

Strengthening System Leadership for Place-Based Change



Herts Sport & Physical Activity Partnership (HSP), through its Active Local programme, delivered a series of five System Leadership workshops engaging 78 partners across Hertsmere and Broxbourne. The initiative aimed to strengthen collaboration, support place-based working, and address inactivity and health inequalities. Led by Louise Upton of Miova,

the workshops introduced key concepts including System Leadership, whole-system approaches, and the importance of collective action. Sessions such as Cowley Collective and Crossroads for Change encouraged participants to reflect on their roles within the wider system and explore how aligned decision-making can drive long-term impact.

Rather than a single large session, stakeholders were grouped to ensure discussions were relevant and meaningful. This tailored approach enabled deeper engagement, honest reflection, and stronger connections across sectors.

The Impact

- Increased understanding of system-wide influence and shared responsibility
- Strengthened cross sector relationships
- Early shifts in mindset toward collaborative, long term solutions

With strong engagement from local authorities and community organisations, momentum is building in areas such as Waltham Cross and Cowley Hill. The programme highlights the value of connected leadership in tackling complex challenges and improving community health outcomes.



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"The past two days have been incredibly energising and genuinely inspiring. It's been a real pleasure to be part of something that's clearly making such a strong impact. Seeing over 75 people come through the door is phenomenal and it's clear, there's real momentum building."

Louise Upton
Miova

