

Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent



SASSOT Partner - Roles & Responsibilities Briefing Sheet

Introduction

This briefing sheet is aimed at policymakers and practitioners who are using the 'power of sport' to help shape their local areas and to advocate the value of sport with partners to deliver local objectives within Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

The purpose of this briefing sheet is to provide clarity to partners and stakeholders on the position and roles that different agencies and organisations within the Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (County Sports and Physical Activity Partnership), play in delivering opportunities for physical education, sport and active recreation.

This in turn will provide;

- A stronger shared joint vision of getting more people more active and developing those with talent
- Greater clarity on partners roles, responsibilities and target areas
- An opportunity for all sporting agencies and organisations to work together towards agreed, shared goals
- The opportunity for non-sporting agencies to understand the benefits from working with sporting agencies to achieve their own goals
- Clear direction for future successful partnership working

Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (SASSOT) - www.sportacrossstaffordshire.co.uk

Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is a partnership of agencies "working together to champion participation, enjoyment and success through sport, physical education and active recreation".

We are one of six sub regional County Sports and Physical Activity Partnerships within the West Midlands and one of forty-nine across England. The Partnership has evolved from delivering the Active Sports Programme to encompass its wider remit of providing a countywide structure for the development of sport, physical education and active recreation.

County Sports and Physical Activity Partnerships are uniquely positioned to support partners in the delivery of sustaining current participants and increasing participation in sport and physical activity.

We are funded by and deliver a range of services on behalf of national and local partners including Sport England, Department of Health, Youth Sport Trust, our Local Authorities, Universities and Primary Care Trusts.

SASSOT provide strategic co-ordination and planning for sport throughout the sub-region and have a headline vision to make the communities of Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent increasingly active, healthy and successful.

Core Functions

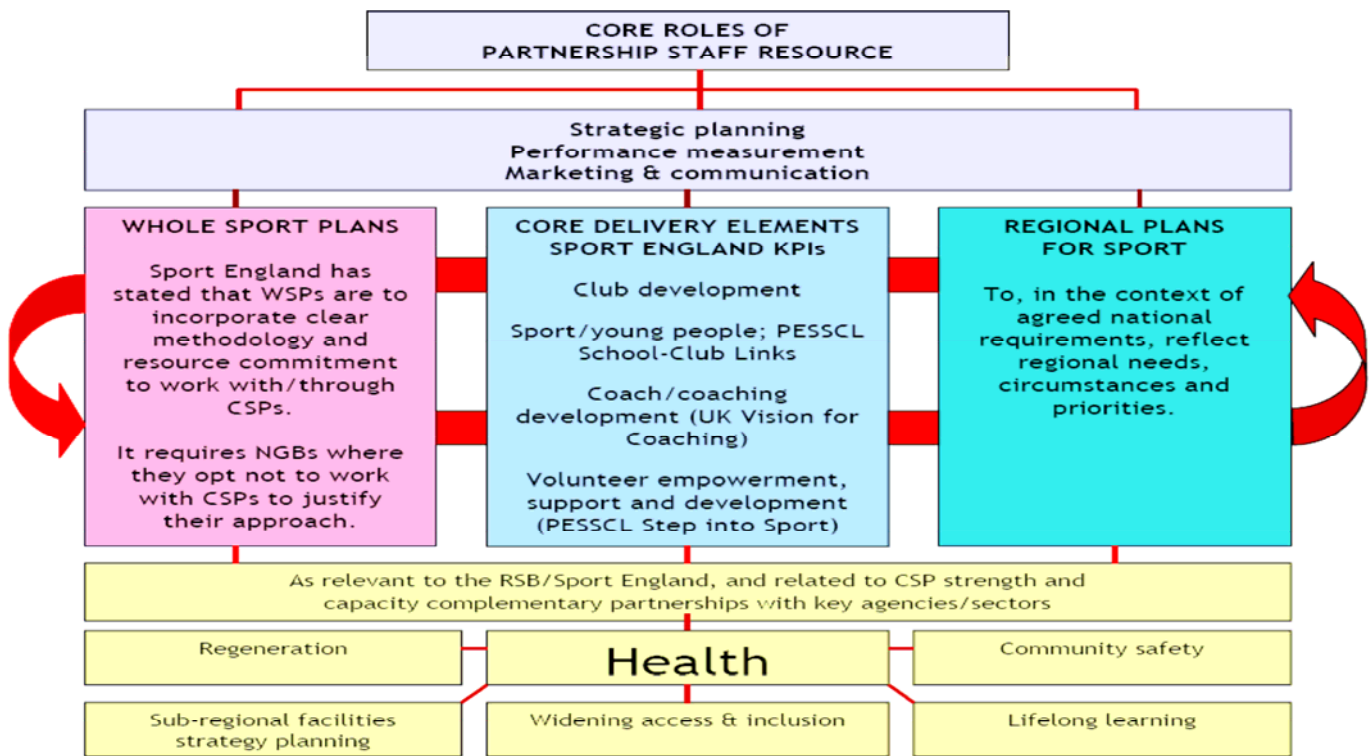
1. Develop and maintain strategic alliances and local networks for the development of sport, PE and physical activity
2. Delivery of cross-sector services to meet the priorities of partners
3. To increase awareness of the value of sport, PE and physical activity

4. To assist partners to make evidence based decisions to implement local developments and support partners to demonstrate the impact of sport, PE and physical activity
5. Manage and operate the CSP to ensure sound governance arrangements and compliance with funding conditions are in place

Core Services

SASSOT have a core team of 10 staff, providing a number of core services:

- Strategic Planning, Performance Measurement / Research
- Workforce, Club and Volunteer development
- NGB & Performance Sport
- Child Protection and Training & Education
- Marketing and Communications (funding and sponsorship)



Local Authority Sport Development / Sports Development Officers

Local Authority Sports Development Structures

There is a wide variety in the number of posts within Local Authority Sports Development teams across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, ranging from three posts to more than a dozen (not including coaching posts). However, there are some similarities between the structures of each department, and the functions of the various roles:

All departments have a Chief Leisure Officer and at least one Sports Development Officer.

Chief Leisure Officer

The job titles for this post vary from LA to LA, as do the overall remits of the posts. However, across the sub-region each of these posts manages a selection of the following areas:

- Sport
- Leisure
- Facilities
- Culture
- Parks
- Service Plans
- Museums
- Arts
- Environmental Health
- Regeneration

Sports Development Officer

Again, the exact remit of the post varies from LA to LA but includes a selection of the following:

- Club Development
- Coach Education
- Grant Aid
- Volunteer Support
- Liaison with Schools
- Equity
- Holiday Activities / Programmes
- Events
- Quest
- Focus Sports
- Play

There are differences between LAs regarding, at which level various work areas are managed, specifically Sport Unlimited and Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks, which can fall under the remit of the SDO or the CLO depending on the Local Authority.

Other Posts

Some LAs have one or more posts between the CLO and SDO posts, i.e., Senior Sports Development Officer / Sports Development Manager or, where the CLO is responsible for the whole of Cultural Services, some LAs have a strategic post that manages the sports and leisure section of culture.

Some Local Authorities also employ sport specific development officers; particularly football (three LAs) and others employ programme-specific posts, which may be externally funded as part of the project. Examples are Closing the Gap (Stoke) and Chase It (Cannock Chase).

Some Local Authorities employ Community Recreation Leaders or similar, who deliver activity around the district, and a couple of LAs employ Health Development Officers or similar, who focus on the Physical Activity / Active Recreation agenda.

One Local Authority (South Staffs) has an Assistant Partnership Development Officer post which is joint-funded by the School Sport Partnership and which focuses on those work areas that are priorities for both the LA and SSP.

Local Authority sports development teams also contribute to the wider agenda of improving the health and well-being of people and alleviating anti-social behaviour through various sport and physical activity initiatives/projects and all the work is guided by the Local Authority Community Strategy.

Please find Local Authority Sport Development structures and contacts in the Appendix.

School Sport Partnerships

In 2002, DCSF and DCMS launched the National PE, School Sport and Club Links (PESSCL) Strategy and began to transform the landscape of PE and sport in schools.

The 2008 target for the percentage of 5-16 year olds participating in at least two hours high quality PE and school sport each week was 85% - this was surpassed by School Sport Partnerships nationally with a figure of 86%, but for SSPs in the sub-region the figure was below the target and national figure with 82%.

Building on this success, the DCSF want to go further and ensure that sport becomes a natural part of every young person's life, not only during their school years, but also into their college and working lives.

The new PE and Sport Strategy for Young People (PESSYP) launched in January 2008 expresses the Government's commitment to improve the quantity and quality of PE and sport undertaken by young people aged 5-19 in England. The new strategy is set out in the Public Service Agreement target 22, 'To deliver a successful Olympic Games and Paralympic Games with a sustainable legacy and get more children and young people taking part in high quality PE and sport'

They are investing at least £755 million over the next three years, to 2011, to extend the Strategy. The new ambition is to:

- Create a new '5 hour offer' for all 5-16 year olds. Continue to increase the number of 5-16 year olds taking part in at least two hours high quality PE and sport at school each week; and create new opportunities for them to participate in a further three hours each week of sporting activity, through school, voluntary and community providers; and
- Create new opportunities for all 16-19 years olds to participate in three hours each week of sporting activities through their colleges or in local clubs

The aim is to create a world-class system for PE and sport for all children and young people, which will stimulate and increase their participation in sport, and sustain it.

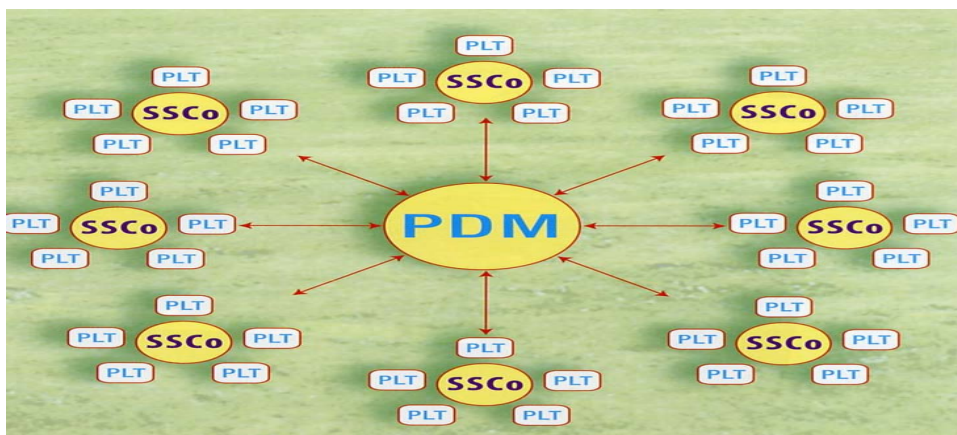
An Evaluation and Priorities Document (EPD) provides a clear direction for the work of the School Sport Partnership as they work towards this new 5-hour offer.

There are 10 School Sport Partnerships within Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent – contact details for the PDMs can be found under the contacts section of the SASSOT website and the appendix.

Partnership Development Manager (PDM): **Manages** the SSP

School Sport Coordinator (SSCo): **Co-ordinates** the development of PE and school sport within a family of schools

Primary Link Teacher (PLT): **Leads** the development of PE and sport in their own school



The information below is the standard role of each post nationally, but some SSPs may adapt these slightly to take into account local situations / needs.

Partnership Development Manager (PDM)

A full time post based in the sports college. Responsible for the **strategic development of the partnership** and liaison with other agencies.

Overall role

- Manage the development of a local school sport partnership
- Locally accountable for the delivery of the DCSF public service agreement target
- Manage the creation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the partnership evaluation and priorities document
- Manage the finances of the school sport partnership
- Ensure that ALL young people are included in the partnership's physical education and sport programme
- Ensure the work of the partnership is sustained through links with other agencies.

Specific functions

- To engage and maintain the support of the Head teachers in the partnership
- To liaise with Head teachers in the partnership in the identification, appointment and development of school sport co-ordinator and primary link teacher posts
- To ensure that the work contained in the partnership evaluation and priorities document complements strategic planning in schools and links with local education, sport and health priorities
- To liaise with key partners such as the county sports partnership, local education authority, sports development, national governing bodies of sport etc.
- To manage a local programme of continuing professional development for those contributing to the work of the partnership via the Staffordshire/Stoke local delivery agency
- To provide functional management of the school sport co-ordinators and support to primary link teachers
- To sit on and report to the partnership's steering group
- To establish and maintain regular communication between all interested parties

School Sport Co-ordinator (SSCo)

An existing teacher, released from teaching for 2 days per week. Responsible for the co-ordination and development of after school activity, out of school hours learning, inter and intra school competition and local community links in their own school and partner primary / special schools.

Overall role

- Co-ordination of school sport within a family of schools
- Ensure effective implementation of the partnership evaluation and priorities document
- Ensure that the partnership evaluation and priorities document complements and enhances school physical education programmes and school development plans
- Ensure that ALL young people are included in the family's physical education and sport programme

Specific functions

- To develop and implement out of school hours learning programmes across the family of schools
- To co-ordinate the planning of school sport across the family of schools, actively involving local sports organisations
- To monitor and evaluate the family's progress in relation to the partnership evaluation and priorities document
- To support primary link teachers in developing school sport in their school
- To increase and improve the range of intra and inter school sporting competition
- To engage and involve more young people in community sport

Primary Link Teacher (PLT)

An existing teacher, usually the PE co-ordinator, released from teaching for 12 days per year. Responsible for the development and delivery of a high quality physical education and out of school hours sport programme within their own school.

Overall role

- Manage the development and delivery of a physical education and out of school hours sport programme within their school, complementing overall school development
- Share good practice in physical education and sport in their own school and with other local schools
- Develop and increase sporting links with other local schools
- Ensure that ALL young people are included in the school's physical education and sport programme.

Specific functions

- To support their colleagues to deliver high quality physical education and school sport
- To work with the school sport co-ordinator in developing school sport in their school
- To develop and implement an out of school hours programme for physical education and sport
- To make effective use of community providers to support their physical education and school sport programme
- To make effective use of appropriate adults other than teachers (AOTTs) and young people as leaders, coaches and officials to support their physical education and school sport programme.

Competition Managers

The Competition Manager infrastructure is currently being implemented, within School Sport Partnerships, across the sub-region. In Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent, there is a senior competition manager plus 5 competition managers (1 per 2 SSP's). Competition Managers are an integral part of the network and will take the lead in working towards the government's ambition of 'creating a world class system for competitive school sport, which will provide opportunities for all young people, contribute to the 5-hour offer and provide pathways to support the development of talent.

Overall role

To drive and lead systemic development in the competition and performance environment for young people across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

Specific functions

- To increase the number of 5-16 year olds involved in regular school competition
- To ensure that Nationally agreed frameworks are appropriately at a local level
- To develop a sustainable county competition calendar for school aged young people
- To investigate ways of reducing the barriers, faced by schools and young people, in accessing competitive opportunities

They will work with all appropriate partners to ensure that the competition programme is relevant to the needs of all young people and effectively links with other strands of PESSYP and other relevant programmes. These are likely to include the following:

- Step into Sport (placement opportunities for community volunteers)
- Intra school competition
- Gifted and Talented (Multi-skill Academies)
- Club Links (Multi-skill clubs and NGB club development work)
- Community Sports Coaches
- Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent 2012 legacy plan
- NGB LTAD work
- Playground to Podium, Youth Games and Special Schools Sports Festival

Please find contacts on the Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent website – www.sportacrossstaffordshire.co.uk/Contacts

Further Education / Higher Education

Further Education Sports Coordinator (FESCOs)

The key aim of the FESCO is to increase opportunities for young people, aged between 16 and 19 in education, to participate, perform and lead and volunteer in sport.

Primary objectives;

- To connect the FE College/s to the School Sport Partnership infrastructure and the Delivery System for Sport, particularly in the context of the transition of young people from the secondary to the FE sector and from the FE sector into community sport.
- To drive a process of sport development planning within every FE college, which is connected to existing networks and plans
- To drive the improvement and enhancement of the existing college based sport enrichment programmes for students aged between 16 and 19, with a particular focus on raising participation, broadening opportunities to lead and volunteer and improve and enhance competition opportunities.

Higher Education

British Universities & Colleges Sport (BUCS) is the newly established national organisation for higher education sport in the UK. This linked with the new Sport England strategy, provides an opportunity to enhance and develop strong working relationships with higher education and to achieve shared and individual outcomes. A target has been set by Sport England to achieve 300,000 additional sport participants working through the higher education sector.

Higher Education institutions in England not only have a captive audience of students but a combined workforce of 300,000 individuals. This contribution to local employment in communities, coupled with a changing profile of students, demonstrates the role HE can play to grow and sustain participation in community sport whilst helping more talented sportsmen and woman to excel.

Staffordshire University - <http://www.staffs.ac.uk/>

Keele University - <http://www.keele.ac.uk/>

National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs)

National Governing Bodies are the recognised organising bodies for relevant sports. There are 130 National Governing Bodies of sport that are recognised by Sport England.

A National Governing Body of Sport (NGB), oversees the existing Vision for that Sport as well as the future direction and focus of that particular Sport.

National Governing Bodies are responsible for;

- Providing a National directive and structure
- Providing support and insurance to those clubs that affiliate – Club Development / Accreditation
- Providing support and increasing the quality and quantity of coaches, volunteers and officials
- Organise and/or provide information on competitive opportunities at all levels – developing the player pathway
- Assist with facility developments
- Provide information and advise on funding
- Provide clear objectives and actions for clubs and individuals in assist in the development of that sport.

Many NGBs have in place a strategy, which outlines the focus of that particular sport and explains in detail how aims and objectives are to be met. Many NGBs employ officers to lead on the delivery and implementation of the National Strategy and these officers coordinate and oversee the development and performance objectives of a particular sport.

In short, the purpose of National Governing Bodies are;

- To increase participation
- Develop talent
- Deliver top-level success

The below weblink from the Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent website highlights contacts from the county and regional NGB officers that SASSOT works with -
<http://www.sportacrossstaffordshire.co.uk/Contacts/NationalGoverningBodies>

Primary Care Trusts (PCTs)

Healthcare is divided into 'primary' and 'secondary' services.

Primary care services are provided by the people you normally see first when you have a health problem. It might be a visit to your doctor or dentist; to your optician for an eye test, or a trip to your pharmacist. All of these primary care services are managed by Primary Care Trusts (PCTs). There are about 300 Primary Care Trusts in England, each one covering a separate local area.

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PCTs are a very important part of the NHS, and they get about 80% of the total NHS budget. PCTs decide what health services a local community needs, and they are responsible for providing them. They must ensure that there are enough services for people within their local area, and that the services are accessible. These services include:

- GPs, Dentists, Pharmacists, Opticians, NHS Direct, and NHS walk-in centres

PCTs make decisions about the type of services that hospitals provide and are responsible for making sure that the quality of service is high enough. They also control funding for hospitals.

As PCTs are local organisations, they are in a good position to understand the needs of their local community. They make sure that NHS organisations work effectively with local authorities, and other agencies that provide local health and social care services, so that the local community's treatment needs are met.

The PCT is working hard to protect and improve the public's health by helping people to:

- get immunised and vaccinated
- go "smokefree"
- drink sensibly
- understand more about substance misuse
- eat well and be active
- protect and improve your family's health for a healthy and happy future
- improve your emotional and mental health
- improve your sexual health
- protect against or manage long-term conditions
- manage your medicines
- getting people physically active in everyday life

Community & Learning Partnership (C&LP)

A Community & Learning Partnership (C&LP) combines, integrates & develops new & existing services that support 0-19 year olds & their families. Staffordshire County Council is the lead host for the C&LP.

The initial function of the C&LP is to ensure the core offer of children's centres & extended schools is met.

Children's Centres

Childcare - 10 hours per day 48 weeks a year

Local childminder support

Early education

Family support & outreach services

Health services including: Antenatal, health visiting, speech & language therapy, smoking cessation & obesity

Key transition point information

Links to Job Centre Plus

Extended Schools

8am until 6pm - all year round

Parenting Support including family learning & information

Referral to specialist services - speech therapy & CAMHS

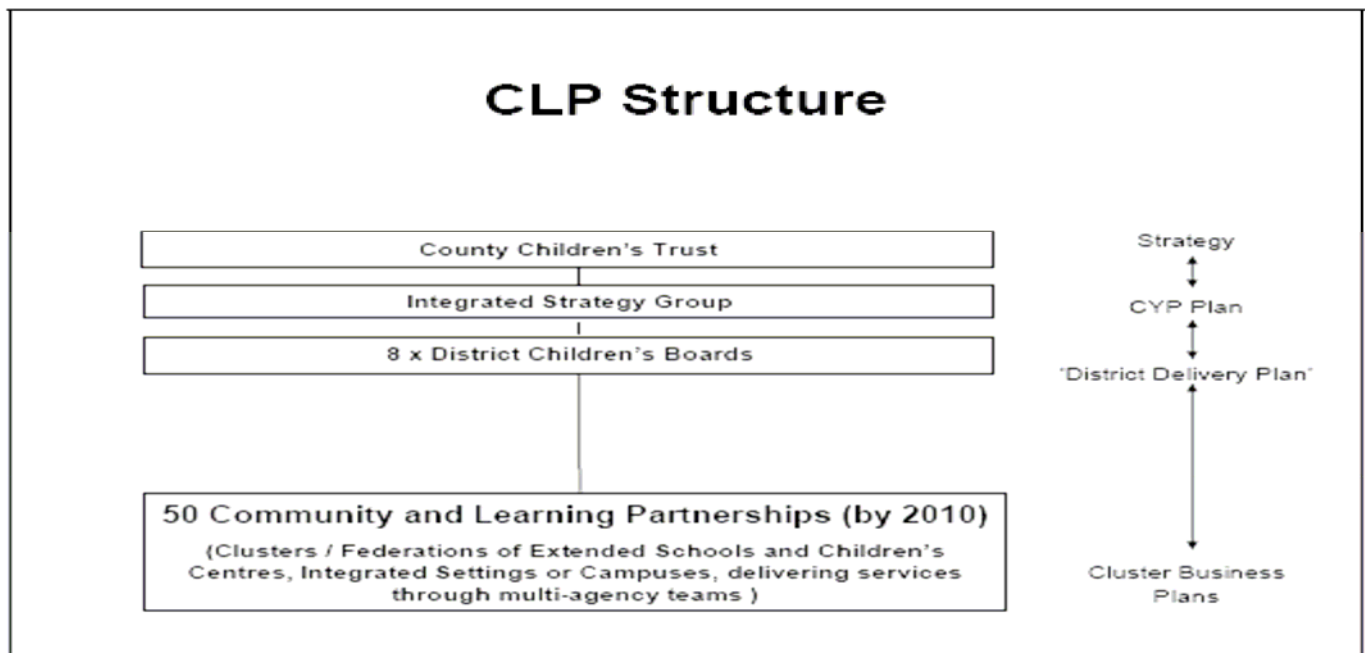
Wide range of out of school activities including music, drama, arts & sports, Community access to school facilities - ICT, sport, art & adult learning

Children's Centres and Extended Schools are being developed together under the banner of a Community and Learning Partnership as it was felt that Community and Learning Partnerships would enable more efficient use of public assets and provide venues from which to deliver integrated services.

C&LPs can co-locate a range of services and become neighbourhood 'one-stop shops' that are multi-use and multi-disciplinary and, through community engagement, become engines for community empowerment.

The aspiration is that C&LPs will provide continuity and coherence for the services for children, young people and their families.

Community and Learning Partnerships include representation from anyone who is interested in ensuring positive outcomes for children, families and the wider community.



Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks (CSPANs)

Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks are key components of SASSOT. They provide the critical link between the CSP and delivery at a local level. The relationship between the CSP and the CSPAN is vital to create a seamless, two-way flow of information and resources, and the achievement of mutually agreed outcomes. The CSPAN and CSP work together to interpret sub-regional; regional and national policy in the context of local needs and priorities, as well as ensuring the right information is in place relating to progress on key measures of performance.

A CSPAN is a network of local deliverers from a range of organisations and agencies all with a contribution to make to the delivery of sport and active recreation. It is responsible for identifying local priorities and appropriate initiatives to increase numbers taking part in its area. As with CSPs, the CSPANs will also be united in supporting the delivery of national outcomes and PSA (Public Service Agreements) / LAA (Local Area Agreement) targets, creating joint-accountability for their achievement.

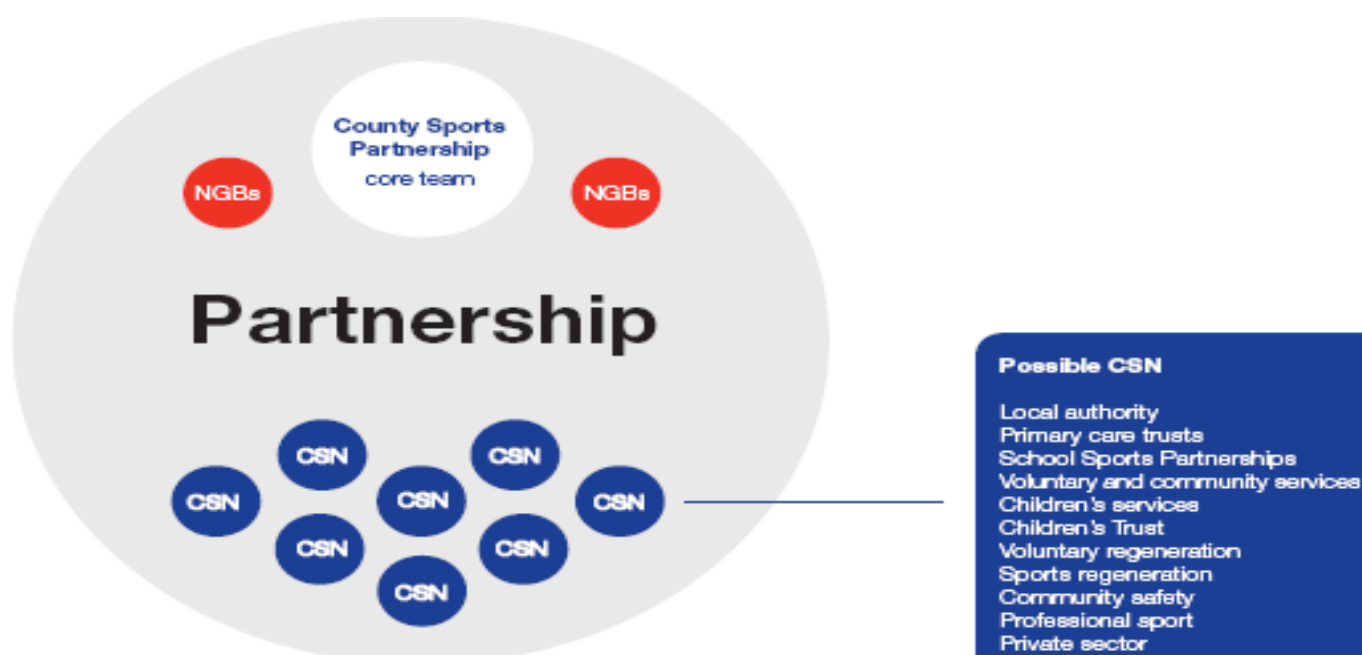
CSPANs have a broad remit within sport and active recreation. Their role is vital to ensuring the success of this delivery system for sport at a local level.

Core Outcomes For All Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks

- Increase numbers of people taking part in sport and active recreation by 1% year on year
- Widen access to opportunities in sport and active recreation
- Bring together and align partners' existing priorities and targets that can be achieved through sport and active recreation into one local delivery plan. This delivery plan must be based on the needs of the local community and provide clarification of the roles and responsibilities of partners

Composition

The core membership of a CSPAN focusses around **local 'delivery agents' from a range of relevant organisations and sectors**. Where possible this membership will build upon exiting local groups and networks. The diagram below provides examples of this membership. This is not exclusive and will vary between networks to reflect the local area they represent.



Roles and Responsibilities

- Act as the local voice for sport and physical activity
- Identify local needs, priorities and potential interventions. Develop a locally shared vision with buy in from key partners including the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP), (this may be the sport sub group of the LSP), to create economies of scale
- Support and assist in the creation and development of sporting pathways for people to achieve their potential
- Focus upon building capacity to increase participation and widen opportunities in sport and active recreation
- Coordinate the engagement and integration of sport to support the achievement of outcomes identified within the Local Area Agreements (LAAs)
- Support the achievement of Performance Indicators (PIs) as part of the Local Authority CPA process and the Single System for Sport including PESSYP targets
- Successfully coordinate opportunities for sport and recreational physical activity in the local population by providing effective leadership
- Effectively monitor and assess Sport England investments made via the CSP
- Have formal links with the CSP core team to ensure an effective sub-regional Delivery System

Sport Across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent is currently working to establish and support nine Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks within the sub-region. These are based around the following Local Authority areas: - Cannock Chase DC, East Staffordshire BC, Lichfield DC, Newcastle under Lyme BC, South Staffordshire DC, Stafford BC, Staffordshire Moorlands DC, Stoke on Trent CC and Tamworth BC.

Further details can be found on the Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks section of the SASSOT website; - <http://www.sportacrossstaffordshire.co.uk/CommunitySportsNetworks>

These pages will provide an overview of the individual CSPAN core outcomes, composition, working practices and the progress they have made.

Local Strategic Partnership (LSPs)

Government sees local strategic partnerships (LSPs) as the forum for collectively reviewing and steering public resources in local areas.

There is a local strategic partnership (LSP) for almost every part of England and Wales, bringing together councils and key local partners, including:

- the police
- health services
- local businesses
- the community and voluntary sectors.

Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) are non-statutory, multi-agency partnerships.

They are a single body that:

- brings together at a local level the different parts of the public sector as well as the private, business, community and voluntary sectors so that different initiatives and services support each other and work together
- is a non-statutory partnership
- provides a single overarching local co-ordination framework within which other partnerships can operate
- is responsible for developing and driving the implementation of Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements (LAAs) in areas receiving Neighbourhood renewal funding, is responsible for agreeing the allocation of this funding and helping to 'narrow the gap'.

The LSP develops a long-term vision to improve the quality of life and services in the local area. This long-term vision is the sustainable community strategy (SCS). The LSP also delivers the improvements in the local area agreement (LAA).

Local Area Agreements

Local Area Agreements (LAAs) are a three-year agreement comprising of priorities, which have been agreed by local Partners across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent and by central Government. There will be two LAAs across our sub region, one for Staffordshire and one for Stoke-on-Trent. Local Area Agreements for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent will operate between 2008-11.

They are about increasing local people's quality of life by improving local services and increasing economic prosperity.

The LAA translates the priorities into targets, which will in turn; secure the improvements in service delivery and quality of life for local people across the sub region. The LAA is the place where central Government agrees targets with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent.

Staffordshire LAA

Contains the following high level indicators which participation in sport, physical education and active recreation will have an impact on:

- NI 6 Participation in regular volunteering
- NI 8 Adult participation in Sport
- NI 56 Reducing obesity levels among primary school children in year 6
- NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities

Stoke-on-Trent LAA

The Stoke-on-Trent LAA contains the following high level indicators which the Partnership's work will have an impact on:

- NI 8 Adult participation in sport
- NI 56 Reducing obesity levels among primary school age children in Year 6

Volunteer Development Agencies (VDAs)

Volunteer Development Agencies (often know as volunteer centres or volunteer bureau) provide support at a local level for individual volunteers and volunteer involving organisations. They have six core functions:

1. Brokerage

Their primary function is to match both individuals and groups interested in volunteering with appropriate opportunities in the local community, (via the Do-It.org.uk website). They hold information on a comprehensive range of opportunities. They offer potential volunteers support and advice matching their motivation to volunteer with appropriate volunteering opportunities.

2. Marketing volunteering

They stimulate and encourage local interest in volunteering and community activity. This may include promoting and marketing volunteering through local, regional and national events and campaign.

3. Good practice development

VDAs promote good practice in working with volunteers to all volunteer involving organisations. They deliver training and accreditation for potential volunteers, volunteers, volunteer managers and the volunteering infrastructure.

4. Develop volunteering opportunities

VDAs work in close partnership with statutory, voluntary and private sector agencies as well as community groups and faith groups to develop local volunteering opportunities. VDAs understand the potential offered by the local communities and work with them to realise this potential. VDA will target specific groups, which face barriers to volunteering. VDA work creatively to develop imaginative, non-formal opportunities for potential volunteers.

5. **Policy response and campaigning**

VDAs identify proposals or legislation that may impact on volunteering. It will lead and/or participate in campaigns on issues that affect volunteers or volunteering. VDAs campaign proactively for a more volunteer-literate and volunteer-friendly climate.

6. **Strategic development of volunteering**

As the local experts on volunteering, VDAs inform strategic thinking and planning at a sub-regionally, regional and national level

Details of all the Volunteer Development Agencies located in Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent can be found on the NAVCA (the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action) website; <http://webdb.navca.org.uk>

SCIO

The Staffordshire & Stoke-on-Trent Consortium of Infrastructure Organisations (SCIO) is the consortium of voluntary & community sector (VCS) infrastructure organisations in the county of Staffordshire and the unitary authority of Stoke on Trent that has come together to deliver ChangeUp within the sub-region.

The consortium comprises a broad range of organisations including Councils for Voluntary Service, Volunteer Centres, Community Council, Council for Voluntary Youth Service, Racial Equality Councils and faith and BME infrastructure organisations.

SCIO exists to enable collaborative planning and delivery of investment activity that strengthens the capacity of the voluntary and community sector in the sub-region. It has agreed a 3-year Development Plan and has secured Capacity builders funding to continue its developmental work which will enable it to meet the objectives of ChangeUp: delivering accessible, high-quality evidence-based infrastructure services that reflect the needs and the diversity of the area in which it operates.

SCIO's Vision for the Voluntary & Community Sector is of...

- A vibrant, joined-up, vocal and independent sector - increased in volume and value of sector activity
- A sector that is rooted in the community, responsive to changing local needs and is valued for its broader impact on the community as well as service delivery
- Effective representation for the VCS to enable it to speak with a stronger voice - sector impact and value well understood
- Enhanced capacity within the sector to contract with the public sector, deliver services and to be innovative in its response to local need
- Equal access to quality infrastructure support

Further information can be found on the following website - www.communitiestogether.org.uk

Vinvolved

v is a national charity that encourages more young people from across England to volunteer. There is a new team of Youth Volunteer Advisers who work in the Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent area.

In Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent they want to inspire more young people aged 16-25 years to volunteer and promote what positive contributions they are already making in their local communities. Their aim is to make volunteering more accessible to young people so that everyone has the opportunity to get involved.

Aims:

- Creating and sustaining a diverse range of volunteering opportunities within Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent
- Placing young people into opportunities that they have an interest, care or passion for
- Accrediting young people with nationally recognised v awards and alternative accreditation such as Youth Achievement Awards

They are keen to work with local organisations to increase the diversity of volunteering opportunities and raise awareness of the benefits of volunteering to both the organisation and the volunteers. For further information please contact;

Karen Foster (Staffordshire vinvolved)
01785 242782 or karenfoster@staffscvys.org.uk

Ken Down (Stoke-on-Trent vinvolved)
01782 683030 or kdown@vast.org.uk

Building Schools for the Future

The Building Schools for the Future (BSF) programme will see every state secondary school in England – around 3,500 in total – rebuilt or remodelled over the lifetime of the programme.

Launched by the Department for Education & Skills in February 2004, BSF is the largest and most ambitious scheme of its kind anywhere in the world. It's aim is to transform education for some 3.3 million students aged 11-19.

BSF is not just a building programme: The programme aims to create learning environments which inspire all young people to unlock hidden talents and reach their full potential; provide teachers with 21st century work places; and provide access to facilities which can be used by all members of the local community.

PE, Sport, Physical Activity and Culture is a key workstream within the BSF programme and local authority BSF plans must demonstrate how they will enable schools to meet the PE and School sport Public Service Agreement target and stimulate opportunities for community use of facilities

Sustainability: The BSF programme is committed to reducing carbon emissions from schools, with all buildings making the most of sustainable features to help protect the environment and reduce overheads.

Key National Sports Partners

Sport England

Sport England is the government agency responsible for developing a world-class community sports system. In June 2008 they published a radical new strategy to get more people playing and enjoying sport and to help those with talent get to the very top.

The new approach is designed to capitalise on the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity presented by the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games, and to use its power to inspire more people to take part in and succeed in sport.

The strategy commits Sport England to deliver on a series of demanding targets by 2012/13:

- one million more people doing more sport
- a 25% reduction in the number of 16 year olds who drop out of five key sports
- improved talent development systems in at least 25 sports
- a measurable increase in people's satisfaction with their experience of sport – the first time the organisation has set such a qualitative measure
- a major contribution to the delivery of the five-hour sports offer for children and young people.

Sport England is working closely with the national governing bodies of sport to deliver the new strategy, and they will also build strong partnerships with local authorities.

For further information please look at their website, www.sportengland.org

Youth Sport Trust

The Youth Sport Trust (YST) is a registered charity whose mission is to build a brighter future for young people by enhancing the quality of their physical education (PE) and sporting opportunities. They want;

- to increase young people's participation and enjoyment of PE and school sport
- young people to have the chance to experience and enjoy different types of activity at whatever level is right for them
- to ensure youngsters receive the best teaching, coaching and resources possible and have the chance to progress if they show talent
- to help our young people to live healthy and active lives and to be the best they can be

Their objectives are achieved through the educational sporting programmes that they produce which are delivered through schools and are supported by a range of corporate partners, trusts and foundations and government departments.

YST core work can be divided into a number of key areas:

1. Raising the standards of PE and school sport
2. Improving educational standards through sport
3. Getting more young people involved in sport
4. Creating opportunities for young leaders and volunteers
5. Supporting sporting talent in young people
6. A global sporting community

Further information can be found at www.youthsporttrust.org

Sports coach UK

Sports coach UK is dedicated to guiding the development and implementation of a coaching system recognised as a world leader, for all coaches at every level in the UK.

UK Vision for Coaching

The UK Vision for Coaching has established the overall direction for the future development of coaching in the United Kingdom for the next ten years.

By 2012 the practice of coaching in the UK will be elevated to a profession acknowledged as central to the development of sport and the fulfilment of individual potential.

Coaching will have:

- professional and ethical values and inclusive and equitable practice
- agreed national standards of competence as a benchmark at all levels
- recognition, value and appropriate funding and reward
- a culture and structure of innovation, constant renewal and continuous development standards
- Skills Active culture and structure of innovation, constant renewal and continuous development standards

Please look at the following website for further information - <http://www.sportscoachuk.org>

Skills Active

SkillsActive is the Sector Skills Council for Active Leisure and Learning. Directed by employers, SkillsActive leads the skills and productivity drive across sport and recreation, health and fitness, outdoors, playwork and caravan industries.

SkillsActive's vision is a highly skilled and competent workforce in an industry equipped to fulfil its potential at the centre of the economic and social development of the UK.

Goals;

- To involve more employers and their workforce in best practice based training and development programmes, thereby reducing skills gaps and shortages, improving productivity and lifting business and public service performance.
- To take a strategic lead in developing a new, demand-led, flexible supply of learning and skills development that meets the needs of workers (paid and unpaid) and organisations, as well as providers from the active leisure and learning sector.
- To work with partners across the UK to agree common messages, as well as cohesive, innovative ways of boosting the skill of the active leisure and learning workforce.

Please look at the following website for further information - <http://www.skillsactive.com>

Association for Physical Education

The Association for Physical Education (afPE) is committed to being the UK representative organisation of choice for people and agencies delivering or supporting the delivery of physical education in schools and in the wider community.

Its purpose is to promote and maintain high standards and safe practice in all aspects and at all levels of physical education, influencing developments in physical education at national and local levels.

They provide quality assured services and resources, and valuable professional support for members and the teaching profession through a range of high quality CPD opportunities, regular updates, advice, insurance cover and dedicated helplines for health & safety and legal advice. www.afpe.org.uk

Appendix - Contacts

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