

herts  
**sports**  
partnership



# Herts Sport & Physical Activity Partnership Impact Report 2022-23

Driving Positive Change through  
Sport & Physical Activity

In Partnership with



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# ABOUT THIS REPORT

This report provides a snapshot of our work during 2022-23 aligned to our strategic objectives from the **Strategic Plan 2022-27** and links to further information and case studies are provided if readers require more detail. We have also included 'Key Learning' and 'Did you Know' sections providing powerful insights that drive our work programme.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this report, please get in touch by emailing [hspinfo@herts.ac.uk](mailto:hspinfo@herts.ac.uk)



Herts Disability Sports Foundation Boxercise session at Hatfield Leisure Centre



# SETTING THE SCENE

## FOREWORD

### Driving positive change through sport and physical activity.

As we near the end of the first year of the implementation of our Strategy *Altogether Now: Uniting the Movement* in Hertfordshire, we can look back on the past year as one of continued challenge for Hertfordshire's Sport and Physical Activity Sector, but also with satisfaction at what has been accomplished against an ever changing backdrop - where real uncertainty has prevailed and where some key elements of the wider system continue to go through significant structural change.

With funding from Sport England, the Partnership has continued to challenge, agitate and in some cases change the wider system where sport and physical activity are embraced as powerful and cost-effective interventions in support of some of the key social agendas - including health and wellbeing, educational attainment, crime and disorder reduction, community cohesion, social inclusion, climate change and skills and economic prosperity.

In doing so, it has been hugely encouraging to witness first hand, that there are advocates and supporters for our work across the system and that Hertfordshire continues to show the way in terms of inter-agency collaborative leadership, towards shared outcomes. Nevertheless, there is still much work to be done if we are to convince policy makers, through an insight led and evidence-based approach, that by embedding sport and physical activity within the various systems - particularly as upstream early interventions - that there can be significant savings to the public purse and improvement to the lives of some of the county's most disadvantaged and vulnerable residents.

During the period, we have been able to strengthen and reinvigorate our Active Local team which leads our place-based work in 10 of Hertfordshire's most disadvantaged communities. We continue to work in close partnership with our Local Authority colleagues, and with local community leaders in using sport and physical activity as a means of countering some of that inequality, and in ensuring that geography need not determine destiny.

Our work around children and young people has also moved on at pace, and as the co-ordinator for the Department for Education's Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme in Hertfordshire - which we undertake on behalf of Hertfordshire County Council - and our own Fit, Fed and Read scheme, we have been able to counter the triple inequalities of holiday hunger, social isolation and physical inactivity that, sadly, are features of school holidays for a growing number of children and young people in the county.

The launch of our Sector Skills Strategy - as a driver for a fit for purpose, diverse workforce - and the growth of our Live Longer Better in Hertfordshire initiative, to improve the lifespan of our older adults, are other notable achievements and enablers of change.

As the wider sport and physical activity sector has begun to recover from Covid, it is now facing the very real cost of living crisis which has placed growing pressure on the sector, particularly local clubs, and leisure operators. Community sport is almost wholly dependent on the goodwill and efforts of volunteers. In some areas volunteering levels are at an all-time low, and coupled with rapidly escalating costs, burgeoning legislation, creeping regulation, and a marked lack of gratitude in a litigious society, means that day to day life and continued existence, is a growing challenge for many of these organisations. Nevertheless, they are central to the fabric of local communities but many long-established and well-run clubs face real uncertainty. The

Partnership will continue to play our part in that process, alongside partners, as we recognise the huge contribution played by these clubs in making our communities safer, stronger, and better places to live and work.

Going forward, we will continue to have a laser-like focus on the stubborn inequalities that have blighted some of our communities for too long and will work tirelessly with our partners and stakeholders to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to reach those recommended activity levels that are essential for good physical and mental wellbeing.

The Partnership continues to attract some of the most talented, energetic, and enthusiastic individuals to its team and so we must be optimistic about the future. In our Board, Sport England, our host - the University of Hertfordshire - our local authorities and our wide range of cross-sector stakeholders, we are very fortunate to have like-minded and collaborative partners who truly believe in the power of sport and physical activity to change lives.

Together, we are uniting the movement in Hertfordshire - as the collective voice for positive systemic change.

#### **Mervyn Morgan**

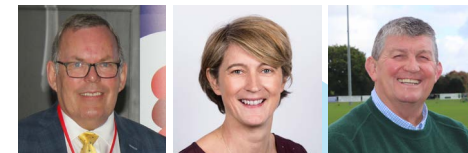
Chair, Herts Sport and Physical Activity Partnership

#### **Hester Brierley**

Vice Chair, Herts Sport and Physical Activity Partnership

#### **John D O'Callaghan**

Partnership Director, Herts Sport and Physical Activity Partnership



# ABOUT HSP

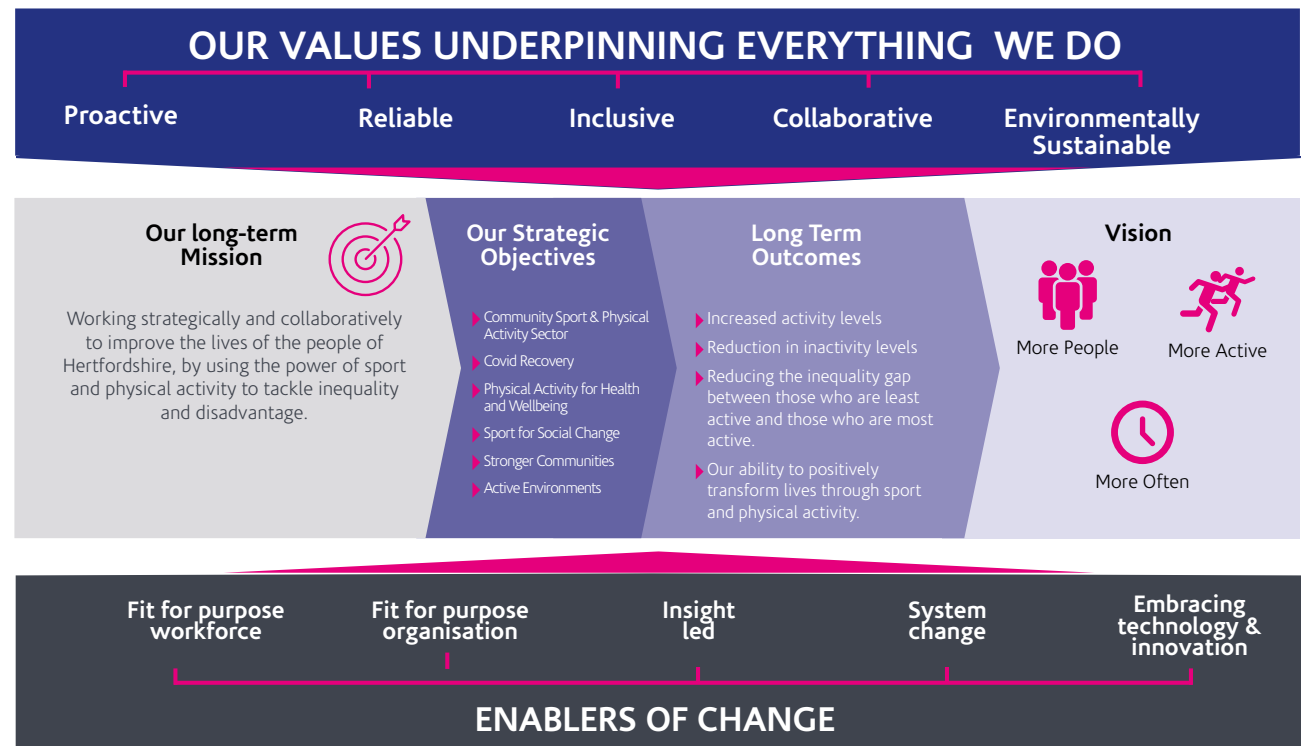
The Herts Sports & Physical Activity Partnership (HSP) was established in 2003 and is one of 43 Active Partnerships across England, working closely with our core funder Sport England, as the strategic lead for sport and physical activity in Hertfordshire.

We work collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders from across the county to create the conditions for sport and physical activity to thrive, and to use the power of sport and physical activity to transform lives.

The Partnership is led by a diverse **voluntary Board** that represents the multi-faceted provision of sport and physical activity across the county. It has a **Core Team** of full and part time sport and health professionals, all of whom are passionate advocates for the power of sport and physical activity as a life changer!



## HERTS SPORTS & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY PARTNERSHIP – STRATEGIC PLAN 2022-27 SUMMARY



## 2022-23 IN NUMBERS

Attracted

**£4.23m**

for investment in community **sport and physical activity** over the next 2 years



46,000

attendances from young people at our HAPpy Camps

**6000+** regular opportunities posted on the Moving More Activity Finder



**9.4** out of **10**

Partner Satisfaction rating

**OVER 1000** 

attendances at Partner Learn & Share Events



**400+**

Various training / CPD courses provided to 400+ coaches, volunteers and school teachers

**£670K**

invested in our Active Local areas via our various funded projects

**Over 500 members & 35 Champions**

are part of the **Live Longer Better Movement** in Hertfordshire



**8**

University of Hertfordshire Community Sport Ambassadors recruited and supported to provide **400** voluntary hours

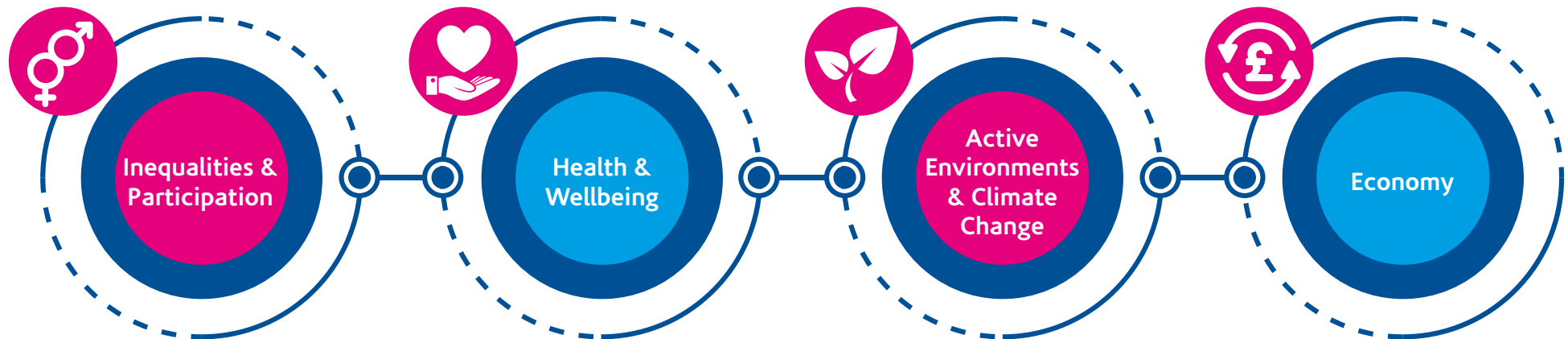
**HSP has recruited**

**14** new staff members

to deliver against our projects and priorities

# MAKING THE CASE FOR SPORT & PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

The graphic below highlights the key insight for Hertfordshire driving our work programme.



More information on Insight and Evaluation can be found [here](#)

- (1) Sport England: Actives Lives Adults Nov22 (Hertfordshire)
- (2) Sport England (2020) Sport for all? Why ethnicity and culture matters in Sport and Physical Activity
- (3) Sport England and Sport Industry Research Centre, Social Return on Investment, 2020
- (4) Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine, Moving Medicine
- (5) Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities; Healthy and Safe Communities

- (6) Sport England, Active Design Guidance
- (7) Fit for Life; Independent research into the Public Health Benefits of new walking and cycling routes
- (8) Department for Transport; Gear Change: a bold vision for cycling and walking
- (9) Sport England (2020) why investing in physical activity is great for our health – and our nation

# IMPACT AGAINST OUR STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

## Community Sport & Physical Activity Sector:

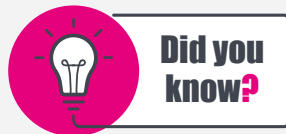
In partnership with schools, and those involved in community sport to provide opportunities for the people of Hertfordshire to start, continue and thrive in their chosen sport or physical activity.

The Herts School Games Celebration Event took place in July at Oaklands Community College and featured a variety of activities aimed at those schools and individuals that would not regularly represent their school at a sporting event. 428 young people from 46 different schools attended, and support was provided by 96 leaders from the Herts Coaching Academy and local secondary schools.

Herts School Games Celebration Event, Oaklands College, July 2022



We have reduced the total number of young people attending to increase the support on offer and developments have been made to the pre-training



Children from less affluent families are less likely to be active than their more affluent peers Sport England, (Active Lives Children & Young People Survey 2022)



Overall, 33 **School Games** events were organised in the summer and autumn terms in 2022, involving 229 schools and 1559 young people (297 SEND). Plus, 318 young leaders supported the events.

During last academic year, we helped devise, organise and deliver the first ever **Teach Active Numeracy and Literacy festivals** for 106 Year 3 and 4 pupils. The festivals were aimed at pupils that do not usually participate in School Sport and have not represented their school at any of the School Games local competitions and would benefit from support and encouragement with their numeracy or literacy skills.

The annual **PE Conference** took place in January 2023 at the Herts Sports Village with over **240** delegates from Primary Schools, **24** unique learning workshops and keynote speech from Ali Oliver (CEO, YST).

“An absolutely first-class event and a triumph. I learned so much and the workshops sparked a good number of ideas to further benefit the children and staff in my school”

Headteacher attendee at the PE Conference

### A number of initiatives have been undertaken to support our amazing schools, clubs, coaches and volunteers (the life-blood of sport in Hertfordshire) including:

- ▶ **Opening School Facilities** – managing the distribution of circa £500,000 in 3 months to 36 schools to help open their facilities outside of school hours for their pupils, local young people and the wider community.
- ▶ **Active Lives Survey** – 43 schools engaged providing vital intelligence on young people’s sporting habits and preferences
- ▶ Securing the launch of 1 new **Junior parkrun**
- ▶ **Coach Education Week** was delivered in February with over 20 courses delivered with 169 coaches attending.
- ▶ **2 Club Forums** attracting 40 clubs and provided updates and information on key subjects including funding, governance, marketing and volunteering
- ▶ The **David Wray Memorial Lecture** was delivered in October by the inspirational athletics coach and business leader Frank Dick OBE and was attended by 80 people.
- ▶ October was **Value Your Volunteer month** in Hertfordshire delivered in partnership with GoVolHerts – the volunteering platform for Hertfordshire. The month-long campaign was designed to support clubs with their recruitment and retention of volunteers and to encourage clubs to engage with the GoVolHerts tool.
- ▶ **2 Funding Matters newsletters** were published providing up to date information on funding available to support clubs, coaches and volunteers.

Marketplace at the PE Conference, May 2022 at Hertfordshire Sports Village





## Covid Recovery

Support the community sport and physical activity sector and individuals to recover from the impact of the Covid pandemic using sport and physical activity to improve health and wellbeing and community resilience.

Under the HAPpy (Holiday Activity Programme) brand we have worked closely with partners and:

- Organised 407 Camps across the county covering every school holiday
- Attracted 46,000 attendances from 4 - 17 years olds eligible for free school meals or referred for a vulnerability
- Recruited, trained and supported 173 accredited community providers to deliver the activities to a high standard
- Provided inclusive opportunities with 37% of children from ethnically diverse backgrounds and 20% with a disability or SEND.
- Provided high quality opportunities with 94% of parents satisfied with the overall experience of their child
- Organised a special summer camp for Afghan Arrivals attended by 75 children based at 2 local hotels

“ This is the happiest I have seen my daughter. Every day has been special, the whole experience magical. Especially valuable in instilling confidence to meet new people and try new things and not be afraid to do so.

(Mum of participant with dyspraxia)



Children showing portrait drawings they created at the Jam Arts Summer Camp 2022



Following the Covid pandemic and pressures on the care system, there are significant delays in the referral and diagnosis of children with special needs. Delayed diagnosis and lack of understanding about children's needs has added challenges for organisations delivering HAPpy Camps.



29% of children and young people in Hertfordshire are inactive (less than an average of 30 minutes a day) and this has reduced over the last 12 months and recovered from pandemic highs. (Sport England Actives Lives Survey (Young People) 2022)



Read more about the Fit, Fed and Read Summer Holiday programme [Read more](#)

## Physical Activity for Health and Wellbeing

Positioning movement, sport, and physical activity at the heart of how we think about people's health and wellbeing in Hertfordshire.

Work in this area continues to gather pace and combines the delivery of commissioned programmes with strategic influencing work, including:

Funded as part of Public Health Hertfordshire's Active Together contract, the **Moving More Activity Finder** is HSP's online search tool enabling members of the public, or professionals working with them, to identify and access local physical opportunities. There are now over 6000 opportunities regularly featured powered by Open Data. Working in partnership with the HertsOne GP Federation, funding has been secured to employ a FTE Officer to provide much needed capacity to further develop the Activity Finder and its reach.

The **Live Longer Better in Hertfordshire** (LLBiH) movement is the catalyst for the Partnership's Active Ageing work which aims to encourage longer, healthier, happier lives for older adults living in the county. The movement is becoming a recognised 'brand' and starting to forge connections with high level partners, and build local reach – membership of the

newsletter has grown from 260 to over 500 this year. Four LLBiH Masterclass Webinars have been held this year in addition to the seven delivered as part of the We Are Undefeatable in Hertfordshire Virtual Conference (365 attendances from 97 individuals). We have also launched the LLBiH Champions programme with 35 Champions registered so far.

We continue to **Influence the health sector**, for sport and physical activity to be a central strand in their policy and practice. Through our engagement work, physical activity has featured heavily in the Herts & West Essex Integrated Care Strategy informing the work of the Integrated Care Partnership for the next 10 years.

The delivery of a series of **Strength & Balance Classes** to support older people to be active, encouraging less dependence on the local care system has been implemented, with 10 successful classes established across Hertfordshire plus two online classes. A total of 445 classes have been delivered, involving 381 different participants and 4748 attendances.



“ I feel I have got over a hurdle as before the class I used to struggle to get out of a chair and go up and down stairs. I feel much more confident walking and my stride has got stronger and longer so it helps to keep me feeling a bit more stable.” Joyce who is an 85+ year old and attends the Strength and Balance class at Grovehill Community Centre in Hemel Hempstead [Read more](#)

Strength and Balance class at Grovehill Community Centre in Hemel Hempstead



The **Active Together Bid Writing Service** is designed to attract additional investment into local Active Ageing projects. Community groups have been given expert support from Funding4Sport to bid for funding to support their projects. There have been 16 successful bids bringing over £150,000 into Hertfordshire.

The Partnership has received investment of £100k from Public Health Hertfordshire's Health Protection Board to support the employment of an Officer to research, formulate and deliver a suitable **physical activity pathway to assist with rehabilitation for those experiencing symptoms of Long-COVID.**

Exploratory work is underway to build relationships with the county's Covid Rehabilitation Teams, learning from experience in the wider Active Partnership Network to create a pathway from clinical support to suitable ongoing community physical activity opportunities.

Ahead of launching the pathway, suitable physical activity opportunities are being mapped, identifying gaps to be filled and opportunities for upskilling the workforce provided.

Supporting our work as the East Region MIND Regional Hub for sport and physical activity we co-ordinated the **East of England Mental Health and Physical Activity Conference.**

The hybrid event was attended by 120 people and featured industry leading keynote speakers, talks from those with lived experience and opportunities to learn from best practice projects across the region.

### Key learning

Colleagues in the local health system seem to have physical activity on their radar now more than ever.

### Did you know?

40% of long-term health conditions could be prevented by reducing inactivity (Public Health England, Everybody Active Every Day)



Dr William Bird speaking at the East of England Mental Health and Physical Activity Conference, March 2023.



## Sport for Social Change

Using sport and physical activity to drive social change to enhance the lives of Hertfordshire's residents by supporting community cohesion, social inclusion, economic prosperity, crime and anti-social behaviour reduction, educational attainment and employability.

**Hertfordshire's Big Hit** is a non-contact boxing programme aimed at 7–15-year-olds across the county (weekly session in each of the county's 10 districts) designed to increase positive behaviour, physical and mental well-being and self-confidence of participants, funded by the National Lottery, and reaching circa 200 young people per week.



Hertfordshire Big Hit session at Brookside Boxing Club, Borehamwood, Hertsmere



### Case study

Click [here](#) for more information about Hertfordshire's Big Hit



### Key learning

Boxing is a hugely powerful tool to engage young people and the sessions work best when they are in boxing clubs as opposed to third party venues such as schools or community centres.

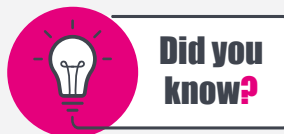
“ My son has without doubt gained confidence since attending. He is excited each Monday to attend and has made new friends. The classes are more than boxing, the kids are also taught manners and patience as well as discipline.

Mother of participant

In partnership with Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA), the **Hertfordshire Sector Skills Strategy** has been launched, following extensive research with employers and key partners across the sector. The ambitious Strategy aims to recognise and develop the skills needed in the sport and physical activity sector, now and in the future. Oversight of the Strategy is provided by the Sector Skills Board representing key employers across the sector, and work priorities include young people, adult learning and employment and enterprise skills.

During the school summer holidays, as part of the HAPpy programme we co-ordinated a **4 week holiday camp**, for 75 children- aged 8-16 years - from **Afghani families** living in local hotels.

With funding from Step 2 Skills via the DfE, we have partnered with a local coaching agency, APEX in the Community to deliver a countywide programme **using sport and physical activity to improve adult numeracy** (Multiply Project). Working with local authority colleagues and other partners, existing sessions such as warm spaces and CVS drop-in sessions were targeted to embrace a physical activity element, incorporating numeracy skills. The sessions, held in Watford and Dacorum, attracted a total of 120 learners.



**In Hertfordshire, 175,000 adults have the numeracy level of a 9 year old (DfE).**



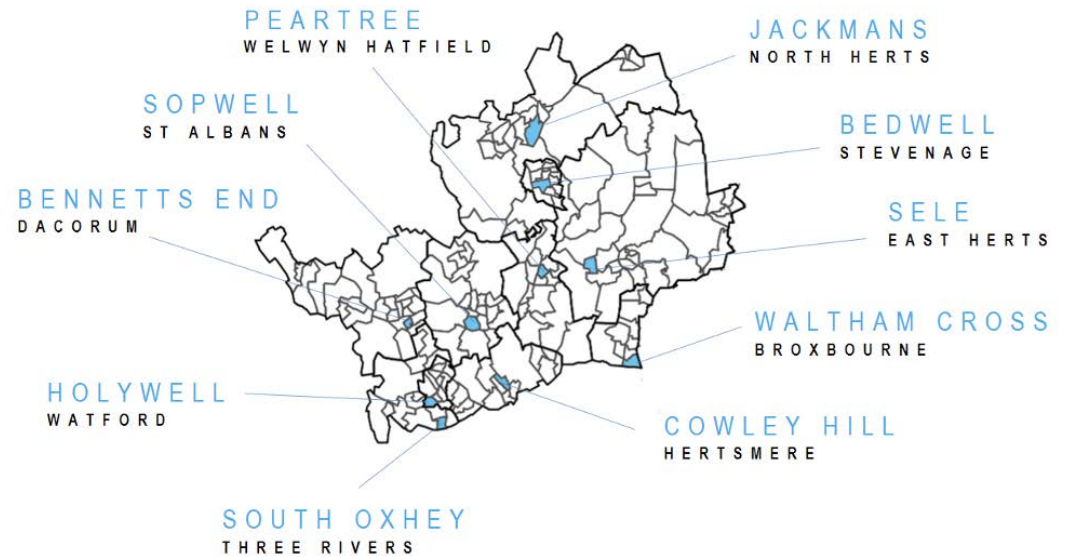
Bikes without Barriers cycling session with Herts Disability Sports Foundation

**Bikes without Barriers** provides refurbished bikes to children who need them the most and is linked to a schools based cycle training programme. The programme which is part funded by HSP and led by the Herts Disability Sports Foundation, has worked with 1491 young people of which 27% could not previously ride a bike and 43% do not have a working bike. 124 bikes have been given to young people, 134 young people had their bike fixed on site and 249 young people can now ride a bike independently.

## Stronger Communities

Active Local is our place-based approach to tackling inequalities and reducing inactivity, by concentrating limited resources and empowering local communities from target areas, for maximum impact. The approach is a partnership between HSP, local authorities, HCC Public Health and local communities.

Map of Active Local areas



The Active Local Team has been recruited consisting of a team leader and part time member of staff in each of our targeted areas.

The initial 'explore and engagement stage' is well underway designed to develop a deep understanding of the needs of each area and build on the opportunities that exist, and includes the establishment of local steering groups. In addition, the Active Local Team has been pro-active in identifying and supporting organisations who would benefit from the Together Fund – funding to support activities in disadvantaged / inactive communities.

### Development opportunities are increasingly being funnelled to Active Local areas benefiting those most in need:

- £670K in total has been invested in Active Local areas across a variety of projects
- In 2022, 11% (4,725) of all HAPpy camp attendances in Hertfordshire took place at camps in Active Local Areas.
- £70K from the £202K Together Fund has been distributed in Active Local areas
- 12 Numeracy & Literacy Festivals located in Active Local areas
- 6 *This Girl Can* Community Festivals located in Active Local areas with a total of 385 residents taking part.
- £56K raised for community organisations via the Active Ageing Bid Writing service.
- 7 out of 10 Herts Big Hit boxing programmes for young people with a total value of £70K are located in Active Local areas
- Spending significant time with local people and organisations has meant we are slowly becoming a trusted partner, which in turn is opening new doors of opportunity.

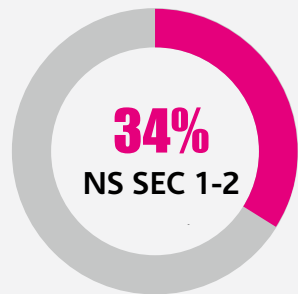
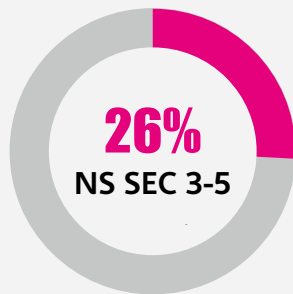
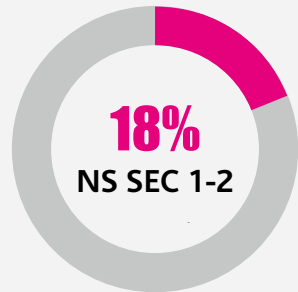




### Did you know?

In Hertfordshire, inactivity levels are higher for those in lower socio-economic groups (NS Sec) and are roughly in line with England

Source: Sport England Actives Lives Adults Nov 2021-22



Together Funding for seated exercise classes for community and residents with long term health conditions and disabilities at Garden House Hospice

**Together Fund** - 60 organisations have been supported (total of £202K), focusing on disabled people and people with long-term health conditions, culturally diverse communities and Active Local areas.



### Case study

Find out more details about the Together Fund drop-in activity sessions for women who have experienced domestic abuse run at Stevenage Women's Centre by Friends of Survivors Against Domestic Abuse (SADA).

“It's really brought the refuge together, helped the girls build friendships, I watched them come out of their shells, they seemed truly happy when taking part and they really put all their effort into it. This is making a difference to people's lives in so many ways, confidence, wellbeing, health, safety and the list goes on.

SADA employee

## Active Environments

The development of inclusive and sustainable places and spaces to encourage participation in sport and physical activity for all our residents.

This is a new area of work for HSP and the lead officer has focused on establishing relationships with the main partners operating at a local, county and regional level, and started to make the case to hardwire active environments into key policy.

### The Partnership is now represented on the following key forums including:

- The Herts Planners Group
- The Stevenage Active Travel Town Steering Group
- The Herts Climate Change and Sustainability Partnership Transport sub-committee

4 Learn & Share events have been organised, attended by over 150 partners, and providing a forum to exchange ideas and influence key stakeholders.

- Sustainable Travel Towns event in Stevenage
- Climate Change & Physical Activity online workshop
- Introduction to the planning system held at Oaklands College
- Sustainable Facilities online workshop

A new **Online Yammer Group** has been established for partners connected to Active Environments and Climate Action to share information in real-time.

“ A dedicated lead for Active Environments within HSP has been key to taking forward this work area. (Local Authority feedback, Partner Survey 2023)

Quote From Partner Survey



Brian Deegan, Active Travel England, Sustainable Travel Towns Event in Stevenage, Oct 2022



**Key learning**

Active Travel and climate action presents a significant opportunity in Hertfordshire but will require innovative and joined up working to realise the potential.



**Did you know?**

We need to achieve a change in travel behaviour in Hertfordshire so people choose to travel by other modes for journeys that don't need to be made by car. A combination of policies and improvements will be required, and it will be to everyone's benefit that by 2031 we have evolved our transport system to be less dependent on the car.

Hertfordshire's Transport Plan 2018.

# DRIVING A FIT FOR PURPOSE ORGANISATION

## Facilitating Opportunities to Collaborate & Learn across our network of Partners

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We recognise that no single organisation or programme can create sustainable change at scale, therefore we adopt a collaborative approach working closely with partners across Hertfordshire to co-ordinate our efforts and maximise impact.

.....

Work in this area has included the co-ordination of in-person and online Learn & Share Events attended by over 1000 partners and covering key topics:

- Sustainable Travel
- Primary PE Conference
- Mental Health Conference
- HAF Learn & Share
- Culturally Diverse Communities
- Disability Sport
- Climate Change & Physical Activity
- Sustainable Facilities
- Long Term Health Conditions Conference
- Live Longer Better in Hertfordshire Master Class Sessions

We have also established **Yammer Groups** for 'Active Environments & Climate Change' and 'Inclusion in Sport' as an online platform for partners to connect and share in real-time with over 90 partners registered.





## Giving Back to the Herts Community

At HSP we like to practice what we preach and are passionate about supporting the Hertfordshire Community. Throughout the year we have been involved in various initiatives to support and raise funds for a variety of good causes.

We raised £1K from a 100-mile Rowathon Challenge and donated it to the Hertfordshire Welcomes Refugees Charity and for Andy Taylor who competed for GB in the 2023 Transplant Games in Australia.

“ I am really grateful to these talented and enthusiastic people who have shared their time and expertise.

Andy Taylor, GB athlete at the Transplant Games 2023 in Perth

We raised £180 from the World Cup Sweepstake and **donated it to the Hatfield Food Bank.**

We raised **£500 for Dreams come True** through a charity cake sale.

We supported Sporting Inspirations CIC to stage the inaugural **Homeless World Cup**. It was a huge success with 16 teams representing various homeless shelters, charities, and related organisations, coming together to represent those countries involved in the 2022 FIFA World Cup.

We allocated **£18K from Reserves for the new Opportunities Fund** – supporting low income families to access sport club membership.

We allocated **£75K** from the Partnership's reserves **for Bikes without Barriers** – refurbishing bikes and donating them to those most in need.

We provided **202 free match tickets and food for mainly girls and their parents to visit Saracens' StoneX Stadium** to watch the Saracens Women's top of the table fixture against Harlequins and meet the players.

We provided valuable 1-2 week **Work Experience opportunities to 4 local students.**



HSP colleagues taking part in the Rowathon raising funds for the Hertfordshire Welcomes Refugees Charity and the 2023 Transplant Games

“ She has had such a positive and interesting week. Thank you for everything that you have all done to make her feel so welcome and for giving her exposure to so many elements of the Partnership's work.

Feedback from the Parent of a Work Experience Student

## Commitment to Continuous Improvement

At HSP, we are always striving to learn and put learning into action to drive continuous improvement and impact. Over the course of the year, key improvement activity has included:

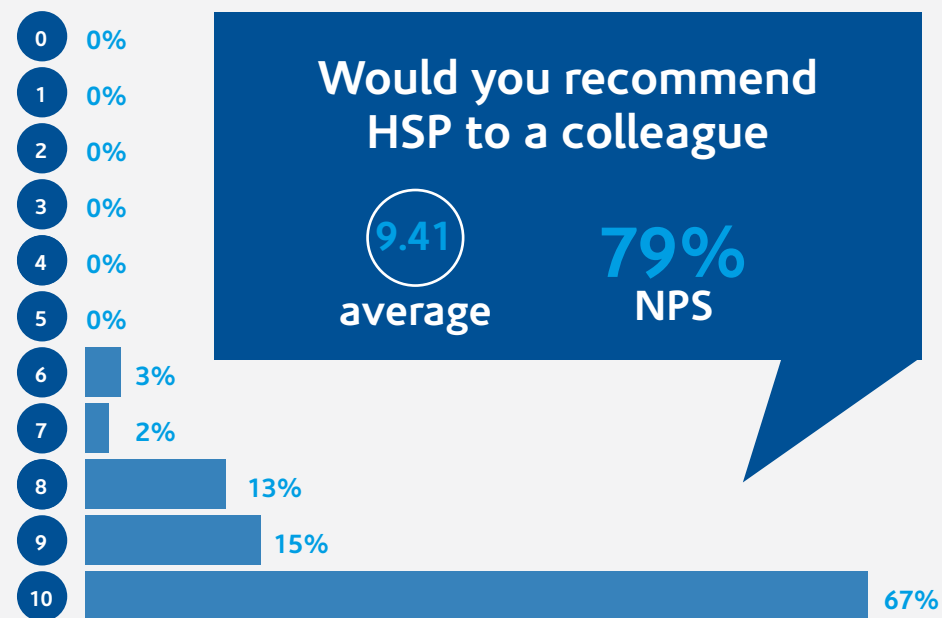
- Established the **EDI Policy & Action Plan** confirming our commitment to this work and setting out a clear action plan which aims to improve confidence and competence in EDI.
- Leading for Renewal – 12-month EDI learning programme for the whole HSP Team
- Established the **HSP Environmental Sustainability Commitments & Action Plan** setting out our policy and action plan for a greener sporting future
- Reviewed and refreshed our **Safeguarding and Protecting Children in Sport Policy** which has been approved by the CPSU.
- **Created a robust insight-led approach to our Active Local** work including asset mapping, partner engagement, reflective practice and training from an expert in community engagement.

Source: Partner Survey 2023

- **Implemented a new Staff Structure to deliver our Strategy and created capacity for Marcomms, Insight & Learning and Workforce Development** with a commitment to strengthen our processes in these areas.
- Developed a more **deliberate approach to learning** and turning learning into action across the team.
- Established a **new CRM system** recording engagement with key stakeholders.

“ They always accommodate our needs and are flexible in their approach. They strive to always look at the best way to deliver things. They are always open to new ideas.

Feedback from Partner Survey 2023



Source: HSP Partner Survey 2023

## Financial Performance

The Board monitor the HSP finances via a financial report at every Board meeting. HSP finances are audited annually as part of the University of Hertfordshire Audit and a HSP financial statement is included in the [UH Strategic Report & Financial Statement 2021-22](#) – see page 88. For Aug 2021 - Jul 2022, Total Income was £1,648,000 and Total Expenditure was £1,573,000 resulting in a £75k contribution to reserves



# Looking Ahead – Our Priorities for 2023-24

## ► Community Sport & Schools

- Canoe Slalom World Champs (Waltham Cross) – social impact partner in partnership with British Canoeing & University of Hertfordshire.
- Opening School Facilities Year 2 – distribution of £380K focusing on Active Local areas
- Continued support of PE & School Sport in Hertfordshire
- Implementation of the Together Fund Resilience Plan (£25K) – to enhance sustainability of community organisations.

## ► Covid Recovery

- High quality delivery of Holiday Activities and Food and Fit, Fed and Read programmes
- Establish proof of concept for Long-Covid and physical activity rehabilitation
- Continue to lead MIND’s regional Mental Health in Sport & Physical Activity Network

## ► Physical Activity for Health & Wellbeing

- Establish the Moving More Activity Finder as the ‘go to’ website for activity opportunities
- Local activation of the national ‘We are Undefeatable’ movement
- Improve inclusivity of physical activity providers
- Continue to improve connection with emerging Integrated Care System

## ► Sport for Social Change

- Use our new Sector Skills Strategy as the driver for sector-wide Workforce Development ensuring recruitment, retention and people development matches workforce needs, and is inclusive.
- Secure funding for a sport and serious violence reduction project, in partnership with StreetGames and local authorities, and use as a lever for youth engagement through sport and to influence the criminal justice system.

## ► Stronger Communities

- Continue to embed the Active Local approach to tackling inequalities and reducing inactivity, by concentrating limited resources and empowering local communities to create sustainable change.
- Implementation of Opportunities Fund (£18K) supporting young people from disadvantaged backgrounds to access sports clubs.

## ► Active Environments

- Continue to influence the system aiming to hardwire the development of inclusive and sustainable places and spaces that encourage active lifestyles.
- Develop a new Parks-based sport and physical activity offer aimed at CYP and families.

## ► Fit for Purpose Workforce

- CYP Leadership & Volunteering Programme targeting pupils from secondary schools linked to Active Local areas
- Delivery of a needs-based training programme for HAF and the wider CYP workforce

## ► Fit for Purpose Organisation

- Compliance with the UK Code for Sport Governance and associated Safeguarding & EDI standards
- Designing and embedding a new Performance Management & Learning System
- Strengthen our approach to:
  - Marketing and Communications
  - Obtaining and using Young peoples’ voice
  - Understanding and using lived experience from those facing the greatest inequality

## ► System Change




- Working strategically to hardwire sport and physical activity policy, practice and funding into key local systems including:
  - Planning and transport (active environments)
  - Skills, education, employment and economic development
  - Schools
  - Health and wellbeing
  - Criminal justice and crime reduction





If you would like to discuss any aspect of this report,  
please get in touch by emailing [hspinfo@herts.ac.uk](mailto:hspinfo@herts.ac.uk)  
Stay in touch by subscribing to our e-newsletter [here](#),  
visiting our website and joining our social media channels

### Herts Sport & Physical Activity Partnership

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