

SDSN - Online forum

04 October 2022

Agenda

1. Chailey Heritage LSC (Leisure and Skills Centre) - Jo Butterworth (15mins)
2. WelcoMe - Gavin Neate (20-30mins)
3. Facilities audit (10mins)
4. Open discussion/question time - Things you'd like to share, successes, challenges...

Facilities audit discussion

Summary of survey responses so far (was first sent out in March 2022)

- Lack of sport specific facilities and those with necessary storage options especially in respect of disability sport equipment
- Lack of truly accessible venues
- Lack of good public transport links to certain venues or only to those where capacity already at max
- Refurbishments needed - especially to council owned facilities
- High venue costs - making it difficult to keep charges low and enable organisations to sustain themselves
- Priority given to traditional, higher income generating sports - not helping to tackle inequalities

Thoughts and current situation from attendees

- Had to stop Compass card due to financial constraints however it fortunately hasn't affected usage too significantly
- Seeing more older customers or those who have been isolated attending who haven't before
- Day centres have shut or are shutting (meaning another facility option gone) so it's been really important to be able to signpost to inclusive physical activity provision for both physical and mental wellbeing and social opportunities.
- Engaging and supporting rural settings can be issues - harder to understand need/challenges
- It is encouraging more collaboration
- Need to advocate stronger at higher policy level

Next steps

- Active Sussex to continue to review needs and challenges - so keep us posted!!
- More advocacy and influencing across the network
- Think about how it fits into the wider UTM Active Environments discussion
- Possible funding or programme opportunities - Together Fund, Opening Schools Facilities?
- Multi-sports facilities project - watch this space?
- Utilise and promote resources around Active and inclusive environments such as
 - UTM Strategy Active Environments
 - Sport England Active Environments Framework - a framework of specialist consultancy support for the sector which covers four 'lots'.
 - Sport England Strategic Facilities Fund
 - Activity Alliance resources - Access for All: Opening Doors
 - Club Matters 'How to create an inclusive environment' - to help your clubs and groups consider their practices and make steps towards being more inclusive. If you don't have control over the physical environment what else can be done.

Thank you for your participation in today's online forum.

Information from the discussions and a recording if deemed useful will be shared with you and the wider SDSN in due course.

Proposed date of next virtual meeting - Wednesday 14 December