annually will be provided specifically targeting females (300+), over 35's (300+) and over 50's (100+) across rural & urban communities. This includes Run NI groups & programmes.  Deliver 4 targeted C25K programmes annually through Run NI, Local Authorities & Health Trusts to over 100 participants (60 females; 20 over 50s).  Write 4 articles per year for Run Leaders Toolkit/Run NI Website (May 23, Aug 23, Nov 23, Feb 24)  Support teachers and primary schools who are registered with the Daily Mile to sustain their participation.  Communicate campaigns and provide collateral to support teachers and schools. Encourage local and regional Daily Mile activations and campaigns.  Regularly monitor and evaluate school participation data and report findings to the wider Daily Mile Foundation and Northern Ireland Network.  Liaise directly with the Daily Mile Foundation team working collaboratively to improve The Daily Mile offer and opportunities to help support the programmes growth across the UK.  Attend and contribute to the weekly Daily Mile meetings as well as the quarterly national teacher’s advisory.  Number of collaborative projects launched and/or supported | * 30 Club visits completed, daily support for clubs, via email and telephone. * 9/10 Clubs have submitted a CSAT. Each club receives a follow up email, encouraging clubs to make contact if they would like further advice and any of the areas within their respective club development tool. * 350+ participation opportunities delivered, targeted towards females ranging from 35-50 yrs. * 4 C25K to programmes Health Trusts delivered to 90+ participants, supported AC Runners C25K, 50+participants, 3 social running clubs supported 40 participants at each. Supported Antrim and Newtownabbey, female winter safety event with 50+ participants. * 4 Articles produced and shared; one new Running Group added. * Q4, Support offered to schools in Antrim and Newtownabbey area. Working with a school in Derry school for the event in May 2024. Belfast area ID as a key area for development, due to the high volume of school with the lowest Daily Mile registrations. * Q4, Link between the SEN Texas school and Belfast school progressing with hopes to link schools by the end of May. Outdoor classroom day to be ran across three schools on the 24th of May 2024. * Monthly Update provided by TDM and shared with TDM Network, 625 Schools currently registered. * Q4, Children fit for life award launched, PDO contributed towards resource planning group to design a back-to-school resource pack, to be shared with schools to improve the delivery of the daily mile and create cross curricular links. * Attended Teachers steering group to meet in Manchester (March 24). Next meeting 23rd – 25th April.   Teacher steering group in Manchester attended. Provided NI Daily Mile board report in late March.   * Antrim Castle Gardens: 1055 participants from 14/01/2024 – 14/04/2024 * Washingbay Wetlands: 1001 participants from 14/01/2024 – 14/04/2024 * Omagh Leisure Complex: 1243 participants from 14/01/2024 – 14/04/2024 * Belfast YMCA.: 289 participants from 14/01/2024 – 14/04/2024   Round Lake: 401 participants from 21/01/2024 – 14/04/2024 | * 27 Club visits completed, daily support for clubs, via email and telephone.      * 8/10 Clubs have submitted a CSAT. Each club receives a follow up email, encouraging clubs to make contact if they would like further advice and any of the areas within their respective club development tool. * 300+ participation opportunities delivered, targeted towards females ranging from 35-50 yrs. * 4 C25K to programmes Health Trusts delivered to 90+ participants, supported AC Runners C25K, 50+participants, 3 social running clubs supported 40 participants at each. Supported Antrim and Newtownabbey, female winter safety event with 50+ participants. * 3 Articles produced and shared; one new Running Group added. * Participation Development Officer (PDO) Bio shared via TDM to registered NI schools, database of non-registered school created, and email offering support sent to all schools. Facilitated CPD for 45 Primary PGCE students at Stranmillis University, who were due to begin their school placements. * Ongoing via PDO and via direct email based on the newly created NI database. Supported TDM Network research launch and Santa Run, currently working with TDM Network regarding the Walk This May event. Working on establishing a link with an NI based SEN School with a SEN school based in Texas USA. * Monthly Update provided by TDM and shared with TDM Network, 625 Schools currently registered. * Working with TDM Network and Foundations resource team as well as LA physical health practitioners to produce school resources, designed to refresh and or engage schools that are yet to register, Including the introduction of the Fit For Life Award. * Ongoing, attended the TDM foundation team day in London (Jan 24). * Based off the back of ANI supported funding submission, a total of 400+ participants attending weekly junior ParkRun’s within the following venues. Additional support for volunteers AccessNI submission where also serviced by ANI. * Antrim Castle Gardens: from 14/01/2024 * Washingbay Wetlands: from 14/01/2024 * Omagh Leisure Complex: from 14/01/2024 – * Belfast YMCA.:14/01/2024 * Round Lake: 21/01/2024 |

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| **People Development** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April 2024 update** | **Update** |
| Coaches  Officials | Support the delivery of the Workforce Delivery Plan as appropriate.  Deliver 200+ individual formal coach education opportunities. 50% of LiRF/CA outside Belfast.  Support delivery of annual calendar of Coach CPD delivering over 350+ opportunities per annum  Number of development opportunities for officials delivered annually  Support delivery of 6 online/F2F sessions for clubs in areas of business development, operations & financial sustainability  Support running of 6 club-based workshops in Club Development topics (closed workshops)  Continue to roll-out ANI Club Self-Assessment Tool with 10 new clubs registered. | Formal Coach Education, delivery update:   * 12x LiRF, 175 Participants (6 delivered outside of Belfast) * 3x CA, 42 Participants (1 delivered outside of Belfast) * 2 x Cirf Courses, 28 Participants * 1 x AC, 14 Participants   (LiRF Leader in Running Fitness, CA Coaching Assistant, CiRF Coach in Running Fitness, AC Athletics Coach)   * 18 courses delivered, 7 outside of Belfast, with a total of 300+ formal coach education opportunities.   Coaching Data Projections 23/24: Target (895), Actual/Current (961)   * Q4, next CEMG meeting to take place on the 3rd of May in Cardiff.   Non-Formal Coach Education- Recent workshops have included:  • Intro to Throws  • Transitioning from Leading to Coaching in Endurance.  • Physical Preparation for Youth Endurance.  • How to Support Parents Working with Coaches  • Planning for Long Term Performance  • Fell LiRF  • Sprints Workshop   * Teachers CPD Workshop * Q4, Officials Education Pathway Update, ANI will adjust to a minimum of two experiences for level 1 officials as of from the 1st of April 2024, shared via ANI comms and website. Officials safeguarding and health & safety modules being update and to a more officials’ specific content. Development Manager, forming an official’s steering group (May 24). * Officials Data Projection 23/24: Target (72), Actual (69)   • 9 Face to Face sessions delivered   * 7 club-based workshops delivered. * 9 of 10 new clubs registered by end of Q4) | Formal Coach Education, delivery update:   * 10x LiRF, 175 Participants (6 delivered outside of Belfast) * 2x CA, 42 Participants (1 delivered outside of Belfast) * 2 x Cirf Courses, 28 Participants * 1 x AC, 14 Participants   (LiRF Leader in Running Fitness, CA Coaching Assistant, CiRF Coach in Running Fitness, AC Athletics Coach)   * 15 courses delivered, 7 outside of Belfast, with a total of 259 formal coach education opportunities. * Discussions had with UKA’s Joanna Bohannan-Walker regarding Tutor recruitment/education, this area of development was also added to the Sport NI submission. * Attendance at the CEMG, HCAF’s have asked if ANI and SA are considering moving to My Athletics portal. Coms agreed between all HCAF’s regarding T&C’s, in order to mop up the remaining coaches yet to transition across the HCAF’s. * Total of 18 courses completed, 7 of which were delivered outside of Belfast, to 200+ individuals. * Attendance at the OEMG, changes made within Level 1 Officials, cutting the number of experiences needed to obtain level 1. OEMG is working on a matrix to help officials move from L1,2 & 3. Currently reviewing the Officials safeguarding resource, to make it more applicable to officials. * 7 Face to Face sessions delivered. * 5 club-based workshops delivered. * 8 of 10 new clubs registered by end of Q4) |

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| **Integrity** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April 2024 Update** | **Update** |
| Safeguarding | Safeguarding/Concerns | * Q4, Designated Safeguarding Officer (DSO) course delivered, a further 3 Safeguarding courses are being planned for next financial year. * DM and ANI Board Safeguarding Champion met with the CPSU, the meeting was positive with some areas of development which the DM will oversee. * Access NI checks for clubs and partner organisations; ongoing. 140 processed AccessNI checks January 2024 to March 2024. | * Designated Safeguarding Officer workshop, 12th of March 2024. * ANI Safeguarding review with CPSU scheduled for 20th March 24 * Ongoing, Development Manager (DM) & Welfare Officer (WO) attended CPSU Sport lead meetings. |

***Performance Pathway Board Report April 2024 – Tom Reynolds***

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| **Inspiration** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April Update** | **Previous Update** |
| **Olympic / Commonwealth** | Paris – Top 8, Top 16, 4 athletes  Rome – Top 8, 2x Top 16, 2x Top 32  NI Competitors at major championships | * 1 athlete qualified / 3 athletes in a quota spot / 2+ athletes as Relay possibilities * 1 athlete qualified / 3 athletes in a quota spot / 3-4 athletes as Relay possibilities * 3 athletes just outside qualification. * Roisin Flanagan was 15th in 3000m in a PB and Rachel McCann a squad member of Women’s 4x400m Ireland at World Indoor Championships. * Rachel McCann was recently selected for World Relays – Women’s 4x400m. | * 1 athlete qualified / 3 athletes in a quota spot / 2+ athletes as Relay possibilities * Some others with potential to hit quota spots * Roisin Flanagan and Rachel McCann selected to represent Ireland at World Indoor Championships |
| **Non- Olympic** | Number of medals & top 10’s at Worlds and Europeans | * 3 athletes across Mountain, Ultra and Cross Country all supported with services, performance management and programme funding towards European and World Championship events in 2024 /25. | * 3 athletes across Mountain, Ultra and Cross Country all supported with services, performance management and programme funding towards European and World Championship events in 2024 /25. |
| **National & Masters T&F** | Increase participation in National & Masters championships | * Manchester International – in recent weeks a short format competition with a 50% programme has been confirmed for August. An alternative NI & Ulster policy to increase participation will be explored with members of relevant committees, staff, and volunteers in the coming weeks. | * A domestic pathway review, looking at the T&F offering from entry level to high performance, for each event group will soon be underway with staff which will then go to relevant committees for input. * Manchester International – an alternative NI & Ulster policy to increase participation will be explored with members of relevant committees and staff following update from England Athletics in early March. |
| **Age Group International Athletes** | All 4 event groups represented in 2027-2028 age group majors | * Anna Gardiner & Seamus Robinson represented Ireland U20 at the World Cross Country Championships in Belgrade finishing an impressive 37th and 70th position respectively. | * A communications strategy around field events is to be put together to increase participation in jumps and throws. Current and former role models in these events as well as Academy success stories will be used to make field events more attractive to athletes and coaches. |

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| **People Development** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April Update** | **Previous Update** |
| **Athletes** | Post retirement support programme in place | * We have formal post-retirement support programme now in place for Olympic and Commonwealth programme athletes which includes access to lifestyle / psychology support and a budget for CPD opportunities. For those who access services at SNISI these can continue for a defined time depending on need. | * We are on target for having a formal post-retirement support programme in place which will include access to lifestyle / psychology support, a budget for CPD opportunities and access to current SNISI services for a defined time. |

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| **Communication** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April Update** | **Previous Update** |
| **Athletes, Coaches and Service Providers** | % satisfaction on survey | * Performance management of athlete-coach pairs is ongoing though regular performance team meetings and updates on competition plans leading to 2024 championships, the current focus is the Rome European and Paris Olympic projects. | * Performance management of athlete-coach pairs is ongoing though regular performance team meetings and updates on competition plans leading to 2024 championships. |
| **Academy** | % satisfaction on survey | * In the coming months we will be launching The Club to Academy Coaches Programme – which will have sport specific and coach mentoring for 4-6 club coaches in the first year aiming to create development opportunities for aspiring club coaches to avail of the Academy Curriculum. Programme criteria will primarily target female coaches (1/3) or coaches from under represented, rural communities (1/3). | * A series of improvements to the Academy section of the website will be launched in 2024, including good news posts that list the achievements of successful Academy Graduates who reached international level, those that stayed in the sport compete as national to domestic senior athletes and coaches who have benefitted from being part of the programme as well as highlighting the variety of event groups that have been benefitted by the Academy. |

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| **Partnerships** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April Update** | **Previous Update** |
| **Sport NI / Sport NI Sports Institute** | Service Level Agreement | * The Service Level Agreement (SLA) process for 2024 which was completed in February is ongoing in the build up to the summer season and major championship aims that athletes are targeting. | * The Service Level Agreement (SLA) process for 2024 is complete. Review meetings with athlete-coach pairs who received SNISI services for the 2023 season and an extensive roundtable review meeting with the service providers to review the year and discuss early plans for 2024 have all taken place. |
| **LA’s** | Alignment between ANI and LA’s | * The second year of the formal selection process for Belfast City Council Individual Grants was successfully completed in January with a panel of five from staff, board and committees selecting eight athletes, across several event and age groups. We have been notified of seven successful awards. | * The second year of the formal selection process for Belfast City Council Individual Grants was successfully completed in January with a panel of five from staff, board and committees selecting eight athletes, across several event and age groups, to be put forward for grants. We will hear the results of the applications in early April. |
| **UKA / HCAF** | Implementation of Athletics Unified | * HCAF Performance Pathway meetings began in April to look at the national domestic competition pathway and issues around Commonwealth Games. Following the first meeting two T&F internationals (U20 in Windsor and senior in Manchester) were confirmed for August with more information to follow. * Engagement with UKA around the Para Performance Pathway remains strong and there is another meeting planned for May. | * UKA visit to NI was productive with a joint meeting with Sport NI but the message is clear that there will be a lower capacity for athletes to make GB & NI teams going forward. UKA have committed to working on being more present in NI so that athletes consider their pathway seriously. * HCAF Performance Pathway meetings are beginning next month to look at the national domestic competition pathway and issues around Commonwealth Games. * Engagement with UKA around the Para Performance Pathway remains strong and there is another meeting planned for next month. |
| **CGNI** | Shared vision of success / collaboration | * We are still not clear regarding the future of the Commonwealth Games but are regularly reassured that the CGF are working hard to ensure the continuation of the Games. There has been a public backup plan issued by Sport Scotland to host a scaled down Games in 2026 should the other options fall through. * The next CGNI planning meeting in June will look at how they can help develop the future (2026 and particularly 2030) workforce of team coaches and support personnel. In conjunction with the Selection Committee, we will look to upskill suitably qualified / experienced coaches through a programme of support including formal and informal training, experience on domestic international teams and mentoring by Sport NI coach developers and experienced team coaches within our staff. | * At a CGNI meeting this month, Sports were updated on the work that was going on behind the scenes to ensure a 2026 Games goes ahead. No host has been announced to date but CGNI was confident that one would be secured in the next few months. All sports were in agreement on the importance of Commonwealth Games for sport and performance pathways in this country. |
| **Paralympics Ireland** | Increase the number of para-athletes populating the pathway by 10% | * The ANI Para Lead and Performance Pathway Manager had a productive meeting with PI CEO and Athletics Lead around inclusivity and how to ensure events are inclusive of para-athletes. Due to existing policies around ensuring NI & Ulster Championships are inclusive, we are somewhat ahead of the curve in making our events as accessible to para athletes competing alongside mainstream athletes but there is still progress to be made in the medium and long term. | * ANI cooperated with the recent consultation around Paralympics Ireland and the result appears to be that Athletics Ireland will absorb the para performance responsibilities in the future. Work is ongoing with PI to talent ID the future para performance athletes. |
| **Universities** | Collaboration of planning & delivery, joint investment in facilities | * Meetings have taken place to improve the indoor facilities at UUJ and ensure they are fit for purpose for high level training and competition, there is a second meeting coming up this month to review changes made this year and what is still required in the short and medium term. | * No update |

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| **Pathways (Playground to Podium)** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April Update** | **Previous Update** |
| **Academies** | % satisfaction on survey  Power of 10 Targets (analysed in September each year) | * With the Academies Manager having left at the start of January, the Academies Coach is the main contact for the Academy with increased support from key coaches. We will be going out for recruitment for the Pathway Lead role in the next quarter. | * The second of 3 half day camps was held successfully at UUJ on Sunday 21st January with athletes, coaches, and parents partaking in education and testing (strength diagnostic, physiotherapy, and speed). * In 2024 we will be launching The Club to Academy Coaches Programme – which will have sport specific and coach mentoring for 4-6 club coaches in the first year aiming to create development opportunities for aspiring club coaches to avail of the Academy Curriculum. Programme criteria will primarily target female coaches (1/3) or coaches from under represented, rural communities (1/3). |

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| **Integrity** | | | |
| **Strategic Area** | **KPI** | **April Update** | **Previous Update** |
| **Anti-doping** | Number of anti-doping cases | * New annual submission was completed ahead of the deadline at the beginning of this month with the collaborative efforts of David Marrs and our Clean Athletics Educator – Lyn Fisher. We have been more ambitious with our commitment to wide spread education and communication of the benefits of Clean Athletics and safeguarding the integrity of the sport. | * New annual submission information released this month. I am attending a workshop around this next week and will work with David Marrs to ensure we are compliant ahead of the April 1 deadline. |