

Wealden CSN notes
Tuesday 9th December
Uckfield Civic Centre 10.00 - 12.00

In attendance: Richard Bagwell (Beacon Community College), Ken Brewster (Heathfield Partnership), Diana Carlick (Wealden District Council), Gill Fowles (Freedom Leisure), Katie Mcmillan (Active Play), Dave Moore (Heathfield Community College), Sue Newham (Uckfield Local Partnership for Children), Marie Tomblin (Eastbourne Association of Voluntary Service), Rebecca Turner (NHS Hastings and Rother/ East Sussex Downs and Weald).

Apologies: Jo Ashworth, Karen Coomber, Jo Templeman, Sarah Wakehurst, Karl Parks.

1. Minutes of meeting 30 September 2008

Agreed as a true record.

2. Review of the CSN's On the Move activity programme

a) Workplace health activities

Hailsham - A new course of 8 sessions will be run in January. As before, it will cost £16 for 8 sessions and a free lunch will be included.

Crowborough - The previous exercise sessions that were planned had to be cancelled due to low attendance so a new approach will now be taken. This will involve extending the yoga sessions currently offered to Wealden District Council staff to people from other workplaces. Courses of sessions at £2 per session will take place on Wednesdays 12.15-13.15 at the Council Offices in Crowborough or in the Freedom Leisure centre on days when the office rooms are not available.

Uckfield - The arrangements for next term's activity are yet to be confirmed.

A number of different activities and times have been tried for running the courses in all three venues and it has proved very difficult to get participants to attend. CSN members discussed the fact that it is inevitably a slow process to raise awareness amongst both employers and employees about the benefits of enabling staff to attend activities. A change in attitudes is required and this will take time. Continuous marketing and promotion is therefore needed and the support of senior managers is key. One approach might be to offer employers one-off taster sessions for staff.

Actions: RB to forward to DC details of statistics showing benefits of workplace health activities.

DC to ensure that Freedom Leisure gather data/ feedback forms about the participants attending the sessions.

b) Sports Festival 2009

Following the successful event in Uckfield in July, it is planned to hold the second event in Hailsham. Jo Templeman from Hailsham Community College will be responsible for organising the event, with support from Freedom Leisure and Wealden District Council. It will take place on a Saturday in July, date to be confirmed.

It was noted that the event will avoid using the word 'sports' in the title which could put some people off. It will be marketed as a more general activity day and could involve a number of different organisations including police, fire service, stop smoking service, local youth groups.

Actions: DC to arrange for RT to be added to the contact list/ steering group for the festival.

DC to circulate the finalised date for the sports festival when known.

c) Teenage Girls

Beacon Community College has started running the activity sessions for girls aged 16-18 at the school. After consultation and running some taster sessions, they have decided to offer street dance classes. It has been difficult to engage this age group and required a lot of work but there have been up to 8 girls attending the sessions.

For next term's sessions they will be looking into offering an activity open to others outside the school, possibly working with the youth service.

Hailsham Community College has been running a mixture of gym/exercise sessions which has proved successful and 14 girls have now signed up.

Heathfield Community College, following the discussions at the previous CSN meeting, is keen to get involved in this project and has submitted a small funding request to the Primary Care Trust Health Improvement Partnership - Food and Physical Activity group.

Actions: RB to organise sessions at Crowborough for next term.

RT to forward any feedback from the 'girls getting active' project being developed by the PCT in Eastbourne.

3. Changes to Sport England and the County Sports Partnership

The latest Sport England strategy 2008-2011 puts the focus for the organisation back on sport rather than physical activity more generally. National Governing Bodies (NGB) for sport will have a greater role in delivering sport to the community and more funding will be channelled through NGBs. The Sport England grants schemes will also change from January. There will be a number of themed funding rounds that groups can apply to. Funding strands will include one for sports facilities, a small grants scheme and an innovation fund.

The change in focus for Sport England will impact on the County Sports Partnerships (CSPs). It is likely that the Sussex County Sports Partnership will have significantly less core funding from Sport England. CSN members are asked to feedback to Diana about what they feel should be the priorities for the Sussex CSP and the services it should try to offer.

The group expressed some concern that the emphasis might move too far away from community sport towards elite sport. However Sport England do still have targets to increase the number of people doing sport so they should continue to support community sport, the difference being that the NGBs will play a greater role in delivering this. In addition it is hoped that funding for promoting physical activity in the wider sense will come from the health sector.

Actions: All to complete and return feedback form to DC regarding the CSP role.

4. Opportunities for funding

- **Sport Unlimited (formerly 'Extending Activities')**

The North Wealden School Sports Partnership is co-ordinating a number of bids to this funding and will be submitting these to the CSP shortly. The swimming co-ordinator for the area, who is based at Freedom Leisure, is also submitting a bid. The scheme will fund term-time extra curricular physical activities for young people.

Actions: DC to obtain and circulate a list of projects in Wealden that were funded by the first round of this scheme (then called 'extending activities').

- **Eastbourne Association of Voluntary Services (EAVS)**

Marie Tomblin reminded CSN members that Karl Park from EAVS is able to provide personalised funding searches and advice for community groups in Wealden. The Grass Roots funding programme is still available for small groups to apply to for up to £5000.

- **Heathfield Partnership**

The Heathfield Partnership is looking to develop the next stage of their swimming pool campaign. They are looking for advice about whether to apply for the amount needed to develop plans and apply for planning permission as a separate stage, or whether to look to include the costs of gaining planning permission as part of a wider funding bid for the total amount needed.

Actions: KB to contact Karl Parks (wealdencommunity@btconnect.com) and Karen Coomber (K.Coomber@brighton.ac.uk) at the CSP to see if they can offer further advice.

- **Wealden District Council Community Grants Scheme**

The deadline to apply for this was the end of November. This year a small grants scheme was offered but a lower number of applications for this was received than expected. Groups will be informed in the spring whether their application was successful.

5. Developing the CSN in 2009

a) Communications

It was agreed to aim to include relevant updates and information about CSN projects in the County Sports Partnership E-news and any other newsletters of relevant organisations and agencies as appropriate.

Information about funding should be circulated as far as possible to sports clubs within the District.

b) Themes/ speakers

The Wealden CSN will continue to focus on the target groups of young people, teenage girls and workplace health. The CSP should be invited to update the group about how the changes in funding will affect the services they offer. There is potential for NGBs to be more involved in the CSN or included in minutes.

Action: DC to find out the timescale for the restructure of the CSP and invite a speaker from the CSP to update the group at the next CSN meeting in April if possible.

c) Feedback Form

In order to help ensure that the Wealden CSN continues to be useful and effective, a feedback form was circulated to CSN members.

Action: All to return Wealden CSN feedback form to Diana Carlick by 17 December.

6. Members' updates

Funding advice surgeries will be run again in February/ March by Karl Parks. Details will be circulated nearer the time.

7. Date of next meeting

To be confirmed depending on when the CSP will be able to clarify their new role/structure (likely to be April 2009).