



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

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NETBALL SCOTLAND

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Netball Scotland Board is values-driven, inclusive and collaborative, and leads the sport with integrity, honesty and trust from the Executive Team, Membership and Stakeholders.

The Board is made up of people from many different backgrounds from across multiple different sectors.



CHAIR
Lucy Faulkner



**PERFORMANCE
DIRECTOR**
Catriona Semple



**FINANCE
DIRECTOR**
Paul Adams



DIRECTOR
Sara Matthews



HR DIRECTOR
Pam Radage



DIRECTOR
Peter Martin



DIRECTOR
Wendy Kenyon

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CHAIR'S REPORT

NETBALL SCOTLAND ANNUAL REPORT 2023:
REFLECTING ON RESILIENCE AND ACHIEVEMENT



I AM PLEASED TO PRESENT TO YOU THE NETBALL SCOTLAND ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2022-2023.

It's been a year since you elected me as Chair of the Board, and it's been marked by both challenges and triumphs. It's an honour to share with you the journey that our organisation has been on over the past year, and to celebrate the dedication of our community that has made it all possible.

One of the key messages of this year's report is the departure of our inspirational CEO, who left an indelible mark on our organization after 7.5 years of visionary leadership. Her tireless commitment to advancing the sport of netball in Scotland has been truly remarkable, and her legacy will continue to shape our path forward. We express our deepest gratitude for their contributions and wish her the very best in her new role with the Netball Super League.

In addition to this transition, we also saw the departure of a longstanding figure in our community, Geraldine McGuire, who served as the Head of Development. Geraldine's unwavering dedication to nurturing the growth of netball at all levels has been instrumental in shaping the landscape of the sport in Scotland. Her legacy will undoubtedly inspire generations to come, and we are so grateful for her years of service.



Undoubtedly, the shadow cast by the COVID-19 pandemic continued to loom large this year. Yet, we are proud to share that our recovery efforts have been resilient and adaptive. Navigating the complexities of pandemic's financial challenges, we have strived to ensure the safety and well-being of our athletes, coaches, officials, and supporters, while continuing to showcase netball through our Super League team, Strathclyde Sirens.

8,012
MEMBERS



£154k
MEMBERSHIP INCOME

“One of the highlights of this year has been the successful hosting of the World Cup Qualifiers for Netball Europe”

This event not only showcased the strength and talent of our national team but also demonstrated our ability to organise and host world-class competitions. Moreover, it served as a testament to the resilience of our sport and our capacity to unite communities.

The pinnacle of our achievements this year is undoubtedly the qualification of the Scottish Thistles team for the 16th Netball World Cup in Cape Town 2023. This accomplishment is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and unwavering spirit of our players, coaches, and support staff. It reflects the commitment we have to nurturing talent and competing at the highest international level. We look forward to representing Scotland on the global stage with pride and determination.



None of our achievements would be possible without the incredible contributions of our **volunteers**, who tirelessly devote their time and energy to ensure the smooth functioning of our sport.

“Their passion and commitment are the bedrock upon which Netball Scotland stands, and we extend our heartfelt thanks to each and every one of them”

As we reflect on the year that was and look ahead to the opportunities and challenges that await, let us do so with a sense of unity and purpose.

Together, we can continue to shape the future of netball in Scotland, building on the successes of the past and embracing the possibilities of the future.

 **LUCY FAULKNER, CHAIR**



DEVELOPMENT



DEVELOPMENT

G
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Membership growth and netball activity increase reported in

22

of the

32

Local Authority areas in Scotland between

APRIL 2022 - MARCH 2023



Netball Development Officers (NDO's) in Scotland in 2023 supporting with growing and developing the sport for our key priority areas in;

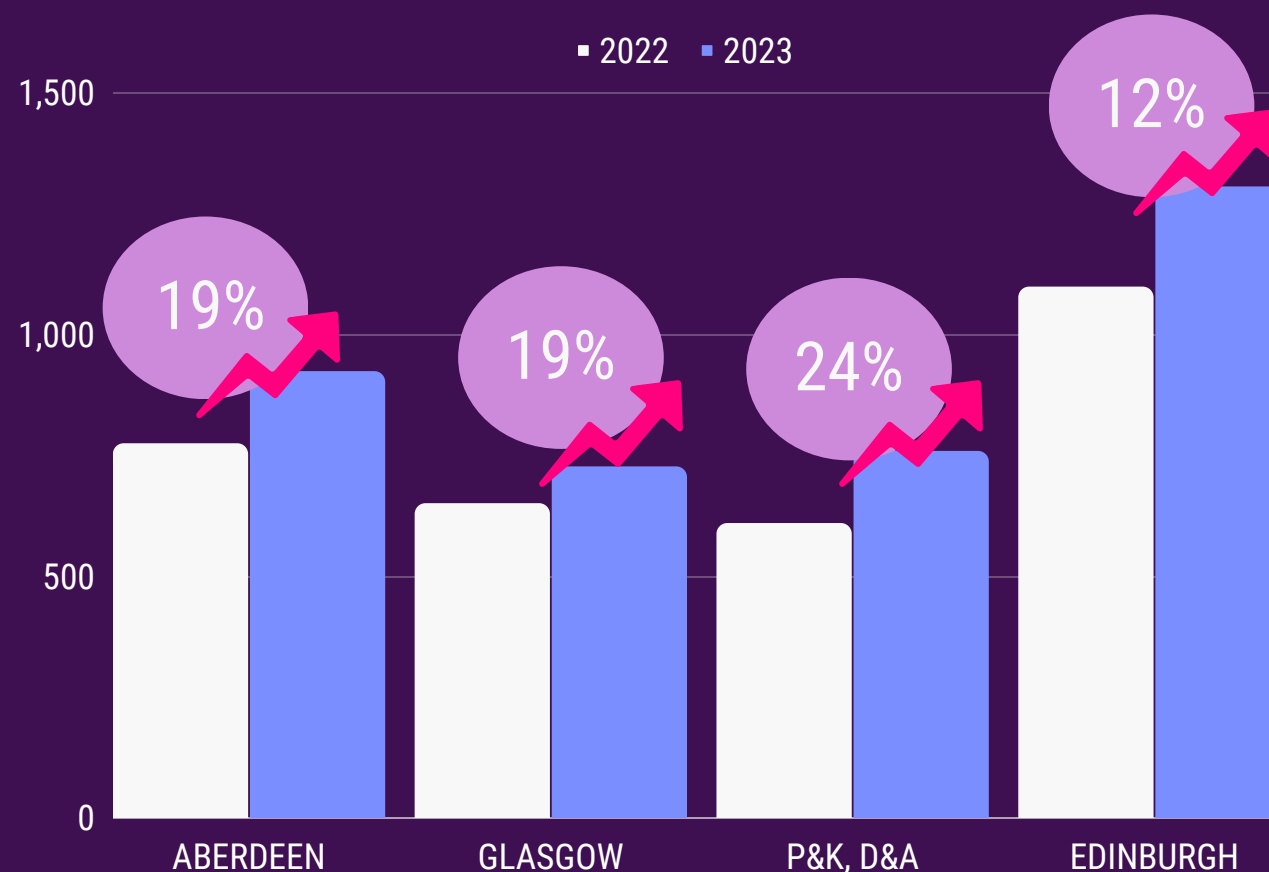
- Glasgow
- Perth & Kinross
- Dundee & Angus
- Aberdeen
- Edinburgh



NDO roles part-funded by key strategic partners.



I
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NDO Local Authority areas averaged

18.5%

membership growth
2022-23

DEVELOPMENT



DEVELOPMENT

Our strong network of clubs continues to grow, supported by a dedicated workforce of club volunteers and Netball Scotland's Development Team.

190

Registered, active netball clubs across Scotland.

531

Registered schools across Scotland.

Thistle Mark is the official Netball Scotland club minimum standards.



SENIOR CLUBS = 43
JUNIOR CLUBS = 46
JNR & SNR CLUBS = 45
SOCIAL/WALKING CLUBS = 45



FEHE/UNIVERSITY = 11
PRIMARY SCHOOLS = 327
SECONDARY SCHOOLS = 204

IMPACT

LEAP sports



Netball Scotland partnered with Leap Sports and City of Glasgow College.



Series of LGBTQIA+ netball sessions for all abilities, led by qualified coach.



Participants have since established a new club to compete in local netball competitions!

Our aim is to have **all** Junior Clubs in Scotland Thistle Mark Standard accredited by **September 2023.**

DEVELOPMENT



DEVELOPMENT

We have continued development of key

➤ **Strategic Partnerships**

To support the growth and development of netball in Scotland, and join us on the journey towards...

Destination 27 - Closing the Gap

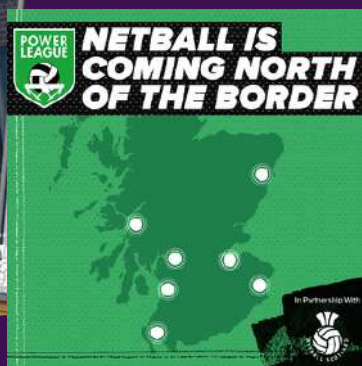


Official **Community Development Partner** of Netball Scotland, supporting with;

- Increased NDO provision
- Junior Club Development Fund
- Regional netball camps targeting key areas and ages



Ongoing key strategic partnerships with established social leagues across Scotland.



"We are delighted to be working with Netball Scotland. This exciting step for Albyn will allow us to combine expertise and experience with a dynamic and forward-thinking governing body, to open up opportunities to access netball across Northeast Scotland."

STEFAN HORSMAN,
HEAD TEACHER,
ALBYN SCHOOL

3

NEW SCHOOL PARTNERSHIPS

to improve and increase netball access and development opportunities for young people and local communities.

JUNE 2021



DECEMBER 2022



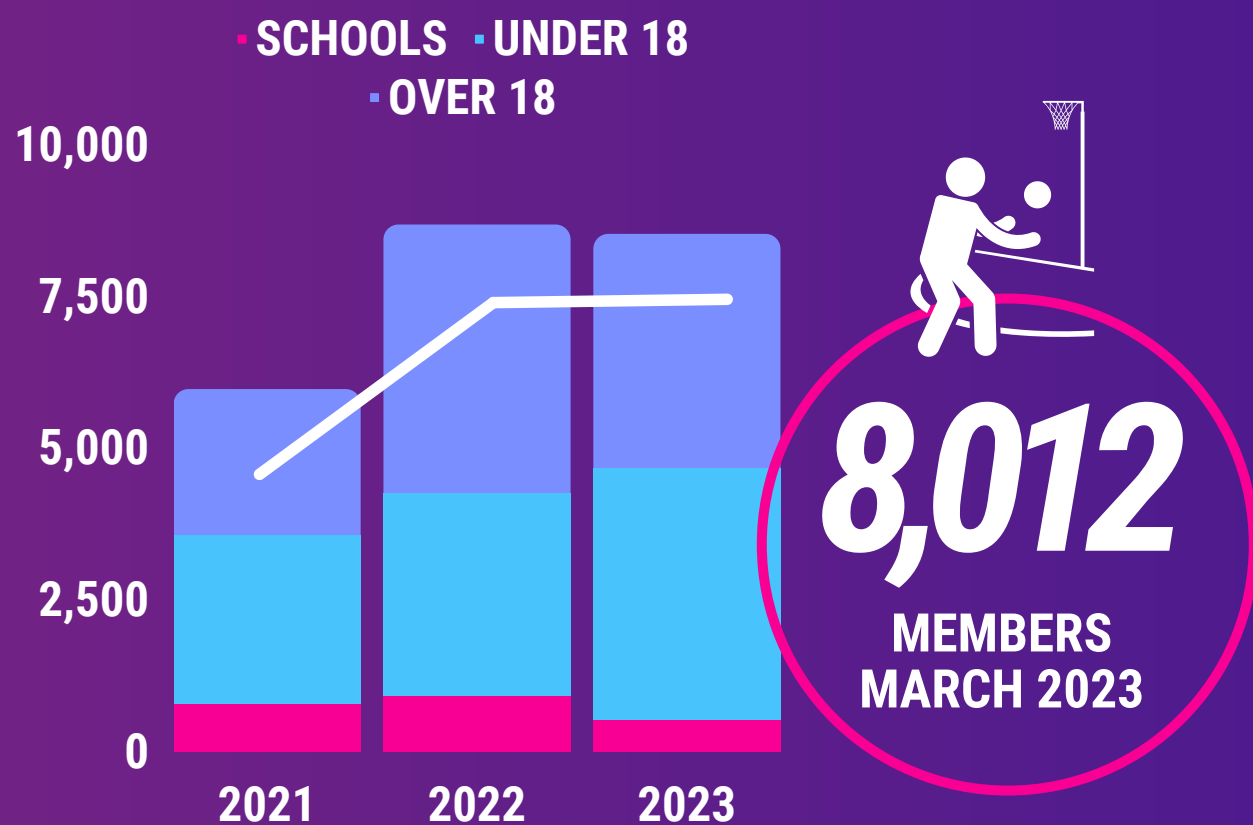
JANUARY 2023



MARCH 2023



MEMBERSHIP



FROM MARCH 2022 - 2023 WE HAVE SEEN INCREASES IN...

24%
IN JUNIOR MEMBERSHIPS (U18)

50%
IN NETBALL SCOTLAND REGISTERED JUNIOR NETBALL CLUBS



April 2022 - March 2023 period saw a stable return and **increase** of individual members. from **7,959** in **March 2022** to **8,012** in **March 2023**.



All school licenses were re-set in September 2022 as part of a vital data cleanse. This saw a registration of **902 Primary & Secondary** schools have their membership automatically expired on 31st August 2022 requiring them to re-register for the 2022-23 season.



This impacted on overall membership figures reported however by March 2023, **60%** of schools had **re-registered as engaged Netball Scotland members**.



Membership category restructure successfully activated in September 2022 saw membership access streamlined and simplified.



Optional Membership Rewards scheme introduced September 2022 at a reduced rate for all L2 - L4 members.

GROWTH

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

YOUNG AMBASSADOR PROGRAMME 2022-2023

28

Young People

from across Scotland were selected to participate in the Young Ambassador Programme.

11 Completed the Community Coaching Award

Completed Mental Health & Wellbeing course

22

5 Completed Match Bench Official (MOB) training

Hours of volunteer work recorded

1,804



"This year we decided to focus on 3 thematic groups: **Coaching and Umpiring, Event Management, and Leadership.** With more focus on developing specific skills for life, learning and work, as well as benefitting the Netball community for many years to come".

- ROSS HUTTON, NETBALL SCOTLAND

[Read More](#)



The first full year of delivery of the Sirens for Success Programme in partnership with Network Rail has seen significant impact.

Development and inclusion of new content to increase awareness of important topics;

Vaping
Mental Health
Health and Wellbeing
Railway safety

Programme delivered to

18  330 Young People Schools



EDUCATION



EDUCATION

2 X **A AWARD**
PASSES

Attie Van Wyk & Ross Allan

12 X **B AWARD**
PASSES

11 x B Award courses completed

Umpire Performance Programme



Launched **September 2022**



Designed to support umpires who commit to achieving success and aspire to excel in all areas of their umpiring Performance



Introduction to
Umpiring: 107
On My Whistle: 211

41 X **C AWARD**
PASSES

209 x C Award courses completed



**NETBALL
SUPER LEAGUE**

Feb - June 2023



Katie Howell, Gillian Leslie, Lyndsay King appointed for 2023 NSL season.



August & October 2022



Umpire Assessment Panel - Anne Abraitis
Africa and Europe World Cup Qualifiers



C
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1 **LEVEL 3**
QUALIFIED



31 **LEVEL 2**
QUALIFIED



34 PARTICIPANTS

92 **LEVEL 1**
QUALIFIED



151 PARTICIPANTS



U
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19%

INCREASE IN NS
COMPETITION
REGISTRATIONS

INCREASE IN DISTRICT
PLAYER
REGISTRATIONS

11%



- U15  EDINBURGH / GLASGOW / ORKNEY
- U17  EDINBURGH / Ayrshire / ORKNEY
- U19  GLASGOW / EDINBURGH / PERTH & KINROSS



University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow



NETBALL ORKNEY 1



DUNEDIN 2



COMPETITIONS



SUPER
Saturday



SCOTSTOUN



BELLAHOUSTON 1



U17



WEST
EDINBURGH
ACCIES



ALL STAR
ECLIPSE



U15



PERTH CITY
JUNIORS



HOLYROOD NC



U13



INVERLEITH
SWIFTS



ST PETERS NC



Open



KIRKWALL
GRAMMAR



STEWARTON
ACADEMY



JAMES
GILLESPIE HS



ST NINIANS HS



JAMES
GILLESPIE HS



BROUGHTON
HS



NORTH
BERWICK HS



GLENIFFER HS

C2



PEEBLES HIGH
SCHOOL



FETTES COLLEGE



STRATHALLAN
SCHOOL



FETTES COLLEGE



NORTH
BERWICK HS



CLYDEVIEW
ACADEMY



NORTH
BERWICK HS



ROBERT GORDONS
COLLEGE

C1



JULY 2022

TEAM SCOTLAND
BIRMINGHAM 2022

Netball Scotland staff & athletes invited to participate in the Team Scotland Achieve Programme 2022

AUGUST 2022



BIRMINGHAM 2022
COMMONWEALTH GAMES

9th Place Finish



SEPTEMBER 2022



12

athletes selected to represent Scotland U15 in the UK School Games 2022 held in Loughborough

SEPTEMBER 2022



SCOTTISH SUPER CUP

Scottish Super Cup competition kicked off September 2022



OCTOBER 2022

NETBALL WORLD CUP
CAPE TOWN 2023
REGIONAL QUALIFIER EUROPE



Netball World Cup Qualifiers, Europe Region, hosted by Netball Scotland in Glasgow.

Scottish Thistles successfully qualified for the Netball World Cup 2023

Performance opportunities provided by Netball Scotland across our programmes and pathways continued to go from strength to strength.

From increased international opportunities for the Scottish Thistles, to age groups curtain raiser fixtures, never before has there been such an action packed performance calendar.

PERFORMANCE

PERFORMANCE

U17's competed in the Europe Netball Championship taking home silver medals.



DIGITAL

INNOVATION



- Investment into enhancing and improving website club finder tool



- First Netball Governing Body to launch a Recast channel September 2022
- Subscription-free, live, and on-demand sports and entertainment streaming platform

1,570

Total videos & event purchases on Recast

1,417

Netball Scotland Recast channel followers



- Live-streaming of all WCQ games available to Europe Netball region viewers

SCOTTISH THISTLES



AUG 2022

Birmingham Commonwealth Games 2022.
Scottish Thistles defeat Northern Ireland in playoff to take **9th place finish.**



OCT 2022

Europe Region World Cup Qualifiers hosted by Netball Scotland in Glasgow.
Thistles officially qualify for Netball World Cup 2023.



NOV 2022

Spar Diamond Challenge, South Africa.
Thistles take 2nd place after advancing to finals against hosts South Africa.



JAN 2023

Scottish Thistles V England A curtain raiser match for England V Jamaica Series in Manchester.

KAREN MCELVEEN

130

CAPS AS THISTLES TEAM MANAGER

[Read More](#)

"Parliament considers that this achievement increases the visibility of female sports and athletes, and that it directly contributes to increased engagement and participation levels for females"

Scottish Thistles recognised in Scottish Parliament following qualifying for Netball World Cup 2023.

[Read More](#)



OUR HISTORY



The **Netball Scotland Heritage & Archive Group** aims to protect and preserve the Netball Scotland archives for different generations to enjoy and share in our, and your, heritage.



We are compiling a list of all Scottish Thistles players, their caps and the matches played so we can allocate each player a unique number.



Netball Scotland Chair, Lucy Faulkner and President, Freda Hutchison present former Scottish Thistles with their official player number during Super Saturday, May 2023.



**SCOTLAND TEAM - FIRST EVER INTERNATIONAL
MAY 1949, LONDON**

[Read More](#)



FIRST INTERNATIONAL CAPS

HANNAH GRANT

#224

WCQ's

October 2022

CERYS FINN

#225

Spar Diamond Series

November 2022



STRATHCLYDE SIRENS



Enhanced matchday experiences.



New ticketing partner, Fanbase introduced to further enhance the fan experience through app-based purchasing.



New retail partner with increased product range and match day concourse shop.



FAN FEEDBACK SURVEY 2023



University of
Strathclyde
SIRENS



18.2K
FOLLOWERS
1.6M LIKES

+63% VS LY



BIGGEST NSL CLUB ON TIKTOK

University of
Strathclyde
SIRENS

In the Community



Sirens players Niamh McCall and Emily Nicholl celebrated NSL milestones in 2023.



Gerflor
theflooringgroup


University of
Strathclyde
Glasgow

JOHNSTON
CARMICHAEL
Chartered Accountants &
Business Advisers

CRIEFF HYDRO
FAMILY OF HOTELS



NetworkRail

BLISS

Fanbase




HAMILTON PARK

ANTI-DOPING

- The anti-doping team have had another busy year delivering the Netball Scotland Clean Sport Strategy. This strategy is part of the work we must do to comply with Assurance Framework standards given to all NGBs in the UK by UK Anti-doping.
- The team have been busy constructing a new Clean Sport e-learning course, which incorporates UKAD Clean Sport +, for all national, Under-21 and Sirens players. This has now been launched in July 2023 for our Under-21 squad who will attend Netball Europe competition in October.
- We have been happy to get back to face to face education sessions with players, and with the launch of the new e-learning course we can now target these sessions to specific topics and scenarios.
- We also had a Clean Sport stall at the World Cup Qualifiers to heighten the awareness of the importance of Clean Sport. This was well attended, and we had many interesting questions.
- We also had a stall at the Sirens match during UKAD Clean Sport Week as the culmination of Clean Sport messages from players and coaches on social media during that week.



[Read More](#) ➤

NEW - WELLBEING & PROTECTION PANEL

- Review Netball Scotland's Safeguarding Policies to ensure compliance with the Standards for Child Wellbeing & Protection in Sport and current legislation.
- Create a suite of resources to outline Wellbeing & Protection Panel Procedures.
- Convey Wellbeing & Protection Panel Hearings or Appeals as required.
- Assist Netball Scotland's Wellbeing & Protection Officer to deliver training (where appropriate).

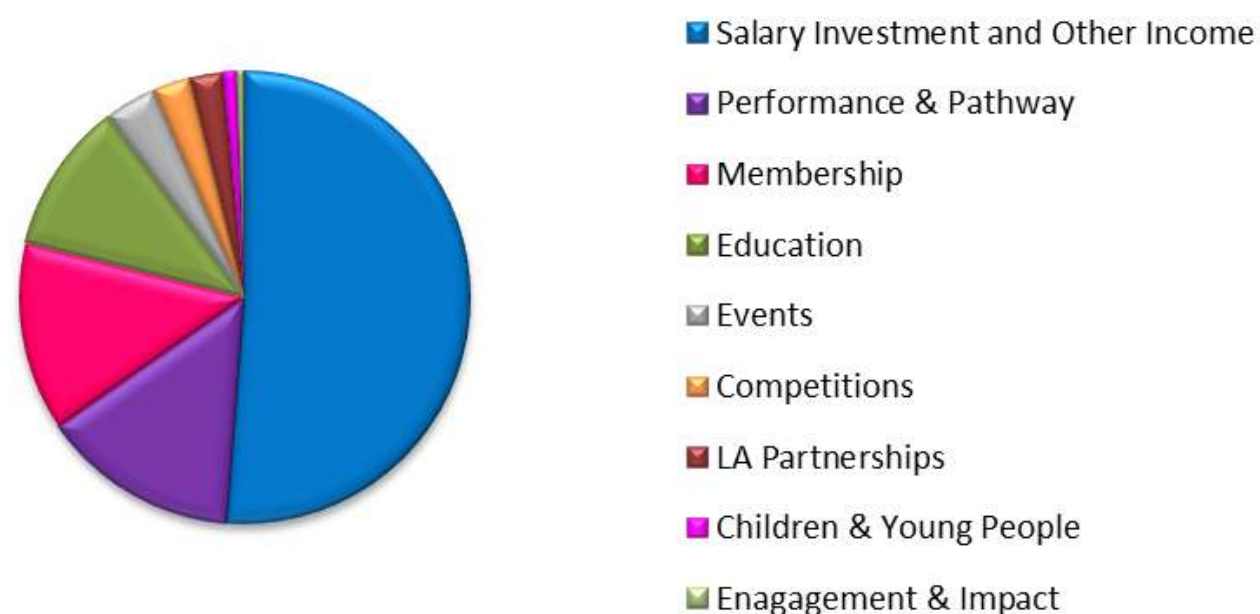
FINANCE

- Investment from sportscotland remained level at **£610,350** with additional monies in the form of a COVID recovery fund of £40k cash and a £60k repayable grant.
- Membership income **rose** to **£154k** with the introduction of our new category levels and JustGo rewards scheme. This is the highest percentage growth outside the return to play post COVID.
- Commercial income across sports development whilst on the increase sits below the pre COVID levels.
- The return to spectator events saw the business absorb costs beyond generated income at -£5k
- Overhead and salary costs remained stable at £883k.
- Operated at a loss, finishing -£92k, with reserves of £33k and cash in bank of £350k.

**FULL ACCOUNTS CAN
BE VIEWED HERE**

[Read More](#) ➤

KEY INCOME BY VALUE 2022-23



KEY EXPENDITURE BY VALUE 2022-23

