



## Community Sports Hubs Briefing Update

April 2014

This briefing paper provides an update on the development of **sportscotland's** Community Sports Hubs initiative within Aberdeen City, and details how sports clubs can become involved in this national Commonwealth Legacy programme (which has an annual national budget of £1.5 million).

*"...The community sport hub is a great tool for sports clubs in Haddington and all other towns in East Lothian. It means we come together and bounce ideas of one another. All clubs share the same challenges, so with the support and assistance of the hub, this can only help improve the product clubs are expected to provide to their members in the community..."*

*Richard Scott - Haddington Rugby Club*

### Community Sports Hubs – Frequently Asked Questions

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- **What is a Community Sports Hub (CSH)?**

Community Sports Hubs are a key part of **sportscotland's** contribution to Legacy 2014. They are designed to increase the number of people participating in sport within local communities by improving access to sport for local people and by supporting local sports clubs to work together. The aim is to establish at least 150 hubs operating across Scotland by 2015.

- **How does a CSH work?**

The exact set up of a CSH will vary from area to area. They can be based around local facilities (e.g. sports centres, community centres, the natural environment and/or schools) or can be a network of sports clubs sharing best practice and CPD. They will bring local people together and provide a home for local sports clubs and sports organisations. Each hub must be sustainable and as a result the majority of hubs have set up steering groups to provide strategic direction and ensure the aims of the hub are met.

Each Hub will be unique but the common thread is that each hub works to the following five principles:

- Growth in participation
- Understanding community needs
- Supporting community leadership
- Offering a range of sports
- Ensuring all of the appropriate groups are working together

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[www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Sport/community\\_sports\\_hubs.asp](http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/Sport/community_sports_hubs.asp)



- **What role can my sports club play?**

*“...I went along to the evening meeting wanting to simply get better access for my football team – however once I heard what the school was trying to achieve by bringing the local clubs together I changed my outlook. I have now offered my services to the Hub and hope to develop my team but also help develop the other clubs involved in the initiative...”*

*Mark Watson – East Kilbride FC and Chair of the Calderglen Community Sport Hub Executive Committee*

Sports clubs are vital to the success of a CSH, and play a leading role in the development and sustainability of each hub. They are a crucial link between schools & facilities and the local community whilst providing a pathway for local people to continue to lead an active lifestyle. It can also be a collective of progressive sports clubs working together in a local community to network and share good practice. The most successful hubs will shape themselves around local need and develop strategically from there. A hub can be based around as few as two local sports clubs that are keen to develop.

- **What are the benefits of clubs being involved in a CSH?**

*“...Our cricket club is a mile away from Larbert HS and usually has a shut down over the winter. Through the hub we have been able to access indoor space that will see us delivering a winter programme for the first time ever ...”*

*Stuart Williamson, Stenhousemuir Cricket Club*

Please find below a list of potential benefits to clubs who become involved in community sports hubs (please note that this isn't an exhaustive list!):

Access to new funding streams	Increase in club membership (some hub clubs have seen membership increase by 30-40%!)
Generate better access to local sports facilities	Developing links with schools to improve participation pathways
Additional access to training opportunities for coaches & volunteers	Be able to share ideas and network with other sports clubs within the community
Increasing the profile of the club and attract new coaches & volunteers	Share ideas and network with other sports clubs within the local community

- **Are there any examples of good practice showing how clubs can benefit from being part of a CSH?**

A number of examples of good practice within Sports Hubs can be found on the [sportscotland](http://www.sportscotland.org.uk/clubs/community_sport_hubs/case_studies) website - [http://www.sportscotland.org.uk/clubs/community\\_sport\\_hubs/case\\_studies](http://www.sportscotland.org.uk/clubs/community_sport_hubs/case_studies).

Examples include Craigie Sports Hub in Dundee, and the Armadale Hub in West Lothian. In both these examples, clubs have had a major role to play in the success of each hub.

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### Local Progress within Aberdeen:

Three hubs are currently operating within Aberdeen, with a further two currently being set up. Membership is open at any stage to all clubs that are interested. Clubs can be members of multiple hubs, as long as a benefit can be demonstrated to each local hub community.

<i>Hub</i>	<b><i>Albury (Ferryhill)</i></b>	<b><i>Bucksburn</i></b>	<b><i>Rubislaw (Grammar ASG)</i></b>
Type	Facility Based	School / Club based	School / Club / Area based
Status	Fully Operational Committee	Steering Group Formed	Steering Group Formed
Members	Albury Mgt Committee Crathes Croquet Club Sport Aberdeen	Bucksburn Academy Bankhead AFC Beacon Basketball Club Beacon Rangers FC Bucksburn Netball Club Dyce Boys Club Stoneywood Dyce CC Sport Aberdeen	Aberdeen Grammar School Aberdeen Grammar Rugby AGSFP Cricket Club AGSFP Hockey Club AGSFP Netball Club Aberdeen Lacrosse Club Rubislaw Tennis Club (TBC) Ultimate Judo (TBC)
Current Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Facility Development</li> <li>Programme Development</li> <li>Marketing</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increasing participation</li> <li>Marketing</li> <li>Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marketing</li> <li>Training</li> <li>Volunteering</li> </ul>
<i>Hub</i>	<b><i>Cults</i></b>	<b><i>Northfield</i></b>	
Type	School / Club / Area	School / Club / Area based	
Status	First meeting held	In consultation phase	
Members	Cults Academy Bon Accord MBC Hockey Club Culter Youth Football Club Cults Cricket Club Ultimate Judo (TBC)	(Notes of interest shown) Northfield Academy Aberdeen Amateur Boxing Club Auchmill Golf Club Byron Boxing Club Northstar Community FC	
Current Focus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Funding</li> <li>Facility Dvpt</li> <li>Training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Not yet agreed</li> </ul>	

### Other Developments:

- CSH Small Grants Fund set up to enable hub members to apply for up to £1000 for club development purposes. Details on the funding streams can be found on the main hubs website.
- Two Hub Leadership Academies will be piloted in the Rubislaw & Bucksburn hubs (Sept – Feb) to encourage more young volunteers to get involved in volunteering & coaching within hub clubs.

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### Further Information:

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If your club would be interested in becoming a part of an existing hub (or forming a new hub), please contact Mark Pain, Community Sports Hubs Development Manager at Aberdeen City for an informal discussion about what would be involved. Mark will be happy to attend a club committee meeting to provide more information on the Community Sports Hub programme, and answer any questions you might have. Please note initial notes of interest do not constitute a commitment to further involvement!

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