

# Diving Leadership Group

1<sup>st</sup> October 2024 – 12:15 – 13:30

## Attendees:

Lottie Thompson	Chair (LT)
Connie Ford	Swim England Diving Talent (CF)
Sam Buck	Coaching Lead (SB)
Sarah Barrow	Technical Officials Lead (SBw)
Sally Freeman	Competition Planning Lead (SF)
Sophie Bolton	Competition Planning Support (SBn)
Claire Coleman	Swim England Head of Development (CC)
Gareth Picken	Swim England Sport Development Administrator (GP)

## Apologies:

Alex Harrison	Sport Operations Committee (SOC) Leadership Group Liaison (AH)
Joel Trenchard	Volunteering Lead (JT)

## Agenda

### Welcome and Action Log

LT welcomed everyone to the meeting. Updates were provided to the action log with some actions on hold.

**Action – CC to circulate the template to the DLG from the volunteering team referring to action 2 (23<sup>rd</sup> July).**

**Action – SBw to review the attribute list alongside Andrea Startin.**

### SOC Update – last meeting 12<sup>th</sup> September. (Minutes currently unavailable.)

On behalf of AH, CC updated the group that the SOC met on the 12<sup>th</sup> September. Key items from the meeting include; the regional chairs group terms of reference review which has now be completed, Swim Mark review and Club links to clubs review are both still ongoing.

The Olympic and Paralympic results were noted. Andrew Power attended to provide an update on Health Commission. Andy Salmon provided an update on the Swim England strategy. There is a request for the DLG to provide a response to the progress of the dive recorder as it has been flagged as high risk. LT mentioned that there has been progress which can be reported back to the SOC Meeting.

**Action – LT to request Andy Hewatt to provide an update on DiveRecorder to be shared with SOC.**

There is a new leadership group; Master Leadership Group. The Fern and Turner award has been considered as there was a range nominations. The winners will be made aware ahead of the Swim England National Awards that they have won but will be presented on the awards evening.

## **Development**

- **General update. (Sport Development report attached.)**

CC provided the group with a written report ahead of the meeting; however, a verbal round-up was provided during the meeting. SE will have a new Head of Commercial.

Jon Glenn (former Learn to Swim Director) left the organisation earlier this year so the Learn to Swim team has joined the Sport Development Directorate.

The young volunteer programme is still in development

The Working together coaching committee is a major piece of work currently being developed and will focus on club culture.

Club welfare portal is a pilot system in preparation for potential roll out across the sport.

## **Strategy update:**

- **What change do you want to see in 12 months?**
- **What change do you want to see in 5 years?**

CC provided the group with a presentation on the current progress being made in relation to the Swim England strategy. The aim is to have a refreshed strategy by the end of October. After the presentation, CC opened the floor to questions on the presentation and asked the two focus questions of the agenda item.

SBw explained that further development into areas that the sport is already focusing on such as the Coaching Qualifications, which is currently paused, was required.

SF agreed with SBw citing that education generally needs to be reviewed to ensure that courses are fit for purpose and ensures that assistant coaches and coaches are able to deliver the appropriate level of coaching.

CF explained that there needs to be greater clarity between talent and development, specifically on whether the focus is on participation from which talent can be drawn out or whether the focus is on talent to drive participation. CF further referenced the Talent Development Centres (TDCs) which previously supported the talent team develop talent within the sport.

CC mentioned that the direction that SE is heading will see development and talent within diving merge together as the lines are currently blurred.

CC raised that further ideas can be communicated to her via email outside of the meeting by 18<sup>th</sup> October and thanked the group for their contributions.

**Action – All to communicate any further ideas to CC by the 18<sup>th</sup> October.**

### **Events Update**

LT mentioned that the 2025 National Age Group Championships will be held in Birmingham and the National Skills Finals will be held in Southend.

LT asked SF whether any progress has been made to the National Age Groups review. SF highlighted that a meeting would take place in due course to review the conditions and propose any recommendations to the group for review and consideration.

### **Coaching Lead Update**

SB mentioned that his update has been provided through Strategy update.

### **Volunteer Lead Update**

Postponed to the next meeting.

### **Technical Lead Update**

SBw made the group aware that J1 courses are due to take place on 15<sup>th</sup> October and in December. Demand for a J2 course is being sought and will likely be scheduled for the first quarter of 2025.

### ***Talent Athlete Pathway Feedback***

CF updated the group that a youth camp has recently taken place in London with 14 divers attending. Additionally, the junior assessment camp in Sheffield took place over the weekend; 43 athletes reached the standard to attend. The new talent squads will be announced next week.

Three talent development centres will be delivering content to athletes and parents in October. This will be delivered in Southampton, London and Sheffield.

### **AOB**

**Action – CC to contact Craig McCulloch regarding the coaching qualifications progress.**

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Proposed 21<sup>st</sup> January 2025. LT to confirm 2025 dates shortly.