

**PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT REPORT, FROM 12TH APRIL TO 31ST December 2021
SPORTS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

Sports development overview:

The team has now returned in full and been operational since 1st October 2021, with all three staff working in the community to support the district based clubs and volunteer network. In addition to the core team, an apprentice has recently been recruited to support the team with the work generated from partner sites and the delivery of specialist activity sessions, to target groups.

The nature of the interaction and communication with community organisations has changed as a result of Covid-19, with the team increasingly connecting on a virtual basis with partners and individuals. They continue to work on a hybrid approach, of both working remotely and in the workplace when necessary.

Team members are rebuilding relationships and community links, and have been meeting with community partners in a variety of working groups to revisit projects, in order to increase the number of people who are physically active.

The focus remains on a series of areas, including the new swimming pool at Dukeries, the return of activities for people with long term health conditions and disabilities, workplace health and wellbeing and the volunteer workforce development.

Club development:

Funding has been secured for a project working with Nottinghamshire Orienteering Club. A series of new trails have been developed, along with a refresh of the existing courses across multiple parks and open spaces in the district, ready for the year ahead. This will now be promoted across all social media channels throughout the year, encouraging residents and visitors to the district to become active. This is working in partnership with the Council's Parks Team, to ensure the offer is sustainable and accessible to all residents across the district, but particularly those on lower incomes and with long term health conditions and disabilities. The offer will also be promoted in local schools through School Games Organisers, local organisations such as Sherwood Forest Education Partnership and the orienteering club.

The return of the Newark and Sherwood Sports Council took place in September. There are plans to move forward with club training first aid and safeguarding with funding secured from the Council's Grant Aid Scheme. Additionally, plans for 4 local clubs to trial a district based Club Mental Health Ambassador Role. There are further discussions with Active Notts with support from their teams to capture learning on behalf of Sport England.

In line with the increasing requirements to digitalise administrative processes, clubs are now able to link their club websites and social media platforms to the A4T pages, to ensure their information is more widely available.

Coaching and volunteer development:

In the period, there have been 9 coach development grant applications for a variety of sports including football, running, canoeing and cricket.

VISPA Academy continues to offer young people experience of working in the leisure industry whilst qualifying for a NGB qualification. Since the scheme was reintroduced in September, 5 young people have signed up working across the sites, in fitness and both wet side and dry side activities.

Students at You Can Do Sport based at Magnus Academy received a presentation from the sports development team members, to discuss careers in sport and to discuss volunteering opportunities to support their qualification. This was received well by the students and hopefully will be a useful reference point for them, as they develop into their work life.

Inclusion:

Free sessions were offered and taken up by a number of local schools and groups at Dukeries Leisure Centre prior to the pool opening fully to the public. Local primary schools attended as well as classes from Dukeries Academy and the neighbouring College.

Other local groups who attended the sessions included the local Surestart Centre, Ollerton WI, Dementia Carers groups and other local individuals with additional health requirements.

Sports development staff supported Hawtonville Young Peoples Centre for their first Olympiad event, providing relay races and activities as a climax to the afternoon.

Staff were also involved in mock interviews to Year 10 students at Southwell Minster School. This provides a valuable experience for them to gain confidence in interviewing techniques. Dave Long from the team attended, and interviewed a number of young people who are interested in a career in the leisure industry.

The Governments HAF (Holiday Activities and Food) scheme was supported during the summer and Christmas holiday activity programme. The children who qualified for the scheme (on free school meals) were given access to activities such as swimming, dance, trampolining, gymnastics alongside using the fitness suite at Dukeries Leisure Centre.

This was offered both independently and in association with Dukeries Young Peoples Centre giving approximately 20 young people physical activity and a hot meal.

Active and healthy lifestyles:

There have been a number of networking events attended both virtually and in person and linking in with adult groups such as U3A and WI to promote Covid secure facilities at all sites.

Partnership working has also taken place with healthcare professionals to re-establish the pathway for exercise referrals and cardiac rehab patients. This has been extended to Social Prescribers who also connect with patients in the community who can also refer patients to the exercise referral scheme.

A number of companies have been contacted to offer a corporate health and wellbeing programme, linked to the leisure centres. This promotes the benefits of building a healthy workforce, resulting in new corporate memberships and continuing to build more partnerships with local businesses.

With the reduction of restrictions, the weight management sessions delivered by 'Your Health, Your Way' have returned at Newark and Dukeries. This is an excellent model of working with other community organisations, to engage them in regular physical activity in the centres, with a view to increase the sessions across the district in 2022.

Throughout December planning took place for the national campaign 'Red January'. Mainly promoted on social media, encourages people to be active for 31 days of January. The messaging signposts people to local groups, clubs and parks to all levels of activities for all abilities.