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# CLYDE MUIRSHIEL PARK AUTHORITY

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Report to: Joint Committee  
On: 16 February 2018

Report  
By  
Regional Park Manager

**SUBJECT: Special Olympics 2019**

1.0 Purpose of Report:

- 1.1 To advise members of the Joint Committee that our previous success with the Sheffield national games has led to our sailors being selected to be part of Team GB for the Special Olympic World games in Abu Dhabi, March 2019.

2.0 Recommendation:

- 2.1 That the Park Authority supports the continued development of Special Olympic Training within the Park to local people and those from further afield.
- 2.2 That the Park Authority recognises the Park's continued efforts to increase income and provide a quality service to our current visitors and attract new visitors.
- 2.3 That the Park Authority acknowledges Castle Semple's status as a nationally recognised centre of excellence in performance disability sport.

Members wishing further information regarding this report should contact Mr David Gatherer, Regional Park Manager, Clyde Muirshiel Park Authority, 01505 614791.

### 3.0 Background:

Following our sailor's success at the Special Olympic national games in Sheffield, they were given the opportunity to apply to become part of Team GB for the next world games in Abu Dhabi to be held in March 2019.

Applications were received by Special Olympic Great Britain from all over the UK and we are delighted that all 6 of our sailors from Sheffield have been selected to be part of the team. Coaching and development work for the GB Special Olympic sailing squad will be taking place at Castle Semple during 2018/19.

Some challenges lie ahead, mainly around funding. Each athlete & coach needs to pay £2000 toward the cost of going to the games. Our sailors come from local special schools e.g. Riverbrae, and in areas of deprivation so we will need to source funding to support them to get to the games.

#### 3.1 Measures of success will include:

- Preparing the squad to sail on the world stage.
- Securing funding to support the sailors and coaches.
- Increasing access to sport for people with a disability.
- Further raising the profile of the Park as a national leader in accessible sport.

### 4.0 Conclusion:

- 4.1 The legacy of Race to the Games continues with the development of the GB sailing squad at Castle Semple. It should be noted that further development could be greatly enhanced with improvements in infrastructure at our Royal Yachting Association recognised accessibility sailing centre at Castle Semple.