

Active Black Country (ABC) Partnership Board Meeting

25th November 2020 – 11:00

Microsoft Teams

In Attendance:	Amanda Tomlinson (Chair) (AT), Ian Carey (IC), Carol Bate (CB), Jennie Bimson (JB), Councillor Nicolas Barlow (NB), Richard Callicott (RC), Rachel Conlisk (RCo), Richard Metcalf (RM), Chris Jones (CJ), Guy Shears (GS), Arwyn Jones (AJ), Sue Wilkinson (SW), Leanne Lloyd (LL)
BCC Officers in Attendance:	Ian Carey (IC), Leanne Lloyd (LL)
Apologies:	Ash Rai (AR), Chris Jones (CJ), Kim Babb (KB), Paul Griffiths (PG)
Board Members:	Amanda Tomlinson, (Chair) (AT), Kim Babb (KB), Councillor 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.	Agenda Item	Notes & Actions	Action Owner
39/20	Conflicts & Declarations of Interest	No declarations were received.	n/a
40/20	Approval of Minutes ABC Board Meeting	<p>The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23rd September 2020 were submitted.</p> <p>RM asked for clarification regarding Commonwealth Games Legacy Framework and the Sandwell Organising Committee putting a structure in place. Does this relate to the Aquatic Centre work or the work of the ABC group?</p> <p>IC confirmed that Sandwell are looking to put their own framework in place to suit Sandwell and ABC will do the same for the BC also.</p> <p>Agreed that the minutes was a correct record of the meeting.</p>	n/a

41/20	ABC Strategic Review	<p>IC Presented on the strategic review of ABC, information shown from slides of Sports England to guide key points, content and structure of December 2020 ABC Away Day (presentation attached).</p> <p>Sport England are working through their own timeline for strategy and implementation (announced January 2021). Anticipate that they will be in a position to launch their own strategy and have a period of engagement to see how they bring it to life.</p> <p>For ABC locally, there are some key drivers; our strategic intent and integration, context of our role, how our revised strategy will ensure we get ownership and buy-in from local partners and build on existing work to-date. There is a clear long-term ambition for Sports England, spread over a 10-year period. For ABC it means that there will be 3-4 funding cycles throughout that 10-year period.</p> <p>ACTION: Essential to the partnership strategic review is our own organisation and partners clear understanding of the below: -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why we exist? 2. What we do? 3. How we should work? <p>This will shape and support discussions at the ABC Away Day, helping to strike the balance between the Board organisation strategy and what our organisation can identify with; serving a purpose that our partners can see.</p>	ALL - complete
42/20	ABC Risk	<p>Chair provided an update on the progression of the Governance Framework from the Governance Task and Finish Group. At the most recent meeting risk strategy and policy was reviewed, considered how we might shape that for the future. It was agreed we will undertake a further review of the headline risks associated with ABC work as part of the strategic review.</p> <p>IC has circulated the performance dashboard, showcasing the risk and RAG rating.</p> <p>All agreed and noted.</p>	

<p>43/20</p>	<p>Towards an Active Black Country Strategic Framework</p>	<p><u>HEALTH & WELLBEING</u> All agreed and noted, as per Agenda 6a within the meeting pack.</p> <p>RC questioned if there had been an opportunity to access the Wolverhampton Bike Scheme during COVID and has there been any overall assessments with any other organisations? IC confirmed that Transport for West Midlands have reported a significant increase in bike usage from the first lockdown, with a number of bike counters around the network and the results can be seen at a detailed level. January 2021 will see the establishment of a new Government agency, Active Travel England. They are set to receive significant funding with a 4—5-year window to invest the funds.</p> <p>ACTION: Share the breakdown of figures from Transport for West Midlands on the West Midlands network with the Board members. <i>(IC Updated 27/01/21 – on-going, will be resolved within the next week)</i></p> <p><u>EDUCATION</u> All agreed and noted, as per Agenda 6b within the meeting pack.</p> <p>ACTION: SW asked for the DofE Holiday Hunger paper to be distributed to the Board.</p> <p>JB inquired if there was an increase in schools signing-up to the Rainbow Hour following Tim Aldred (TA) Midlands Today segment? IC confirmed that there was not a direct increase with new schools adopting the Rainbow Hour but there was an increase in student numbers within the schools already taking part.</p> <p>IC confirmed that plans are in progression to upscale the Rainbow Hour with a Rainbow Bus tour to go around the local schools and hopefully to gain increased media coverage.</p> <p>RM added that we should invest in time to promote this work. A deliberate programme plan to be on the front foot and push these schemes is required.</p>	<p>IC</p> <p>IC - Complete</p>
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INSIGHT

IC introduced the Insight Hub, an interactive tool showcasing opportunities to get people active, with links available to support this.

<https://www.activeblackcountry.co.uk/insight-hub/>

The Chair highlighted the data below.

	Inactive (<i>Less than 30 weekly minutes</i>)	Fairly Active (<i>30-149 weekly minutes</i>)	Active (<i>150+ weekly minutes</i>)
Dudley	31.9% (+0.4)	17.0% (+5.1)	51.1% (-5.5)
Sandwell	35.7% (+2.1)	12.4% (-2.7)	51.9% (+0.7)
Walsall	36.0% (+4.8)	13.4% (+2.6)	50.6% (-7.4)
Wolverhampton	36.6% (+2.9)	11.5% (-2.2)	51.9% (-0.7)
Black Country	34.9% (+2.4)	13.7% (+0.8)	51.4% (-3.3)
England	25.5% (+0.7)	11.7% (-0.3)	62.8% (-0.4)

IC confirmed that the BC has consistently remained inactive but a changed methodology over the years with Sports England broader range of activity and communication methods. It remains a challenge for 2021.

RC inquired what has been done to identify issues with health during lockdown and lack of inactivity.

CB confirmed that there has been a segmented attempt to resolve this i.e. weight company subscriptions or providing prescription to exercise programmes but an on-going concern with closing clinics due to COVID.

MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS

JB has been in talks with Jo Brooker to suggest additional data for future ABC Board meetings, showcasing social media status. Along with a Marketing plan for 2021, with a view to be finalised and shared on or around the Away Day.

AT confirmed the Marketing update was shared within the recent LEP Board meeting.

CB suggested that it is important to build on our local presence, as well as nationally to increase partners that want to work with us.

		<p><u>LEISURE OPERATORS ENGAGEMENT</u></p> <p>IC introduced Richard Bradford (RB), the partnerships Opening School Facilities lead, already made an impact on work done with leisure operators to recognise their current industry pressure.</p> <p>Shared concern that a current ban on exercise classes will hit leisure operators especially if the majority of their members only use facilities for these programmes.</p> <p>SW is concerned with the number of highly skilled people that have lost their jobs within this sector already. Asked if ABC can do anything to support them?</p> <p>AT/IC addressed this issue and understand that ABC have a big role to play with steering opportunities. The partnership will be completing a revision to the Sector Skills Plan that will support this work.</p>	
44/20	Governance	<p>IC suggested that the timescale and process will shift slightly, led by Sports England own review into the Governance Framework. ABC have completed an internal review so now are in a position to move immediately.</p> <p>Our diversity session was successful. It will be discussed in more depth during the Away Day.</p>	
45/20	Performance Management	<p>Operational Dashboards</p> <p>IC discussed the dashboards. Highlighted that the majority of programme investment hasn't be used, but there is flexibility from Sports England to reprofile this over a longer period and to spend on areas on local need.</p> <p>Waiting on the drawdown on the Youth Endowment fund and also the emergency active transport funding, with a view to be completed by December (equal to £100,000).</p> <p>IC summarised the key points within the ABC risk register. Highlighted the failure to deliver across all services; loss of capacity and the need to retrain staff providing them with greater potential and to tackle inactivity.</p> <p>SW asked whether there is a succession plan in place to support the loss of key personnel?</p> <p>ACTION: Update the succession plan and take forward to the board when finalised. <i>(IC Updated 27/01/21 – work in-progress/further discussion with AT)</i></p>	AT/IC

46/20	Forward Planner	<p>ACTION: Review dates for 2021 and reshape the agenda. <i>(IC Updated 27/01/21 – further review required)</i></p>	AT/IC
47/20	Date of Next Meeting	<p>Agreed that the next meeting would be held 27/01/2021 at 11:00 – 13:00 (Microsoft Teams invite sent).</p>	
48/20	AOB	<p>ACTION: CB asked for a summary of the ABC Team and their roles – requested an introduction to new staff members.</p> <p>CB informed the Board that the COVID vaccination team at Birmingham University are advertising varied jobs.</p> <p>ACTION: Email information to IC to forward onto the BCC Skills Team and Employment Skills Board.</p>	<p>IC - Complete</p> <p>CB - Complete</p>

Meeting concluded at 12:30