

Progress Monitor for the Establishment of Community Sports Networks

(To support self-assessment process)

Community Sport Network: Sport Bedford

Working Target Date: Financial year 2006/7

Month Review: JUNE 2006

Region: EAST OF ENGLAND

Process	Progress Made				Comments
FORMATION					
Core Lead Agency and (or) Partners Identified	Bedford Local Sports Council (BLSC) identified as possible CSN 12 Sept 2005 (but with additional representation)				Reps of BLSC engaged in Sport England CSP/CSN meeting in Cambridge 12 Oct 2005. Director of CSP on Exec of BLSC.
Core partners engages and representation from public, private and voluntary sector identified	Potential new members of BLSC identified and invited to meetings of BLSC. Aim to change composition and constitution of BLSC at 2006 AGM (13 Mar 2006).				Wider representation discussed at meeting of BLSC Exec Nov 2005 and firmed up Jan 2006. Reps of BLSC attend CSN Workshop 08 Feb 2006 – availability of help from Continuum Leisure identified.
First formal network meeting established	AGM of BLSC (13 Mar 2006) confirms change of status from LSC to CSN. Initial membership proposed and main changes to constitution of BLSC agreed.				Agreed to meet with Continuum Leisure 27 Mar 2006 to work on production of Action Plan.
Name Of CSN adopted / developed – i.e. GYSP etc...	Name "Sport Bedford" adopted 13 Mar 2006.				
CSP engaged and defining respective support to CSN Development	CSP and nascent CSN worked together throughout whole of the above process.				
Chair and officers patrons of CSN in place, defining roles and responsibilities	Officers elected 13 Mar 2006. Main roles defined as part of revised Constitution of BLSC i.e. when it became a CSN.				Roles / remits of Working Groups being worked on as part of Action Plan.
Formal constitution / terms of reference adopted by CSN	Formal constitution and final membership agreed at open meeting of Sport Bedford 08 May 2006.				Hooray!
STRATEGY					
Local needs identified in order to shape planning process – through consultation process and review of existing strategies, engaging all sectors	The work for this had already been carried out in the establishment of the Community Plan, Local Area Agreement (LAA), the Bedfordshire and Luton CSP's Delivery Plan, and Bedfordshire's Olympic Opportunity Support Team (BOOST)				A Working Group of the CSN met to identify an Action Plan for the CSN based upon the work that already been undertaken.
Developing a single community plan for sport / action plan to influence local participation	Sport Bedford Action Plan for the financial year 2006/7 adopted 12 Jun 2006. Sport Bedford "Short-term actions:				Sport Bedford is aiming to achieve some "quick wins" in 2006/7 and will

	Early wins" agreed 12 Jun 2006 and Lead Persons agreed to produce business plan for each action.				be working on Action Plan beyond that during the year. Rate of progress will, largely, depend upon available financial resources and whether achievement of "quick wins" can sustain current enthusiasm.
Relationship with Local Strategic Partnership developing	Good relationship already fostered.				BLSC already had a good working relationship with much of LSP. Sport Bedford seeking to build upon that.
Relationship of CSN plan to other key local social / economic policies & programmes - LAA / Pathfinders etc...	Action Plan of CSN established to ensure a "golden thread" extends from the Community Plan, LAA, the CSP's Delivery Plan and the plans of BOOST through the Action Plan of the CSN.				
COMMUNICATION					
Branding of CSN	Other than re-branding of BLSC as Sport Bedford no further work has yet been done to establish a unique visual image.				Not considered to be as high a priority as establishing some "quick wins" to raise profile of Sport Bedford.
CSN Communications Plan	Communications discussed at 12 Jun 2006 meeting of Sport Bedford. Initial profile raising to be done in conjunction with Bedford River Festival (15/16 Jul 2006) but more, in depth, communications planned once some "good news" stories flow from implementation of Action Plan.				Consensus of those present at meeting of 12 Jun 2006 was that we needed some positive messages of success to convey before undertaking wide publicity.
ACTIVITY / DELIVERY					
Interventions and activities planned or delivered that direct influence participation	Action Plan and sub-set of "Short-term actions: Early wins" agreed 12 Jun 2006.				
Specific working groups established to drive forward delivery plan – i.e. disability sport forum, sport awards planning, club education and training group etc...	Lead persons agreed for each immediate area of work 12 Jun 2006.				Lead persons already know with whom they are working and are empowered to co-opt others as necessary.
RESOURCES					
Direct resources secured to deliver CSN objectives	Initial financial resources already secured / pledged from Bedford Borough Council (BBC) and the Bedfordshire and Luton CSP. Private sector usually supports Awards Evening – both financially and with publicity / provision of judges.				Further resources will be required to deliver the CSN's Action Plan.
New resources / external grant aid identified to deliver activity plan.	Initial resource being considered (apart from the above) is the Lottery funded Community Investment Fund (CIF).				It is anticipated that delivery of some "quick wins" from the Action Plan will

					establish a “track record” which can be used as a basis for approaching other sources of funding.
KEY SUPPORT NEEDED MOVING FORWARD FROM SPORT ENGLAND AND YOUR CSP	CSP: Cannot fault support given by CSP – particularly as it’s been going through its own formation in parallel with that of the CSN. Director of CSP regularly attends meeting of CSN and offers counsel as well as practical/financial support.				
	Sport England: Although Sport England (SE) has been proactive in setting up two general meetings for CSPs/CSNs and has provided some consultancy time via Continuum Leisure, the total lack of representation at any meeting of the CSN (particularly when it’s based in the same town as SE’s regional office) has been disappointing.				A better “selling job” for CSNs, which were seen as a SE initiative, could probably have been done. Reliance upon only the Director of the CSP and some of the LSC’s representatives, left some to question SE’s actual commitment (apart from financial via the RSB).
Overall Assessment					Sport Bedford is constitutionally well established, with a committed membership and initial Action Plan agreed and in place. Since the latter was only agreed on 12 Jun 2006 its “delivery” is yet to be tested – although some almost certainly achievable “early wins” have been identified (although the extent of these will be subject to receipt of some CIF funding).