

Active Black Country Partnership  
Board Meeting  
Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> September 2019  
(Beacon Centre, Wolverhampton Road East,  
Wolverhampton WV4 6AZ)



**Present:**

**Board Members:** Deborah Williams (DW) Amanda Tomlinson (AT), Richard Medcalf (RM), Kim Babb (KB), Richard Callicot (RC) Anam Choudhury (AC) and Rachel Conlisk (RCL)

**ABCA Nominated:** Lisa McNally (LM) and Cllr Farut Shaheen (FS)

**Advisors:** Ian Carey (IC) Jennie Bimson (JB)

**In attendance:** Michael Salmon (MS) Daniel Allen (DA) and Rebecca Hill (RH)

**Apologies:** Guy Shears, Arwyn Jones, Sarah Middleton, Cllr Nicolas Barlow, Graham MacPherson Ash Rai and Paul Griffiths

MINUTE NO.	NOTES & ACTION	Who
43/19	<b>Welcome and Apologies</b>	
	Welcome from Chair.  Apologies noted.	
44/19	<b>Minutes – 30<sup>th</sup> July 2019</b>	
	The minutes of the meeting held in 30 <sup>th</sup> July 2019 were submitted and confirmed as a correct record of the meeting.  However, a request was put forward to amend the following points: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• That Rachel Conslick was reappointed as an Independent member and not a co-opted member as referred to in the minutes.</li> <li>• Page 7 typographical error; should be 'social prescribing', not 'social subscribing.'</li> </ul>	<b>RH Completed</b>  <b>RH Completed</b>
45/19	<b>Approval of Advisory Board Member</b>	
	The Chair confirmed that Board Members were happy to appoint Sue Wilkinson as an Advisory Member. Sue was scheduled to attend her first Active Black Country Board (ABC) meeting on 27 <sup>th</sup> November 2019.	
46/19	<b>Strategic Engagement with Sport England via ABCA (Attached)</b>	
	IC shared that at the June 2019 ABC Board meeting an update was	

	<p>provided on the letter drafted on behalf of the Association of Black Country Authorities (ABCA) to Tim Hollingsworth (CEO Sport England). This letter had highlighted the appetite for Black Country stakeholders to work collaboratively to drive forward transformational change in physical activity levels across the Black Country.</p> <p>The letter built on previous discussions with Sport England regarding their level of investment into the Black Country in 2018/19. Those discussions resulted in an additional £150,000 of investment provided by Sport England to trial a place-based approach in tackling physical inactivity.</p> <p>The fund is destined to develop a framework for place-based change, developing a sense of shared purpose to make the best use of community assets and lead to better outcomes. In response to the ABCA letter Sport England have requested to attend a future ABCA meeting to discuss the overarching approach between Black Country Stakeholders and Sport England.</p> <p>Sport England had been invited to attend either the December 2019 ABCA meeting or the January 2020 ABCA meeting. This enabled sufficient time to be taken to develop a cohesive view with partners and associated 'ask' of Sport England.</p>	
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<b>47/19</b>	<b>Towards An Active Black Country Strategic Framework</b>
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	<p><b>Health &amp; Wellbeing</b></p> <p>Board Members were informed that ABC had been invited by the STP to sit on the core team of a new Population Health Management project that looked to tackle health inequalities amongst children and young people with a specific focus on early years with the use of an intervention that, at the time, was yet to be decided.</p> <p>Following discussions amongst the Core team the project focus was narrowed down to three topics;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identifying SEN in early years to increase school readiness</li> <li>• Increasing levels of physical literacy amongst young people to reduce health inequalities</li> <li>• Developing asthma pathways for early years</li> </ul> <p>Confirmation was received in August 2019 that the Black Country STP had selected the topic of physical literacy; the core group will now look to develop a targeted intervention over the coming months.</p> <p>This process will include;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A literature review into physical literacy, carried out by the NHS Strategy Unit.</li> <li>• The mapping of potential data sources by an Analyst team who were working in parallel to the Core team. This provided the project with high level forecasting and opportunity analysis with a view to having modelled data at MSOA or LSOA level.</li> <li>• A 2-day regional event will be held in mid-September where all Core teams across the West Midlands are to receive additional training in the principles of Population Health Management and the Black Country team had the opportunity to consider the options for an</li> </ul>	
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intervention.

The ABC Board will be regularly informed of progress.

### **Cycling Social Prescribing Pilot - Smethwick**

The Board was informed at the July 2019 meeting that ABC had worked with Transport for West Midlands, British Cycling and Sandwell MBC on a pilot to see cycling increased in the region through social prescribing referrals.

It has been confirmed that the pilot will take place in the town of Smethwick in Sandwell. A number of potential starting sites have been identified including Hadley Stadium and Victoria Park.

Volunteers will be recruited by British Cycling (but using resources across all partner organisations) using a digital marketing campaign, local community organisations, schools, GPs and council and wider networks. Using both indoor and outdoor facilities at Hadley Stadium in Smethwick, British Cycling intended to hold one 2-day training course for 20 individuals as part of this programme that looked to incorporate two separate elements;

The project aims to incorporate two recruitment pathways;

- GP-Led Recruitment: Sandwell Public Health and ABC have engaged two GP surgeries in the Smethwick area (Cape Hill Medical Practice and Victoria Health Centre) with the aim of encouraging referrals from GPs into 'Learn to Ride' or 'Guided Rides' programme. Engaged practices shall be encouraged to achieve Active Practice status, as defined by a new partnership between Sport England and the Royal College of General Practitioners.
- Community Self-Referral: Utilising the soft launch of Sandwell MBC's community based social prescribing programme, whereby residents self-refer to activities and opportunities within a web-based system.

### **Community**

#### ***Faith Centre engagement***

Faith and Sport Forum took place on Tuesday 9th July 2019 at the Balaji Temple, Sandwell. In the region of 70 people attended, with the delegates ranging from Places of worship/faith-based groups, strategic partners and Sport providers.

Since the Faith and Sport forum a number of national governing bodies have connected with Places of Worship. The Wolves foundation, Staffordshire cricket and The Lawn Tennis Association all delivered their sport as part of a multisport day at the Guru Nanak which engaged over 1000 participants.

Equally, these national governing bodies had also delivered taster sessions with Balaji Temple and Aladdin's education Centre in Wolverhampton. Moreover, sector partners and National Governing bodies continued to develop relationships with places of worship as a result of the forum.

Headline feedback from the Faith and Sport forum focused around establishing more localized Interfaith Networks, support to upskill faith centre volunteers, resources (directory and myth busting) and the continued connection of the sectors.

**West Midlands PCC**

ABC's "Community Safety Partnership" was established via the collection of organizations/groups from across Black Country who had a proven track record of using sport as a diversionary activity.

ABC had secured circa £138,000 from West Midlands PCC to disseminate to 8 organizations/sports clubs in "Community Safety Partnership" across the Black Country to deliver sport/P. A across the school summer holiday period to divert young people away from crime and Anti-Social Behavior.

The Summer activities programme ended on 30th August 2019, with focus moved on to the collecting of monitoring data from all of the organizations involved in the programme. Early signs showed that as a collective the organisations engaged over 1000 young people over the summer period and more importantly diverted many young people away from crime/ASB. - There will be an Impact report to follow.

**Inclusive Cycling provision:**

Consultation had taken place with Sandwell and Dudley Local Authorities along with various other partners on the placement of Inclusive Cycling Hubs. The current position is to see bids to submitted to Sport England places to ride investment programme to secure investment for the Hubs in Sandwell and Dudley.

**Sport England Community Asset Fund**

ABC had been involved in a pilot project with Sport England around their Community Asset Fund (CAF). CAF was a capital funding programme designed to support a range of community organisations and groups by making them more sustainable community businesses. ABC developed a pipeline of projects and a pipeline of priority projects that were aimed to support investment across the Black Country.

**Activity Alliance**

A proposal for the Get out and get active (GOGA), a proposal led by the Activity Alliance nationally had been developed. Activity Alliance identified the Black Country as an area of potential investment for this programme due to the work being conducted around places of worship and social prescribing. The proposal focused on two referral routes, being places of worship audiences and referrals through GP's. The outcome is to be fed back to the Board at a later date.

**Black Country Fund**

IC confirmed that a place-based approach was to be adopted to see funds utilised over eight wards within the Black Country. Residents engagement and partnership work with 'Black Country Together' via two Community Connectors were the intended route to see investment spent.

The finances had been channeled via the West Midlands Combined Authority, and tenders had now gone live. The closing date was 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019, with awards undertaken once the applications had been reviewed by the procurement panel.

**Education**

	<p>Education paper was tabled for Board members interest  <b>Workforce, Employment and Skills</b></p> <p><b>WSE</b> paper was tabled for Board members interest</p>	
<b>48/19 Commonwealth Games 2022 Report</b>		
	<p><b>Sandwell Aquatics Centre</b></p> <p>LM confirmed that the planning process for the Aquatics Centre was on schedule and there were no areas of concern.</p> <p><b>Black Country Commonwealth Games 2022 Group</b></p> <p>IC stated that the Board had seen the Terms of Reference for the Steering Group last year. These had been developed by the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership along with ABC. These terms had successfully been approved by ABCA.</p> <p>Appropriate stakeholders had been proposed, yet the flexibility for membership to remain fluid had been permitted.</p> <p>The steering group had developed a framework that featured a set of meaningful, resilient legacy themes.</p> <p>The draft legacy framework sought to identify key strategic legacy priorities and how they supported a range of desired outcomes providing benefits to stakeholders across the Black Country.</p> <p>The themes and respective priorities have been identified by intelligence through local consultation to use the Commonwealth Games as a catalyst to enhance ambitions</p> <p>The work to date had provided a platform to hone and develop a small set of priorities that were reflective of Black Country partners ambitions and could be used to form a set of common priorities, for use by Black Country representatives to advocate the regional interest and see the opportunities from CG2022 maximised.</p> <p>Black Country Consortium, BCLEP and Active Black Country wished to source an individual or organisations to work with them to;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Undertake consultation to further develop the framework</li> <li>2. Map Black Country Local Authority officer representation across the CG2022 Governance structure</li> </ol> <p>KB was to pick up the tendering circulation, and the work was due to take place between September-December 2019.</p>	
<b>49/19 Annual Board Evaluation</b>		
	<p>Under the Code for Sports Governance (Sport England), Active Partnership Boards were subjected to an external evaluation every four years.</p>	

	<p>In addition, the Board was required to undertake an annual evaluation of its own skills and performance and of individual directors.</p> <p>Supported by Sport England, Active Black Country undertook a full external governance review in March 2017 and was therefore due for its next external review early in 2021.</p> <p>Individual discussions between the Chair and Independent Directors were conducted annually. This year, discussions took place between June and August 2019. The purpose of this next step was to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draw out general points from individual reviews for the development of the Board.</li> <li>• Incorporate learning from an Active Partnerships Board Evaluation Project published in July 2019.</li> <li>• Develop an action plan</li> </ul> <p>Board Members agreed the action plan to incorporate learning from individual reviews as well as from the Active Partnerships Board Evaluation project. This would include the development of specific targets for portfolio interests during the ABC Away Day on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2019.</p>	
<b>50/19</b>	<b>Dashboards and Audit Committee Update</b>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Performance</b></li> </ul> <p>IC explained that Performance would be addressed either at the next meeting of the Board or the information circulated electronically.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Finance report</b></li> </ul> <p>It was felt by the Board Members that the income was not helpfully represented in the report. IC stated that this would be addressed in time for the next meeting.</p> <p>An overspend appeared apparent, but IC explained this was only because some budgets do not align with the financial year; this would eventually come back into line. Equally, there had been a limited number of spends posted to incorrect cost centres.</p> <p>IC acknowledged that rising meeting room expenses were unavoidable. He also stressed that any venue arrangements fees associated with CG2022 were split 50/50.</p> <p>AT suggested that a forecast type position would be useful to the Board due to the current dynamic situation it found itself in, as the report in its existent format did not tie profile budgets and profile spend together.</p> <p>The Chair directed that going forward the budgets must be reprofiled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Safeguarding report &amp; policy</b></li> </ul> <p>The subject of safeguarding was to be added to a future agenda to enable it</p>	

to be discussed robustly. An early 2020 meeting was suggested.

**51/19 Chair Update/Director Update**

It was shared that the Active Partnership Network's Annual General Meeting/Development Day had been scheduled for mid-November 2019. The Chair expressed regret that she was unable to attend, but stressed that ABC would be represented by both IC and AT. The Agenda question circulated was 'What is a good practice model for regional body working'.

IC added that the ABC Chair appointment recruitment process had begun, with a closing date of the 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019. Members will be updated in due course as to developments.

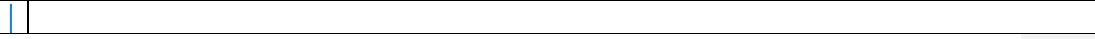
It was to be a two-stage process, with the first stage to involve partnership officers and then moving towards the nomination committee.

**52/19 AOB**

**53/19**

**Active Black Country Board Programme of Meetings 2020**

Date	Venus	Time	Full Address
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> January	Beacon Centre	10.00-12.30	Wolverhampton Road East, Wolverhampton WV4 6AZ Phone: 01902 880111
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Dudley College	15.00-17.30	The Broadway, Dudley DY1 4AS Phone: 01384 363000
Wednesday 20 <sup>th</sup> May	National Metal forming Centre	14.00-16.00	NMC, 47 Birmingham Road, West Bromwich, West Midlands, B70 6PY Phone: 0121 601 6350
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> July	Walsall Campus	10.00-12.00	The Hub, Littleton Street West, Walsall, WS2 8ES Phone: 01922 657090
Wednesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> September	Beacon Centre	15.00-17.00	Wolverhampton Road East, Wolverhampton WV4 6AZ Phone: 01902 880111
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> November	Dudley College	11.00-13.00	The Broadway, Dudley DY1 4AS Phone: 01384 363000



**Meeting ended 17.20**

