

# Lynne Wightman - My week

## Development Manager

### County Durham Sport

"I am responsible for the day to day management of the County Durham Sport development team. The team delivers on, amongst other things, coaching, Playground to Podium, Leadership and Volunteering for young people and the new Sport England Sport Makers initiative. Specifically, I am responsible for the delivery of the Sportivate programme, and the CSP offer to children and young people. I am also responsible for supporting the development of school-club links and will be the CSP Lead on the national School Games. I represent the North East region on the County Sport Partnership Network (CSPn) Children and Young People themed working group. I am the Safeguarding Lead for County Durham Sport."

Get in touch!

Call 0191 372 9124

Email [lynne.wightman@durham.gov.uk](mailto:lynne.wightman@durham.gov.uk)

## Monday

Started the morning catching up on emails, followed by our weekly Core Team meeting. Spent the rest of the morning on Sportivate. All the monitoring and evaluation will be done online, allowing deliverers to register their projects, add participants and record the number of sessions they attend. I am on a focus group testing the portal to ensure it is user friendly and effective.

This afternoon I had a meeting with Sandy Mitchell to discuss National Governing Bodies, as Sandy will now be leading on this work whilst I focus on our offer to children and young people and the management of the Sportivate programme. We discussed what is in place already, such as regional delivery agreements and local action plans, and how this key area of work can be moved forward. It was a long meeting, so I will catch up on the afternoon's emails when I get home as I am waiting for an important one from Sport England.

## Tuesday

I received the email I was waiting for which was the initial feedback from Sport England on the Sportivate Delivery Plan. I read through the plan last night, and made notes based on the feedback, ready to begin contacting partners to get answers to the questions this morning. A number of projects have

been well received and flagged up as good or great by Sport England.

In between Sportivate work, Lucy and I finalised the booking details for the Leadership and Volunteering Celebration Event on 15th July and discussed the Sportivate launch on the 14th June. This needed to be done today as it is Lucy's last day at work before her wedding.

## Wednesday

Early start today to plan for a meeting with Durham University. We work closely with Team Durham on a number of projects, and they have been leading on the Regional Leadership Academy. This is a group of young leaders who come together regularly for training workshops and interactive sessions to support their development. The University has delivered a number of sessions so we discussed what activities to provide next. We also discussed volunteering, and how the University and other partners can link into programmes such as Sport Makers.

This afternoon I was busy with Sportivate again. I checked through each individual CSN plan, confirmed figures and KPIs to the CSN leads, and continued to collate the feedback on the Delivery plan for Sport England.

I also did some work on the School Games. Sport England is interested in how many Level 3 events we might run in the county. A round of consultation emails with the PDMs and we gathered some useful information, both to feed back to Sport England, and to start thinking about in terms of how the games might work in the county.

## Thursday

I provided the final feedback on the Sportivate portal having made one last attempt to break it last night! I then finished and submitted the application for Inspire Mark for Sportivate.

This afternoon I met with John Gray from the RFL to discuss plans to launch rucker-cise in County Durham. This will target girls and young women, offering opportunities to do fitness type activities followed by a bit of touch rugby.

This evening I had a late meeting with CEM at Durham University to discuss the SPARKY survey. SPARKY has been delivered to young people in schools, and we are keen to come up with a way of making the survey more widely available, particularly as the PESSYP survey will no longer be carried out.

## Friday

I had an interesting phone discussion with Sport Structures about the Sportivate portal. Because the online system has been set up differently to the delivery plans there may be a problem with recording multiple blocks of the same activity. This made me want to re-check all our projects (a big task) and it appears there has been some confusion around what constitutes a block and what constitutes a session. It meant contacting some of the providers again to check their information so I used this as an opportunity to chase up responses to the Sport England feedback as well.

My inbox has been a bit neglected this week, unless the email was entitled Sportivate, so I have made sure I have nothing outstanding to respond to. Looking forward to catching up with the core team socially tomorrow, and seeing Helen Emmerson who is now working for England Netball, as we are attending Lucy's evening wedding reception.