

Briefing Note: Early Intervention Youth Fund. Strategic partnerships with Wales' Police and Crime Commissioners & StreetGames

An introduction to the Briefing Note

This paper outlines StreetGames' involvement and the expected project outcomes over the next 16 months as lead delivery partner for the Early Intervention Youth Fund.

This paper builds upon previous briefing papers (see below) associated to the 'Safer Together Through Sport' programme (2017) and aims to demonstrate synergy between both, current, Home Office funded programmes.

Briefing Note
November 2018

For further information please contact:

Aaron Northmore
Community Safety (Wales)

07956 057386

Aaron.northmore@streetgames.org

Introducing 'Positive Activity Through Sport'

In September 2018, South Wales Police and Crime Commissioner led a collaborative 'all Wales' bid to the Home Office: 'Early Intervention Youth Fund (EIYF)', naming StreetGames as the lead delivery partner of the 'Positive Activities Through Sporting Interventions' strand. This was replicated by North Wales PCC and Dyfed Powys PCC. As a result, the 'Positive Activity Through Sport' programme was initiated in November 2018.

The Positive Activity Through Sport programme sets out to utilise sport and youth volunteering as a vehicle to take the drives of serious violence, through an early intervention and preventative approach. This programme extends StreetGames work considering risk and protective factors outlined by the Youth Justice Board.

StreetGames will work with Locally Trusted Organisations (LTOs) situated in localities of emerging or prevalent serious violence. These locations will be dictated through each Police and Crime Commissioners 'Crime Profiles'. LTOs provide a vibrant community sport offer and contribute positively to wider social outcomes. Throughout the PATS programme, LTOs will support 'at risk' young people, aged 10-17 years, to actively volunteer within their communities - building resilience, confidence, self-efficacy, and the acquisition of social skills. In extension to local volunteering opportunities, StreetGames have collaborated with the Welsh Rugby Union to extend 'at risk' young people's development through the provision of 'Traineeships'.

Project Aims:

Over the next 16 months, the 'Positive Activity Through Sport' programme will address three key aims:

- 1) To create co-produced referral framework models which connect the youth justice and community sport sectors and address challenges associated to serious violence

- Extended consultation and engagement with criminal justice, policing and community sport partners to gauge stakeholder's needs
 - Design and deliver pilot frameworks complimenting existing pathways where appropriate
 - Record and evaluate impact of referral pathways to shape future practice
- 2) To advance stakeholder understanding of, and consideration to, addressing the drivers of serious violence through community-based volunteering, leadership and traineeship opportunities
- Disseminate StreetGames' 'Lessons of Volunteering' research,
 - Utilise StreetGames past learning to shape the design of local volunteering interventions – enhancing alignment to risk and protective factors
 - Engagement through; training, workshops, presentations and conferences will be key
- 3) Build a robust evidence base to demonstrate the role sport-based interventions can play, through early intervention and prevention strategies, to tackle the drivers of serious violence within 'at risk' individuals
- Desk and field research will be completed to identify best practice methodologies
 - Promote the value of youth volunteering as a mechanism to address the drivers of serious violence
 - Shape future practice through the collation of best practice methodologies and impact studies

Project Delivery

The key components of this programme include:

- **PCC Engagement:** Local delivery will be strategically located in line with each Police and Crime Commissioner's 'Crime Profiles'. Early engagements will support the design of regional delivery plans. StreetGames will report progress quarterly and be accountable to Police and Crime Commissioners.
- **Referral Pathway Design:** The programme will build on the previous Home Office learning, so we will engage and invite relevant local partners to refer high risk young people to the Doorstep Sport provision. This programme will also explore mechanisms of LTOs making 'self-referrals' based upon a set guidance.
- **Doorstep Sport Delivery:** LTOs who deliver weekly Doorstep Sport sessions, will work to engage and retain young people 'at risk' of serious violence, providing locally volunteering opportunities. Relevant local partners will refer young people who have been identified as 'high risk' to divert or prevent them from getting involved in the first place. Doorstep Sport hosts will actively support young people throughout their development and towards paid coaching employment.
- **Young Volunteer Training & Development Opportunities:** Young people referred and engaged in youth volunteering will have access to a variety of training opportunities that will aid their employability skills confidence and competence. 10 young people will undertake a traineeship with the Welsh Rugby Union, gaining formal qualifications throughout their engagement, and have the opportunity to extend their engagement onto an apprenticeship scheme.

- **Stakeholder Training & Development:** Stakeholders will have access to training opportunities that will support their ability to meet the needs of ‘at risk’ young people. All stakeholders will be offered the opportunity to complete the ‘Youth Mental Health First Aid’ award to support their ability in contributing to addressing prevalent risk factors.
- **Action Research:** We will develop regional ‘action research’ mechanisms to measure the effectiveness of the referral process and youth volunteering provisions for their impact on tackling the drivers of serious violence.
- **Monitoring, Evaluation and Evidencing Impact:** A monitoring and evaluation system will be set up and managed to capture outputs and outcomes. We will record quantitative data but will also focus on qualitative methods through case studies and impact reports.
- **Insight Dissemination:** StreetGames will help to share and build knowledge amongst LTOs, criminal justice partners and the wider community sports sector through;
 1. Taking part in ‘Sport & Youth Crime’ themed discussions and meetings, through formal and informal training.
 2. The dissemination of gathered insight together with the promotion and dissemination of related new reports and information relevant to partners working in disadvantaged communities – particularly StreetGames’ ‘Lessons of Volunteering’ report
 3. Providing opportunities for partners to share information and learning at regional network meetings and conferences
 4. Disseminating learning and information on a regular basis via e-communications, training workshops and information on the StreetGames’ website

Throughout year 1 (November 2018 – March 2019), StreetGames will focus on preparing partners for active delivery in April 2019. Delivery plans will be agreed and set with all Police and Crime Commissioners by March 2019. Training for stakeholders will be planned and StreetGames’ ‘Lessons of Volunteering’ will be mobilised.

Referrals into Doorstep Sport provisions will commence in year 2 (April 2019 – March 2020) of the project, alongside the delivery of the Welsh Rugby Union’s traineeships. Young volunteers will be supported to drive local youth-led activities and will actively engage in training and development opportunities. Quarterly reporting and monitoring and evaluation tools will also be mobilised.

A more detailed project timeline has been presented in appendix A.

Further, StreetGames propose to connect regional staff to other Early Intervention Youth Funded project teams as a mechanism of sharing learning and embodying a collaborative approach to addressing the drivers of serious violence.

Agreed Project Outcomes

- 1) Increase in ‘at risk’ young people’s resilience, self-esteem, confidence, and acquisition of social skills
 - Outcome Star Measurement tool completed by young people to measure their growth in resilience, self-esteem and confidence throughout the duration of their engagement
 - Mental Health Well-Being Surveys completed by young people to measure mental well-being of young people in the project, and support locally trusted organisations to effectively address any issues that may arise

- 2) In the number of 'at risk' young people enhancing their employability skills through local sport interventions
 - A suite of training opportunities will be provided to enhance young people's development and connectivity to formal qualifications
 - Locally trusted organisations will support young people to develop their employability skills through front-line delivery and one-to-one support
 - Young people's engagement with volunteering opportunities will further support their future prospects
- 3) Increase in the number of 'at risk' young people involved in, and connecting with, community-based positive activities, positively impacting their behaviours, attitudes and engagement
 - 'At risk' young people will be connected with local Doorstep Sport provisions, delivering weekly sport programmes, enabling them to connect with other young people and form positive relationships in attempt to form new circles of influence

Agreed Project Outputs

- 1) 45 'at risk' young people actively volunteering at, and engaging with, community sport provisions
 - 2) 6 referral frameworks, situated in alignment with local 'crime profiles', designed to support young people into, through, and beyond, community sport provisions
 - 3) 10 young people completing Traineeships, supported by the Welsh Rugby Union
-

Aligning Home Office Funded Interventions

As referenced above, the aims of the Positive Activity Through Sport programme compliment those of the Safer Together Through Sport project. With this in mind, StreetGames propose to communicate and mobilise both interventions concurrently, where appropriate, to:

1. Streamline conversations at an operational and strategic level
2. Extend current action-based research approaches associated to 'early intervention and prevention' to consider the drivers of serious violence
3. Extend existing referral pathways to address the drivers of serious violence
4. Build a greater bank of understanding integral to shaping future delivery, practice and investment strategies
5. Pool resource to support and sustain front-line delivery
6. Build staffing capacity – extending: reach into communities, engagements with stakeholders and ability to connect local programmes and initiatives

The table below provides an overview of both programmes. More information on the Safer Together Through Sport programme can be found in Briefing Papers 1 ([Project Overview](#)) and 2 ([Additional Information](#)).

	Safer Together Through Sport	Positive Activities Through Sport
Lead Agency	Derbyshire PCC	South Wales PCC
Project Manager	Stuart Felce (StreetGames)	Aaron Northmore (StreetGames)
Programme Funding	£451,712	£186,498
Programme Duration	October 2017 – March 2020	November 2018 – March 2020