

# COMMUNITY SPORTS NETWORKS SEMINAR – SANDY BEDFORDSHIRE

## EVALUATION COMMENTS

### GENERAL

- It was interesting to see how CSNs work in other areas
- Networking is always valuable at these events
- The different approaches are invaluable reflecting a variety of geographic and demographic situations
- A good mixture of information giving and interaction
- Presentations giving a reality check on this work are always healthy – seeing this work in reality rather than simply theoretical models
- The CSN concept is logical and a way in which we can maximise the use of what we have whilst bringing partners to the table who may be able to offer us more
- Is this just another initiative?
- This seems a logical process for organising who does what at a local level and will hopefully minimise the wastage and help us to make sense of the numerous groups that seem to confuse things at present!
- The innovation from Ipswich around profile, champions, sponsorship and media is eye opening but could be difficult to replicate in our area to the same scale
- The pace was quick, should have been more interactive between presentations throughout the day
- Good to hear people appreciate that this isn't new and is going on in many areas, albeit in a different way.

## Other

- Venue wasn't particularly convenient for everyone which is always a difficult one, however a venue central to the region would be a better approach
- It is important to consider the difficulty aligned to getting volunteers to attend these type of events
- Sound system erratic
- Refreshments at lunch time could have been better
- Clarify pre seminar information channels – our CSP didn't give us the information in time
- Not all presentation slides were in the delegate packs

## Key Action Moving Forward

- Identify key priorities and quick wins
- Clearly define the branding of the CSN
- Communicate the message to existing and new partners
- Securing political support for this approach and defining how we establish alignment to our LSP
- Define short term priorities and not to try and be everything to everyone
- Ensuring that the school sports partnership and local authority move forward together – this is crucial
- Work with the CSP to establish their role in this work and then move forward to define capacity
- Establish the lead agency to apply for the start up funding

- Action planning in the car journey home!
- Produce a questionnaire to broker the subject
- Define a single brand for local sport
- Scope the potential funding agencies, locally and beyond who could make this work happen
- Quality vs Quantity – trying not to be everything to everyone, making sure we have a clear communication message
- We need to bring partners on board who may just see this as another local authority initiative – the Ipswich approach with branding is sensible
- Working with my line manager and politicians to review our work programmes and to realign priorities to give capacity to this work ala Stevenage
- Capacity is an issue – we need to reconsider how we work in engaging partners to reflect this approach – a lot of good logical stuff here
- Getting our LSP support is key to maximise £ potential and support for future investment into sport and leisure
- Reviewing our skills to drive this forward – selling the concept may be difficult to some sceptics