

MINUTES

of the East Midlands Regional Sports Partnership

Held on Friday 22 June 2007 from 11.30am to 3.20pm

PRESENT: Nick Bunting (Chair), Ray Ashley, Mick Baikie, Adam Blaze. Vanessa Brown, Abi Ellis, Len Jackson, David Joy, Melisa Moss, Helen Pack, Julian Pagliaro, Simon Starr, Steve De Wint and Chris Wright together with Anne Rippon, Ilana Freestone, Cathy Partridge, Russell Turner, Tracey Francis, Emily Leigh and Colin Dyson.

APOLOGY: Nik Trivedi.

ACTION

1 NOTES

Circulated. Agreed.

2 ACTIONS ARISING

CSNs – concerns that the national criteria for CSNs did not reflect the RSP discussions around self assessment criteria. The outcome of RSP discussions had been fed through to a working group at the Support Centre tasked with developing effectiveness criteria for CSNs. There would not be any inconsistencies between SE regions in future - national criteria produced would take into account responses from all regions.

TF

AGREED that a further update be given at the next meeting.

Building Schools for the Future (BSF) – Mick Baikie reported that only a handful of NGBs had been asked for information and there was little contact from CSPs. AR said that BSF was gearing up and in turn would become more involved with CSPs who would work with NGBs. CSPs are in the process of working with Local Authorities to establish BSF Sport Stakeholder Groups for each count to influence the Local Authority's strategy and vision.

All CSPs

AGREED that a briefing note on BSF be produced and circulated following the workshop at the 'Together for Sport Conference.'

GB/JB

3 RSB UPDATE

The Chair of the RSB reported that Derek Mapp had appointed 5 business people to supplement the SE Main Board. One of them – Mich Stevenson – was from the region and would be a great champion for it. The Main Board now had clearer focus and would deal with corporate governance, financial probity and risk management and would charge the RSB Chairs with leading on strategy development.

With regard to the Regional Sports Board, Wendi Jarrett and Jackie Strong had completed their terms of office. Three new members had been appointed – Carol Chambers (Director of Children's Services at Rutland County Council), Christine Fisher (Chief Executive of NW Leicestershire District Council) and Ian

Drake (Deputy Chief Executive, British Cycling).

Derek Mapp and Jennie Price were focussing on post 16 participation but Len stressed that work had to continue with young people. It was a change of emphasis but there could be further changes in the next few months due to forthcoming political changes. Derek and Jennie believed that the structure was right but they had been charged with delivering outcomes and not outputs, as the former were now tangible as more information was available. Ilana clarified that by 2012 the participation target was 2 million additional people involved in sport – for the EM the target was 158,850 in priority groups, with 76% of the population being in a priority group. There was a need to clarify some of the targets and focussing on 16+ did not mean we would not do anything for young people or player pathways. Our efforts and resources invested here would, however, be clearly defined. 70% of SE financial resources would be utilised on the participation target. The remaining 30% could be utilised for young people and specific talent programmes but the picture would not be clear until the announcement of the forthcoming Comprehensive Spending Review and the new PSA targets.

SE would be one organisation with 9 delivery arms and one strategic framework to deliver the target through a series of interventions/drivers. The interventions would be evidenced based and a small national group comprising Jennie Price, Mihir Warty, Tim Garfield and a couple of Regional Directors were coming up with the evidence for interventions. A range of options would be given under each intervention and regions would select the most appropriate for their region. The national Strategic Framework would be signed off by RSB Chairs in October and Sport England Main Board in November. The region then had until March 2008 to finalise the Regional Plan for Community Sport and there would be close involvement of the RSB/RSP in the development of that plan.

The SE business plan would be for 3 years, not a year on year plan. It was believed that PSA targets would not change significantly in the life of the Government. Len considered that there was little point in having 9 regional plans if they all looked the same.

The RSP Chair reported that the minutes of the RSP had been submitted to the Board and were well received. They had accepted the recommendations and welcomed the work of the Partnership. This was a step forward as they now had direct links to the Board and it represented a great chance for the Partnership to influence the debate at the Board.

During a lengthy discussion the following key points were made –

- Concern that the role of CSP Managers would change from developing the delivery system to solely delivering on the participation target.
- Do we believe the single delivery system is the right way to deliver the target? If we do then the delivery system and the participation target go hand in hand. If it is flawed we must discuss.
- CSPs were concerned that the 16+ focus would result in huge gaps. County Councils were 'extending services' to include young people in the community and SE should confirm that it would sustain funding for under 16s. If it did not SE would not be contributing to a 'sporting nation.'
- The change in emphasis to top down was as a result of the outcomes set by Government, which was always top down. There were three funding streams – UK Sport, YST and SE and the Government wanted the three bodies to find a mechanism to ensure they were joined up sideways.
- CSPs should be allowed to deliver the drivers.

- Even though the Regional Plan for Community Sport would primarily focus on 16+, it must also continue with economic development, community cohesion etc. It must be the Region's Plan for Community Sport and not Sport England's Plan for Community Sport.
- Of the 158,850 target for the region, 40,000 had to be disabled people and there was concern that this target would not be achieved.

AGREED

- (1) that a further meeting of the Partnership be held on the 14 or 28 September 2007 to discuss the progress of the strategic framework discussions at the Support Centre and Derek Mapp be invited to attend.
- (2) that a further meeting of the Partnership be held on a date to be agreed in November 2007.
- (3) that the new timetable for developing the Regional Plan for Community Sport be noted with the date for finalising the plan being March 2008.
- (4) that the Regional Plan for Community Sport must be clear on what was being included and what was being excluded and for the latter give a clear idea of how 'gaps' were to be dealt with.

4 SUSTAINABILITY

Paper circulated. The meeting divided into two groups to discuss sustainability. There was general agreement as to what was meant by sustainability – continued sporting outcomes and financial viability. Discussion was around how we could better achieve this and move away from a 'grant dependent' culture.

Key points raised by the groups –

- Learn from other models – YST, DfES. Need to identify models and share across organisations.
- Sport relay race model – identify SSP level – core model engaged via CSNs or core function.
- Do we understand where the 'pound is within our counties?' What other pots of money can CSPs tap in to – sponsorship? Grant aided bodies who provide support for developing business models.
- Focus on strengths – analysis of where gaps are, where we should focus our attention.
- How can we work through the delivery system? Agree what we want to work together on.
- Changing behaviour was an important part of sustainability.
- Additional resources needed to meet areas outside core funding.
- Is sustainability a myth? Without SE core funding CSPs would cease to exist.
- Some things would never be sustainable but were worth doing because of the outcomes. Some structures never financially sustainable.
- Benefit from work of Social Enterprise East Midlands – potential for sports businesses.
- Fund raising powers needed by CSPs.
- Quick wins or create capacity within delivery system?
- Flexibility of investment timelines.
- Decreasing levels of funding.
- Sustainability different for different projects.
- Balancing risk across portfolios – new ways of working (risk).
- Commitment to core funding to enable lobbying/advocacy opportunities.

AGREED that Steve De Wint, Mick Baikie and Ray Ashley meet with Graeme Beaumont to give him the key messages from the Partnership, address some of the issues raised and take a closer look at the options for moving forward. This is a task and finish group to report back to the meeting in September 2007.

5 WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT (WFD)

Report circulated and comments/discussion included –

- Whether it was appropriate to put an expectation on CSPs to achieve £1 for £1, given that it had previously been agreed that the overall target of £2 for £1 was across the whole portfolio and did not necessarily need to be applied to individual areas.
- Until the scope of the interventions were clarified it was a waste of time trying to sell the package.
- There were no pots of gold and some of the potential funders identified did not match what was required.
- NGBs were working with some of the funders and everyone should learn from their experience and not work in isolation. NGBs should work jointly with CSPs on workforce development. Working with NGBs would vary between sports – if an NGB did not have the capacity to work down to a county level, the CSP would take over.
- While some CSPs expressed a need for capacity to deliver on WFD, others felt that we should not be investing in extra capacity at the CSP level – they needed freedom to fill the gaps in their organisations.

AGREED

(1) that the members of the Partnership be e-mailed with information on the East Midlands Sector Skills Alliance for Sport (EMSSAS) – its terms of reference and Chair, and request that its minutes be circulated to the RSP. CD

(2) that EMSSAS be tasked with addressing the relevant points raised above and within the report, ensuring that there was communication between them and the Partnership and that there was consistency of approach on WFD. EMSSAS

6 STRATEGIC INVESTMENT UPDATE

David Joy circulated a report which explained how Derbyshire was dealing with the 'notional allocation' approved by the Board to enable CSPs to manage expectations. The CSP had agreed 8 actions and had allocated a notional allocation to each action. This had been sent out to the network and been signed off as an agreed County framework. They were now supporting the action leads with CIF applications and by September 2007 there would be a number of stage 1 applications in the system. As this framework had been approved by partners it should stop partners submitting 'cold' bids.

The other CSPs outlined their plans.

AGREED that David be thanked for sharing this and others would use it as appropriate.

7 REGIONAL VISITS

As Jennie Price and Derek Mapp were making regular regional visits, members should let Ilana know of any 16+ projects they would like them to visit.

All

8 UK COACHING FRAMEWORK REGIONALISATION

Abi Ellis reported that the UK Coaching Framework Regionalisation process had begun. The National CSP Conference in London would set the scene in terms of UK Coaching Framework developments, updates, regionalisation and Governing Body developments. Pat Duffy was meeting with SE regional colleagues on Monday 2 July and following this a six stage process would be implemented, through to developing a regional plan for implementation for March 2008 onwards.

The RSP would be kept up to date with progress and some would be asked to be involved in the developments.

AE

9 INTERIM REGIONAL DIRECTORS

AGREED that Anne and Ilana be thanked for their efforts and support during the last 18 months in Tim Garfield's absence.