

# INCLUSIVE SPORT



## Inclusive Sport Project 4th Board Report

Date 29<sup>th</sup> September 2012  
Report by Lee Dolby – National Sport Inclusion Officer

### **Brief background to the project**

The overall aim of the project is to work with the National Deaf Sports Associations and a selection of National Governing Bodies of sport to get 900 Deaf people, participating, staying & excelling in sport. We will achieve this through supporting an agreed number of priority National Governing Bodies to develop specific plans to increase deaf participation. These plans will be integrated into the English Federation of Disability Sports plans where sports align. Further information is available on our website [click here](#)

### **Report on Progress**

I have broken the report into the following areas so that you can see what we are doing in each area to achieve the aims and objective of the projects and to raise the profile of UK Deaf Sport as a whole. In order to keep the report as brief as possible we have only highlight the key development and not the smaller details.

Capacity building	Sport Engagement	Partner engagement	Profile and awareness	Back Office
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### **Summary Overview**

As stated in my last report, NGB engagement during this period has been slow. However this has not stopped me pushing to create stronger link. As it may be a while until the Whole Sports Plans are agree i have been working to ensure that we do not lose touch with the NGB and maintain some level of communication so that when the time is right we are ready to finalise discussions and agree partnership action plans. Some additional sport have progressed during this period with Netball and Squash being two of those.

A large part of my time during this period has been taken up with advising and support organisation who are looking to submit applications to the Sport England Inclusive Sport Fund. Many of the bids were limited with their potential impact on Deaf provision focusing mainly on

pan disability activity. However following my advice several have created a focus on creating impairment specific activity which will hopefully enable us to work closer together. Decisions on the fund are due sometime in October so we should know more before our next meeting and AMG

### **Capacity Building**

Having now completed the CSIT (Culture and Sport Improvement Toolkit) self assessment we have been able to identify some key improvement areas that need to be address. These improvement areas need to be structure into improvement project to identify exactly what we are going to do to address them and this is the next stage of development. Further information is being shared at this board meeting in a separate paper.

Progress still continues with the Strategy with several meeting being help between senior board members and sports structure.

### **Sports Engagement.**

This part of the role is still difficult to develop during this period as many of the governing bodies are awaiting feedback from Sport England on their initial draft Whole Sports Plan and are not looking to engage heavily with any partners until they know what sort of financial settlement that will received (which should be around November time). Many governing bodies are reluctant to share these plans with any NDSO's at the minute

Further work still needs to be done on the process for redefining National Deaf Sports Organisation (as outlined in the last report) before this can be rolled out. We will hopefully be picking this up between now and the AGM.

***Below is a summary taken from the Performance Management Framework which outlines the key highlights and challenges. If you require further detailed information on any specific sport please do not hesitate to contact me***

#### **Athletics**

I have progressed further with relationship with England Athletic, having had another meeting about the development plan. The comments that i have made on the plan have been taken positively and i feel now put us on a more even partnership basis. Following feedback and information from

Have not been able to progress any further with DAUK due to unresolved issue with governance.

Red

me England Athletic now have several draft resources for supporting Deaf people within their coach Education programmes

## **Badminton**

Continue to work with Dominic and Lee Bent (regional Officer for the East) this has resulted in a Sportive application for £800 being submitted which if successful will enable the group to do some schools coaching. The plan is to look at this as a pilot and if successful replicate the activity in other areas. England Badminton have been very supportive of the project

none

Green

## **Basketball**

Some concern over the lack of response from basketball following our last meeting. I have tried to engage with them on several occasions now and have received no response to either emails or phone calls. We have supported a coach in Lancaster to gain his level 2 qualification (supported with application for bursary) and we have linked him into Preston Pride Basketball Club who are keen to create new opportunities for deaf player (meeting pending)

DBUK have been struggling with capacity but hopefully this will be better now as they have secured a new secretary which will help with organisation

Amber

<b>Bowls</b>		No progress	White
<b>Cricket</b>	<p>Following several emails around the SE Inclusive Sport Fund. The ECB have agreed that it is their responsibility to provide appropriate communication support across all their activities including development meeting and forum. They have now agreed to provide this. There is good support for Deaf cricket in the Whole Sport Plan (WSP) and it continues to be a strong partnership.</p>	<p>Concern that ECB were unaware that ECAD were making an application to the Inclusive Fund until late in the day. The application showed some duplication with the WSP. ECAD were slow to share the application with anyone (i still have not see it). This lead Ian Martin (Disability Manager ECB) to request that ECAD work closer with him. I thought that this was already happening and will now keep a closer eye on the relationship</p>	Green
<b>Cycling</b>	<p>Highlight one individual to GB Deaf Cycling that wanted to get involved at elite level</p>	No progress with NGB	White
<b>Football</b>	<p>Supported Birmingham Deaf Football club that were about to fold to link into local partner (County FA, County Sports Partnership, Disability Forum Chair, and local Professional Football club). This has resulted in an offer of support with training facilities and administration that will hopefully see the club build from now on.</p>	<p>Very hard to work with the FA during this time due to the Olympics and Paralympics. Will pick this relationship up in the next 1/4</p>	Amber
<b>Golf</b>	<p>By far the most engaged NDeafSO. Successes over</p>	<p>Linkages into the Whole Sport Plan are still to be agreed. Next meeting</p>	Green

this period are securing Tony Jacklin CBE to be there Patron, developing a development plan for the association and securing some funding and support for the World Deaf Golf Team (£250 from local golf day) and support from County Golf Partnership. We also saw the team undertake there first training camp at England Golf Headquarters which was a fantastic success

with England Golf to discuss this is on 18th September

## **Rugby Union**

Good initial meeting with two committee members to discuss basics. Going to look at development planning further over the coming months. They are looking to run a Charity Golf Day to raise fund and i have encourage them to work with EDGA on this which seem to be working well and the two NDeafSO are sharing information and supporting each other which is a real positive step.

Funding from the NGB is very minimal (£3,000 per year) and is under discussion. More will be known after 11th October when a meeting will take place

Green

## **Swimming**

Continually referring new participant to GB Deaf Swimming. Have arrange a meeting with the Chair to explore further the support that they would need to progress and how they are looking to development the

Engagement of the NGB is nonexistent with UK Deaf Sport. This is an issue that i am trying to address. it is worth noting that most other National Disability Sports Organisation and English Federation of Disability Sport are

Amber

	association.	struggling with this relationship also.	
<b>Table Tennis</b>		no further progress since the last report	Amber
<b>Tennis</b>	Reengaged over this period as highlighted in the last report. Further talks are now going to go on about running some pilot activity in partnership with Deaf Tennis and the Tennis Foundation. NGB remains fully supportive at present. I have supported the tennis foundation with consultation on a tennis specific deaf training course which at present is not running as they had hoped and i will be furthering these conversation on October 15th		Green

### **Partner Engagement**

Over the past month where i have had fewer meeting i have tried to create greater NGB and NDSO engagement to ensure relationship are kept strong and we can progress to planning activity in the near future once some other financial agreement have been confirmed with Sport England. I still wanted to show that we are keen to work together and maintain communication in the mean time as i do not want things to go quiet for 6 months.

A couple of noticeable new partnerships have emerged this month with the following organisations

**England Squash and Racquetball** – They have priorities deaf development in their Whole Sport Plan and although i have not seen the details yet i am keen to progress with conversation about how we might work together. In addition Squash have show a great interest in supporting our pilot workshop on communication and we will be working with them to gain feedback in the next couple of months

**Merseyside Society for Deaf People** – They are very keen to work with us on creating a stronger network in the North West and looking at how to increase opportunities in that area. We have agreed to look at further meeting once our strategy is launched

The other main engagement activity this period has been around organisations making application to the Sport England Disability Fund (15 formal approaches).

Buck and Milton Keynes Sports Partnership	National Deaf Children Society
Suffolk Sport	England Cricket Association for the Deaf
British University and College Sport	Sport and Leisure Management (SLM)
Merseyside Society for Deaf People	Black Country Consortium
Birmingham Institute for the Deaf	England Netball
Berkshire County Sports Partnership	Birmingham University
Sport Structures	England Athletics
West Yorkshire Sport	

Not all of those were focus totally on deaf provision with many looking at pan disability activity. I have provided advice, information and support to all to varying degrees dependant on their alignment with are emerging strategy aims and objective and have focus on only endorsing those that really look to address the issues that deaf sport faces. This has resulted in one formal supporting letter and us being mentioned in several other applications as being consulted in the preparation of the plan. More importantly as a result of some of the advice given organisation have altered their application to better reflect and address deaf participant’s needs. This is a very encouraging sign as we are being seen as a key consultation body and more importantly a critical player in developing, planning and establishing new projects.

### **Profile and awareness**

At present i am not trying to create too much more awareness of UK Deaf Sport outside of the partners that we strategically need to engage with as previous work has meant that we are being contacted by more people than we can comfortably deal with effectively. I do continue to develop further bit of information on deaf sport to industry newsletters such as SPAL.

The larger and more noticeable part of profile work that i have been involved in has been within the Deaflympic media interest and fielding calls and leads that have been interested covering a story about the game. All mayor work and correspondence has been passed onto Stuart for him

to provide the quotes and the text for article.

**Back office stuff.**

I have been trying to use this time to work on some of the resource development work that we have been asked to comment on and have provided feedback and comment on several new resources (Netball Umpires guidance, Tennis training course, Rowing presentation.) Our feedback is being well received and seems to genuinely be educating some members of National Governing Bodies and leading to further questions and opportunities for partnership working.

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