

Sandy Mitchell - My week

Strategic Partnership Manager County Durham Sport

I am responsible for the operational management of the CDS Core Team as well as supporting the Executive Director and wider partnership with the strategic coordination, implementation and development of the local delivery system for sport and physical activity. My role specifically involves working with partners to shape the purpose and direction of the **CSN infrastructure for County Durham**, ensuring the effective implementation of the **CPSU Safeguarding Standards for Sport and new Safeguarding Framework**, implementing the time limited Future Jobs Fund project and driving the internal continuous improvement agenda.

Monday

The morning began by catching up on some internal and external emails and was followed with the CDS Core Team Monday Morning meeting; a weekly meeting used to share information/intelligence amongst the team and plan for the week ahead.

The rest of the day was spent focusing on the key actions that resulted from the recent CSN Forum, looking at the dissemination of information and the development of templates to be used by the local CSNs to share information and good practice. 6 a-side football this evening to kick start this week's attempt at 3 x 30 minutes of activity.

Tuesday

An internal continuous improvement meeting this morning focusing on the progress we are making as a team against identified actions in order to develop and improve our performance and the service we offer to partners and the wider community.

As this is a piece of work I am leading on I spent the rest of the day planning out and delegating the work, as agreed in the meeting, that required addressing by some/all of the team.

I finished the day updating the specific progress we are making against the identified actions in our annual business plan and performance dashboard to enable us to better demonstrate our performance as a team.

Wednesday

Today was set aside to continue the development of our internal safeguarding guidance and procedures building on the existing safeguarding policy and good practice that is already in place. The new safeguarding guidance and procedures are designed to ensure we meet our obligations to maintain the CPSU Safeguarding Standards and are in a stronger position to deliver against the new Safeguarding Framework.

Although internally focused, this work will also involve supporting and influencing partners and providing guidance to those involved in the delivery of sport and physical activity to children, young people and/or vulnerable adults. I also managed to squeeze a run in at lunchtime; 2 x 30 minutes of activity this week.

Thursday

Today started by catching up with some key partners involved in the Future Jobs Fund project including employers, the National Skills Academy and the Job Centre Plus FJF Team. This involved the sharing of key messages and establishing and confirming the recruitment progress for those jobs still outstanding. The afternoon was free and provided some welcome time to catch up on some internal and external administration.

Late finish today: I attended the evening delivery of a CDS led community consultation session for the partnership's sport strategy. The session went well and is one of 7 such sessions taking place across County Durham supported by the local CSNs.

Friday

I spent the morning finalising my preparations for the Health Inequalities Scrutiny Committee, re-drafting the presentation and ensuring I am up to speed with the latest Sport England Active People and Market Segmentation data and information.

The afternoon started by delivering the presentation at County Hall with Lucy Gallagher (CDS Marketing and Research Officer). The focus was specifically on local adult participation in sport and active recreation and associated data and statistics for County Durham. It was well received and the Scrutiny Committee showed considerable interest in the work of County Durham Sport, the Partnership and the potential of the data available. I finished off the day catching up on emails and phone calls before fitting in another run after work; 3 x 30 achieved this week. I may even get another one in over the weekend!!!!

Get in touch!

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