Community Sport Hubs

The community sport hub initiative, sportscotland’s contribution to the Scottish Government’s 2014 legacy plan, is an exciting and innovative approach to the development of sport in local clubs. It is designed to increase the number of people of all ages participating in sport in communities across Scotland.

What is a community sport hub?

Community sport hubs will be based in local places such as club pavilions, sports centres, community centres, the natural environment and/or schools, and will bring local people together and provide a home for local clubs and sports organisations.

They will also provide information, support and advice on a wide range of sports and physical activities to make it easier for local people to get involved and engage in a more active and healthier lifestyle.

The specifics of each hub and what it offers will vary according to local need and local resource. However all hubs will work to the following five principles:

- Growth in participation.
- Engage the local community.
- Promote community leadership.
- Offer a range of sporting opportunities.
- Bring all appropriate (key) partners/groups/people together.

What do community sport hubs aim to achieve?

Community sport hubs aim to achieve some of the following outcomes:

- A welcome and safe place which provides local communities with more opportunities to take part in sport.
- A home where a range of local sports clubs can work together.
- Training and development of the people that make sport happen.
- An integrated approach led by local partners/clubs.
- Self sustainable sports clubs/organisations.
- Genuine community engagement and leadership.
- Improved access for local people and sports clubs at affordable prices.

What impact will community sport hubs have?

There will be a variety of community sport hub models established which are based on specific local needs.

They will deliver:

- Clear and genuine community engagement and leadership through:
  - better organised and connected local clubs and community hubs.
- An increase in the number of local people participating in sport within community sport hubs as a result of:
  - Increased capacity of local sports clubs and increased number of opportunities available to local communities.
  - Increased number and quality of deliverers.
  - Improved access to local facilities at an affordable price.
  - Increased dialogue between local partners.

Progress

sportscotland is taking a long-term approach to community sport hubs and is working with partners to develop a number of different models which will meet local needs and circumstances. Working with local partners, we aim to develop community sport hubs within each of our 32 local authority areas by 2012.

sportscotland has agreed an annual budget of £1.5 million through our corporate plan cycle to 2015. This is being allocated on a geographical basis against robust plans. In addition, facility budgets will be considered to further develop this area of work.

We are working with our partners to develop the hubs and have engaged with all local authorities to identify potential opportunities. The most up to date information on the current number and progress of hubs can be found on the sportscotland website.

Each hub will be unique and based upon local needs. sportscotland and partners will share learning on the development of community sport hubs across sport development.

Please visit www.sportscotland.org.uk/csh to view our latest case studies and hub updates.
“As a sport leader our role is to organise activities and encourage younger pupils to take part in sport. The community sport hub will help us to provide everyone with the chance to take part in sport from a young age and will offer continued access to a wider range of activities.”

Laura Carberry (16)
Calderglen Community Sport Hub, South Lanarkshire

“We believe that the Calderglen Community Sport Hub is an excellent opportunity for all members of our community to take part in sport. As a school, it allows us to engage positively with our local community in developing healthy lifestyles for all.”

Tony McDaid
Head Teacher – Calderglen High School, South Lanarkshire

“The community sport hub concept has provided us with the opportunity to reshape the provision of Sport and Recreation services in Perth and Kinross to ensure they are responsive to the needs of communities. A key priority will be to engage more effectively with local clubs to identify how best we can support them to grow and develop.”

Stuart Younie
Service Manager – Sport and Active Recreation
Perth and Kinross Council

“I can see that community sport hubs is an incredibly exciting project. Put simply it gives local clubs the platform and support they need to work together, grow their membership and the number of sporting opportunities they offer. At the Tryst community sport hub, over 200 young people are now taking advantage of what’s on offer. In fact, some of them are now involved in two to three sports – and they’re staying involved. These young people may not have had the same opportunity if we hadn’t created the hub.”

Jamie Swinney
Head of Sport – Tryst Community Sport Hub, Stenhousemuir Falkirk

“We’d been working on our ambition to improve Inch Park for some time when we began talking to sportscotland. The community sport hub initiative has helped us accelerate our development plans. The initiative does work and it can really help sport in your local area.”

Malcolm Gillies
Chairman – Inch Park Community Sports Club, Edinburgh

Further information

For more detailed information on community sport hubs, please visit www.sportscotland.org.uk/csh

Alternatively, please contact –
Jacqueline Lynn, Head of School and Community Sport: 0141 534 6525 or 07787 151 017
James Steel, Lead Manager: 0141 534 6592 or 07949 277 526

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sportscotland Head Office
Dokes, Templeton on the Green, 62 Templeton Street, Glasgow G40 1DA.
Tel 0141 534 6500 Fax 0141 534 6501 Web www.sportscotland.org.uk