

FINA World Diving Series 2013

Culture and Leisure Committee

23 October 2012

Purpose of report

- 1 This report seeks approval to make a financial contribution of £80,000 towards the hosting of the FINA World Diving Series event at the Royal Commonwealth Pool on 19 - 21 April 2013.

Main report

- 2 The FINA World Diving Series is one of the world's most prestigious diving competitions, and is owned by FINA, the world governing body for aquatics. Every year around 100 of the world's top divers compete at four different locations around the world. In 2012 the competition was held in Dubai, Beijing, Moscow, and Tijuana. Some of the world's top diving nations take part; competing countries include Great Britain, China, Mexico, Qatar, Russia, and the United Arab Emirates.
- 3 The diving programme includes both men and women, and features 3m springboard, 10m platform, 3m springboard synchronised diving, and 10m platform synchronised diving. The divers collect points at each event to determine the World Series Champions. The Series is reserved for only the best divers in the world, and gives them the opportunity to compete against each other on a regular basis.
- 4 British Swimming led the successful bidding process for this event, supported by EventScotland, UK Sport, and the Council. The event will take place in the refurbished Royal Commonwealth Pool on 19 - 21 April 2013. Importantly, it will act as a test event for the diving competition of the 2014 Commonwealth Games, which will be held at the same venue. Hosting the event at the Royal Commonwealth Pool will give a boost to the performance diving programme there, and help raise the venue's national and international profile as a centre of excellence for diving, and as a top class venue for aquatics events. The event will attract international media coverage, which will showcase Edinburgh's newly-refurbished aquatics venue on the world stage. The only other British city to have hosted this competition is Sheffield, most recently in 2011.
- 5 The popularity of diving in Britain has grown in recent years, and was reinforced by the London Olympics. The competitors next year are likely to include local diver Grace Reid, European Junior Champion, and Tom Daley, Olympic bronze medallist. If both of these divers compete in 2013, this should

ensure a healthy demand for tickets, and good coverage of the event in local, national and international media.

Financial Implications

- 6 British Swimming has asked the Council to commit £80,000 towards this event, which can be contained in the Events budget for 2013/14 held by Culture and Sport. EventScotland has committed £80,000 to the event. British Swimming and UK Sport will also be making a significant financial contribution. The total budget for the event will be approximately £420,000. The balance of the income will come from a variety of sources including a contribution from national sport federations, commercial sponsorship, and ticket sales. The estimated economic benefit to the city is £400,000, based on the 2011 event in Sheffield.

Equalities

- 7 The contents of this report are not relevant to the public sector equality duty of the Equality Act 2010.

Environmental Impact

- 8 There would be no significant negative environmental impact.

Recommendations

- 9 It is recommended that the Committee approves funding of £80,000 from the 2013/14 Events budget for the 2013 FINA World Diving Series event.

Alastair D Maclean
Director of Corporate Governance

Appendices	None
Contact/tel/Email	David Wardrop, Sports Manager, tel 529 7738. david.wardrop@edinburgh.gov.uk
Wards affected	Citywide
Single Outcome Agreement	Supports National Outcome 1 “We live in a Scotland that is the most attractive place for doing business in Europe” and National Outcome 6 “We live longer, healthier lives”.
Background Papers	None