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Community Sports

Overview

The provision and funding of community sports has increased hugely in the past decade, particularly as Britain prepares to host the Olympic Games in 2012.

Money for community sport has been made available through Local Authorities and Sport England. The National Lottery and Britain's successful bid to host the Olympic Games are partly behind this.

At the same time, there has been a drive by the British government to increase participation by all groups in society, including isolated groups, disadvantaged groups and the disabled.

A few years ago, the government made a commitment to increase by 2 million the number of people 'more physically active'. Part of this commitment is to increase by 1 million over four years the number of those doing regular sport (three times a week).

Sport England (see below) supports and tracks this increase which starts from a baseline of 6.7 million people (April 2009).

Behind the drive is a recognition that to succeed on the international sporting stage, Britain needed to invest more money in a whole range of sports and young athletes, as well as a recognition that taking part in sport, recreation and exercise is a requisite to a healthier society in general.

This factsheet provides basic information and links to organisations involved in community sport at a national and local level, and in the voluntary sector.

Taking Part

Sport England is the government agency responsible for building the foundations of sporting success in Britain, and in tracking the government's commitment to greater participation.

Its third report, Active People Survey 3, was published in Dec 2009 and covers the period Oct 2008 - Oct 2009/

Key highlights from Active People Survey 3:

- * The number of adults in England who do sport **at least three times a week** has reached 6.93 million
- * Athletics and cycling have each achieved increases of over 100,000 participants in the past year (between 2007/8 and 2008/9)
- * The number of men playing sport three times a week has risen by 176,000 to 4.203 million
- * Regular participation among non-white adults has increased by 98,800 to 713,800.

For detailed results, quarterly results and regional breakdown go to:

http://www.sportengland.org/research/active_people_survey/active_people_survey_3.aspx

Funding Sport in the Community

Overall, Sport England provides £213m funds each year. Collective investment by local authorities has reached £1.5 billion. In its new funding strategy, **Funding sport in the community**, Sport England sets out the investment programmes that will be available to organisations delivering grassroots sport from

April 2009. Sports clubs, voluntary and community organisations, local authorities and education establishments can apply to four open-access funding streams worth a maximum of £45 million per year.

More on funding sport in the community:
<http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx>

National/Government Funded Organisations:

Sport England

Sport England is the government agency responsible for building the foundations of sporting success, by creating a world-leading community sport system of clubs, coaches, facilities and volunteers. It invests in organisations and projects that will grow and sustain participation in grassroots sport and create opportunities for people to excel at their chosen sport.

Formerly known as the English Sports Council, it works in partnership with **UK Sport**, which has responsibility for elite success, and the **Youth Sport Trust**, which is focused on PE and school sport.

Address: 3rd Floor Victoria House, Bloomsbury Square, London WC1B 4SE

Tel: 08458 508508

Email: info@sportengland.org

Website: <http://www.sportengland.org>

- Sport Scotland: sportscotland.enquiries@sportscotland.org.uk
<http://www.sportscotland.org.uk>
- Sports Council of Wales: scw@scw.org.uk
<http://www.sports-council-wales.org.uk/>
- Sport Northern Ireland: info@sportni.net
<http://www.sportni.net/>

Local Authorities

Local authorities have a key role in the delivery of sport and play in local communities and are working in partnership to deliver through Local Strategic Partnerships, County Sports Partnerships and Community Sports Networks.

For more, go here:

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=18338>

<http://www.lga.gov.uk/lga/core/page.do?pagelid=13942>

National Governing Bodies (NGBs)

There is a governing body for each sport. Their role is to be the regulatory authority for their particular sport as well as the prime promoter of that sport. The Football Association governs football, and likewise the English Cricket Board governs cricket. The National Governing Bodies also work closely with Sport England.

Many NGBs run Foundations or charities that promote their sport and work on community outreach. For example, the Football Foundation (see below).

List of National Governing Bodies:

<http://www.allsportsinternational.co.uk/governingbodies.html>

Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR)

The CCPR is the national alliance of governing and representative bodies of sport and recreation. Its 311 members - ranging from the Football Association to the Ramblers' Association - represent 150,000 clubs across the UK and some 8 million regular participants. CCPR provides its member organisations with a single, independent voice ensuring that their interests are represented.

Tel: 020 7976 3900

Email: info@ccpr.org.uk

Website: <http://www.ccpr.org.uk>

Voluntary Sector

Football Foundation

The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports' charity. Funded by the Premier League, The Football Association and the Government, the Foundation directs £40m every year into grass roots sport. It uses government funds to leverage even more partnership funding, to deliver a programme of new and improved community sports facilities in towns and cities across the country. Its mission is to **improve facilities, create opportunities and build communities** throughout England.

Tel 0845 345 4555

Email enquiries@footballfoundation.org.uk

Website: <http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/>

Sport Relief

Is a UK fundraising event – in 2010 it takes place from 19 – 21 March – to encourage people to get active, raise money and change lives. All the money raised by the public is spent by Comic Relief to help transform the lives of poor and vulnerable people, both at home and across the world's poorest countries.

Website: <http://www.sportrelief.com>

There are a plethora of smaller charities/initiatives across the UK. These are a few examples of projects Community Channel has featured.

Street Games UK

A national charity offering 'doorstep' sport in disadvantaged areas and makes sport accessible to young people regardless of their social circumstances.

Tel: 020 7735 9800

Email: info@streetgames.org

Website: <http://www.streetgames.org>

Street Athletics

The project was started in 2005 by athletes Linford Christie and Darren Campbell to encourage youngsters to believe in their own talent and to give them the confidence to set and fulfil their own ambitions. It is a series of community focussed events throughout the UK leading to a grand final.

Website: <http://www.streetathletics.co.uk>

Chance to Shine

Now in our fourth year, Chance to Shine recognises the power of cricket to help young people acquire important skills, values and attitudes for their future lives. It was set up by the Cricket Foundation and is run across England and Wales by the England and Wales Cricket Board.

Tel: 0207 432 1232

Website: <http://www.chancetoshine.org/>

Active Communities

Active Communities is a charity committed to the use and promotion of sports, arts and cultural activities in London to improve youth citizenship, social inclusion and community cohesion.

Tel: 020 7717 1691

Email: info@activecommunities.org.uk

Website: <http://www.activecommunities.org.uk/>

Balfour Beatty London Youth Games

The London Youth Games are a unique season of events in the capital, involving all 33 London Boroughs and 26 National Governing Bodies. The Games are free and open to all young people, aged between 7 and 17, living in or going to school in London. The 2010 Games kicks off with the Indoor Cricket Cup in February and will run through to the Finals week at Crystal Palace in July, featuring sixty competitions in 30 sports with around 47,000 participants.

Tel: 020 77171570

Email: info@londonyouthgames.org

Website: <http://www.londonyouthgames.org/>

Tag Rugby Development Trust

TRDT is a unique charity that introduces primary school children in developing countries to Tag Rugby through volunteer tours that build a positive legacy through local involvement and UK support.

Tel: 0870 743 0954
Email: info@tagrugbytours.com
Website: <http://www.trdt.co.uk/>

Sports Volunteering

The sports sector relies heavily on volunteers. In 2008-09, nearly 1.97 million people volunteered at least one hour a week in sport. (Sport England, Active People 3 survey).

Volunteering England and **YouthNet** are working on the 'Inspiration and Legacy from the 2012 Games Project', which will ensure everyone who is inspired by 2012 can find sports volunteering opportunities quickly and easily.

Sport England – Volunteers

http://www.sportengland.org/support_advice/volunteers.aspx

Volunteering England (Sports)

VE works with national sport organisations and through them supports sport across the country to improve the quality and quantity of volunteering.

<http://www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Projects+and+initiatives/volunteeringinsport>

Do-It.org

This national volunteering database – a sister site to Youthnet - has more than 1m opportunities to volunteer and apply online, including sports and outdoor activities.

Website: <http://www.do-it.org/>

Sports Volunteering Abroad

Sports volunteer work abroad is considered to be a fairly new way to volunteer. Many people recognise that sports volunteers are able to contribute a lot to local communities, overcoming language and religious boundaries.

Real Gap Experience

Real Sport Experience has a number of sports volunteer projects to enable you to coach sports abroad during a gap year, career break or a sports holiday abroad.

Website: <http://www.realgap.co.uk/Sports-Volunteer-Work>

i-to-i – Life Changing Travel

For gap year, career break, student and general travelers who want to volunteer on a sports project from football coaching to surfing.

Website: <http://www.i-to-i.com/volunteer-sports/>

Community Channel

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