

# Annual Report 2021



**Name of the Organisation:** Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership CLG

**Organisation Type:** A Company Limited by Guarantee

**Company number:** 360763

**Registered Office:** Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership, Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB, Quay Street, Sligo

**Auditor:** Porter and Co, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, Millennium House, Stephen Street, Sligo

**Principal Bankers:** Bank of Ireland, Stephen Street, Sligo

**Solicitors:** Carter Anhold & Co, 1 Wine Street, Sligo

**Directors:** Ms. Emer Concannon – Chairperson  
 Cllr. Marie Casserly – Vice Chairperson  
 Mr. Jack Lynch – Company Secretary  
 Ms. Kathleen Kane  
 Ms. Máire McCallion  
 Mr. Tommy Cradock  
 Mr. Gerald O'Connor  
 Ms. Tina Beirne  
 Mr. Joe Mc Donagh  
 Ms. Geraldine Delorey  
 Mr. Michael Carty  
 Cllr. Dónal Gilroy  
 Cllr. Gino O'Boyle  
 Ms. Cara O'Neill  
 Mr. John Feerick  
 Ms. Rose McGowan  
 Mr. Ross Lappin (Appointed September)

### SSRP Organisational Structure



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## Chairperson's Statement

As Chairperson of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership I am delighted to introduce the SSRP Annual Report 2021.

Sport and physical activity is a key part of community life across County Sligo and this report highlights some of the key SSRP programmes, events and initiatives facilitated throughout the year which enables sports development, enhances health and well being and contributes to quality of life.



The challenges associated with the Covid 19 pandemic continued to be present throughout the year and required SSRP to adapt and be innovative in delivering on the ambitious objectives in our Strategic Plan 'Building a Culture of Sport and Physical Activity in Sligo 2018 – 2023'.

Despite the barriers arising from the pandemic, 2021 was a very successful year for SSRP with the staff managing to succeed in facilitating a wide range of initiatives for different target groups to continue to remain active. The focus of getting the least active to become active remained a priority with many opportunities for physical activity created across the County. On behalf of the Board, I wish to express our grateful appreciation to our Sports Co-ordinator Deirdre Lavin and all our staff for their dedication and commitment to ensuring SSRP is highly effective in achieving its objectives.

Central to the ongoing success of SSRP is the role sports clubs and community organisations play in working with us to make sport happen in communities, and I am very appreciative of the work of their many volunteers and their commitment and resilience in providing opportunities through sport.

I would like to acknowledge the Board of Directors and SSRP Committees for their work and dedication to SSRP, and for their effective oversight and management of the organisation throughout 2021. In particular, I acknowledge their positive engagement and oversight in ensuring SSRP has effective governance processes in place and as part of this, successfully overseeing compliance with the Sports Governance Code which was achieved in September 2021.

Managing the demands on our organisation within the available resources is an ongoing challenge and in addressing this the SSRP Board successfully undertook a staff organisational structure review during 2021 to ensure we are continuing to optimise opportunities for people to be active within the capacity of the SSRP.

I would like to acknowledge Sport Ireland for their continued funding, support and guidance provided throughout 2021. Also, I extend thanks to the statutory agencies for their ongoing investment and support for SSRP including Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB, Sligo County Council, Health Service Executive West, Institute of Technology Sligo (now Atlantic Technological University Sligo) and Sligo Leader Partnership Company.

Increasing participation in sport and physical activity is the cornerstone of the SSRP Strategic Plan and we look forward to achieving this by working with all the sporting community in 2022.

Emer Concannon  
Chairperson

## Sports Co-ordinator's Statement

I welcome the publication of the Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Annual Report 2021; another challenging year for sport and indeed the wider community.



The importance of sport and physical activity in helping people cope with the challenges of the pandemic remained very apparent and in response, SSRP together with partner agencies and the sporting community, responded with innovative ways to create opportunities for participation with a particular focus on the most vulnerable groups.

SSRP's Strategic Plan 'Building a Culture of Sport and Physical Activity in Sligo 2018 – 2023' informed our work in 2021, while nationally we were guided by the National Sports Policy 2018-2027, Sport Ireland's Participation Strategy and the National Physical Activity Plan.

In 2021 SSRP successfully worked towards facilitating opportunities for sport and physical activity, building capacity, club development and providing information. A notable trend was the move towards physical activity in the outdoors which SSRP will continue to support into the future. In addressing the challenge of the gender gap in sports leadership, SSRP introduced a new women in leadership initiative 'LeadHers in Sport' which we plan to further develop in 2022.

Working in collaboration with the many volunteers in sports clubs and community organisations throughout County Sligo is fundamental in enabling us to facilitate opportunities for participation in sport and physical activity, and I wish to acknowledge everybody who overcame the barriers and challenges presented by the pandemic to support SSRP in making sport and physical activity happen for various target groups. We acknowledge our team of community coaches for their commitment and energy when delivering our various programmes in communities.

A key strength of SSRP is the positive collaboration between the statutory agencies and I extend sincere thanks to them for their ongoing investment and support for SSRP including Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB, Sligo County Council, Health Service Executive West, Institute of Technology Sligo (now Atlantic Technological University Sligo) and Sligo Leader Partnership Company.

I would like to acknowledge Sport Ireland for their ongoing support and guidance and the network of Local Sports Partnerships around the country for their positive engagement.

I wish to express my appreciation to our Chairperson Emer Concannon, the Board of Directors and Committees for their dedication, support and guidance in successfully overseeing the organisation throughout the year.

In conclusion, I would like to sincerely thank the SSRP staff for their motivation, commitment and resilience demonstrated throughout the year, and in particular the positive and shared team spirit they demonstrate in doing their work.

The key outcome sought from the work of SSRP is to have 'More People, More Active, More Often' and this report reflects significant progress in achieving this through positive collaboration with all our stakeholders and we look forward to continuing to work together towards increasing participation in 2022.

Deirdre Lavin  
Sports Co-ordinator

# With our partners our key achievements for 2021 were:

**17,634**  
 participants in sport  
 and physical activity



**Including:**

**896**

Women in Sport



**998**

Participants in Urban Outdoor Initiative



**5,358**

Children in Sport



**363**

Participants in Open Water Swimming programmes



**1,435**

Participants in Community Sports Hubs



**411**

Participants in Sports Inclusion Disability Project



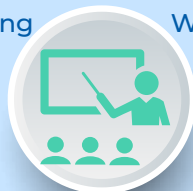
## Building Capacity

**485** Coaches, volunteers and community leaders supported in education and training.

**Including:**

**144**

Participants involved in Safeguarding training



**147**

Participants involved in Women in Leadership

## Funding

**€871,921**

in funding available to SSRP including

**€366,034**

invested in club/community initiatives

## Communication



2020:

2021:

Increase:



7,606

**8,085**

6.3%



1,553

**1,747**

12.5%



352

**464**

31.8%

• 'Participant' figures may include individuals counted more than once where they have participated in more than one activity.

# Section 1

## Governance & Structure



## Section 1: Governance & Structure

### Board Representation

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee was incorporated in August 2002. The SSRP constitution (last updated in 2016) deals primarily with the functioning of the organisation as a legal entity (i.e. as a company).

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership is managed by a Board of Directors, which is representative of all the major stakeholders in the sports sector. The Board is responsible for the strategic direction of the organisation and for monitoring and reviewing the delivery of the SSRP Strategy. The Directors who served during 2021 were as follows:



Organisation	Name	Specific Role
Sligo County Council Official	Ms Emer Concannon	Strategy Committee
Sligo County Council Official	Mr Michael Carty	Strategy Committee
Sligo County Council Public Rep.	Cllr Marie Casserly	Strategy Committee
Sligo County Council Public Rep.	Cllr Dónal Gilroy	
Sligo County Council Public Rep.	Cllr Gino O'Boyle	
Health Service Executive	Ms Cara O'Neill	
Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB	Mr Jack Lynch	Strategy Committee
Institute Of Technology Sligo	Mr Kerry Larkin (Resigned Mar 21) Mr Ross Lappin (Appointed Sept 21)	
Sligo Leader Partnership Co. Ltd	Mr John Feerick	
Sligo Community Forum/ PPN Disability	Mr Joe McDonagh	Audit and Risk Committee
Active Age	Ms Rose McGowan	
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Geraldine Delorey	
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Kathleen Kane	Audit and Risk Committee
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Máire McCallion	
Sports Club/ Organisation	Mr Tommy Cradock	
Sports Club/ Organisation	Mr Gerald O'Connor	Audit and Risk Committee
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Tina Beirne	

\*Also, Lynda Mc Guinness (HSE nominee) serves as a member of the Strategy Committee.

We extend our thanks and gratitude to our Chairperson Ms. Emer Concannon and our Company Secretary Mr. Jack Lynch for their service to the organisation throughout 2021.



## Section 1: Governance & Structure

### Board Meetings

Six Board meetings (virtually) took place during 2021. Meetings were facilitated on 27th January 2021/ 28th April 2021/ 23rd June 2021/ 28th July 2021/ 29th September 2021/ 1st December 2021.

### Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting took place on 23rd June 2021. The 2020 Annual Accounts for Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership were presented by the Company auditors Mulhern Leonard & Co. at the AGM and were formally adopted by the Board of Directors.

In accordance with the Company's Articles of Association, the Chairperson proposed the retirement of one third of the directors of the company who were subsequently reappointed.

Election of Officers:

- Chairperson: Ms. Emer Concannon
- Vice Chairperson: Cllr. Marie Casserly
- Company Secretary: Mr. Jack Lynch
- Treasurer: Ms. Deirdre Lavin

### Committees

Arising from an extensive governance review process the Board of SSRP implemented key decisions in 2021 with regard to Committees and working groups. A decision to put in place two Committees to support the work of the Board was agreed at the Board meeting of 28th April 2021. This resulted in the existing Executive Working Group being renamed to 'Strategy Committee' and the creation of a new 'Audit and Risk Committee (ARC).'

**The Strategy Committee** (Governance, Finance, and HR) supports the Board in fulfilling their responsibilities in relation to the following areas:

**Strategy:** The Committee is there to support the Board in fulfilling their responsibilities in relation to the development, implementation, and monitoring of the strategic plan and annual business plans, the monitoring and oversight of key performance indicators and measures.

**Finance:** The Committee oversees operations and provides advice to the Board with regard to areas including financial planning and budgeting, financial performance and financial policies/procedures.

**Governance:** The Committee supports the Board in ensuring compliance with the Sports Governance Code and maintains ongoing oversight over this process.

**Human Resources:** The Committee supports the Board with all matters concerning human resources policy and practices of the Company.

**The Strategy Committee** (formerly Executive Working Group) met on six occasions over the course of 2021 as follows:

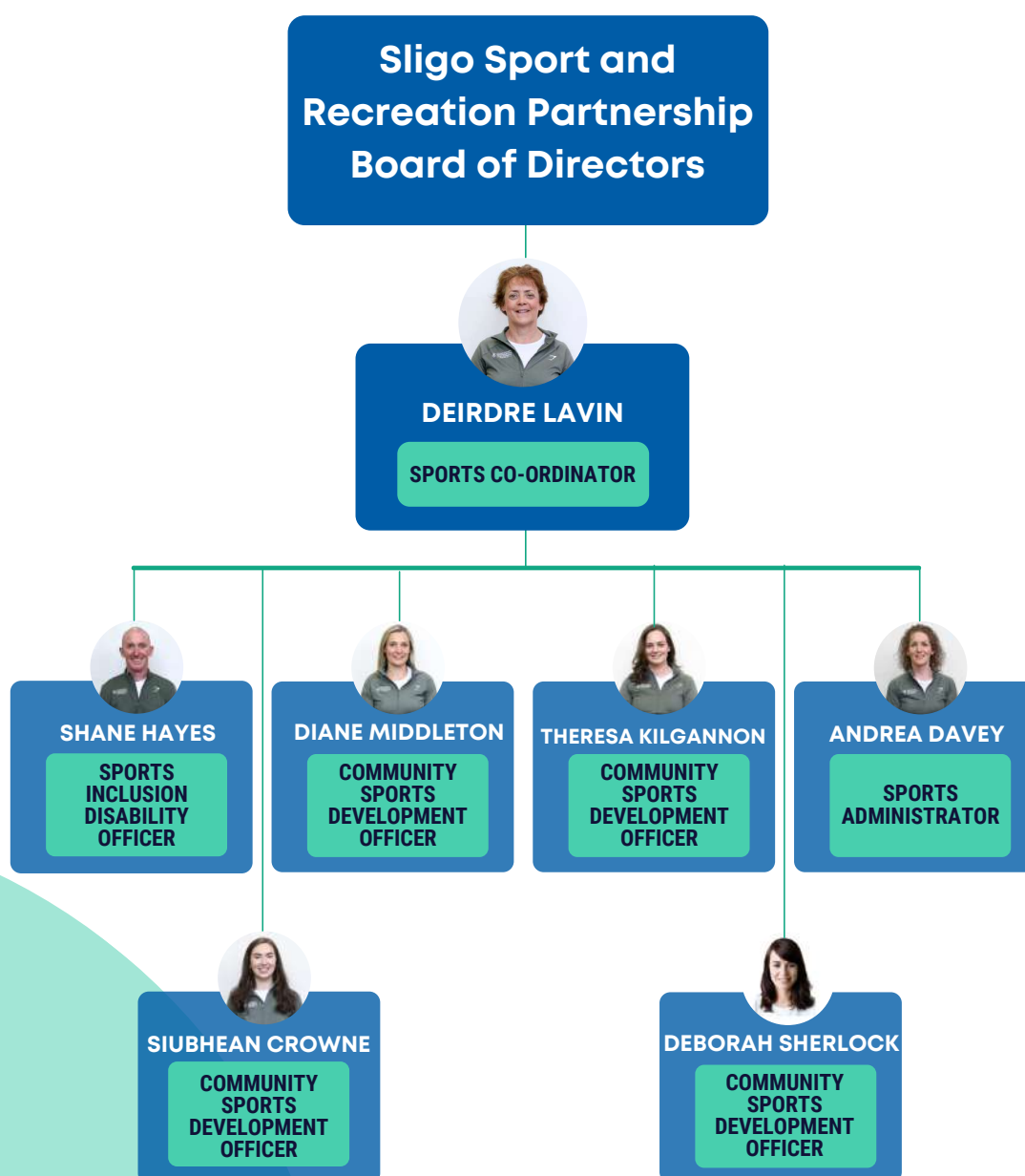
20th January 2021/ 26th April 2021/ 16th June 2021/ 26th July 2021/ 23rd September 2021/ 29th November 2021.

## Section 1: Governance & Structure

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) supports the Board by fulfilling their responsibilities in relation to good financial governance, financial reporting, risk management and control systems. This includes reviewing the comprehensiveness of assurances provided to the Board, ensuring that the Board assurance needs are met as well as reviewing the reliability and integrity of these assurances. The newly formed Audit and Risk Committee had their first meeting on 25th August 2021.

Responsibility for day to day operations of the organisation is assigned to the Sports Co-ordinator and staff. The Sports Co-ordinator attends meetings of the Board, by invitation of the Board, and is not a Director of the Company. The SSRP Administrator attends meetings to take minutes while the Company Secretary is a member of the Board.

### SSRP Staff:



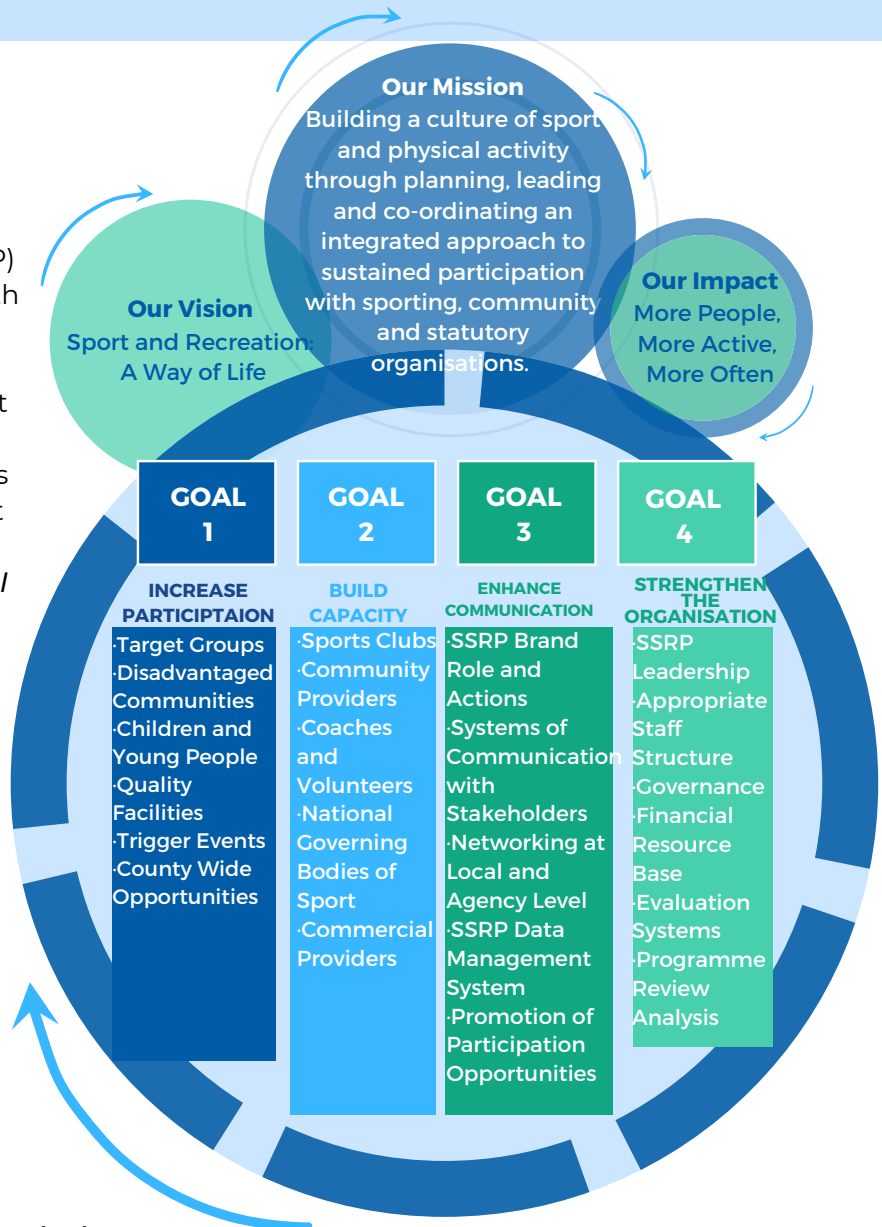
# Section 2

## Organisational Purpose



**Strategic Plan Implementation**

The aim of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership (SSRP) is to work in collaboration with key statutory, sporting and community organisations to increase participation in sport and physical activity throughout County Sligo. This work is guided by the current Strategic Plan 'Building a Culture of Sport and Physical Activity in Sligo 2018-2023'.



**Our Core Values and Guiding Principles**

Core Value	Associated Behaviour
Accountability	We are accountable for our performance and take a planned and managed approach to our work.
Equality	We support the right of all members of the community to be involved in sport and physical activity regardless of age, ability, gender, ethnicity and social-economic background.
Empowerment	We acknowledge the importance of empowering individuals, clubs, communities and organisations to shape and deliver sports and physical activities which are relevant to them.
Partnership	We achieve our goal of increased participation through working in partnership and building positive relationships with sports clubs, communities, schools and agencies.
Quality	We believe enjoyable, quality programmes are critical to increasing lifelong physical activity.
Sustainability	We promote and support sports participation opportunities which have the potential to be self sustaining.

## Our Approach:

- Work in Collaboration with Sport Ireland nationally and locally with Agencies who support and resource SSRP to develop sport and physical activity.
- Partner with clubs, communities and schools to increase both their range of opportunities and their capacity.
- Bring people together and grow ability through training opportunities for volunteers and coaches, supporting clubs and engaging with community providers.
- Encourage, advise, create and plan so that we get the best from sport and physical activity in line with national policy and local needs.

## Who we Target:



### The Context in which we work

In 2018, the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport launched the 2018-2027 National Sports Policy. The Programme for Government has clearly set out new and ambitious objectives for sport to deliver on, most notably in the sports participation goals, which increased from 50% of adults regularly playing sport, as set out in the 2018 National Sports Policy to 60% of adults regularly playing sport by 2027. To achieve this, the policy highlights the need to tackle participation gradients by targeting groups in our society that participate significantly less than the overall average. These include people with disabilities, people from lower socio-economic backgrounds, women and girls and ethnic minority groups, such as the Traveller community.

The National Sports Policy recognises the key roles played by Local Sports Partnerships in sports participation and how they can assist in the delivery of the participation actions set out in this Policy. The Policy has a total of 57 actions, 26 of which relate to sports participation and have relevance for Local Sports Partnerships.

“The LSP network plays a vital role and has been tasked, in particular, with increasing participation levels in sport and physical activity, especially among those sectors of society that are currently underrepresented in sport. Their capacity to remove barriers and ensure that opportunities for participation in sport are progressive, innovative and fully inclusive at a local level is a unique and valuable strength.” – National Sports Policy 2018-2027



SSRP operates under the leadership and investment of Sport Ireland (SI) and we support them to realise their sports participation objectives locally.

We are also guided by the National Physical Activity Plan for Ireland and the Healthy Ireland Framework.

We are informed at local level by the SSRP Strategic Plan 2018-2023 and the ongoing input of our partners including the Sligo County Council Local Economic & Community Plan 2016-2021.



# Section 3

Objectives, Achievements and Performance





In 2021 a key action was to undertake a mid strategy review to consider the extent to which Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership (SSRP) is delivering on the objectives of its Strategic Plan 'Building a Culture of Sport and Physical Activity in Sligo 2018-2023'. The review considered achievements during the period 2018 to 2020 while also focusing on areas that needed further attention. Arising from the review it is apparent that SSRP has identified and delivered a range of programmes and initiatives which are appropriate for the County Sligo community. SSRP is largely on track to achieve the objectives in the plan, however it must also respond and adapt to growing needs. In particular the need to review its organisational structure in light of the increasing demands on its services was identified.

### **Current Status:**

- 19 objective areas: Largely Completed.
- 6 objective areas: Significant Element remaining to be delivered.
- 1 objective area: Largely Incomplete.

### **Key Trends to Consider**

Since the development of the SSRP strategy in 2018 a number of noteworthy trends have emerged which merit consideration:

- Covid-19 and resulting new ways of working has brought about different options on how to work and how to facilitate programmes.
- Gravitation towards physical activity in the outdoors is evident with continued increase in the significance of the outdoors for physical activity including walking, cycling and running.
- Sustained growth in the popularity of water-based physical activity, particularly opportunities for open water swimming.
- The significant growth in use of communication campaigns to promote sport and physical activity has emerged.
- The National Sports Policy continues to be the key guiding document for Local Sports Partnerships and the engagement by LSPs with Local Authorities in the development of Local Sports Plans needs consideration as does the area of priority for sports facility development.
- Funding streams are varied and SSRP needs to be clear with regard to its positioning in order to access the funds that best fit the organisation in achievement of its objectives.
- The importance of good governance remains a very high priority with Sport Ireland. The SSRP Board and staff are fundamental to the effective working of the organisation.



## Challenges Encountered in 2021 and SSRP Response

2021 Challenge	2021 Response
Covid-19 related restrictions regarding where people could exercise were significant, with people confined to a 5K limit for periods of time.	SSRP responded with innovative means of connecting with people through virtual classes and seminars over zoom, podcasts, home challenges and campaigns.
Access to venues to be active, particularly indoor, was extremely limited for periods of the year.	SSRP supported groups and clubs to be active in the outdoors and when a return to sport was possible, SSRP supported clubs and communities through a Covid-19 grant scheme.
Drop off in volunteers in sport.	SSRP facilitated an education and training fund for coach education, capacity building and development of education opportunities online.
Unavailability of swimming pools due to closure for periods throughout 2021.	SSRP linked with Swim Ireland to promote open water swimming with 699 people taking part in 48 programmes in 5 rural locations.
The older adult target groups were particularly challenged by the Covid-19 pandemic.	Home exercise was promoted in conjunction with live fitness slots on local radio and keep fit exercise leaflets widely distributed.
Physical activity for people with a disability was particularly challenging during Covid-19 restrictions.	The use of the outdoors for this group enabled activity while an extended programme of summer activities was facilitated.
Increased responsibility on clubs and volunteers with regard to compliance with Covid-19 guidelines presented challenges for clubs in terms of capacity to respond and reopen.	SSRP supported groups and clubs to be active in the outdoors and when a return to sport was possible SSRP supported clubs and communities through a Covid-19 grant scheme.
Schools and various service providers with whom SSRP would partner with closed for long periods with very limited direct contact.	SSRP reached out to schools with innovative methods including home videos of activity, Strava challenges and 'stay-local school' initiatives.
The demand for SSRP services continued to grow and created challenges in capacity to respond to requests.	SSRP Board responded by overseeing the implementation of an organisational structure review which involved a review of staffing and roles.

## Goal 1: Increase Participation

Co-ordinate and facilitate a diverse range of sport and physical activity for all members of the community.



SSRP believes that there is a physical activity for everyone and at every stage of life. In 2021 SSRP played a central role in expanding the range of sports and physical activities which are available locally so that people can find their sport for their age in life. We did this by:

- Providing more sport and physical activity choice.
- Emphasising inclusion, regardless of age, gender, ability and background.
- Improving accessibility to the places where sports happen.
- Encouraging events which highlight, inspire, initiate and sustain interest and participation.
- Spreading opportunities to as many places in the County as possible.

In reflecting on comparisons in participation between 2021 and 2020 SSRP sustained or increased participation across many target groups. The overall number of participants targeted in 2021 was 17,634 which reflects an increase of 37% from a participant number of 12,860 for 2020. It should be noted that the lifting of Covid-19 restrictions positively impacted participant numbers. In addition, a once off Covid-19 grant scheme contributed to the increase in participant reach.

<b>Goal 1: Increase Participation</b>	<b>2021</b>
Children & Youth	5,358
Community Sports Hubs	1,435
Women in Sport Initiatives	896
Disadvantaged: UOA (Urban Outdoors Activities)	998
Disability: SIDO (Sports Inclusion Disability)	411
Seniors	858
Outdoors: Open Water Swimming	363
Men	89
Club Grants	2,273
Covid-19 Grants	2,810
Education and Training	341
Safeguarding	144
Women in Leadership	147
Other Programmes	1,511
<b>Total:</b>	<b>17,634</b>

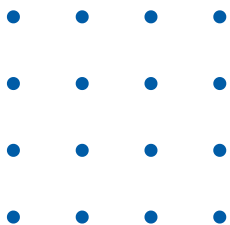
## Children and Youth

Providing increased opportunities for children and young people to participate in sport and physical activity was achieved in 2021 in pre-school/ primary / secondary school settings .

### Balance Bike Programme

SSRP in partnership with Sligo County Childcare Committee and supported through the CYPSC Healthy Ireland Fund under the Department of Health and the Department of Children and Youth Affairs facilitated a specially designed Balance Bike programme for pre-schools. The training gives pre-school teachers the knowledge, skills and confidence they need to effectively deliver fun and practical sessions with children aged 2 to 5 years. In 2021 14 pre-schools, 41 leaders and 288 children completed the programme. A new Balance Bike pre-school training manual was developed for teachers to assist with class room activities, games ideas and lesson plans to support delivery.

	No. of pre schools targeted	No. of teachers trained	No. of pre school participants
2020	4	12	90
2021	14	41	288



## Youth Sport West

	No. of participants	No. of YSW Programmes	No. of different sports provided	No. of schools involved
2020	1791	65	15	37
2021	2112	60	8	22

Since 1999 the Youth Sport West project (established by Sligo VEC and now MSL ETB) has gone from strength to strength in providing primary school children with the opportunity to participate in a range of extra-curricular sporting activities. In 2021, the project was disrupted in the early part of the year due to the Covid-19 pandemic but despite this 60 extra curricular sport and physical activity programmes were delivered in 8 different sports including basketball, dance, fundamental movement, multi sport, tag rugby, tennis, volleyball and gymnastics. The overall number of participants increased from 2020 to 2021 and this can be attributed to larger group size on each programme.



### SSRP SuperValu Primary Schools Athletics Fest 2021 - 'Staying Local'

The annual SSRP SuperValu Primary Schools Athletics Fest took place in September with over 1200 school children taking part over a week-long event. The event coincided with European Week of Sport. This year saw the event 'Staying Local' with each school participating from their school grounds with SSRP athletics officials timing the events in each school. The same great concept as years past, with the same great spirit but done in a new way was achieved. The event is now in its 17th year and continues to grow in popularity with the focus on participation, fun and enjoyment. The event was sponsored by SuperValu stores in County Sligo and supported by volunteers from County Sligo Athletics Association and athletics clubs throughout County Sligo.

### Girls Active

Girls Active is an extra-curricular physical activity programme for teenage girls. It is a joint initiative between the Health Services Executive and Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership which aims to increase participation by teenage girls in physical activity through developing more supportive physical activity environments for inactive girls in secondary schools. Girls Active places a greater emphasis on the social and health benefits of being physically active, while offering opportunities to experience different activities. Central to the success of the programme is the Girls Active Co-ordinating teacher based in each school who volunteers to organise activities and motivate participants.



	No. of schools involved	No. of teenage girls on the programme	No. of teenage girls at the festivals
2020	13	475	227
2021	12	430	234



## Community Sports Hubs

Leading and co-ordinating collaborative, sustainable and community-led approaches in the development of sport and physical activity in disadvantaged areas was achieved in 2021 through our Community Sports Hub initiatives.

### East City Community Sports Hub

The East City Community Sports Hub initiative is a collaboration between local organisations, community groups, sports clubs and various agencies to increase participation in sport and physical activity. The project encourages community leadership with support from stakeholders to plan, deliver and sustain sport in the East City area of Sligo Town. The project is funded by Sport Ireland and the Cranmore Regeneration Project and partner agencies include Sligo County Council, Cranmore Regeneration, Cranmore Co-Operative Society, Abbeyquarter Community Centre, and the Health Service Executive. In 2021, 363 participants engaged with the East City CSH, which reflects 140 females and 223 males. Activities included multi-sport programmes, fitness classes, walking, lawn bowls, boxing, soccer and basketball.



### Bunninadden Community Sports Hub

The Bunninadden Community Sports Hub initiative represents a partnership approach between community organisations, sports clubs, schools and agencies working together to increase participation in sport and recreation in the Bunninadden community and surrounding localities of South Sligo. The project focuses on increasing participation by offering a range of sporting activities, engaging with community groups and sport clubs, encouraging community leadership and bringing organisations together to plan and deliver sport and physical activity in the Bunninadden area. In 2021 the initiative entered its final phase with sport and recreational programming, club-community establishing links, building strong organisational structures and education and training opportunities facilitated.



# Case Study: Enniscrone Community Sports Hub (CSH)

## Overview



The Enniscrone Community Sports Hub (CSH) was established in 2020 with the aim to increase participation in sport and physical activity through a model of delivery which has a partnership approach at its core. Community organisations, sports clubs, NGBs and statutory agencies have worked collectively to increase participation opportunities supported by SSRP, including West Sligo Family Resource Centre, Enniscrone & District Community Council, Enniscrone Kilglass GAA, Kilglass Enniscrone United Football Club, Enniscrone Golf Club, Water Point Leisure Centre, Enniscrone's Mens Shed, Castleconnor Community Council, Castleconnor GAA and Swim Ireland.

## Aims



- To grow participation by offering a greater range of sustained sporting activities to a wider geographical area with a focus on disadvantaged communities.
- To encourage collaboration and networking among local community and sporting groups.
- To encourage more community leadership, enhance facilities and bring more stakeholders together to plan and deliver sport under the umbrella of the CSH.

## Implementation

- Developed strong working relationships with local community organisations, sports clubs and agencies.
- Partnership agreements in place with local community organisations, sports clubs and Swim Ireland to facilitate 59 opportunities to participate in sport and physical activity involving 681 participants, including adapted programmes during Covid-19.
- Provided training for 14 people in cycling, walking, tennis, first aid and women in leadership.
- Ensured SSRP was appropriately positioned regarding local facility planning in collaboration with the Local Authority, Swim Ireland and the Enniscrone & District Community Council.



## Outcomes

- Strong relationships developed between local community groups, sports clubs, agencies and SSRP.
- Supported a range of new online and outdoor programmes for all ages and abilities with a partnership approach at the core.
- Improved facilities including the provision of buoys, upgraded pier changing facilities, the development of a new beach access mat and commencement of new athletics track led by the Enniscrone & District Community Council.



*"Swim Ireland are delighted to be working in partnership with SSRP to create opportunities for people to swim. An exciting initiative which we are delighted to support is the addition of the accessible beach mats at Enniscrone which will provide people with limited or no mobility the opportunity to access the open water."*



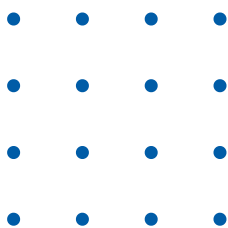
## Next Steps

- Support the development of a new athletics Track and Club.
- Support the installation of a new beach access mat and inclusive open water programme.
- Continue to support programmes which are led and sustained by local community organisations.

## Women in Sport

Increasing participation by women in sport was a priority in 2021 with a range of initiatives facilitated.

- Supported Sligo Yacht Club to build capacity among 10 women who received the opportunity of undertaking a Powerboat Course.
- Sligo Triathlon Club was supported to deliver a women's 'Try a Tri' which introduced 40 women to the sport. This incorporated a 'Return to Tri' to celebrate 10 years of 'Try a Tri' programmes, with a 6 week training programme and event on the 11th July involving 40 participants.
- Innisfree Wheelers Cycling Club received assistance from SSRP to host the Ladies Tour of Lough Gill with 56 women involved.
- 'HER Outdoors' was promoted with SSRP producing a number of social media profiles of women involved in the provision of outdoors sports in Sligo through their work as a coach/instructor or in clubs. Sports included kayaking, rowing, climbing, open water swimming, mountain biking, dragon boating, surfing and archery. In addition, 3 outdoors sports clubs hosted women's 'Come and Try' events during HER Outdoor week; Sligo Rowing Club, 24 participants, Sligo Climbing Club, 11 participants and Northwest Mountain Bike Club, 26 participants. Also, a number of commercial outdoor providers promoted the initiative and encouraged women to try outdoor adventure sports including surfing, hiking, supping and kayaking throughout the week.



## Targeting Men

Targeting men over 35 years old was prioritised in 2021 and this included piloting a new 'Men on the Move' programmes.

### Men on the Move

'Men on the Move' is a national HSE led physical activity programme that is focused on inactive men over the age of 35 years to get them active and SSRP piloted the initiative in 2021. Running over a period of 6 weeks and taking place remotely, participants enjoyed two exercise classes per week and also a mindset session with an experienced motivational coach. The aim of the programme is to engage inactive men or re-engage previously active men in physical activity in a fun and enjoyable environment. The programme took place in the North, South, East and West areas of Sligo with 43 men involved. Our partner organisations included Sligo GAA Healthy Clubs and our community organisations.



### Community Rowing for Men:

Lough Arrow Rowing Club linked with Geevagh Resource Centre to host a men's only indoor rowing fitness programme in the local area. This was the first programme to recommence post Covid-19 restrictions lifting for indoor activities and saw 25 men take part in a 6 week programme. Two of the men who participated in an indoor rowing coaching workshop are aiming to become club coaches in the future. The club was successful in applying for a Covid-19 grant to purchase club equipment of 6 ergometers and fitness equipment to the value of €10,000 to reduce costs for the programme and ensure programme sustainability .





## Sport for People with a Disability

This target group was particularly affected by the Covid-19 pandemic given the vulnerability of many of the participants, however despite this a number of key initiatives were facilitated.

### Xccessible Bronze Award

SSRP has committed to working towards achieving the Xccessible Bronze Award with the CARA Centre to provide and enhance opportunities for people with a disability to be active and create a more inclusive environment for everyone. The timeline for achieving the standard and objectives is April 2021 – March 2022. SSRP is making good progress on the journey towards the award with a key milestone to date being the training undertaken by both the SSRP staff and Board in the area of sport and inclusion.



### Bike at Home

A new 'Bike at Home' programme was launched by Cathaoirleach of Sligo County Council with funding from the Sligo County Council Community Resilience Fund. Seven stationary bikes were purchased and 5 HSE Community Houses targeted for phase 1 of the 8 week pilot initiative. The outcome of the pilot saw 13 staff trained who in turn supported 14 adult residents to be active.

### Social Soccer

The social soccer project was established in Sligo to make soccer more accessible for people of all ability levels. The community based soccer programme takes place weekly and enables adults of all abilities to engage in regular soccer training under the guidance of qualified coaches.

### Surf 4 All

The Sligo Surf 4 All programme took place at Streedagh Beach in July 2021 and continues to be a hugely important and meaningful project, catering for young people with more complex diagnoses of Autism. The design of the programme provides children who require substantial support with the opportunity to engage in the sport of surfing in a safe and supported environment. A parent of a child on the programme summed up the significant impact its had when she commented,

“As my son needs 1:1 support there are not many activities he can participate in. This programme is just fabulous, it helps with co-ordination, balance and overall well-being of our children and I hope that it will continue into the future.”

### Summary sample of Programme Participants - 2021 and 2020

Programme Type	No. of Participants 2021	No. of Participants 2020
Social Soccer	11	11
Surf 4 All	24	22
Surf Therapy	16	5
Enjoy Tennis	39	7
GymAble	54	38
Woodlands for Health	10	19

# Case Study: GymABLE

## Overview



Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership worked collaboratively with DyNamo Gym Club and Gymnastics Ireland to develop and embrace the GymABLE programme at the Club, making gymnastics accessible and available for young people with disabilities in County Sligo. The club were recognised for their fantastic work in creating quality opportunities for children with disabilities to participate in gymnastics at the 2020/2021 Marsh Gymnastics Ireland National Awards, where they were presented with the Inclusive Club of the Year Award.

## Aims



- To make gymnastics accessible and available to young people with disabilities in Sligo.
- To support young people with disabilities to engage, enjoy and excel in their participation within gymnastics.
- To deliver a range of GymABLE programmes through local schools and Autism units catering for children with disabilities.
- To extend the programme of activities to include all categories of disabilities to engage in gymnastics.

## Implementation

- Linked with the DyNamo Gym Club and local schools/autism units to plan a series of programmes led by coaches at DyNamo Gym Club.
- Secured funding through Gymnastics Ireland to support the programme.
- Supported DyNamo Gym club to attend relevant GymABLE training facilitated by Gymnastics Ireland.
- Agreed programme details with a number of local special schools and autism units.
- Linked with HSE Sligo Autism Services to develop summer programme of activities for children with autism in July/August 2021.
- Strengthening of links between all partners involved. (DyNamo, Gymnastics Ireland, Sligo Autism Services, Local schools)



## Outcomes

- 54 children with disabilities participated in programmes in 2021.
- 2 DyNamo coaches recruited, trained and employed to deliver the programmes.
- 8 programmes delivered over a 6 to 8 week period throughout the year.
- 4 schools involved in GymABLE programmes.

*“All I can say is that GymABLE was fantastic. A brilliant initiative. My little boy is six and non verbal, I thought he wouldn't be able for GymAble as he can find new things difficult and following instructions can be difficult due to lack of comprehension. I was pleasantly surprised. He LOVED it, and followed instructions.”*



## Next Steps



Both Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership and DyNamo Gym Club plan to extend the programme of activities to include all categories of disabilities to engage in gymnastics. Through linking with local club the North West Stormers, the SSRP are planning a pilot programme for children with physical and sensory disabilities led by coaches at DyNamo Gym Club.

## Seniors Sport

**Facilitating opportunities for physical activity for the older adult was challenging in 2021 due to the Covid-19 pandemic. However, despite this a range of successful initiatives were facilitated some of which are detailed in this section of the report while further initiatives are referenced throughout the document as part of community sports provision. We work closely with Age Friendly Sligo to create opportunities for physical activity as part of Ageing Well.**



### Live at 3 Initiative

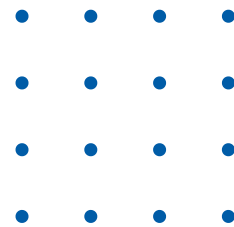
SSRP linked with Sligo Leader Partnership Company on their Live at 3 initiatives to help connect with elderly people in the community during the pandemic. SSRP provided a qualified exercise instructor to deliver a weekly exercise slot for 4 weeks on the show using the Ageing Well from Home exercise leaflet.

### Go for Life Games

SSRP facilitated Go for Life Games training with staff members from three HSE Day Centres catering for older adults. Go for Life Games equipment was supplied to 3 centres to support delivery of weekly programmes by centre staff to older people.

## Petanque

Sligo has one of the finest petanque courts in the entire country with 12 lanes available at the dedicated court in Mitchell Curley Park. In late 2021 an expression of interest to introduce the sport to the community was received by SSRP. Arising from this a very successful Petanque Taster Day was facilitated with 35 in attendance. A key success of the event was the interest established in working towards the development of a Petanque Club.



## Case Study: Stronger for Longer

### Overview



Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership developed the Stronger for Longer initiative under the Healthy Ireland LCDC programme administered through Sligo County Council. The aim of the programme is to increase opportunities for people over the age of 50 to be more physically active, and specifically to encourage them to participate in strength and conditioning based exercise. Increasing the number of people who are healthy at all stages of life is a key focus for SSRP and the programme offers a fun, accessible opportunity for older adults to be physically active and to build strength.

### Aims



- Engage people over the age of 50 to participate in strength and conditioning based exercise.
- Increase the confidence of older people to participate in strength based training.
- Encourage older people in Sligo to increase their engagement in quality physical activity opportunities, leading to an improvement in their quality of life as they age.

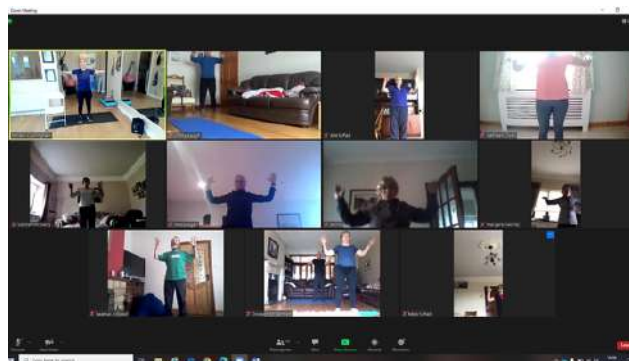
### Implementation

- Applied for funding to deliver the project under the Healthy Ireland LCDC programme administered by Sligo County Council.
- Identified and recruited fitness instructors to deliver the programme.
- Planned, promoted and delivered three phases of the programme in 2021.
- Reviewed programmes with instructors and participants.
- Liaised with Sligo County Council Healthy Ireland Coordinator on programme progress and funding.



### Outcomes

- 115 adults (25 male/90 female) participated in programmes in 2021.
- 2 SSRP instructors recruited and employed to deliver the programmes.
- 12 programmes delivered over an 8-week period in three phases throughout the year.
- Participants attended from 10 different locations around Sligo County with ages ranging from 50 years to 78 years.



*"I found the class very enjoyable and beneficial. The instructor is excellent in delivering the class and is highly motivated. I was drawn to the class as it was for over 50s and the class followed through with plenty of guidance and options for doing exercises at different levels, and for that reason I would very much like to continue with this."*



### Next Steps

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership plan to develop the initiative further in 2022 and work with local community centres to facilitate in person programmes in addition to the online option. This will bring people together once again, promote exercise and ensure that people of all ages can enjoy the health benefits and sense of well-being we get from being active. Participants will also be encouraged to attend Outdoor Gym programmes at a number of locations in the summer months during 2022.

## Outdoor Adventure Initiatives

Supporting and enabling participation in sport and physical activity in the outdoors was a focus in 2021.

### Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative

The Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative is a project funded through the Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts programme. The aim of the initiative is to increase the number of people in urban settings undertaking physical activity through adventure sports. The focus sports for 2021 included the water sports of rowing, kayaking and sailing and land based sports of orienteering and mountain biking.



### Sailing

Mercy College Sligo supported 15 students from highly disadvantaged backgrounds and youth with a disability to take part in the Fair Winds Sailing programme. The programme really benefits students who are not engaged in the traditional team sports offered by the school.

“With the support of Sligo Sports partnership the Mercy college was able to offer sailing to some students who had never an opportunity to sail before. The students thoroughly enjoyed it and was a fantastic experience for all the girls.”



### Orienteering

The SSRP CSDO met with Irish Orienteering to explore the development of urban orienteering courses for Sligo Town and Cranmore area. Ordnance Survey Maps were sourced through Sport Ireland and converted to the format needed for the MAP RUN app by a professional mapper with Irish Orienteering and involved a site visit to Sligo to add detail to the urban orienteering map of the town. A key milestone was the completion and uploading of the first four maps of Sligo town on the app.

# Case Study: Mercy College Kayak Club

## Overview



As part of the Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative SSRP engaged successfully with two post primary school extra-curricular kayak clubs. However, it was noted there was a low level of engagement with teenage girls. An opportunity to link with the newly appointed Sligo based Canoeing Irelands Ambassador for Women in Sport emerged and coinciding with this an expression of interest to develop a kayak club from a local all girls secondary school was received. Arising from this a new and additional school kayak club development process began.

## Aims



- Establishment of a sustainable School Kayak Club in Mercy College.
- Build the capacity of volunteers within club, school and community through training and education leading to self-sustaining structures in the long term.

## Implementation

- Meetings took place with Mercy College, Canoeing Ireland Ambassador and SSRP to make funding application.
- Successful awarding of funding commitment from key partner organisations was established through a partnership agreement.
- Kayaking taster sessions took place with 75 students, from this 44 completed a second session, with 24 staying involved for 6 weeks and 15 students stepping forward to take on roles to help develop the club.
- A Club Committee was developed to oversee the establishment and running of the new school kayak club (Teacher volunteered to take on senior roles and students filled junior roles).
- Training was provided for volunteers with support from Canoeing Ireland.
- The purchase of 6 boats and other essential equipment was funded through the Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative.
- The club was officially registered with Canoeing Ireland.



## Outcomes

- The virtual event increased access to this event to more participants including teachers.
- One school kayak club was established and officially registered with Canoeing Ireland.
- 6 teachers received club committee training from Canoeing Ireland.
- 15 teenage girls are registered members of the club.
- Supported 3 staff to obtain their Kayaking Instructor qualification.
- Mercy College Kayak Club will open the club up to additional members in the next school year.
- Mercy College Kayak Club will support kayak club members to participate in kayaking events.



## Next Steps

- Support 3 staff to obtain their Kayaking Instructor qualification.
- Mercy College Kayak Club will open the club up to additional members in the next school year.
- Mercy College Kayak Club will support kayak club members to participate in kayaking events.

# Case Study: Schools Rowing



## Overview

The Virtual Indoor Rowing Blitz for secondary schools came about as a response to Covid-19 when in person events could not take place. It allowed students a safe way to continue to be involved in sports participation. There were categories for every year group from 1st to 6th years with a special category for school teachers and staff to engage in the event. The challenge was to see how many metres a participant could row in 5 minutes. Competitive rowers who had experience rowing could enter the 2000 metre for time category. Schools gave their backing to help make this happen for their students. 10 schools entered the event with over 500 participants in total.



## Aims

- To facilitate opportunities to enable participation by disadvantaged youth in rowing.
- To provide safe physical activity opportunities during Covid-19.
- To provide motivation for participants by providing a goal event to train towards.
- To provide opportunities for sports participation outside of traditional team sports, increase the number of young people experiencing rowing and provide an inclusive event for participants of all abilities.

## Implementation

- SSRP linked with Rowing Ireland and Sligo Rowing Club to plan the event details.
  - Schools registered to participate in the event.
  - SSRP provided rowing ergometers to schools in advance of the event to support participants in training.
- The virtual event took place on the school premises on a selected date of the Blitz week.
- The timed rows were overseen onsite in the school by an SSRP rowing official who verified all distances completed.
  - All scores were uploaded on to a central spreadsheet where they were combined to find the top 5 finishers in each category.



## Outcomes

- The virtual event increased access of this event to more participants including teachers, in total 526 participants we included.
- Greater awareness of rowing in schools across Sligo.
- Through participation in the rowing event Coláiste Iascaigh took part in the TRY Rowing Programme from Rowing Ireland giving students the opportunity to get on the first step of the coaching ladder.
- Summerhill College launched their extra-curricular rowing club with support from SSRP through the Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiative.
- Sligo Grammar School Rowing Club has seen its largest number of members in 2021.
- Rowing is an inclusive sport and St. Cecilia's School participated in the event without difficulty.



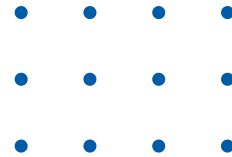
## Next Steps

- Making this event a sustained annual event on the schools sporting calendar in Sligo hosted by Sligo Rowing Club.
- More schools establishing extra-curricular rowing clubs / programmes.
- Further training for teachers to build their skills and capacity to support extra-curricular clubs in their schools.
- Further tasters for participants interested in progressing to a rowing club.
- Schools to continue to take part in other rowing events hosted by Rowing Ireland.

## Bike Week 2021

National Bike Week, an initiative of the National Transport Authority is a national celebration of bicycles and a promotion of the benefits of cycling. In Sligo, Bike Week is co-ordinated by Sligo County Council and Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership with support from many local cycling clubs and community organisations. Throughout the week 32 events took place with 441 participants getting out on their bikes.

Bike Week	No. of initiatives	No. of participants	No. of partners
2020	24	400	16
2021	32	441	14





## Goal 2: Build Capacity

Assist the organisations and volunteers who provide sport and physical activity to develop and grow.



**In 2021 SSRP supported club development initiatives with the purpose of empowering them to return to sport after the Covid-19 pandemic and to offer increased and inclusive participation opportunities for people across the life course.**

### Club Development

Given the Covid-19 pandemic and all the challenges it presented for sports clubs much of SSRP's support to clubs in 2021 involved assistance and advice with regard to their policies and procedures for a 'Return to Sport' grant aid as well as assistance to reopen. A Covid-19 Club Small Grant Scheme was administered with €20,000 allocated to 19 clubs.

As example of a newly supported club that developed and made great strides forward in 2021 was the Medb's Dragon Warriors Club.



Sligo's first Dragon Boat Club, Medb's Dragon Warriors was established in November 2020, with a membership base of cancer survivors and their supporters, living beyond cancer through team sport. Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership have provided club development support and advice towards setting up the club and supported an online fitness programme over zoom, with the club launching their first dragon boat in October 2021 involving 30 women.

“Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership have been instrumental in getting our club on the water. They supported us with a Start Up grant in early 2021, funding throughout the year, and again this year. As a result, we are continuing to grow in 2022 providing support, mentoring and purpose for Sligo's cancer survivors through the adventure of Dragon Boating on our beautiful Sligo waters. We are very grateful.” ”

### Special Project Grant Scheme 2021

SSRP facilitated a Special Project Participation Grant Scheme with a focus on projects which increase participation in sport and physical activity in County Sligo in line with the SSRP Strategy. The scheme involved the allocation of €15,000 to sports clubs and organisations for club development initiatives and events. 20 projects were funded in the areas of; developing water sports, sport in disadvantaged areas, club development, sport for people with a disability and performance targeted initiatives.

A summary of the clubs and projects funded under the 2021 Special Project Scheme:

Ballymote Boxing Club	County Sligo Swimming Club	DyNamo Gymnastics Club
Gateway Boxing Club	Sligo City Boxing Club	Yama Hara Gymnastics Club
Ballygawley Celtic FC	Calry Bohemians FC	Calry St Joseph's GAA
Coolaney/ Mullinabreena GAA	Coolera Strandhill GAA	Merville United Youths FC
Sligo Kayak Club	Sligo Rowing Club	South Sligo Athletics Club
Sligo Lawn Bowls Club	Ballymote Celtic FC	St John's FC (Senior Men's)
Carrowmore Archers	Shamrock Gaels Adult Social Rounders	

Supporting the volunteer and coach experience through, guidance, training and education was addressed in 2021.

Goal 2: Build Capacity	No. of participants involved/benefitting in 2021	No. of participants involved/ benefiting in 2020	Variance %
Coach Education	341	385	-11%
Safeguarding	144	140	3%
Women in Leadership	147	N/A	N/A

### Coaching Teenage Girls

SSRP facilitated a Coaching Teenage Girls in Sport Workshop, designed specifically to support coaches working with girls aged 12-17 years of age. The workshop engaged 16 participants from a range of sports clubs in Sligo. The workshop was positively received and participants remarked that it was informative in terms of how to create a positive experience of sport and physical activity for girls in their formative years and provide an environment where girls and young women can develop holistically.

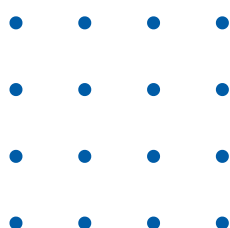
### Coaching Children's Workshop

Sport Ireland Coaching have developed 4 modules, specifically to support coaches and volunteers with a basic understanding of children's sport and physical activity and the best ways to optimise children's enjoyment, participation and positive outcomes. SSRP organised a Coaching Children Workshop Series with 13 participants from a range of sports involved. Concepts of physical literacy and holistic development were some of the key areas of learning noted by the participants.



### Disability Awareness Training

Building the capacity of local coaches, sports leaders and volunteers to deliver high quality, inclusive and adapted physical activity and sports sessions for people with disabilities remains one of the key goals of the Sports Inclusion Disability project. The Sports Inclusion Officer delivered two targeted workshops in 2021. The first workshop was delivered to 24 students studying for Leaving Certificate Physical Education. A key outcome to emerge from the training was that the students supported a number of inclusive school based programmes run by Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership. The second workshop was delivered to 18 coaches and volunteers from Curry GAA club to support them with their new pilot Inclusive GAA Club Programme.



# Case Study: LeadHers in Sport: Women in Sport Leadership Course

## Overview



Women in Sport (WIS) participation has seen significant growth and development in recent years; however, women are still underrepresented in positions of leadership across all sporting disciplines. This is a pervasive issue at all levels, but SSRP sought to positively contribute at club level in Sligo by facilitating a leadership course. It aimed to target women currently holding positions of leadership or those who wish to go on and gain positions of leadership. Following this a network for participants was established and supported.

## Aims



- Engage women from a variety of sports at club level across Sligo.
- Provide training, guidance and expertise to help women thrive in positions of leadership in sport.
- Increase the confidence of participants while also giving them the opportunity to learn additional skills.
- Establish a network of female leaders in Sligo.

## Implementation

- A survey was completed of the clubs in Sligo to determine the current landscape of sports and gain an insight into women’s current involvement.
- A webinar was held to highlight the key information gathered from the survey and to encourage the conversation on women in sport leadership in Sligo.
- A 7-week women in sport leadership course was facilitated by SSRP and hosted by consultants
- A network of women was established in Sligo.



## Outcomes

- Received survey responses from 64 sports, representing 46% of SSRP’s club database and with 31 sports represented.
- Hosted a women in sport leadership webinar which was attended by 70 participants and included the contribution of 4 local guest speakers including Olympian Mona McSharry.
- 16 women from across 13 sports completed the 7 week women in sport leadership course.
- A network of women in sport established and a networking event facilitated.



*“I was afraid to use my voice but now realise I have stuff to give, I have an opinion, it’s time to speak up”.*



## Next Steps

- Further support the participants through the established network
- Run an additional 7 week course to support a further 16 participants

# Case Study: Volunteer Support Programme

## Overview



The volunteer support initiative established a strong working relationship between SSRP, Irish Amateur Boxing Association (IABA), Connacht Boxing Council IABA, Sligo County Boxing Board and 4 local clubs to deliver a Boxing Club Development Project. The initiative assisted targeted boxing volunteers who are volunteering in their sport in disadvantaged communities to deliver participation opportunities for disadvantaged youth and emerging talented boxers to reach their full potential.

## Aims



- To develop a strong working relationship between local boxing clubs, SSRP, IABA, Connacht Boxing Council IABA and Sligo County Boxing Board.
- To facilitate a capacity building boxing coaching programme.
- To support a pathway of participation through a community boxing programme.
- To enhance and raise the profile of boxing in Sligo.

## Implementation

- Linked with the Sligo County Boxing Board and the IABA to co-ordinate a Sligo 'Start Box At Home' initiative, a 6 week introduction to boxing programme through video tutorials with 100 registered participants.
- Linked with Connacht Boxing Council and Sligo County Boxing Board to plan and deliver online seminars as part of 'Preparing to Return to the Ring', which included performance psychology, corner care, performance nutrition, high performance training and digital training.
- Linked with Sligo County Boxing Board to support a face to face technical coaching workshop.



## Outcomes

- Strong working relationship developed with local Boxing Clubs, Sligo County Boxing Board, Connacht Boxing Council and the Irish Amateur Boxing Association.
- 91 participant places facilitated on 5 online seminars delivered for boxing coaches and volunteers.
- 100 youth participants registered for the 6 week 'Start Box At Home' programme who received a skipping rope and training record booklet.
- Framed signed training vest from Katie Taylor presented to the winner of the draw from the completed returned participant training records.
- Hosted a technical coaching workshop by Nicolas Cruz Hernandez for coaches, volunteers and boxers.



## Next Steps



Plans are in place to support coaches to upskill through education and training once made available nationally by IABA. A commitment exists among all partners to continue to strengthen and develop the network of boxing partner clubs and organisations at County and provincial level.

*"This project was so positive, as it kept our coaches and our members active during what was a very challenging time. Our clubs were closed and there was nothing else happening, but 'Start Box At Home' and the online courses gave us a focus, helping not only our physical health but our mental health as well."*

Collaboration with National Governing Bodies of Sport is key to how SSRP operates and developing relationships, building capacity and facilitating shared participation initiatives with a focus on minority sports NGBs was achieved across a range of sports in 2021.

### **Open Water Swimming linking with Swim Ireland and local community partners**

A partnership approach between Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership, Swim Ireland and community organisations to promote safe open water programmes in rural areas in response to the local demand during the pandemic was facilitated. 669 participants were involved in 48 programmes at 5 rural sites including Enniscrone, Easkey, Aughris, Streedagh and Dorrins Strand. Programmes included 'Beach to Buoy' and 'Open Water Skills', along with new programmes piloted in 2021, 'Weekly Dippers' and 'Open Water Youth Intensive weeks'.



“*I was afraid to go out of my depth previous to the lessons but during the lessons we swam out to the buoys which I never thought I would. I felt so comfortable with the instructor and the team of lifeguards who were there.*”

“*My daughter's swimming and confidence in the water improved hugely, as did her floating and swimming. My son had a ball, his favourite part being the pier jumping on the last day. I also really improved in my own swim technique, and facing the open water with the safe back up of lifeguards was absolutely excellent.*”

### **Table Tennis @Home linking with Table Tennis Ireland and local club**

SSRP linked with Table Tennis Ireland and Bunninadden Table Tennis Club to co-ordinate 'Table Tennis @Home' for 45 families and over 150 participants primarily in South Sligo but also throughout Sligo. The at home Table Tennis programme delivered online, provided families with Table Tennis packs and videos to participate from home. An element of the initiative involved linking with the local club and Table Tennis Ireland to support the Bunninadden community to participate in World Table Tennis Day participation events that was specifically targeting women in the sport.

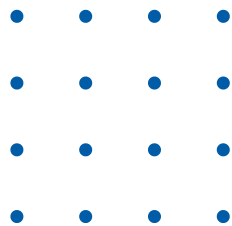
### **Cycling with Cycling Ireland and local partners**

SSRP collaborated with members of the new Connacht Cycling Committee to discuss partnerships on programmes into the future and the development of youth and leisure cycling and additional training for coaches in the Sligo area. Outputs from this included:

- Connacht Cycling delivered a women's cycling workshop in Coolaney with 14 women attending this training from across Sligo.
- SSRP, Connacht Cycling Leisure representative and Cycling Ireland Youth Officer met with members of the Enniscrone Community at West Sligo FRC to discuss the development of a cycling club in the area. The community is currently putting together a committee to officially establish a Community Leisure Cycling Club.
- Cycle Leader Training facilitated for Sligo to train more cycling leaders with 10 involved.

### Walking Football linking with FAI and Local Soccer Club

A new 6 week Walking Football Programme was piloted in 2021 led by Kilglass Enniscrone United Football Club, supported by West Sligo Family Resource Centre, SSRP, FAI and Sligo Rovers, targeting men over 45 years involving 10 men.



### Inclusive Football linking with GAA and local GAA Club

SSRP in collaboration with the GAA at County and Connacht level supported Curry GAA to introduce a new inclusive club programme involving a pilot 5 week series of sessions for children with disabilities. 11 children attended weekly sessions at the Curry GAA facility supported by 18 club coaches and volunteers.



**SSRP aims to promote multi usage, a life course perspective, accessibility and inclusion in the development and utilisation of sport and recreational facilities. In particular, we collaborated with Sligo County Council with regard to addressing gaps in facility provision in 2021**

**Sports Capital Projects**

A Sports Capital and Equipment Programme Funding Workshop was held in February 2021 to assist clubs in making applications under the 2021 national scheme with 59 participants in attendance and many progressing to make successful applications for funding. In 2021 SSRP successfully applied for Sports Capital Equipment funding for basketball back boards for Sligo Regional Sports Centre in partnership with Sligo All Stars Basketball Club and ergometers for Lough Arrow Rowing Club as part of the Covid-19 Sport Ireland opportunity for funding. The outcome of the application was that both clubs received €10,000 which has enabled them to increase opportunities for participation in their sports.



**East City Community Sports Hub Lawn Bowls facility support**

In 2021 Sligo Lawn Bowls Club had an ambitious plan to acquire a cabin to serve as a club house and worked in partnership with Sligo County Council and SSRP to advance the project. They were successful in accessing funding under the Sports Capital Programme. Preparatory work was done in relation to the purchase of a cabin with the intention to complete the project in early 2022.



**Bunninadden Community Sports Hub Outdoor Gym support**

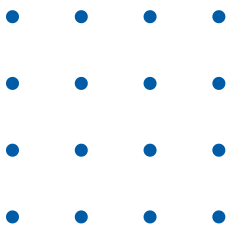
Linking with Ballinalack Community Park, SSRP developed an educational video on how to use various elements of the gym equipment which was widely shared on social media channels. This resulted in increased usage of the gym by individuals in the local community in their own time rather than relying on classes to be organised with an instructor.





## Enniscrone Community Sports Hub supports Athletics track development

A contractual agreement is in place to support the allocation of funding under the Dormant Accounts Community Sports Hub initiative to Enniscrone and District Community Council for the development of a 4 lane athletics track. Arising from this SSRP is supporting the new and emerging interest in setting up a local athletics club, with the first local meeting held and hosted by the Community Council.



## Goal 3: Enhance Communications:

Promote awareness about the needs and opportunities for sport and physical activity through a shared vision and a collaborative approach



This section details some of the key achievements and outputs delivered in 2021 relating to Goal 3 which focuses on SSRP communications.

Managing the channels and systems of communication with SSRP's internal and external stakeholders is central to ensuring effective partnership work.

### Social Media Channels

The SSRP website and social media channels are central to ongoing communication with our stakeholders with regular use of Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Goal 3: Enhance Communication	2021	2020	Variance %
Facebook followers	8085	7606	6.3%
Instagram followers	1747	1553	12.49%
Twitter followers	464	352	31.82%
Totals:	10296	9511	8.25%

### SSRP Website

The SSRP website underwent significant re-design and update of content in 2021. In addition to the regular updating of information SSRP continued to develop content during the pandemic to encourage people to be physically active.



### Resources

A range of resources was developed and promoted for a variety of in-person and online programmes with a key focus on engaging disadvantaged communities and vulnerable groups. In achieving this SSRP worked with local community organisations, family resource centres and statutory agencies in order to gain as much engagement as possible.

### Local Media

Regular press releases were submitted to the local print media while coverage of SSRP events through the local radio station was also pursued.

### Video resources

A variety of videos were created in 2021 on the SSRP YouTube account as part of our Covid-19 response targeting all age groups.

### Databases

SSRP maintained a directory of Sligo sports clubs, community organisations and target groups.

## Campaigns

SSRP linked with a variety of national physical activity campaigns promoted by Sport Ireland including the Let's Get Back Campaign, the Her Outdoors Week and European Week of Sport.

### Let's Get Back

In October 2021, Sport Ireland in partnership with Healthy Ireland, launched the 'Let's Get Back Campaign' aimed at getting the Irish public back involved in sport and exercise after the disruption to activity caused by the pandemic.



The campaign was supported by the nationwide network of Local Sports Partnerships and National Governing Bodies. The 'Let's Get Back' campaign aimed to encourage members of the public who were anxious or unsure about returning to sport and physical activity that it is possible to do so in a safe and secure manner. 'Let's Get Back' also made the wider public aware that sport is back, both indoors and outdoors and encouraged all ages and abilities to engage in sport. SSRP supported this initiative through promotion across our social media channels and the use of the 'Let's Get Back' tagline in the promotion for programmes we ran during the period.

### HER Outdoors Week



HER Outdoors Week took place from 9th -15th August 2021 and was an opportunity to re-introduce females to outdoor sports. The week was the first of its kind in Ireland and was an opportunity for females to escape to the outdoors and try something new. SSRP promoted HER Outdoors Week by supporting a series of events across County Sligo. We also supported the national campaign across our social media platforms. Local initiatives supported included mountain biking, climbing and rowing.

### European Week of Sport

European Week of Sport aims to promote sport and physical activity in countries across Europe. The week is for everyone, regardless of age, background or fitness level. With a focus on grassroots initiatives, the aim is to inspire Europeans to #BeActive on a regular basis and create opportunities in peoples everyday lives to exercise more. Sport Ireland encouraged all LSPs to get involved and in response SSRP hosted a number of events during the week with the annual Athletics Fest involving over 1000 primary school children being the flagship event for the organisation.



### Winter Ready Initiative

Preparation for the Sport Ireland Winter Initiative commenced in the latter part of 2021. The Winter Initiative calls on women, men, children, grandparents, cousins, neighbours, friends and work colleagues to get out walking, running, cycling or participating in some form of physical activity. Local clubs and groups were encouraged to post and advertise their events and activities online to spread the word about the Winter Initiative and encourage new people to try out different sports. SSRP promoted the campaign widely across its social media channels.

**Developing and strengthening the sport and physical activity network at agency and local level was achieved in 2021 and central to this was the collaborative approach undertaken.**

An opportunity to collaborate effectively with Sport Ireland and the LSP network took place primarily in a virtual format due to the pandemic in 2021. This resulted in a number of positive and tangible outcomes.

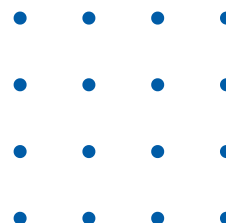
**Committees**

SSRP staff engaged in a series of Committees as part of their working in partnership approach to their work. The list of Committees and Boards with SSRP representation in 2021 included:

National Sports Policy Sports Leadership Group	Sligo County Council Trail Gazers Committee
Covid-19 National Sports Monitoring Group	Sligo County Council URBACT Working Group
Sport Ireland National LSP Co-ordinator Network	CARA SIDO network
Sport Ireland National LSP Evaluation Working Group	Sligo Bike Week Steering Committee
Sligo County Council Covid-19 Community Response Forum	Cranmore Community Development Forum
Sligo County Council Age Friendly Committee	Sligo Traveller Support Group Youth Sub Committee
CYPSC Active and Healthy Working Group	Sligo County Boxing Board/Volunteer Support
I-PARC Working Group	National LSP Women in Sport Working Group

**National Committees**

The SSRP Sports Co-ordinator is a member of the Sports Leadership Group which is chaired by the Minister for Sport Jack Chambers, the remit of which is to oversee the implementation of the National Sports Policy 2018-2027. A number of meetings were facilitated in 2021. In addition, the Sports Co-ordinator was invited to attend meetings of the Sports Monitoring Group which was established by the Minister for Sport with regard to the Covid-19 pandemic response.



### Local Agency Networks

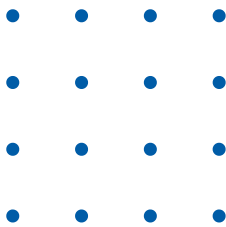
Throughout 2021, SSRP linked with various departments within Sligo County Council on a number of levels. A positive and collaborative approach was taken between the Parks Department and SSRP with regard to jointly funding the installation of accessible outdoor gym equipment. SSRP linked successfully with the Local Community Development Committee (LCDC) with regard to accessing funding for initiatives under the Healthy Ireland fund. SSRP continued to support the development of Sligo as an Age Friendly county. Ongoing collaboration in relation to facility development and usage took place. SSRP linked with the Public Participation Network (PPN) and availed of the PPN structures to share information and network. In addition, in response to the pandemic, SSRP played an active part in the Sligo County Council led Community Response Team and worked closely with the Local Authority on a number of shared Covid-19 response projects.

SSRP linked with HSE Health Promotion and HSE Primary Care departments to implement physical activity initiatives, while strong links were fostered with the HSE Disability Department to support inclusion in programmes.

SSRP worked in partnership with statutory agencies including Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB, the Institute of Technology Sligo and Sligo Leader Partnership Company to achieve shared objectives in the areas of capacity building and community development through sport.

### NGBs and Clubs

National Governing Bodies of Sport, local sports clubs and community organisations are a fundamental part of the SSRP network for delivery of sporting opportunities, and ongoing collaboration and communication with these groups is embedded in SSRP's approach to sports development.



# Case Study: SSRP Communication during Covid-19

## Overview



The Covid-19 pandemic kept people apart, but despite this Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership recognised the power in which sport can connect and bring people together. SSRP sought to create initiatives that would engage people and allow them to feel a part of a bigger group, despite keeping their distance. Three programmes were created: Feel Good 5k (Podcast and Training Plans), Schools Strava Challenge and Habits 2 Happiness 21-day walking challenge. These programmes were unlike any other SSRP has previously delivered and offered different ways of communicating and engaging with participants.

## Aims



- Offer a different and unique way to engage with physical activity and exercise throughout the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Change the way in which SSRP communicates with participants and reach as wide an audience as possible.
- Give participants an opportunity to connect and be a part of a wider group through exercise.

## Implementation

- Feel Good 5k podcast provided a 6 week virtual training plan culminating with RTE's Operation Transformation virtual 5km event.
- Schools Strava Challenge took place remotely while schools were closed. Students and staff contributed to their school's Strava team total km with weekly winners topping the board.
- Habits 2 Happiness utilised the Get Ireland Walking App, encouraging participants to log 21 consecutive days of walking, with daily motivational emails and talks from guest speakers.



### RESULTS of WEEK 1 - FEEL GOOD 5k SCHOOL STRAVA CHALLENGE

School	Total KM	Total members	Average Km per member
1 Mercy College	807	23	35.08
2 Colaiste Iascaigh	639	21	30.42
3 Grange Post Primary School	901	37	24.35
4 Coala Post Primary School	1699	71	23.92
5 Jesus & Mary Secondary Enniscrone	517	24	21.54
6 Ballinode College	404	23	17.56
7 Ursuline College	633	48	13.18
8 Colaite Muire Ballymote	276	30	9.2
9 Summerhill College	214	28	7.64
10 Sligo Grammar School	1110	176	6.3

## Outcomes

- SSRP provided innovative and unique programmes to successfully reach the wider Sligo community during Covid-19.
- 337 participants participated in the Feel Good 5k 6-week programme.
- The Schools Strava Challenge engaged 10 secondary schools with a total of 971 participants.
- Habits 2 Happiness had 307 participants in total.



*"Thank you all for organising the challenge, my friend and I completed it and intend to keep walking, the talks were an added extra and were very informative, the complete experience was very worthwhile."* - Habits 2 Happiness participant



## Next Steps

SSRP will continue to consider innovative methods adopted for this initiative including podcasats, webinars and other technologies when planning future approaches to programmes at design stage.

## Goal 4: Strengthen the Organisation:

Facilitate high standards of planning, governance and transparency in SSRP.



This section details some of the key achievements and outputs delivered in 2021 relating to Goal 4 which focusses on strengthening the SSRP organisation.

### Providing effective leadership and operations through a strong Board and staff was undertaken in 2021.

#### Organisational Review and Restructure

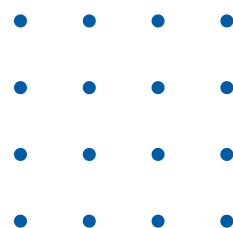
A review of staff structure and funding strategy was undertaken in 2021 by the SSRP Board. SSRP commenced an organisational restructuring initiative which was a response to the significant growth in demand for SSRP services. Organisational review and restructure was considered in the context of staff reporting lines, management functions in the context of organisational growth and clarity around individual role descriptions.

Moving from a flat organisational structure with all staff reporting into the Sports Co-ordinator to putting in place a middle management layer was established. A number of posts were advertised internally linked to additional management functions. Three long serving staff applied for and were successful in being appointed to senior CSDO roles while an appointment was also made at senior Administrator level. In addition, a further CSDO post and Administration post were advertised and filled.

#### Staff training

There continued to be a strong focus on staff training and development in 2021 which included various staff participating in the following:

- IPA Professional Certificate in Governance
- Sport Ireland Arena Leadership Programme
- Sport Ireland Accelerate Management Training
- Sport Ireland Trail Develop Course
- Sport Ireland M1 Evaluation
- Sport Ireland Women in Sport Adolescent Toolkit webinar
- Numerous online SI and NGBs Sport Webinars
- Social Media Training
- First Aid Training
- Staff Handbook – Statutory rights information presentation
- Wellbeing Officer Training
- Playful Paradigm Training



## Shared Learning

In addition to training SSRP staff engaged in various networking and events linked to education including:

- CSDO's and Girls Active Support Co-ordinator took part in the Sport Ireland Girls Get Active Hackathon from 16th -18th April. The purpose of the initiative was to explore innovative and new ways to target the increased participation of teenage girls in sport. The initiative designed by SSRP staff/ tutor, combining art and sport was selected as one of 4 winning initiatives to be piloted by Sport Ireland through the LSP network.



- CSDO presented at the I-PARC national conference, delivering on Good Practices from Disadvantaged Community Groups.
- CSDO presented to IT Sligo Sports and Business third level students on disability sport.
- CSDO presented at Sport Ireland LSP national meeting on the SSRP processes in using the M1 evaluation system.
- CSDO presented at National Bike Week webinar.

## Board Training

SSRP Board members availed of a number of training opportunities offered by Sport Ireland while a Board Governance workshop was facilitated by the Institute of Public Administration.

## Board Review

SSRP Board undertook an internal Board Effectiveness Review in mid 2021 which involved the completion of a Board effectiveness questionnaire and Board reflection on the outcomes as part of a Board agenda item.

## HR Service Arrangement

In early 2021, the Local Sports Partnerships Limited Companies worked collaboratively to put in place a HR support arrangement with the main objective of providing shared HR support/ advice and updating and standardising policies, contracts, employee handbook etc. Voltedge HR was approved to carry out the service by SSRP under this group agreement during 2021.

## Remote Working

The SSRP staff continued to work from home in early 2021. Throughout the year as lockdown restrictions eased, access to the office on a rota basis was established for the rest of the year. Weekly full team virtual meetings were conducted with a limited number of face to face staff meetings convened.

Implementing effective governance, procedures and policies for the SSRP organisation was prioritised in 2021.

## Governance Code for Sport Compliance

SSRP committed to being fully compliant with the Governance Code for Sport by December 2021 and as a result there was a significant focus on this area of work by the Board in 2021. The Code has five principles (Appendix 1) and the practices recommended to implement the principles are summarised as follows:

Principle 1. Leading the organisation

Principle 2. Exercising control over the organisation

Principle 3. Being transparent and accountable

Principle 4. Working effectively

Principle 5. Behaving with integrity





Compliance with the Sports Governance Code was achieved and formally approved at Board meeting of 29th September 2021 and subsequently communicated to Sport Ireland. SSRP's Public Statement of Compliance Form is available on the SSRP website.

**Good Governance and Best Practice - The IPA Governance Project**

The Institute of Public Administration (IPA) was appointed by the Limited Company LSPs in 2020 to review current governance standards and practices and to provide a framework of best practice policies and guidelines to support the LSPs in achieving compliance with the Governance Code for Sport. This project continued into 2021. A draft governance framework was issued in late December 2020 and this was reviewed and approved by the SSRP Board at a meeting on 23rd June 2021.

**Policies**

The following are the main documents and policies approved by the Board during 2021 following their review, update or development:

Anti-Racism Code of Practice SSRP	Media Policy SSRP
Communications and Social Media Policy SSRP	Board Governance Handbook SSRP
Communications Strategy SSRP	Board Terms of Reference SSRP
Risk Appetite Statement SSRP	Code of Conduct SSRP
Risk Register SSRP	Board Committees SSRP –Strategy and Audit & Risk
Risk Management Policy SSRP	Strategy Committee Terms of Reference SSRP
Gender and Equality Policy SSRP	Audit and Risk Committee Terms of Reference SSRP

**Risk and Risk Management During 2021**

In the area of risk SSRP developed a Risk Appetite Statement and a Risk Management Policy. In addition, the SSRP Risk Register was updated in 2021.

**Conflict of Interest and Conflict of Loyalty**

During 2021, SSRP Declaration of Interest forms were circulated to all Board members for signing which included the requirement of declaring areas where possible conflict of interest or conflict of loyalty might arise.

**Health & Safety - the Covid-19 impact**

Health and safety activity continued to be impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and areas to be addressed included:

- Risk Assessments to cover Covid-19 related risks.
- Return to Sport protocols.
- Covid-19 Officers present for all relevant activities.
- Staff required to work from home and attendance in office on a rota basis.

Managing and supporting an appropriate SSRP financial resource base for the SSRP organisation and its programmes was undertaken in 2021.

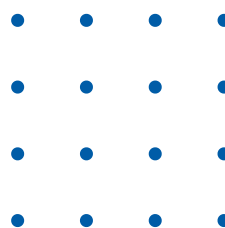
### SSRP Funding Sources 2021

A total of €917,194 was secured by SSRP during 2021 to increase participation in sport and physical activity from multiple sources including: Sport Ireland Core; Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts, Sligo County Council; Health Service Executive, NGBs and programme fee income generated locally. The table below provides a full breakdown of grants and income secured with the 2020 comparison shown.

Income Source	Amount 2021	Amount 2020
Sport Ireland Core	€368,908	€292,837
Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts*	€223,811	€94,241
Sport Ireland - Grants	€40,462	€66,942
Health Service Executive Grants	€98,245	€88,760
Local Authority Grants (Including Cranmore Regeneration)	€75,510	€72,638
County Sligo Childcare Committee	€12,467	€4,849
Swim Ireland	€3,000	-
Age & Opportunity Grants	-	€1,000
Mountaineering Ireland	-	€500
Youth Sport Programme Fees	€12,345	€8,473
Course Fees/ Project Income	€13,192	€10,787
Sponsorship	€3,000	€2,400
Amortisation of Government Grants	€20,981	€17,967
<b>Total</b>	<b>€871,921</b>	<b>€661,394</b>

Note:

\* Two allocations of Dormant Accounts funding were received in 2021 unlike the previous year when one allocation was available.



### **Sport Ireland Core Investment**

Sport Ireland supports the 29 Local Sports Partnerships to co-ordinate and promote the development of sport at local level and increase levels of participation in sport and physical activity. The core investment supports the key work of the LSP network; including the delivery of National Programmes, Education and Training initiatives, Strategic Development, Community Sports Development Officers (CSDO), the Sports Inclusion Disability programme, HR additional supports, Women in Sport programmes and general participation programmes. In 2021, SSRP secured €384,196 (2020 €300,008) through Sport Ireland core funding which constitutes approximately 63% staff salaries, 15% non staff administration and 22% for programmes, club development and training & education.

### **Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts Investment**

Under Dormant Accounts, Sport Ireland delivers on a range of sport and physical activity programme opportunities for LSPs and NGBs which align with the National Sports Policy and the National Physical Activity Plan (NPAP). All projects funded by Sport Ireland through Dormant Accounts target:

1. The personal and social development of persons who are economically or socially disadvantaged.
2. The educational development of persons who are educationally disadvantaged.
3. Persons with a disability (within the meaning of the Equal Status Act 2000).

### **Sport Ireland Dormant Accounts Funding Measure 2021**

Funding Measures
2020 Community Sports Hub - Enniscrone
2017 Community Sports Hub - Bunninadden
Sports Inclusion Disability Projects
Urban Outdoor Adventure Initiatives
Volunteer Supports

### **Sport Ireland Covid-19 Funding**

In 2021, SSRP was allocated €35,000 to support a Return to Sport, targeting clubs which may not have the finances to implement Covid-19 related hygiene and social distancing protocols.

### **Local Financial Investment**

Successful funding applications for targeted projects were also made to Sligo County Council and the HSE, our main local funders.

Investment from Sligo County Council included a core allocation of €20,000 while further amounts of funding was received for East City Regeneration Project (€33,600), Bike Week (€13,655), Healthy Ireland (€5,961) and Covid-19 grants (€10,000). Funding from the HSE included an allocation for health and well being initiatives (€49,520) and support under sport and inclusion (€44,000).

## **Benefit in Kind Investment by our Partner Agencies and Community Groups**

SSRP continues to have a considerable and extremely important benefit in kind investment from many stakeholders. In particular, the financial supports services from Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB (formerly Sligo VEC) are significant while the ETB has supported SSRP since its inception with office space for all staff, IT supports, payroll support and other key administration support. Sligo County Council provides ongoing support services in a range of areas including Community Development, the Parks Department and East City Regeneration. In addition to the significant financial and practical benefits this brings to SSRP, of equal importance has been the development and strengthening of relationships and understanding between SSRP and these organisations over the years. We also acknowledge the investment of time by all our Board members, and their wider organisations, NGB and sports club partners, school and community partners and all other stakeholders.

A focus on developing appropriate evaluation systems to determine and illustrate the impact of SSRP's processes and programmes was undertaken in 2021 which continued to enhance insight amongst SSRP staff and partners regarding the programme elements which have impact.

## **Evaluation**

During 2021 SSRP actively contributed to the following Sport Ireland evaluations:

- Sport Ireland Urban Outdoor Adventure Project Evaluation was supported through online surveys, meetings with consultant and arranging focus group meetings with participants and partners to contribute to the process.
- Sport Ireland Volunteer Support programme Evaluation was supported through SSRP staff engagement with consultant and provision of first hand information on project impact.
- Sport Ireland Investment into Disability Projects 2018-2020 Evaluation was supported by the SSRP SIDO sitting on the national working group who oversaw the process and by contributing to output and impact information from an SSRP project implementation perspective.

At project level, SSRP has adopted the use of the Sport Ireland Single Item Measure (M1) in order to assess the impact of our work. The M1 is an internationally validated self-report measure that allows an organisation to track an individual's rate of participation in sport and physical activity at the start of the programme, at the end of a programme and a follow up 3 months later. Sport Ireland continues to support Local Sports Partnerships and National Governing Bodies to collect impact evaluation data for their participation programmes using M1, with the intention of having a significant national data sample size to interpret trends and impacts. Locally the data collected is invaluable in improving our understanding of what makes a physical activity initiative successful (or not), which will influence how we meet the National Sports Policy targets and our Strategic Plan objectives.

In 2021, the SSRP M1 data collected demonstrates that LSP initiatives are targeting the right people with key M1 data collected for a range of programmes including:

- Stronger for Longer
- Social Soccer
- Livingroom Fitness
- Mens Rowing
- Bike Week
- Enniscrone Community Sports Hub Initiatives

A key finding across all the data is that many of the programme participants are not meeting the National Physical Activity Guidelines at registration which suggest SSRP is successful in targeting inactive people. Furthermore, the data demonstrates that LSP initiatives are successful in sustainably moving a significant percentage of people from inactivity towards activity by the end of particular programmes.

# Section 4

## Future Plans



The SSRP Strategic Plan 'Building a Culture of Sport and Physical Activity in Sligo 2018 - 2023' will continue to provide direction and focus for SSRP. Sustaining the resources within the Partnership to deliver the strategy will require SSRP, local agencies and the community to continue to work together in conjunction with Sport Ireland in order for SSRP to sustain and develop additional opportunities for participation.

The following summarises some of the key areas of focus for 2022 under each of the SSRP goals as outlined in the strategic plan.

## **Goal 1: Increase Participation**

### **Focus on Low Participation Groups**

The National Sports Policy has set an ambitious target of increasing sports participation in Ireland to 60% by 2027, the equivalent of 1% per year. To achieve this the policy highlights the need to tackle participation gradients by targeting groups in our society that participate significantly less than the overall average. These include people with disabilities, people from lower socio-economic backgrounds, women and girls, and ethnic minority groups, such as the Traveller community. SSRP has an ongoing commitment to supporting these target groups and in doing so addressing the gradients in sport. In addition, Sport Ireland's Participation Strategy identifies population groups who are at the lower end of the sports participation gradients as a priority. Sport Ireland Core and Dormant Accounts funding streams which support initiatives targeting these groups will be actively pursued to support SSRP in this area of work.

### **Maximising opportunities from the trend towards Physical Activity in the Outdoors**

SSRP will grow its investment in outdoor sports and will prioritise sports including walking, cycling, running and swimming which is in line with the objectives of the National Sports Policy and reflects areas seen as having the greatest potential for generating higher levels of active participation across the life course. The move towards exercise in the outdoors was evident during the pandemic and sustaining this positive momentum in outdoor sports will be continued.

### **Supporting a Safe Return to Sport**

SSRP will continue to focus on a safe return to 'on site' sport and physical activity, while also building on the virtual opportunities which evolved during the pandemic. We will particularly focus on those most affected by the challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic including older adults, people with a disability and young people. Supporting coaches, administrators and volunteers within sports clubs and community organisations with a full return to their sport will be a priority.

## **Goal 2: Build Capacity**

### **An effective SSRP Community Coaches/ Instructors database maintained**

SSRP recognises the value in having a well maintained database of community coaches and instructors to engage for programmes. This involves maintaining records of qualifications, Garda Vetting, Safeguarding, First Aid and Continuous Professional Development training. Establishing effective systems for operating this database will be implemented.

### **Supporting Volunteers in Sport**

The role of volunteers in facilitating sport and physical activity is central to a well functioning sports system and SSRP commits to investing in volunteer development through training and education opportunities in 2022.

## **Strengthening Relationships with National Governing Bodies of Sport**

SSRP recognises the importance and value of engaging with NGBS with a view to partnering on the delivery of projects and will avail of opportunities to strengthen relationships in 2022.

## **Goal 3: Enhance Communications**

### **Communications Strategy**

An SSRP communications strategy will be developed in 2022. SSRP recognises the need to respond to the evolving communications methods and opportunities.

### **Achieving the CARA Xcessible Bronze Award**

SSRP has committed to achieving the CARA Xcessible Bronze Award, a programme which aims to support and empower LSPs and other organisations to provide positive and meaningful participation opportunities for people with disabilities. The SSRP Sports Inclusion Disability Programme will continue to encourage and facilitate more people with disabilities to participate in sport and physical activity and develop sustainable clubs and programmes in all settings. Achieving the award is a focus of SSRP for 2022.

### **Data Protection**

Areas of work under data protection for SSRP in 2022 will be the priority of engaging in a gap analysis in current processes and information with regard to data management. Recommendations from this process will be considered and implemented.

### **Sligo County Development Plan**

SSRP engaged with the Local Authority with regard to the development of the County Development Plan and Sligo 2030 Plan in 2021 and will continue this in 2022 with the purpose of ensuring sport and physical activity developments in infrastructure and programming are prioritised for inclusion in the plan.

## **Goal 4: Strengthen the Organisation**

### **Ongoing compliance with the Sports Governance Code**

Full compliance with the Governance Code for Sport was achieved by SSRP in September 2021 and formal declaration of compliance was approved at the Board meeting of 23rd September 2021 after which Sport Ireland was notified of the achievement. A priority action for the SSRP Board of Directors is to ensure ongoing compliance with the code and assurance with regard to this will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

### **Monitoring Organisational Restructure**

SSRP undertook organisation restructure in 2021 which involved moving from a flat staff structure reporting to the Co-ordinator to a position whereby a middle management system was implemented. The effectiveness of the restructuring will be monitored in 2022 and the impact on the ongoing success of SSRP operations assessed.

### **Strategic Alignment with Local Sports Plans**

The National Sports Policy under Action 8 has tasked Local Sports Partnerships with supporting Local Authorities in developing Local Sports Plans consistent within the overall vision and objectives of the National Sports Policy. SSRP will continue to strengthen its working relationships with the Local Authority in line with the National Sports Policy objective regarding the development of Local Sports Plans while close collaboration with regard to facility development and usage will also be pursued.

### Strengthening Strategic Partnerships at County Level

SSRP recognises the importance and value of engaging strategically with our partners including Sligo County Council, Health Service Executive, Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB, Atlantic Technical University, Sligo Leader Partnership Company and NGBs to collaborate of strategic delivery on programmes and services and plans to avail of opportunities to strengthen relationships in 2022 will be pursued.

### Sport And Recreation: A Way Of Life In Sligo





# Section 5

## Financial Statements



Column, bar, and pie charts compare values in a single category, such as the number of products sold by each salesperson. Pie charts show each category's value as a percentage of the whole.

- PARTICIPANT**
- Andy
  - Chloe
  - Daniel
  - Grace
  - Sophia



SLIGO SPORT AND RECREATION PARTNERSHIP COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE  
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDED 31  
DECEMBER 2021

PORTER AND CO  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS AND REGISTERED AUDITORS  
MILLENNIUM HOUSE  
STEPHEN STREET  
SLIGO

**SLIGO SPORT AND RECREATION PARTNERSHIP COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE**

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## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee Directors and Other Information:

<b>Directors:</b>	Emer Concannon Jack Lynch Máire McCallion Joseph McDonagh Kathleen Kane Marie Casserly Michael Carty Cara O'Neill Gino O'Boyle Dónal Gilroy Gerald O'Connor Tina Beirne Tommy Cradock Geraldine Delorey Rose McGowan John Feerick Ross Lappin (Appointed 20 September 2021) Kerry Larkin (Resigned 2 March 2021)
<b>Company Secretary:</b>	Jack Lynch
<b>Company number:</b>	360763
<b>Registered Office:</b>	Quay Street Sligo
<b>Auditor:</b>	Porter and Co Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Millennium House Stephen Street Sligo
<b>Principal Bankers:</b>	Bank of Ireland Stephen Street Sligo
<b>Solicitors:</b>	Carter Anhold & Co 1 Wine Street Sligo

**Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee  
Directors Report  
For the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:**

The directors present their report and the audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

The Company is limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

There has been no significant change in these activities during the financial year ended 31 December 2021.

**Financial Results:**

The surplus for the financial year after providing for depreciation amounted to €35,568 (2020- €16,522).

At the end of the financial year, the company has assets of €1,152,250 (2020 - €1,089,678) and liabilities of €301,534 (2020 - €274,530). The net assets of the company have increased by €35,568.

**Directors and Secretary:**

The directors who served throughout the financial year, except as noted, were as follows:

Emer Concannon, Jack Lynch, Máire McCallion, Joseph McDonagh, Kathleen Kane, Marie Casserly, Michael Carty, Cara O'Neill, Gino O'Boyle, Dónal Gilroy, Gerald O'Connor, Tina Beirne, Tommy Cradock, Geraldine Delorey, Rose McGowan, John Feerick, Ross Lappin (Appointed 20th September 2021), Kerry Larkin (Resigned 2nd March 2021)

The secretary who served throughout the financial year was Jack Lynch.

The directors of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee are on the board of directors in a voluntary capacity and do not received remuneration or any other benefits from the company.

In accordance with the Constitution, the directors retire by rotation and, being eligible, offer themselves for re-election.

**Future Developments:**

The company plans to continue its present activities and current trading levels. Employees are kept as fully informed as practicable about developments within the business.

**Post Statement of Financial Position Events:**

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

**Auditors:**

The auditors Porter and Co, (Chartered Accountants), were appointed in office in accordance with Section 382 (1) of the Companies Act 2014.

**Statement on Relevant Audit Information:**

In accordance with Section 330 of the Companies Act 2014, so far as each of the persons who are directors at the time this report is approved are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the statutory auditors are unaware. The directors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and they have established that the statutory auditors are aware of that information.

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee

Directors Report for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

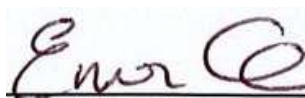
Accounting Records

To ensure that adequate accounting records are kept in accordance with sections 281 to 285 of the Companies Act 2014, the directors have employed appropriately competent accounting personnel and have maintained appropriate computerised accounting systems. The accounting records are located at the company's office at Quay Street, Sligo.

Signed on behalf of the board


Emer Concannon

Director

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Emer Concannon', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Jack Lynch

Director

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Jack Lynch', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Date: 22 June 2022

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee

### Directors Responsibility Statement for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

The directors are responsible for preparing the Directors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable Irish law and regulations.

Irish company law requires the directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under the law the directors have elected to prepare the financial statements in accordance with the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard, issued by the Financial Reporting Council. Under company law, the directors must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at the financial year end date and of the surplus or deficit of the company for the financial year and otherwise comply with the Companies Act 2014.


In preparing these financial statements, the directors are required to:  
select suitable accounting policies for the company financial statements and then apply them consistently;

- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
  - state whether the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with applicable accounting standards, identify those standards, and note the effect and the reasons for any material departure from those standards; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the company will continue in business.


The directors are responsible for ensuring that the company keeps or causes to be kept adequate accounting records which correctly explain and record the transactions of the company, enable at any time the assets, liabilities, financial position and surplus or deficit of the company to be determined with reasonable accuracy, enable them to ensure that the financial statements and Directors' Report comply with the Companies Act 2014 and enable the financial statements to be readily and properly audited. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

Signed on behalf of the board

Emer Concannon  
Director



Jack Lynch  
Director



Date: 22 June 2022

## **Independent Auditors Report:**

To the Members of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements:**

#### **Opinion:**

We have audited the financial statements of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee (the company') for the financial year ended 31 December 2021 which comprise the Income Statement, the Statement of Financial Position, the Statement of Changes in Equity and notes to the financial statements, including the summary of significant accounting policies set out in note 2. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is Irish Law and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", issued in the United Kingdom by the Financial Reporting Council, applying Section 1A of that Standard.

#### **In our opinion the financial statements:**

give a true and fair view of the assets, liabilities and financial position of the company as at 31 December 2021 and of its surplus for the financial year then ended;

have been properly prepared in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard; and have been properly prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2014.

#### **Basis for opinion:**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (Ireland) (ISAs (Ireland)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are described below in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of financial statements in Ireland, including the Ethical Standard for Auditors (Ireland) issued by the Irish Auditing and Accounting Supervisory Authority (IAASA), and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern:**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

#### **Other Information**

The directors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.



## **Independent Auditors Report:**

To the Members of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee

### **Report on the audit of the financial statements:**

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2014

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit, we report that: the information given in the Directors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and the Directors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

We have obtained all the information and explanations which, to the best of our knowledge and belief, are necessary for the purposes of our audit.

In our opinion the accounting records of the company were sufficient to permit the financial statements to be readily and properly audited and the financial statements are in agreement with the accounting records.

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception:**

Based on the knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the directors' report.

The Companies Act 2014 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion, the requirements of any of sections 305 to 312 of the Act, which relate to disclosures of directors' remuneration and transactions are not complied with by the Company. We have nothing to report in this regard.

### **Respective responsibilities:**

#### **Responsibilities of directors for the financial statements:**

As explained more fully in the Directors' Responsibilities Statement set out on page 6, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements in accordance with the applicable financial reporting framework that give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as they determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the directors are responsible for assessing the company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, if applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the company or to cease operation, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Independent Auditors Report:

To the Members of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee

### Report on the audit of the financial statements:

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements:

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (Ireland) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

#### Further information regarding the scope of our responsibilities as auditor:

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (Ireland), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the company's internal control.

Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the directors.

Conclude on the appropriateness of the directors' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditor's Report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditor's Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the company to cease to continue as a going concern.

Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Independent Auditors Report:**

To the Members of Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee

**Report on the audit of the financial statements:**

The purpose of our audit work and to whom we owe our responsibilities

Our report is made solely to the company's members, as a body, in accordance with section 391 of the Companies Act 2014. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditor's Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume any responsibility to anyone other than the company and the company's members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Thomas A. Porter  
for and on behalf of  
PORTER AND CO

Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors Millennium House  
Stephen Street Sligo

Date: 22 June 2022

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

Income Statement For Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
Income		871,921	661,394
Expenditure		(836,353)	<u>(644,872)</u>
Surplus for the financial year	14	35,568	<u>16,522</u>
Total comprehensive income		<u>35,568</u>	<u>16,522</u>

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

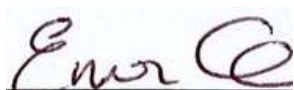
Statement of Financial Position as at 31st December 2021:

	Notes	2021 €	2020 €
<b>Non-Current Assets:</b>			
Property, Plant and Equipment	7	<u>84,080</u>	<u>65,469</u>
<b>Current Assets:</b>			
Receivables	8	25,690	124,907
Cash and cash equivalents		<u>1,042,480</u>	<u>899,302</u>
		<u>1,068,170</u>	<u>1,024,209</u>
Payables: Amounts falling due within one year:	9	<u>(282,219)</u>	<u>(246,289)</u>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		<u>785,951</u>	<u>777,920</u>
<b>Total Assets Less Current Liabilities:</b>			
Amounts falling due after more than one year	10	<u>(19,315)</u>	<u>(28,241)</u>
<b>Net Assets:</b>		<u><u>850,716</u></u>	<u><u>815,148</u></u>
<b>Reserves:</b>			
Capital Reserves and Funds	14	668,529	668,529
Retained Surplus		<u>182,187</u>	<u>146,619</u>
<b>Members Funds:</b>		<u><u>850,716</u></u>	<u><u>815,148</u></u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime and in accordance with FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland", applying Section 1A of that Standard.

Approved by the board on 22 June 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Emer Concannon  
Director



Jack Lynch  
Director



Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

Statement of Changes in Equity as at 31st December 2021:

	Retained Surplus €	Reserve €	Total €
At 1 January 2020	<u>81,309</u>	<u>717,317</u>	<u>798,626</u>
Surplus for the financial year	<u>16,522</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,522</u>
Other Movements in Members Funds	<u>48,788</u>	<u>(48,788)</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>146,619</u>	<u>668,529</u>	<u>815,148</u>
Surplus for the financial year	<u>35,568</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35,568</u>
At 31 December 2021	<u>182,187</u>	<u>668,529</u>	<u>850,716</u>

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

#### 1.GENERAL INFORMATION:

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee is a company limited by guarantee incorporated and registered in the Republic of Ireland. The registered number of the company is 360763. The registered office of the company is Quay Street, Sligo. The nature of the company's operations and its principal activities are set out in the Directors' Report. The financial statements have been presented in Euro (€) which is also the functional currency of the company.

#### 2.SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES:

The following accounting policies have been applied consistently in dealing with items which are considered material in relation to the company's financial statements.

##### **Statement of compliance:**

The financial statements of the company for the financial year ended 31 December 2021 have been prepared in accordance with the provisions of FRS 102 Section 1A (Small Entities) and the Companies Act 2014.

##### **Basis of preparation:**

The financial statements have been prepared on the going concern basis and in accordance with the historical cost convention except for certain properties and financial instruments that are measured at revalued amounts or fair values, as explained in the accounting policies below. Historical cost is generally based on the fair value of the consideration given in exchange for assets. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is the Companies Act 2014 and FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" Section 1A, issued by the Financial Reporting Council.

The company qualifies as a small company as defined by section 280A of the Companies Act 2014 in respect of the financial year, and has applied the rules of the 'Small Companies Regime' in accordance with section 280C of the Companies Act 2014 and Section 1A of FRS 102.

##### **Income**

Income represents the total value of income recognised during the financial period including amortisation of capital grants.

Government grants and grants from non-state bodies are recognised in accordance with the accounting policy for government grants. Income from other sources is recognised when the company becomes entitled to it, which is usually in the financial period in which the income is received.

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

#### Property, plant and equipment and depreciation:

Property, plant and equipment are stated at cost or at valuation, less accumulated depreciation. The charge to depreciation is calculated to write off the original cost or valuation of property, plant and equipment, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives as follows:

Plant and machinery	15% Straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	15-20% Straight line

The carrying values of tangible fixed assets are reviewed annually for impairment in periods if events or changes in circumstances indicate the carrying value may not be recoverable.

#### Trade and other receivables:

Trade and other receivables are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest method less impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts except where the effect of discounting would be immaterial. In such cases the receivables are stated at cost less impairment losses for bad and doubtful debts.

#### Trade and other payables:

Trade and other payables are initially recognised at fair value and thereafter stated at amortised cost using the effective interest rate method, unless the effect of discounting would be immaterial, in which case they are stated at cost.

#### Employee benefits:

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company in an independently administered fund. The assets of this scheme are also held separately from those of the company, being invested with pension fund managers.

#### Taxation:

The company is registered as a sporting body (no. 891) with the Revenue Commissioners and is exempt from corporation tax on income under Section 235 Taxes Consolidation Act 1997.

#### Government grants:

Capital grants received and receivable are treated as deferred income and amortised to the Income Statement annually over the useful economic life of the asset to which it relates. Revenue grants are credited to the Income Statement when received.

#### Foreign currencies:

Monetary assets and liabilities denominated in foreign currencies are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the Statement of Financial Position date. Non-monetary items that are measured in terms of historical cost in a foreign currency are translated at the rates of exchange ruling at the date of the transaction. Non-monetary items that are measured at fair value in a foreign currency are translated using the exchange rates at the date when the fair value was determined. The resulting exchange differences are dealt with in the Income Statement.



## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

#### Pensions:

The company operates a defined contribution pension scheme for employees. The assets of the scheme are held separately from those of the company. Annual contributions payable to the company's pension scheme are charged to the Income Statement in the period to which they relate.

#### 3. DEPARTURE FROM COMPANIES ACT 2014 PRESENTATION:

The directors have elected to present an Income and Expenditure Account instead of a Profit and Loss Account in these financial statements as this company is a not-for-profit entity.

#### 4. OPERATING SURPLUS:

	€2021	€2020
Operating surplus is stated after charging/(crediting):		
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment	32,329	24,308
Amortisation of Government grants	(20,981)	(17,967)
	<u>11,348</u>	<u>6,341</u>

#### 5. EMPLOYEES:

The average monthly number of employees, including directors, during the financial year was as follows:

	2021	2020
Administration (core staff)	2	2
Project staff	5	4
	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>

#### 6. EMPLOYEE BENEFITS:

Salary Band:	Number of Employees	Employer Pension Contribution
€70,000-€79,000	<u>1</u>	<u>€6,617</u>

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

7. Property

	Plant and Machinery €	Fixtures, fittings and Equipment €	Total €
<b>Cost</b>			
At 1 January 2021	3,134	148,647	151,781
Additions	-	50,940	50,940
At December 2021	<u>3,134</u>	<u>199,587</u>	<u>202,721</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 Jan 2021	3,134	83,178	86,312
Charge for Financial Year	-	32,329	32,329
At December 2021	<u>3,134</u>	<u>115,507</u>	<u>118,641</u>
<b>Carrying Amount</b>			
At 31 December 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>84,080</u>	<u>84,080</u>
At 31 December 2020	<u>-</u>	<u>65,469</u>	<u>65,469</u>

8. Receivables

	2021 €	2020 €
Trade Receivables	2,180	6,493
Other Debtors	-	420
Prepayments	23,510	3,815
Funds Held by MSLETB	-	114,179
	<u>25,690</u>	<u>124,907</u>

9. Payables

Amounts falling due within one year

	2021 €	2020 €
Other Creditors	44,438	-
Accruals	21,402	8,858
Deferred Income	216,379	237,431
	<u>282,219</u>	<u>246,289</u>

10. Payables

Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 €	2020 €
Government Grants	<u>19,315</u>	<u>28,241</u>

11. Pension Costs - Defined Contribution

Pension costs represent the company's contribution to a defined contribution pension scheme on behalf of the employees and amounted to €25,158 (2020: €24,090)

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

### 12. State Funding

<b>Agency</b>	<b>HSE</b>
Government Department	Department of Health
Grant Programme	Health Promotion & Improvement
Purpose of the Grant	Joint Programming Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€54,244
Expenditure	€54,244
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€276 deferred
Received in financial year	€49,520
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>HSE</b>
Government Department	Department of Health
Grant Programme	Learning, Autism, Sensory, Older People, Mental Health & Learning Disabilities
Purpose of the Grant	Programming for people with disabilities
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€44,000
Expenditure	€44,000
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Received in financial year	€44,000
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Core
Purpose of the Grant	Sport Development & Programme Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€349,332
Expenditure	€349,332
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€20,655 deferred
Received in financial year	€353,901
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Dormant Accounts
Purpose of the Grant	Targeted Delivery Programme
Term	12-18 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€223,811
Expenditure	€223,811
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€38,707 deferred
Received in financial year	€138,672
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Women in Sport
Purpose of the Grant	Delivery of women in sport programming
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€19,576
Expenditure	€19,576
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€304 deferred
Received in financial year	€19,200
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Dormant Accounts
Purpose of the Grant	Targeted Programme Delivery
Term	60 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€15,971
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€28,465 deferred
Received in financial year	€5,500
Type of grant	Capital Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Grant Programme	Bike Week 2021
Purpose of the Grant	Bike Week 2021
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€13,593
Expenditure	€13,593
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€2,227 deferred
Received in financial year	€13,655
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Grant Programme	Project Funding
Purpose of the Grant	Targeted Programme Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€17,356
Expenditure	€17,356
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€2,644 deferred
Received in financial year	€20,000
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Grant Programme	Cranmore Regeneration
Purpose of the Grant	Cranmore Regeneration Programme Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€33,600
Expenditure	€33,600
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Received in financial year	€33,600
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Health Ireland
Purpose of the Grant	Targeted Programme Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€Nil
Expenditure	€Nil
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€10,750 deferred
Received in financial year	€Nil
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Covid-19 Grants
Purpose of the Grant	Specific funding associated with Covid-19 Pandemic
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€40,252
Expenditure	€40,252
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€84,079 deferred
Received in financial year	€76,000
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sligo County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage
Grant Programme	Healthy Ireland Community Grant
Purpose of the Grant	Purchase equipment for people with disabilities
Term	60 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€750
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€750 deferred
Received in financial year	€Nil
Type of grant	Capital Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport</b>
Government Department	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport
Grant Programme	Sports Capital Programme
Purpose of the Grant	Purchase of capital equipment
Term	Nil
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€1,806
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€1,806 deferred
Received in financial year	€Nil
Type of grant	Capital Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage
Grant Programme	Healthy Ireland Community Grant
Purpose of the Grant	Targeted Programme Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€5,961
Expenditure	€5,961
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€2,178 deferred
Received in financial year	€12,452
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage
Grant Programme	Resilience Fund
Purpose of the Grant	Purchase of capital equipment
Term	60 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€1,000
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€4,000 deferred
Received in financial year	€5,000
Type of grant	Capital Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>County Council</b>
Government Department	Department of Housing, Local Government, and Heritage
Grant Programme	Resilience Fund
Purpose of the Grant	Targeted Programme Delivery
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€5,000
Expenditure	€5,000
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€Nil
Received in financial year	€5,000
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Grassroots Restart Fund Programmes
Purpose of the Grant	Programmes targeting grassroots sport and unrepresented communities
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€Nil
Expenditure	€Nil
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€28,991 deferred
Received in financial year	€28,991
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding

## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Coaching Teenage Girls
Purpose of the Grant	Coaching Teenage Girls Workshop
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€210
Expenditure	€210
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	Nil
Received in financial year	€210
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding
<b>Agency</b>	<b>Sport Ireland</b>
Government Department	Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media
Grant Programme	Urban Adventure 2020
Purpose of the Grant	Urban Adventure 2020
Term	12 Months
<b>Recognised as income in period</b>	€Nil
Expenditure	€Nil
Fund deferred or due at financial year end	€3,510
Received in financial year	€Nil
Type of grant	Revenue Grant
Restriction of use	Restricted Funding



## Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Limited by Guarantee

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Financial Year Ended 31st December 2021:

#### 13. STATUS

The liability of the members is limited.

Every member of the company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of its being wound up while they are members, or within one financial year thereafter, for the payment of the debts and liabilities of the company contracted before they ceased to be members, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributors among themselves, such amount as may be required, not exceeding € 1.

#### 14. RESERVES

The reserves relates to a contingency amount of €200,000 (2020: €200,000) which has been set aside to provide for costs in the event of the company being wound up and a reserve for other contingencies of €468,529 (2020: €468,529).

#### 15. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

The company had no material capital commitments at the financial year-ended 31 December 2021.

#### 16. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership Company Limited by Guarantee has received capital and revenue grants from government agencies. These may be repayable in certain circumstances.

#### 17. EVENTS AFTER THE END OF THE REPORTING PERIOD

There have been no significant events affecting the company since the financial year-end.

#### 18. APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements were approved and authorised for issue by the board of directors on 22 June 2022.

# Appendices



# Appendix 1

## **Principle 1. Leading the organisation**

This is achieved by agreeing the vision, purpose, mission, values, and objectives, making sure that they remain relevant; developing, resourcing, monitoring, and evaluating a plan so that the organisation achieves its stated purpose and objectives, managing, supporting, and holding to account staff, volunteers and all who act on behalf of the organisation.

## **Principle 2. Exercising control over the organisation**

This is achieved by identifying and complying with all relevant legal and regulatory requirements, making sure there are appropriate internal financial and management controls, identifying major risks for the organisation, and deciding ways of managing the risks.

## **Principle 3. Being transparent and accountable**

This is achieved by identifying those who have a legitimate interest in the work of the organisation (stakeholders) and making sure there is regular and effective communication with them about our organisation, responding to stakeholders' questions or views about the work of the organisation and how it is run, encouraging and enabling the engagement of those who benefit from the organisation in the planning and decision-making of the organisation.

## **Principle 4. Working effectively**

This is achieved by making sure that the governing body, individual board members, committees, staff and volunteers understand their: role, legal duties, and delegated responsibility for decision-making, making sure that as a board collective responsibility is exercised through board meetings that are efficient and effective, making sure that there is suitable board recruitment, development and retirement processes.

## **Principle 5. Behaving with integrity**

This is achieved by being honest, fair and independent, understanding, declaring and managing conflicts of interest and conflicts of loyalties, protecting and promoting the organisation's reputation.

## Appendix 2

### Board of Directors Meeting Attendance

Organisation	Name	Meeting 3/2/21	Meeting 28/4/21	Meeting 23/6/21	Meeting 28/7/21	Meeting 29/9/21	Meeting 1/12/21
Sligo County Council Official	Ms Emer Concannon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sligo County Council Official	Mr Michael Carty	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓	✗
Sligo County Council Public Rep.	Cllr Marie Casserly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Sligo County Council Public Rep.	Cllr Dónal Gilroy	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sligo County Council Public Rep.	Cllr Gino O'Boyle	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✗
Health Service Executive	Ms Cara O'Neill	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗	✗
Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB	Mr Jack Lynch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Institute of Technology Sligo	Mr Kerry Larkin	✗	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Institute of Technology Sligo	Mr Ross Lappin	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	✓	✓
Sligo Leader Partnership Co. Ltd	Mr John Feerick	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗
Sligo Community Forum/ PPN	Mr Joe McDonagh	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Disability	Ms Rose McGowan	✓	✗	✓	✗	✗	✓
Active Age	Ms Geraldine Delorey	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Kathleen Kane	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Marie McCallion	✓	✗	✓	✗	✓	✗
Sports Club/ Organisation	Mr Tommy Cradock	✓	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗
Sports Club/ Organisation	Mr Gerald O'Connor	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sports Club/ Organisation	Ms Tina Beirne	✓	✓	✓	✗	✗	✓

## Appendix 3

### Committee Meeting Attendance 2021

#### Strategy Committee Meetings 2021

Name	20th Jan	26th Apr	16th Jun	26th Jul	23rd Sept	29th Nov
Mr Michael Carty	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Mr Jack Lynch	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ms Emer Concannon	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Ms Lynda McGuinness	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓

#### Audit and Risk Committee Meetings 2021

Name	Inaugural Meeting 25th August
Mr Gerald O'Connor	✓
Ms Kathleen Kane	✓
Mr Joe McDonagh	✓

## Appendix 4

### Abbreviations

ARC	Audit and Risk Committee
ATU	Atlantic Technological University
CARA	CARA Sports Inclusion Ireland
COVID-19	Coronavirus is an infectious disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus
CSDO	Community Sport Development Officer
CSH	Community Sports Hub
CYPSC	Children and Young People's Services Committee
GAA	Gaelic Athletic Association
FRC	Family Resource Centre
HR	Human Resources
HSE	Health Service Executive
IABA	Irish Amateur Boxing Association
IPA	Institute of Public Administration
I PARC	Irish Physical Activity Research Collaboration
IT	Institute of Technology
LCDC	Local Community Development Committee
LSP	Local Sports Partnership
MSLETB	Mayo Sligo Leitrim Education and Training Board
NGB	National Governing Body
NPAP	National Physical Activity Plan
SI	Sport Ireland
SIDO	Sports Inclusion Development Officer
SSRP	Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership
VEC	Vocational Education Committee
YSW	Youth Sport West



**More People  
More Active  
More Often**



Sligo Sport and Recreation Partnership  
Mayo Sligo Leitrim ETB,  
Quay Street,  
Sligo.

Visit our website here:



Tel: 071 91 61511  
Web: [www.sligosportandrecreation.ie](http://www.sligosportandrecreation.ie)  
Email: [info@sligosportandrecreation.ie](mailto:info@sligosportandrecreation.ie)



COMHAIRLE CONTAE SHLIGIGH  
SLIGO COUNTY COUNCIL



msletb  
Koll Ollscoile agus Ollsama  
Mhangha, Shligigh agus Leitrim  
Mayo, Sligo and Leitrim  
Education and Training Board



SLIGO LEADER  
PARTNERSHIP