

Case Study

District Partnership Working – community and voluntary sectors

Area: Saddleworth & Lees

Date: 16th August 2011

1. Example 1 – Churchill Playing Fields

Description of work: IYS are currently working in partnership with the local sports clubs (Uppermill FC and Saddleworth Rangers ARLFC), elected members and Council officers to develop Churchill Playing Fields to enable it to meet the current and growing demand from the local community.

The Sports Development Officers have been working with local clubs to support them in applying for funding (local and national), club fundraising, creation and implementation of club development plans, liaising with National Governing Bodies of Sport and the creation of a site development plan.

The development includes draining and treating the site to address drainage issues, and restructuring the pitch layout on site therefore increasing the number of pitches. The project will also address the need to refurbish/develop the changing rooms on site to meet National Governing Bodies requirements/guidance and local demand.

Outputs/ Impact:

- Fit for purpose facility available year round for sports clubs, events and local people
 - Increase in number of teams playing in clubs in Saddleworth and Lees
 - Increase in number of young people and adults playing regular club sport in Saddleworth and Lees
 - Increase in delivery of grass roots provision in the local area e.g. through holiday camps, community activities etc.
 - Increase in the standard at which football clubs are able to compete (pitches reaching required pitch spec)
 - Opportunities to lever additional funding
 - 500 children, young people and adults currently access formal provision on the site per week.
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2. Example 2 – Saddleworth Olympics

Description of work: IYS are currently working in partnership with the Saddleworth Village Olympics Committee to plan, deliver and sustain the event which has been delivered for the last 25 years. This event has been very much voluntary sector led in previous years. The Sports Development Officer has provided additional support to the Olympics through delivering additional training activities for all children in the area in the period running up to the event, and by supporting the smooth running of the event by providing additional staffing resources, local volunteers and club engagement.

The Olympics has relied heavily on the funding of the District Partnership over the last 3 years and with Local Authority funding decreasing year on year the new committee and Local Authority Officers are working together to develop a business plan to make sure the SVO is self sustainable in the future. Along side the business plan will be a development plan which will aim to ensure the Olympics continues to meet the needs of children and young people of Saddleworth and Lees (including not just those who take part on the day). We will be looking to create strong links to schools, community groups, sports clubs, private sector businesses and the Local Authority to position the Olympics to fit into school delivery, the ability to pull on resources such as staffing, expertise, venues and equipment of all partners involved.

Outputs/ Impact:

- Position the Saddleworth Olympics in the wider community as part of a year round engagement programme
 - To engage new children and young people into sport and physical activity – and provide strong links into local sports clubs.
 - Develop a sound self financing approach to ensure future sustainability
 - Engage and develop the skills set of volunteers in the area
 - Engage new partners to support the SVO to make sure it is fit for purpose now and in the future.
 - Applications for funding and other kite marks such as the 2012 Inspire Mark
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3. Example 3 – Club Development

Description of work: IYS work with local voluntary sports clubs to develop the voluntary sector offer within the District, improving the amount and quality of opportunities for local people to engage in regular sport (through participation or volunteering)..

The work is needs led and so varies from club to club and sport to sport, due to existing structures locally, regionally and nationally. Some examples of the work currently being carried out with clubs in Saddleworth and Lees are:-

- Supporting clubs alongside National Governing Bodies to work towards and achieve Club Mark accreditation. This is the kite mark ensuring that clubs have relevant structures in place to ensure it is a safe, child friendly environment to support the child's/young persons development, and involves following a framework specification and assessment.
 - Support clubs around CPD of coaches, volunteers and the recruitment of volunteers.
 - Facilitate the relationships between sports clubs and local schools to create links into local sports clubs for children and young people, and in opening schools up to engaging with voluntary sports clubs for mutual benefit such as local events, competitions and activities.
 - Support clubs in funding applications for capital build programmes, and revenue grant funding.
 - Facilitate relationships between clubs in working together, particularly where tensions may previously have existed between clubs. A great example of this is with Springhead FC and Uppermill FC in delivering football camps during term time and holiday periods which will help to ensure the amount of provision available for young people in the area continues (given that LA funding continues to decrease)
 - Facilitate relationships between clubs of various sports to integrate planning, delivery and promotion of opportunities across the District through the Youth Alliance.
 - The creation of Young Ambassadors programme for clubs in the community to act as role models across the District, promote the benefits of sport and physical activity as a whole.
 - Creating links between clubs and private sector organisations to seek sponsorship and funding.
 - Act as an advocate for clubs when working with Schools, Elected Members and organisations such as the Neighbourhood Policing
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Team, Saddleworth Festival of Arts, Saddleworth Show, Round Table, First Choice Homes, Children's Centres and many more.

- Develop community sports programmes for sports that do not have structured clubs in the District, and deliver recruitment programmes in the community for sports clubs who do not have the capacity to deliver additional provision.

Some of the voluntary sports clubs that we are currently working with on this work are:-

- Uppermill FC
- Springhead FC
- 3D Dynamo's FC
- Saddleworth Rangers ARLFC
- Tame Valley Tennis Club
- Saddleworth Tennis Club
- Saddleworth Runners
- Saddleworth Pony Club
- Greenfield Cricket Club
- Uppermill Cricket Club
- Austerlands Cricket Club
- Saddleworth Golf Club
- Saddleworth Netball Club
- Saddleworth ASC – Swimming Club

Outputs/ Impact:

- Increased number of sports clubs and teams in Saddleworth and Lees
 - Increased number of young people and adults regularly participating in sport and physical activity
 - Increased number and quality of club volunteers (coaching and non coaching)
 - Increased number of clubs attaining the standard of club mark and therefore ensuring a safe, structured and child friendly provision
 - Increased number of clubs accessing grant funding and therefore providing new opportunities for young people in clubs
 - Recognition of clubs and volunteers through nominations in sports awards
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- Increased skill levels of workforce (coaches and volunteers) in the community

Example 4 – Youth only Zone

Description of work: As a result of a spike in Youth Anti-Social Behaviour on a Friday night in December 2009, a working group came together made up of the Saddleworth and Lees Neighbourhood Policing Team, Integrated Youth Service Challenge and Support, and the Anti-Social Behaviour team. This working groups' main objective was to coordinate a partnership response to ASB which would work alongside the policing response in the form of 'Operation Divert'.

The partnership response was to have coordinated plan of agencies working on the ground, some of the examples were:-

- The Neighbourhood Policing Team to tactically position officers in hotspots where ASB was high on previous weeks.
- The Challenge and Support Team to deliver a 'Gateway' operation where officers positioned themselves on busses coming through the main arterial roads coming into Saddleworth and Lees at key times to prevent groups/individuals who have caused problems from entering the area under the influence/in the procession of alcohol and/or other substances.
- The Integrated Youth Service planned and delivered a variety of positive activities that the young people of Saddleworth wanted to access at the nearest suitable facility as well as Detached Youth Workers deployed where appropriate to work with groups of young people on the streets to support them as needed.

This model of multi-agency working to increase positive activities and decrease Youth ASB within Districts has been replicated across the Borough as Good Practice. The support of the District Partnership has enabled the working group to continue the level of positive activities delivered on a Friday night in the District over a period of 18 months.

The Friday night provision funding has now become part of wider piece of work on a District basis to coordinate what the District priorities are in terms of provision for Children, Young People and Families. As a result of closer working with Uppermill FC, the club have agreed to work in partnership in the planning and delivery of the project. In turn, this new model of delivery has cut the cost of the project by 50% per year.

Outputs/ Impact:

- Increase in number of young people attending provision due to clubs promoting provision to teams.
- Clear link between community provision and club provision for young people to feed into from the Youth only Zone.
- Decrease in Youth related ASB within the District.

Example 5 – School Link working

Description of work: The Activity Development Worker programme funded by the DSG has enabled the Integrated Youth Service to deliver sports provision within schools in Saddleworth and Lees. Specifically within the West and Lees ward the dedicated sport officer has created relationships and delivered a variety of curricular and extra curricular provision based on need, and also developing follow up opportunities within the community.

One successful piece of work was to work with the Lees Community Association and support a set of volunteers who had accessed funding to set up a table tennis club open to children, young people and adults in the community.

Staff worked to support the group to develop the correct processes and working practices to enable the activity to be delivered, to support in the delivery activity by mentoring group volunteers and use their link in schools to provide taster sessions and signpost children and young people to these activities. The Sports Development Officer is working to sustain the provision long term through funding, workforce development and clear links between the schools and the community.

Outputs/ Impact:

- Increase in new activities within the West and Lees ward.
 - Increase in participation in regular activity
 - Supporting the voluntary sector to develop a new club in the District.
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