

## Board Meeting

7 September 2023, 4.45pm

Haven Banks Outdoor Education Centre, Exeter, EX2 8DP

### Staff Awards

The latest staff award recipients were:

**Claire Colman** (Finance Officer) for her unstinting support of the team and individual colleagues, especially during a particularly challenging time with other staff absences.

**Rebecca Skinner** (Partnerships Manager) for the sheer breadth and quality of her contribution and support across numerous programmes of work

**Nick Cull** (Partnerships Officer) for his tremendous support, passion and insight across numerous programmes of work including Torbay place work and mental health commission and adult cycle confidence

Agenda		Purpose / Recommendations
1. <b>Preliminary matters</b> Apologies, Declarations of interest, notes of previous meetings and matters arising: (a) Board recruitment and appointments (b) Response to Adult Safeguarding Review (c) Annual Governance Statement (d) DCMS Sports Strategy: 'Get Active'	15 mins <i>(for discussion &amp; approval)</i>	(a) to (c) verbal updates and approvals. (d) for discussion (see supporting information)
2. <b>Strategy update: Corporate Communications</b> (Vicky Radcliffe)	30 mins	On the day presentation and Q&A session to inform and enhance understanding of approach and how Board Members can support
3. <b>Place Partnerships expansion</b> (James Watmough, Strategic Lead, Sport England Place team)	40 mins	External presentation and Q&A session to update Board Members on direction of travel, understand future context and next steps it may wish to consider.
4. <b>Insight Session: Movement with Communities</b> (Hannah Worth, Tamsin Phelvin and Jason Wood)	40 mins	Open discussion session exploring learning, challenges and opportunities from our work on this strategic theme.
5. <b>AOB</b>		

**Implications** relating to equality, diversity & inclusion (EDI), welfare & safety, environmental impact and Active Devon's values:

**EDI:** Explicit priorities and intent to promote our inclusion and diversity work through corporate comms (item 2). Focus on marginalised communities and tackling inequalities is prominent throughout place based work (item 3) and Movement with Communities (item 4).

**Welfare & Safety:** Direct relevance of update on response to Adult Safeguarding Review (item 1).

**Environmental:** No direct implications.

**Values:** Corporate comms (item 2) is a key vehicle through which we demonstrate and promote Active Devon's values. Collaboration, trust and inclusion explicit throughout approach to place based partnerships (item 3) and in addition innovation in Movement with Communities (item 4)

## Supporting Information

### Agenda Item 1: **Preliminary Matters**

(d) **HM Gov Sports Strategy: 'Get Active'** – [DCMS published its anticipated new Sport Strategy on 31 August](#). The briefing attached at Appendix 1 (courtesy of Active Partnerships National Team) highlights key aspects that are or relevance to Active Partnerships. The strategy has a wider remit across performance sport than Uniting the Movement (UTM). UTM remains the key strategic guide for us and whilst 'Get Active' mirrors much of UTM's intent it makes no new investment commitments. There will be the opportunity for initial reflections and discussion about the significance and implications of 'Get Active'.

---

### Agenda Item 3: **Place Partnerships expansion**

#### **CONFIDENTIAL – Background briefing**

We briefed the Board in March (and subsequently updated in May and July) on Sport England's intention to invest £250m over the next five years in place based approaches, prioritising areas of social and physical activity need. It aims to develop 'Place Partnerships' in 80-100 new places.

Tangible details have been slower to emerge than originally anticipated but on 17<sup>th</sup> August the Exec team had the first formal opportunity for discussion with Sport England about implications for Devon. There remains much detail to be confirmed but there are some key points which have become clearer:

- **Place Needs Classification**– Sport England have shared details of its newly developed needs Place Needs Classification index. It ranks places at Local Authority and Middle Super Output Area geographies, based on national data sets relating to physical activity need and social need. It is to be used alongside local intelligence and insight from Active Partnerships to prioritise investment. NB there is a target within the new

Gov strategy that 75% of Sport England's place investment should be committed to areas with the lowest levels of physical activity and social outcomes.

- **Devon's priority places** – Active Devon conducted its own assessment of social need at the outset of our new strategy in 2022. We used this to inform the places we have identified as priority places:
  - Torbay
  - Northern Devon (North Devon and Torridge local authority areas)
  - Plymouth
- There is some correlation between the national needs index and our priority places with the following ranking in the 10-20% band of the needs index:
  - Plymouth - certain MSOAs
  - Torridge - whole local authority area
- **Immediate focus** – Sport England has indicated that its expansion to develop new Place Partnerships will initially focus on places ranking in the top 10% on the Place Needs Classification index. We therefore understand that resources are unlikely to be invested in new Place Partnerships beyond those in this financial year. NB Plymouth is an existing priority place for Sport England and we have supported work with PCC to secure 'transition funding' for 2023-25. We also understand that the Local Delivery Pilot in Exeter and Cranbrook is eligible to receive continuation funding beyond its current investment arrangements and that it may identify priorities to work outside its current geography.
- **Universal Offer** – in addition to new investment in targeted areas, Sport England is developing a 'Universal Offer' to support systemic working approaches in other areas. This offer is currently in development.

We are delighted that we will be welcoming James Watmough, Sport England's strategic lead in the South / South West. He will provide a short briefing about progress to date and respond to queries and observations the Board may have. The intention is to understand current context and most importantly help identify any areas of focus or action that may be helpful for us to consider in the coming months, in preparation for further place partnerships expansion coming on line.

## Appendix 4 - Active Partnerships National Team - Briefing Update

### Get Active: A strategy for the future of sport and physical activity – August 2023

The DCMS Strategy has the work of the Active Partnerships embedded throughout. [Link here.](#)

Saving you time in reading and digesting this new strategy:

1. Below are some initial notes/headlines.
2. Here is a link to a document where a series of quotes from different pages to give a flavour of the full document and how this links across the work of the Active Partnership Network. [Notes from the Sport Strategy from an AP perspective.docx](#)
3. Highlighted version of the strategy [link here](#): (This has been done quickly, but hopefully saves you time).
  - Blue = Vital to Active Partnerships
  - Green = Important to Active Partnerships
  - Yellow/ amber = points worth noting

- The Active Partnership network is fully embedded
- Reflects the need for a local focus and empowering local leaders.
- OSF, HAF and Multisport firmly embedded and the evaluations and learnings will inform next steps.
- Using the information gained through the evaluation of the SGOs, the NGB audit, and building upon the learnings of the OSF and HAF, which will then scope the potential to launch a new National Sport Participation Partnership Scheme.
- Consistent calls through the document to ask whole sector to come together, for the public and private sector to make a difference and ensure that provision is accessible and reflects the needs of the community.

### The Ambition: pages 26 & 27 - Must Read

At a national level this means that by 2030 the Government want to see:

- over 2.5 million more active adults, as defined by the Chief Medical Officers' guidelines on physical activity;
- over 1 million more children meeting the Chief Medical Officers' guidelines on physical activity;
- **activity rates increasing and inactivity levels decreasing in all parts of the country.\***
- \*This will be **assessed using the geography of Active Partnerships** to help us monitor and learn about where and how progress is being made at a local level across the country."

To reduce the disparities in participation rates, we will also be introducing specific ambitions to ensure that we are making progress by 2030. These will focus on the groups identified by Active Lives data as being the least active:

- 1.4 million more active adults from those in NS-SEC 6-8 (see "Terminology" in the "Building on strong foundations" section on pages 13-14).
- 0.7 million more active people who identify as having 1 or more disabilities.
- 1.5 million more active adults aged 55+.
- 1.25 million more active women.
- 0.19 million more active Asian adults, particularly people from Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi ethnic groups.
- 0.09 million more active black adults.

### Key points for Active Partnerships to be aware of:

Page 27 – "By 2030, we want to see: **At least 75% of Sport England place investment to be**

**committed to areas with the lowest levels of physical activity and social outcomes.”**

Noting a **new cross-government National Physical Activity Taskforce (NPAT)**. This will ensure that tackling inactivity is at the forefront of government decision-making and bring together the government departments which are central to the success of our ambitions, to agree the necessary checkpoints that need to be met in order to remain on track.”

Page 39 - **Support Sport England to introduce a new partner evaluation framework** which tracks the impact of sector partners and provides six-monthly reports evidencing spend and impact. This should show us what is working and how we can scale that up. Undertake discrete monitoring and evaluation of government funded facilities programmes, including the multi-sport grassroots facilities investment programme.

Page 45 - **Our commitment to place-based interventions is highlighted by the Sport England partnership approach introduced through Uniting the Movement, in particular through the increased level of funding to the Active Partnerships network**. This focuses on helping local leaders to understand national policies and unlock funding pots to address the inactivity challenge. The network is funded by Sport England, but each partnership is empowered to make decisions, recognising that local leaders have the best understanding of where and what action is needed.

Page - 46 “To ensure that local leaders are committed to driving forward improvements in access to participation and focusing investment correctly, we are introducing a target to monitor activity rates through a local lens, **with an expectation of seeing activity rates increasing in every Active Partnership area by 2030**. This means that regardless of current levels of activity or inactivity, we will be able to see what steps have been made to drive forward improvements at a local level to help us achieve our overall national ambition. This target will put the spotlight on local decision making and harness the value.”

Source: [Government teams up with sport stars to launch new physical activity drive - GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/government/news/government-teams-up-with-sport-stars-to-launch-new-physical-activity-drive)  
([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))