

Active Black Country (ABC) Partnership Board Meeting

**24th March 2021 – 11:00
Microsoft Teams (recorded)**

In Attendance:	Amanda Tomlinson (Chair) (AT) Arwyn Jones (AJ) Ash Rai (AR) Chris Jones (CJ) Cllr Nicolas Barlow (NB) Jennie Bimson (JB) Rachel Conlisk (RC) Richard Callicott (RCa) Richard Metcalf (RM)
BCC Officers in Attendance:	Ian Carey (IC), Leanne Lloyd (LL) – note taker
Apologies:	Paul Griffiths, Guy Shears, Carol Bate, Kim Babb
No Response:	Lisa McNally, Sue Wilkinson
Board Members:	Amanda Tomlinson, (Chair) (AT), Kim Babb (KB), Cllr Nicolas Barlow (NB), Carol Bate (CB), Richard Callicott (RC), Rachel Conlisk (RC), Arwyn Jones (AJ), Richard Medcalf (RM), Ash Rai (AR), Lisa McNally (LMcN)
Advisors:	Jennie Bimson (JB), Chris Jones (CJ), Sue Wilkinson (SW), Paul Griffiths (PG)
Welcome from Chair and apologies noted.	

Agenda No.	Notes & Actions	Action Owner
11/21	Conflicts & Declarations of Interest	
	No declarations were received.	n/a
12/21	Approval of Minutes ABC Board Meeting	
	The Minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2021 were submitted. Outstanding actions are on-going and to be discussed during the meeting. Agreed that the minutes was a correct record of the meeting.	n/a

Agenda No.	Notes & Actions	Action Owner
13/21	ABC STRATEGIC REVIEW	
	<p>IC provided an update on the ABC Strategic Review and the objectives outlining the intent and integration across the Black Country, combining the organisation strategy v the place-based strategy divide. The place-based strategy being a whole place approach that seeks to align investment across the region to work more pro-actively.</p> <p>IC noted the engagement of the ABC staff, knowing that this hasn't been easy with the pandemic restrictions.</p> <p><u>Overarching feedback</u></p> <p>The overarching feedback has been consistent throughout the consultation and engagement process; with sourced information from sector skills refresh, skills plan, strategic engagement, day jobs for the last two years and the stakeholder survey. The question on the ABC strategic review has sourced to explore the rationale for the themes, the outcome seeking to focus on long-term change and what would matter to the partners. There has been overwhelming commitment from leaders across the Black Country, leaders from all levels within organisations that work with ABC. There is recognition of the power of sport and physical activity to drive positive change across a range of outcomes, predominantly through the impact of COVID, focusing on mental and physical health. One commitment has come from a Chief Executive from a LA to unite transport and health with the outcome of a more accessible cycling and walking infrastructure.</p> <p>Two other main points of the feedback include understanding the geography of the Black Country and working together with other areas and the recognition of taking a longer-term view, arising from reviewing the impact of COVID within the Black Country.</p> <p>Areas of focus from the away day include supporting outdoor sports, improve health & wellbeing, tackling inequalities, create active environments, more collaboration with schools and education partners and develop and maintain a wider workforce to support diverse, inclusive and attainable activity opportunities.</p> <p>There are seven emerging strategic goals; set of overarching goals to provide clear and simple reporting with the measure of progress. These goals allow flexibility over a longer period, and don't define a rigid solution, driven by national and principal funder to get people active and unite the movement.</p>	

	<p>ABC way of working will include working in partnership across the Black Country to increase activity levels to make a positive change, listen to needs and retain focus on community-based principles, encourage everyone through stronger campaigns to get more people active.</p> <p><u>Feedback</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A need to identify non-traditional activities and how to support them 2. It is important to build on the social and personal connection 3. A good summary of goals and a balance between indirect activities where ABC would be the enabling organisation and the strategic goals where ABC would be the lead delivery organisation 4. Digestible summary and important that non-traditional sports are recognised 5. 10-year plan is important to monitor progress from early years to secondary school age 6. How will the KPI goals be monitored, recorded and measure progress? 7. How does the strategic review align with the new Sport England strategy of uniting the movement? Sport England uniting the movement is meant to be an advocacy piece, they see the Active Partnership as a way to align with their themes but we still have to apply what is best suited to the Black Country 8. For local people to access and make use of space and facilities – Sport England have a conflict of this, they invest in facilities yet don't seem to invest in local facilities This is being addressed, all Sport England departments are now working closely and are requesting local knowledge to agree in investments. <p><u>Towards an Active Black Country</u></p> <p>Our principal outcome is let's get people active. The reporting framework to enable board members and wider stakeholders to see progress against outcomes needs to be reviewed. In the ABC July meeting this will be discussed further; a system to enable assurance over progress, taking learning and apply into future iterations, with a heavy focus on measurements on key learning and softer indicators.</p> <p>Action: ABC Board Members to receive the final framework in June for sign off and the strategy sub board meet in between to shape final draft.</p>	IC/AT
14/21	TOWARDS AN ACTIVE BLACK COUNTRY STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK	
	<p>IS provided an update on behalf of the ABC team reports:</p> <p><u>Health & Wellbeing</u> Papers noted</p> <p><u>Education</u> Healthy Schools Platinum Award was launched this week and thanks given to all officers involved. It was confirmed that the Rainbow Hour has longevity and there are plans in place for a Rainbow bus to visit schools.</p>	

	<p>ACTION: TA to provide an update in June's ABC meeting, to include the % of schools that are not engaging.</p> <p>The Board showed their appreciation regarding the work of the Rainbow Hour promotion. Asked if there a national programme to recognise the work they education team are doing?</p> <p>ACTION: look into any recognition awards, use this to promote the ABC.</p> <p><u>Workforce</u> The skills plan shows great importance to ABC. Sport England are looking forward to the findings.</p> <p>ACTION: Are there any Board members that would like to support his process through 1-2-1 or within group discussions please contact Jo Dodd or IC to be added to the distribution list:</p> <p>Joanne_Dodd@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk</p> <p><u>Communities</u> Papers noted</p> <p><u>Healthy Placemaking</u> To reference the established leisure operator's forum that will support the progression of the CG legacy. First meeting to be held next week.</p> <p>AR and RM expressed interested regarding joining the forum and providing any help where possible.</p> <p><u>Marketing & Communications</u> Papers noted</p> <p><u>Black Country Pilot</u> An update was initially provided in ABC November 2020 meeting regarding the impact of COVID. The community connectors have started within their post and are a great asset to the Black Country. They have made virtual contact with eight priority ward areas. The resident engagement survey is now complete, the initial target was for 500 responses but they have achieved 1000 responses. The results are being analysed and will be provided in a report to the connectors.</p> <p>Marketing has reached radio and Twitter.</p> <p>This will be discussed in further ABC meetings.</p>	<p>TA</p> <p>IC</p> <p>ALL</p>
--	---	---

15/21	COMMONWEALTH GAMES 2022
	<p>In partnership with the BC LEP, the Board members were consulted on the CG Legacy Framework. The ambition was to champion the role the BC can play; provide a vision statement and deliver engagement to ensure the framework was reflective of the priorities.</p> <p>The framework and papers were signed off by ABCA late 2020 and Lindsey Flynn (Chair of CG Board) and AT contacted the OC to ask for them to recognise the BC steering Group and the framework as the basis to land strategic BC sub-regional items and that the forum can facilitate and share this information to maximise the opportunity.</p> <p>Sport England have announced they will provide some funding to activate legacy from the CG. ABC have submitted a bid and Sport England have provided a positive steer on how this will be received and indicated that the funding could be increased to £1.2m for the BC, currently capped at £700-750 per submission.</p> <p>CJ provided an update from Sandwell Council on the Aquatic Centre; the front of the building has progressed with cladding with glazing in place, roof completion has slowed down due to the bad weather so a push is required to make the building partially water-tight, there is cladding on the eastern elevation, northern elevation cladding will commence upon the completion of the western cladding elevation. All concrete and spectator seating, diving tower and plinths are in place and mechanical installation is under way. Confident that the building will be ready for the CG. There will be a test event held at the Aquatic Centre, with details provided by the OC by the end of April, likely to take place in May 2022.</p> <p>Discussions held with the Director at the OC and with IC on how to push legacy venues forward, the use and development of venues needs to be used to its full potential. Agreed with the Director that a further work stream will be set-up under the legacy banner which will focus on venue legacy. CJ will lead on this with a ToR under review. A meeting will be progressed within the next few weeks.</p> <p>DCMS and Sport England see the value of this separate work stream to focus on the venue's legacy.</p>
16/21	PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT
	<p><u>Operational dashboards</u></p> <p>IC provided an update to the board regarding the budget report with the exception of tackling inequalities fund, with virtually all other direct delivery funding streams over the course of the last year have flexibility to profile to the end of 21/22 with no restrictions.</p> <p>The tackling inequalities fund has been awarded further £122,000 (referenced in the community's fund). This will prove to be a useful fund to help work through the restrictions road map and also to help with the implementation of the Black Country Pilot.</p> <p>The risk register summary has not shown any significant amends since January's ABC meeting. The details of the risk register will be reviewed in-line with the new strategic framework which will be discussed in June's ABC meeting.</p> <p>The NPS score for this year is 55, decreased from 69 but still in-line with the national average.</p>

	<p><u>Safeguarding Report</u> Papers and dashboard noted.</p> <p><u>ABC Board Report – Year to March 31st 2021</u> Papers noted.</p>	
17/21	FORWARD PLANNER	
	Not discussed, carry forward.	
18/21	DATE OF NEXT MEETING	
	<p>Agreed that the next meeting would be held 23rd June 2021 (Microsoft Teams invite sent).</p> <p>Remaining 2021 Meetings: 22nd September - 15th December (away day)</p>	
19/21	AOB	
	No other business addressed.	
20/21	21/22 ANNUAL BUDGET & OPERATIONS PLAN	
	<p>Confidential discussion held with the Board Members regarding 21/22 ABC budget and the 21/22 operational plan</p> <p>Board members commented on strong budget for 21/22</p> <p>21/22 Budget and Operational Plan approved</p>	
21/21	GOVERNANCE REVIEW	
	<p>Confidential discussion held with the Board Members regarding race code and succession planning.</p> <p>ACTION: The Board in agreement to reconvene at the Governance Sub group to review board composition and succession planning in more detail, with a report to be presented to June Board.</p>	AT/IC

Meeting concluded at 12:30