



**SPORT FOR  
DEVELOPMENT  
COALITION**

**SPORT**

**AS A TEAM PLAYER IN**

**LEVELLING UP**

**SPENDING REVIEW SUBMISSION SEPTEMBER 2021**

# 2021 SPENDING REVIEW SUBMISSION

## Realising the potential of sport and physical activity as a team player in building back better and levelling up the UK.

Spending Review 2021 comes as we emerge from one of the most challenging periods in recent generations. Because of this, it is essential that Government spending unlocks the potential of the most impactful and cost-effective assets that can contribute to building back better from the Covid-19 pandemic and levelling up the UK.

The UK is known globally for its passion for sport, but less well heralded is how – every day across our communities – multiple returns on investment are achieved through targeted sport and physical activity-based interventions, delivering value for money and significant cost savings across key priority areas for the population at large. In 2018, community sport and physical activity was estimated to deliver £85.5 billion of social and economic impact through delivering tangible outcomes in health and wellbeing, educational attainment, and crime prevention. This impact was based on just £2.44bn of public sector investment<sup>1</sup>.

Current levels of public spending relegate many sport and physical activity-based interventions to the ‘reserves bench’, thus limiting the scale of cost savings and wide-ranging outcomes that can be delivered.

This Spending Review presents a unique opportunity for the Government to elevate targeted community sport and physical activity-interventions to be important ‘team players’ in levelling up and building back better.

### KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Include sport and physical activity social impact and regeneration projects as dedicated sub-themes for investment in future rounds of funding aimed at levelling up the UK, and more specifically the Levelling Up and UK Shared Prosperity Funds.
2. Ringfence investment for targeted sport and physical activity-based interventions as part of funding committed through the Plan for Health and Social Care, Plan for Jobs and Lifelong Skills Guarantee, and Beating Crime Plan.
3. Commit dedicated long-term funding for PE and school sport; opening school-based sports facilities; enrichment activities in both wrap-around care and the holiday activities and food programme; and bridging the funding gap for public leisure facilities. In doing so ensure that evidence of cross-sector partnership working, the engagement of VCSE (voluntary, community and social enterprise) organisations, diverse leadership, and the involvement of experts by experience are key criterion for funding and ongoing reporting requirements.
4. Maintain current levels of Exchequer investment in Sport England, and deliver on the commitment to provide more community football and multi-sport pitches, as catalysts to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity, and deliver wider impact through a refreshed Government strategy for sport.

## About the Sport for Development Coalition

The Sport for Development Coalition is a UK-wide network of more than 200 charities, sporting bodies, community and voluntary organisations which collectively over-arches thousands of projects and programmes *intentionally* using sport and physical activity to generate positive social outcomes. The Coalition network collaborates to measure the impact of sport for development at scale, help create enabling policy environments and support effective investment to realise the positive social impact targeted community sport and physical activity-based interventions can deliver. The Coalition network is committed to ensuring the outcomes of sport and physical activity are enjoyed without barriers or discrimination.

## 1. SPORT AND LEVELLING UP

There is a robust evidence base for the contribution community sport and physical activity-based interventions can make to public health and wellbeing<sup>2</sup>. There is also evidence of the potential for further contributions to economic growth<sup>3</sup>, employment and skills development - especially among young people<sup>4</sup>, reducing crime<sup>5, 6</sup>, and improving mental health outcomes<sup>7</sup>.

The Queens Speech 2021<sup>8</sup>, Prime Minister's Levelling Up Speech<sup>9</sup> and Chancellor's focus for Spending Review 2021<sup>10</sup> established these areas as priorities within Government's core objectives to deliver a national recovery from the pandemic and level up opportunities across all parts of the UK.

### Value for money

In 2018, community sport and physical activity delivered £85.5bn of social and economic value across these priority areas.<sup>11</sup> But this amount did not paint the full picture. Although a substantial amount, these projections did not include therapeutic and rehabilitative health-related physical activity programmes, the contribution of a range of strategically designed community sport and physical activity-based interventions, or the overall impact for children under the age of 10<sup>12</sup>. This meant the overall social and economic value of the sector was much higher in real terms.

This considerable social and economic value was delivered based on just £2.44bn public investment. Almost half of the public spend in 2018 was at local authority level (£1.18bn), and a further £270m was invested through Lottery and Exchequer funding from Sport England, with the remainder invested primarily through education (£589m) and active transport (£388m)<sup>13</sup>. This return on Government investment underscores the substantial value for the public purse that is delivered through expenditure on community sport and physical activity interventions, especially for central Government.

## **Delivering in areas of deprivation and supporting social mobility**

Investment in sport and physical activity-based interventions, and sport for development approaches in particular, can also disproportionately deliver outcomes in areas of high deprivation and for those communities most in need of levelling up. An analysis of almost 35,000 beneficiaries across seven leading sport for development interventions showed that 64% of participants were from the 30% most deprived areas of the country.<sup>14</sup> This compares to 32% of people who were classed as active [meaning they met the Chief Medical Officer's Physical Activity Recommendations]<sup>15</sup>, and 28% of leisure centre users<sup>16</sup>. By comparison, 4.3% of the UK Scout movement are from the 30% most deprived areas of the country<sup>17</sup>.

The design, delivery and evaluation of effective sport and physical activity-based interventions are, in most cases, based on well-developed 'theories of change' and evaluation approaches which align with guidance provided in the Magenta Book issued by HM Treasury<sup>18</sup>. For example, to enhance positive outcomes for young people in the context of serious youth violence<sup>19</sup>, deploying sport-based interventions at the heart of community regeneration<sup>20</sup>, or utilising sport-based approaches to increase the employability of young people<sup>21</sup>. These initiatives have been shown to deliver substantial social return on investment and can support key social mobility outcomes.

The suitability of sport and physical activity-based interventions to deliver in areas of high deprivation, combined with the substantial impact which can be delivered through strategically designed programming, results in the delivery of substantial distributional impacts and social return on investment. Young people involved in community sport clubs and organisations from lower socio-economic groups report 3x higher increase in life satisfaction scores and 10x higher increase in scores for trust in their neighbours when compared with those from higher socio-economic groups<sup>22</sup>. The quality-of-life benefits of playing grassroots football are also higher for socially disadvantaged groups, in particular the health

and confidence benefits to lower income groups, and trust in neighbours for ethnically diverse communities<sup>23</sup>.

The value of parks and green spaces increases from £2.00 to £4.32 per month for lower socio-economic groups and £3.05 to £5.84 for ethnically diverse communities when welfare weighted<sup>24</sup>.

## **Potential to scale impact**

There is significant potential to scale the cost savings, social returns and distributional impact delivered through community sport and physical activity-based interventions in areas of high deprivation and the parts of the country facing inequality of opportunity.

Significant inequalities exist in physical activity levels based on location, gender, ethnicity and socio-economic status<sup>25</sup>. Those living in more disadvantaged communities are generally less active. This inequality mirrors wider health inequalities and social determinants of health,<sup>26</sup> are long-standing and have been deepened and widened by the pandemic.<sup>27</sup> For example in December 2020, 71% of adults in National Statistics Socio-economic Classification (NS-SEC) 1 and 2 were classed as physically active, compared to 61% in NS-SEC 3-5 and just 58% in NS-SEC 6-8<sup>28</sup>. Just 44% of disabled people or those with a long-term health condition were active compared to 65% of those without<sup>29</sup>. Accordingly, when last analysed, the annual cost of physical inactivity per person ranged from £13.73 per person to £4.40 depending on the region<sup>30</sup>. This data underscores the importance of targeted community sport and physical activity interventions within the wider Levelling Up agenda.

## **Recognition in levelling up funding**

As set out through the remainder of this representation, there is considerable evidence that multiple outcomes can be delivered through targeted sport and physical activity-based interventions; there is an understanding of the value for money derived from public expenditure in these interventions; and clarity that interventions delivered through this sector can deliver additional impact in areas facing inequality of opportunity. Even so,

there is limited recognition of the role community sport and physical activity-based interventions can play in current Government funding aimed at delivering levelling up outcomes.

In the first iteration of the £4.8bn Levelling Up Fund, released in March 2021 and focused on capital investment in local infrastructure, cultural investment was one of three themes alongside transport and regeneration and town centre investment<sup>31</sup>. This inclusion recognised that culture and heritage are key components in bringing people together, promoting cohesion and strengthening communities<sup>32</sup>.

Yet within this thematic area, there is a solitary reference to sport and physical activity. It indicates bids under the ‘culture and heritage’ investment theme may include ‘upgrading and creating new cultural and creative spaces, including sports or athletics facilities, museums, arts venues, theatres, libraries, film facilities, prominent landmarks or historical buildings, parks or gardens’<sup>33</sup>.

The £1.5bn UK Shared Prosperity Fund to be launched in 2022 is being positioned to ‘target people and places most in need across the UK’ and will ‘be focused on growing local economies and breathing new life into our communities’<sup>34</sup>. In preparation for the launch of this fund, the UK Community Renewal Fund provided £220m for local areas to pilot new approaches to community renewal.

Three of the four main investment streams of the Community Renewal Fund were areas that community sport-based interventions can deliver outcomes towards: skills; supporting people into employment; and strengthening communities and pride in place. Even so, there was just a single reference to community sport and physical activity-based interventions in the prospectus, again focused on the preservation and enhancement of cultural and sporting facilities. The potential of revenue/resource focused projects to contribute to the objectives of this fund were not identified.

Consequently, it is understood that there were only a limited number of bids made in the first round of the Levelling Up Fund and in the Community Renewal Fund processes that included community sport and physical

activity-based social impact and regeneration projects. Stronger recognition and a clear invitation for bids in this area will help unlock the cost effective and efficient contributions to levelling up and social mobility which can be made through community sport and physical activity.

There is also potential to strengthen coherence between sport and physical activity-based bids and other themes within local areas, as well as support greater streamlining and coordination between bids within, and across, local authority areas. This would enhance efficiencies and maximise impact of investment, but also enable cross-cutting and innovative projects, such as sport and physical activity-based social impact projects, to be part of larger coordinated bids.

## Recommendation 1

To realise the substantial contribution targeted community sport and physical activity-based interventions can make to the Levelling Up agenda, Government is asked to:

- i. Include a specific sub theme for ‘sport and physical activity social impact and regeneration’ projects in future rounds of the Levelling Up and UK Shared Prosperity Funds.
- ii. Clearly invite community sport and physical activity-based social impact and regeneration bids seeking revenue and resource funding as part of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund, ensuring local partners understand that strategically designed revenue-based sport and physical activity projects supporting pride in place, skills and employment outcomes will be considered for funding alongside facility-focused investment.
- iii. Allow for greater streamlining and coordination of bids within and across local authority areas to improve efficiency, maximise impact and enable cross cutting and innovative initiatives, such as sport and physical activity-based social impact projects, to be part of larger cross-cutting bids.

## 2. IMPROVING HEALTH AND MENTAL WELLBEING, SUPPORTING EMPLOYMENT, AND BEATING CRIME

### ▶ PLAN FOR HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

### Sport, physical activity and levelling up health and wellbeing disparities

In 2019 healthcare expenditure in the UK was £225.2bn, equating to £3,371 per person and 10.2% of gross domestic product (GDP). This amount represented a 4.0% annual real term rise in costs. Government expenditure represented 79% of this expenditure.<sup>35</sup> Provisional data indicates that in 2020 this cost grew to £269bn and 12.2% of GDP, fuelled by a 25% increase in Government healthcare expenditure in response to Covid-19. This represented the fastest year-on-year rate of growth in healthcare expenditure recorded<sup>36</sup>.

The announcement of £36bn additional funding for the Department of Health and Social Care through to 2024–25, financed through the Health and Social Care Levy, is welcome. This funding will help to address what are likely to be ongoing pandemic-related expenses and general increases in health and social care costs. But analysis undertaken by the Institute of Fiscal Studies warns that likely increased funding required for the NHS could ‘end up *permanently* swallowing up the money raised by the tax rise<sup>37</sup>. Finding further cost savings is essential.

### Reducing the burden on health services

It is estimated 40% of the burden on health services in England may be preventable through enhanced action on non-communicable disease and mental ill health<sup>38</sup>. The case for enhanced action in these areas is strengthened by clear evidence of increased vulnerability to Covid-19 for individuals with non-communicable diseases.<sup>39</sup>

To reduce these costs and vulnerabilities, the Government’s Plan for Health and Social Care includes a strong focus on preventative health. The Plan underscores:

*Prevention must be a central principle in delivering a sustainable NHS and levelling up. This means fixing the underlying causes of ill-health that are contributing to health spending increases and worsening outcomes. Improving the health of communities is vital to resilience against future health threats. This is at the heart of the mission of the new Office for Health Improvement and Disparities.<sup>40</sup>*

This policy direction is essential, especially to address historic under investment in preventative health, which has accounted for as little as 4% of the health budget<sup>41</sup>.

### Enhancing the cost savings delivered through sport and physical activity

The contribution that increasing physical activity makes to reducing healthcare costs is well established. Physical inactivity is a leading modifiable behavioural risk factor for preventable disease<sup>42</sup>. The causal relationship between sport and physical activity participation and improved physical health is robustly evidenced<sup>43</sup>. There is also a strong association between taking part in sport and physical activity and positive mental wellbeing outcomes<sup>44</sup>, such that being active makes a strong and

positive contribution to promoting and protecting mental health<sup>45</sup>.

In 2014 the direct cost of physical inactivity to the NHS was £455m<sup>46</sup>, although this likely represents an undercalculation. In 2010 the cost was estimated to be £944m. The disparity relates to changes in the way spending was applied to Clinical Commissioning Groups. The wider costs savings, and social and economic value of increasing physical activity, far exceeds both figures. In 2018 community sport and physical activity in England is estimated to have contributed £9.59bn value through physical and mental health outcomes. This included £5.24bn savings in direct healthcare costs<sup>47</sup>.

These economic and social returns were delivered despite 37.3% of adults<sup>48</sup> and 56.8% of children being insufficiently active<sup>49</sup>. Addressing this issue will deliver substantial returns. If 500,000 people are more regularly active, an additional £130.5m of value in improved physical and mental health would be delivered<sup>50</sup>.

Despite the cost savings and health returns delivered through physical activity, it is estimated that in 2018 just 0.15% of the £2.44bn public sector financial input into community sport and physical activity was provided through health and social care spend<sup>51</sup>. Funding was primarily provided through local government, active transport and education, alongside Sport England's Exchequer and Lottery funding. Maintaining investment through these avenues is essential to sustain the current economic and social returns delivered through community sport and physical activity. Additional investment through the health and social care settlement is however required to scale the direct healthcare cost savings and the wider economic and social benefits which would be delivered if more people are active.

Direct investment focused on increasing physical activity levels should therefore be a central pillar of the focus on preventative health in the Plan for Health and Social Care. Government has an opportunity to utilise Spending Review 2021 to underscore investing in preventative health, and addressing inactivity specifically, will be a cornerstone of the previously announced settlement for health and social care.

## **The role of movement for mental health and wellbeing**

Prior to the pandemic the economic and social costs of poor mental health in England exceeded £100bn per year. Of this, the direct cost of dedicated mental health support across Government departments was £34bn per year<sup>52</sup>. These costs have been increased significantly due to the detrimental impacts of the pandemic on mental health.

In this context, the important role which targeted community sport and physical activity interventions can make in supporting mental health and wellbeing requires greater attention in public policy. While sport and physical activity participation, and engagement in sport for development programmes, are not a panacea for this crisis, there is evidence that being active and involved in linked programmatic interventions and social networks can help to improve mental health, support wellbeing and resilience, help to tackle social isolation and deliver substantial return on investment.<sup>53</sup> For example, when Brunel University London examined the impact of StreetGames' Doorstep Sport programme, all participants in researched projects were shown to have demonstrated an increase in wellbeing. The project with the greatest increase in wellbeing saw 11% of participants with high wellbeing at the start of the project increase to 74% at follow-up<sup>54</sup>. The impact of Dame Kelly Homes Trust sport-based mentoring programme saw an overall increase of 7.5% in mental wellbeing across all programmes<sup>55</sup>. These projects were evaluated using the Warwick-Edinburgh Mental WellBeing Scale (WEMWBS).

These and other outcomes meant that prior to the pandemic, community sport and physical activity delivered £41.76bn value through supporting improved mental wellbeing. Utilising the modelling introduced above, if an additional 500,000 people were more regularly active, an additional £636.8m value would be delivered through improved mental wellbeing<sup>56</sup>.

Given the pandemic has intensified the already increasing rates of mental health problems, calls for an updated cross-Government public mental health

strategy are well-founded. But it is critically important that this strategy includes targeted actions to maximise the role physical activity, sport, and sport for development provision can play in supporting positive mental health and wellbeing.

## **Investing proportionate to need**

As introduced earlier, significant and long-standing inequalities exist in physical activity levels based on location, gender, ethnicity and socio-economic status, which have been accentuated by the pandemic<sup>57</sup>.

Investment in preventative health must proactively target these inequalities and wider social determinants of health. Notably, targeted investment to address inequalities in physical activity levels will deliver more substantial economic returns and healthcare cost savings. For example, if 250,000 women were more regularly active, an additional £68.2m value in improved physical and mental health and £318m value in improved wellbeing would be realised<sup>58</sup>.

In this context, policy direction that seeks to universally increase physical activity levels, but which directs investment proportionate to need and the level of inequality across places and groups, takes on increased importance. This concept of proportionate universalism, alongside place-based working, is being embraced across the sport and physical activity ecosystem<sup>59</sup>. Both approaches are central to Sport England's 10-year *Uniting the Movement Strategy*<sup>60</sup>. Promising results in addressing inequalities in the outcomes delivered through community sport and physical activity are being seen, both through joint work of Sport England Local Delivery Pilots<sup>61</sup> and in specific place-based approaches such as Laureus Sport for Good's Model City initiative<sup>62</sup> and Yorkshire Sport Foundations Active Burngreave approach<sup>63</sup>, which have resulted in increases in the number and diversity of individuals enjoying the benefit of engaging in sport and physical activity.

This way of working means sport for development, community sport and physical activity stakeholders, who deliver targeted sport and physical activity-based interventions, are now better placed to contribute to

holistic healthcare provision within the parameters of Integrated Care Systems. It also means health and social care-driven investment in increasing physical activity will deliver enhanced returns, as system capacity to address health inequalities in and through, sport and physical provision is improved.

## **The key role of VCSE sport and physical activity organisations**

Realising the healthcare cost savings and wider outcomes that can be delivered through community sport and physical activity participation requires targeted interventions alongside universal promotion, especially if these outcomes are to be realised in places and amongst groups disproportionately inactive. There is a well-developed body of evidence which sets out the characteristics of community sport and physical activity interventions that have been shown to deliver more intensive health and well-being outcomes, these include: group-based and peer supported activities;<sup>64</sup> increased regularity and duration of delivery; the integration of self-reflection and personal development activities; incorporating social interaction; and linked counselling or signposting.<sup>65</sup>

The organisations delivering sport and physical activity interventions with these characteristics extend beyond traditional fitness and leisure providers and community sports clubs. Voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations delivering strategically designed interventions, who are often more readily associated with the community and youth development spheres, play a key role. In many contexts they have demonstrated greater efficacy in supporting health and wellbeing outcomes among groups and in places disproportionately inactive<sup>66 67</sup>.

This 'mixed economy' of community sport and physical activity provision has important policy implications, as set out in detail in section three of this representation. In relation to direct health and wellbeing cost savings and outcomes, analysis by Public Health England has shown the limited awareness and capacity of healthcare professionals, link workers and local authority public health teams on how to effectively integrate community



sport and physical activity provision within preventative health, and across the clinical pathway, remains a key barrier<sup>68</sup>.

Thus, to fully realise the contribution sport for development, community sport and physical activity can make to healthcare savings and delivering wider health and wellbeing outcomes, two policy actions are key. First, the systematic integration of VCSE sport and physical activity organisations in integrated care models, and as part of social prescribing approaches specifically<sup>69 70</sup>. Second, further direct investment in awareness raising and capacity building for health care, local authority, and community stakeholders on the engagement and contribution that targeted community sport and physical activity-based interventions can make to health and social care outcomes<sup>71</sup>. Including scaling delivery of the Active Hospitals Continuing Professional Development Programme<sup>72</sup> and Moving Healthcare Professionals training<sup>73</sup>.

## Recommendation 2 (a)

On account of the healthcare costs savings and wider outcomes which can be delivered through community sport, sport for development and physical activity provision, the Coalition is calling on Government to:

- i. Provide a long-term budget and clear remit for the Office for Health Improvement and Disparities (OHID) to drive cross-Government action to enhance the role of sport for development, sport and physical activity in improving public health.
- ii. Develop a targeted strategy to integrate and adequately resource VCSE community sport and physical activity provision within integrated care systems and social prescribing pathways.
- iii. Produce a cross-Government public mental health strategy which includes targeted actions to maximise the role community sport, and sport for development and physical activity provision can play in supporting positive mental health and wellbeing outcomes.
- iv. Increase training and support opportunities for healthcare professionals, link workers, local authority health teams and VCSE organisations on integrating community sport, sport for development and physical activity interventions into preventative health.
- v. Include an analysis of capacity to integrate community sport and physical activity interventions into preventative health as part of workforce reporting requirements set out in the revised Health and Social Care Bill.

## ▶ PLAN FOR JOBS

### **Sport, the Plan for Jobs and Lifetime Skills Guarantee**

The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on employment has been substantial, however stronger than expected economic recovery, coupled with significant Government investment through the Plan for Jobs, has resulted in a lower-than-expected forecast for peak unemployment of 6.5%, compared to initial projections of 12%<sup>74</sup>. However, the situation for young people and those in the most deprived and disadvantaged areas remains tenuous.

### **Addressing the disproportionate unemployment impact of Covid-19**

At the end of July 2021 there were 243,000 fewer young people in employment compared to March 2020, with 12.9% of young people aged 16 to 24 unemployed. The number of young people claiming unemployment benefits was 156,300 higher than in March 2020<sup>75</sup>. Long-term unemployment has also increased. In April 2021, the number of young people out of work for six months or more had risen by 50%<sup>76</sup>.

The situation has resulted in one in two (48%) young people not in education, employment or training saying they were unable to see an end to their unemployment<sup>77</sup>. Modelling released in March 2021 by the Prince's Trust and the Learning and Work Institute estimated that in 2022 youth unemployment would cost £6.9bn in lost output and £2.9bn in lost tax revenue<sup>78</sup>.

Young people, low paid workers, disabled workers, and those from a non-white background have been the most negatively impacted<sup>79</sup>. Notably, seven out of every 10 job losses between March 2020 and May 2021 were aged under 25<sup>80</sup>. In June 2021, the unemployment rate for people from White ethnic groups was 4.0% compared with 8.0% for people from other ethnic groups<sup>81</sup>. The Public Accounts Committee described the

disproportionate unemployment impact of the pandemic on young people from minority ethnic backgrounds as a case of 'shocking inequality'<sup>82</sup>.

Young people who are under-employed, alongside young people not in full-time education, employment and training but who are not looking for work, are a 'hidden group' in official employment statistics. These groups have also been adversely affected. Characteristics more common for these people include having a disability or long-term health condition, caring responsibilities and being from a non-white background<sup>83 84</sup>. Of all young people in the UK classified as not in education, employment, or training in April to June 2021, an estimated 63.6% were economically inactive<sup>85</sup>. Modelling indicates that supporting better employment outcomes for these 'hidden young people' could lead to between £370 to £460m per year returned to the Exchequer through income tax and National Insurance contributions<sup>86</sup>.

In this context, proactive, targeted investment in skill development and employment support for groups who are facing the disproportionate unemployment impact of the pandemic must be a priority in this Spending Review.

The contribution sport-based interventions can make to this key priority extends beyond stimulating employment and skills development opportunities 'in' the sport and physical activity sector. Cost effective and impactful employment and skill development outcomes, which cut across sectors and industries can be delivered 'through' sport-based interventions. Most notably in supporting those groups disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and people facing additional barriers to entering the labour market.

### **Maximising employment outcomes 'in' sport and physical activity**

DCMS economic modelling projected that prior to the pandemic sport directly contributed £17.0bn or 0.9% of UK Gross Value Add (GVA) to the economy<sup>87</sup> and accounted for 1.7% of all employment<sup>88</sup>. When considered across industries (for example, sport advertising and sport-related construction), sport-related

GVA was estimated to range from between 1.6 to 2.1% of total UK GVA and 2.4 to 3.7% of total UK employment<sup>89 90</sup>.

Employment in the sport and physical activity sector is estimated to have grown by 42% between 2003-2017 adding almost 130,000 jobs to the economy<sup>91</sup>. The community sport, sport for development and physical activity sector account for a substantial component of this contribution, making up 58% of GVA and 60% of employment in the sector<sup>92</sup>.

The comparison of sport-related employment (1.7% to 3.7%) and sport GVA (0.9% to 2.1%) shows the sport sector is also an effective generator of employment. Importantly jobs in the sector also have a low level of overall exposure to technology change and are therefore protected from automation risk (13.6% high exposure verses a national average of 27%)<sup>93</sup>.

Despite the challenge of Covid-19 and sport and physical activity being amongst the most impacted sectors<sup>94</sup>, the Chartered Institute of Management of Sport and Physical Activity (CIMSPA) projected there were 568,000 people employed in the sport sector in September 2020<sup>95</sup>. But the current situation is precarious, dedicated investment and supportive policy is essential.

## **Sport and the ‘opportunity guarantee’**

Continued investment in skill development, incentives to support traineeships and apprenticeships, and direct employment support, must continue to be a cornerstone in maintaining and expanding the contribution made to employment outcomes ‘in’ and ‘through’ sport.

The East Midlands Local Skills Improvement Plan Trailblazer and Development Fund pilot area, focused on developing the sport and fitness skills needed to impact human health in the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic,<sup>96</sup> provides a model which can be followed on other skill development and employment support schemes. For example, establishing dedicated sport-based Sector Based Work Academies and Skills Bootcamps and ensuring sport for development,

community sport and fitness qualifications are included within schemes to support school and college leavers access training and as part of the Lifetime Skills Guarantee.

The Kickstart Scheme, investment in high quality traineeships and apprenticeship hiring incentives have been key policy initiatives which have enabled the sport and physical activity sector to support substantial skill development and employment outcomes for young people, especially those from disadvantaged backgrounds and facing additional barriers to employment.

The Coalition strongly supports the call made by the Youth Employment Group for Government to provide an ‘opportunity guarantee’ for all young people, including by extending Kickstart for a further six months while expanding eligibility criteria, continuing employer incentives for traineeships and apprenticeships, while making necessary reforms to ensure these systems are fit for purpose by 2022, and increasing the funding rate for 16-19 education to match 2010 levels in real terms<sup>97</sup>. It was estimated that 9.3% of young people in the UK were not in education, employment, and training between April and June 2021, which is a record low<sup>98</sup>. Reducing or stopping schemes providing young people with an opportunity guarantee would put this progress at risk.

It is essential that all young people, whether transitioning through education stages, unemployed or who are economically inactive, continue to have the opportunity of an education place, apprenticeship or job, and there is dedicated investment to address and reduce long-term unemployment among young people.

## **Levelling up employment outcomes and social mobility ‘through’ sport**

There is a growing body of evidence and programme evaluation demonstrating the efficacy of using targeted sport-based interventions to support employment and social mobility outcomes, particularly for young people

from disadvantaged backgrounds and those facing additional barriers to employment.<sup>99</sup>

In these interventions ‘sport’ provides a valuable ‘hook’ to attract beneficiaries, many who are disengaged or not well-served by formal employment support offers. The sport-themed approach then provides a different and innovative environment for experiential learning, the development of trusted relationships with mentors and work coaches, the promotion of pro-social behaviours and attributes, and delivery of formalised employability training and support programmes<sup>100</sup>. The sport component is typically not ‘competitive’, nor does it seek to develop athletes, but takes a mastery approach which emphasises the development of personal skills, improving self-confidence and self-efficacy and avoiding competitive negative comparisons. The focus for these programmes is to support transitions into education and employment across a range of sectors and industries, rarely just within the sport and physical activity sector.

Peer-reviewed research has underscored the potential for sport-based interventions incorporating these mechanisms to deliver extensive employability and social mobility outcomes<sup>101</sup>. Analysis of seven sport-based employability interventions showed that 59% of the more than 8,500 participants progressed into education, training or employment opportunities over a 12-month period<sup>102</sup>. Of these participants, 35% were from ethnically diverse backgrounds<sup>103</sup> and 59% were from the 30% most deprived areas of England<sup>104</sup>, underlining the valuable contribution sport-based approaches can play in supporting skill development and employment outcomes for disadvantaged young people and those facing additional barriers.

## Multiple returns on investment

Sport-based interventions also offer the potential to deliver multiple returns on investment. Incorporating active participation in sport and fitness activities alongside employability support offers an innovative way to improve engagement rates, establish trusted relationships with work coaches, mentors and peers, *and* deliver the health benefits of regular physical activity.

Investing in targeted sport-based employment interventions can therefore deliver health and wellbeing, social cohesion and violence reduction outcomes in addition to education, employment and skill development results, enhancing the social and economic returns produced through these interventions. For example, Premiership Rugby’s Hitz employability initiative delivered £11,597 social value per participant<sup>105</sup>. The Change Foundation’s blended sport, mentoring and skill development initiative delivered £14,293 social value per participant per year, providing £10.7 social value for every £1 invested<sup>106</sup>.

The efficacy of sport-based interventions has been recognised by Government departments and commissioners. Sport and education charity Street League were provided £2.1m funding from the Department of Work and Pensions, and Education and Skills Funding Agency for the provision of employability services in some of the UK’s most disadvantaged communities. The Youth Futures Foundation invests in a range of sport-based interventions including Sport 4 Life, the EFL Trust, Aston Villa Foundation, the Saints Foundation and Switch Up’s boxing-based employability support<sup>107</sup>.

## Dedicated policy initiatives to scale sport-based employment support

There are multiple policy initiatives set out in the next stage of the Plan for Jobs which would benefit from a more substantial inclusion of strategically designed sport-based interventions. Over the past 18 months, Government has committed over £10bn in skill development and job support schemes and initiatives where targeted sport-based approaches can deliver valuable outcomes. Ringfencing a proportion of this investment for sport-based interventions has the potential to deliver a significant return on this investment, support social mobility and level up opportunities for the most disadvantaged young people.

## Recommendation 2 (b)

Government is requested to make innovative non-formal employment and skill development interventions, including targeted sport-based approaches, a pillar of youth employment support. This can be achieved by ring-fenced investment for the following initiatives as part of existing spending commitments made to deliver the next stage of the Plan for Jobs and Lifetime Skill Guarantee:

- i. Establish 10 Dedicated Youth Hubs using sport, arts, and culture-based employment support to engage and support employment outcomes for disadvantaged young people and those poorly served by the formal job support system.
- ii. Make funding available through the Job Entry Targeted Support (JETS) scheme to expand sport-based approaches to delivering practical employment skills and training.
- iii. Establish a 'community sport, sport for development and fitness' stream of Skills Bootcamps and within the Sector-based Work Academy Programme. Compliment these measures by including course offerings in these areas with free level 3 course provision.
- iv. Include training on non-formal employment support for work coaches and new careers advisors within the National Careers Service to improve awareness and understanding of the role sport, arts, and culture-based interventions can play in supporting young people into employment.

These measures should be over-arched by Government providing an 'opportunity guarantee' for all young people as called for by Youth Employment UK<sup>108</sup>.

## ➤ BEATING CRIME PLAN

### **Sport, early intervention, alternative provision and reducing reoffending**

The Government's Beating Crime Plan sets out a vision of 'fewer victims, peaceful neighbourhoods and a safer country' and a focus on community partners 'playing their part to drive down crime and antisocial behaviour'<sup>109</sup>. Given the extensive economic and social cost of crime in England and Wales, which was estimated to be £59bn in 2018<sup>110</sup>, successfully delivering this Plan, including mobilising community partners, will be critical in achieving the Government's levelling-up objectives and ambition to build back better from the pandemic.

### **The role of sport-based interventions**

The objective to cut homicide, serious violence and neighbourhood crime stands out as being critical to delivering the overall objectives of the Beating Crime Plan. In turn, the Plan's emphasis on early intervention, strengthening alternative provision, and reducing re-offending, as set out in the 'place, people and business' framework, will be key areas for intervention. Sport-based approaches have a strong record of impact in these fields.

Moderate estimates project there is at least a 1% improvement in crime reduction resulting from community sport and physical activity participation<sup>111</sup>. Studies also show a relationship between increasing sport participation and crime reduction. Research conducted across 323 local authority areas in 2015 showed a 10% increase in sports participation is associated with a fall in violent crimes of between 0.97 and 1.56%<sup>112</sup>.

However, the impact and costs savings delivered through strategically designed sport-based interventions are potentially significantly higher. Numerous sport-based early intervention initiatives consistently report more than 70% of participants have reduced offending

and antisocial behaviour<sup>113</sup>. Re-offending rates in sport-based resettlement programmes for 18 to 21-year-olds are also significantly lower than the national average of 26%<sup>114</sup>. The average re-offending rate in the five initiatives for 18-21s focused on in the Sporting Chance Review of Sport in Youth and Adult Prisons was 11.6%<sup>115</sup>. Sport-based approaches are also working to address disproportionality in youth justice<sup>116</sup>, a critically important issue as young people from black, Asian and minority ethnic backgrounds now make up 50% of those in custody<sup>117</sup>. Research has also shown the suitability of sport-based approaches for girls and young women involved in offending and serious youth violence as victims and / or perpetrators<sup>118</sup>.

A recent review of research on the role of sport-based interventions in community safety commissioned by the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner in conjunction with StreetGames, concluded that sport, in its role as a positive activity, is well placed to take a universal, preventative role, and well-designed interventions can make a contribution to targeted early intervention programmes<sup>119 120</sup>. But tailored approaches with adequate support structures are required and, as is the case across desistance and re-offending, the complexity of offending and recidivism means more work is required to understand what works.

The Government's response to the Sporting Chance Review recognised that, if harnessed in the right way, sport-based interventions can have transformative effects on the lives of young offenders<sup>121</sup>. More recently, the Solicitor General Alex Chalk MP, while serving as Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Justice, emphasised that sport should play a much wider role across the justice system in a post Covid-19 landscape<sup>122</sup>.

## Investing in 'what works'

It is important to underscore there are multiple complex risk and protection factors that impact on the 'likelihood to offend'<sup>123</sup> and, as set out in the Beating Crime Plan, there is a need to improve the evidence base on what works and ensure resources are invested accordingly<sup>124</sup>. In turn, there are challenges associated with demonstrating the impact of sport as a form of

prevention and early intervention, and in reducing re-offending<sup>125</sup>. Further investment in understanding what works is warranted, building on the systematic review commissioned by the Youth Endowment fund<sup>126</sup>. It is especially important to strengthen the evidence base around new and innovative approaches.

## Coordinating sport-based interventions

It is well accepted that the strategic design of sport-based interventions, based on principles for effective interventions<sup>127 128 129</sup>, along with co-ordination between community providers offering sport-based interventions, the justice system, and stakeholders in other policy areas such as Health and Social Care, Work and Pensions and Housing and Communities, are key success factors.<sup>130 131</sup>

The establishment of national and local mechanisms to strengthen intervention design and support this coordination are therefore notable. These include a Police and Crime Commissioner National Sport, Positive Activity and Youth Crime Prevention Board, with portfolios for prevention, serious youth violence and community policing,<sup>132</sup> an HM Prison and Probation Service Sports Forum<sup>133</sup>, and a National Stakeholder Group chaired by the Youth Justice Board to reduce the over-representation of ethnically diverse children in the Youth Justice System. This is further supported by a new All-Party Parliamentary Group on Sport and Physical Activity in the Criminal Justice System<sup>134</sup>. Complementing these structures with an independent taskforce focused on physical activity and sport in the Criminal Justice System would further strengthen co-ordination, especially across the range of departments and arms-length bodies who are important stakeholders in this area.

These mechanisms provide the basis for a support structure for stakeholders working to reduce offending and anti-social behaviour, including those targeted through the serious violence duty in the Police Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill, to integrate evidence-based and targeted sport-based interventions. They align with research underscoring the importance of co-operative

partnerships in realising the full potential of targeted sport-based interventions in criminal justice<sup>135</sup>.

## Consistent and long-term funding

Despite improved understanding and evidence of the impactful and cost-effective contribution that sport-based interventions can make to reducing offending and anti-social behaviour, and these enhanced mechanisms to co-ordinate integration across the Criminal Justice System, funding has been inconsistent.

Research conducted in 2016 spanning 11 Police and Crime Commissioners (PCC) showed that on average, PCCs invested just £100,000 on sport-based initiatives per year<sup>136</sup>. In 2019 the Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee recommended a funding scheme be created for targeted sport-based interventions to help young people who are at risk of becoming involved in, or the victims of, criminal activity<sup>137</sup>. Mirroring this recommendation, in 2020 the Batson-Chiles-Webster Commission on Sport in Low-Income Neighbourhoods concluded that short-term, conditional, and project-based funding was a key issue in realising the potential impact and costs savings sport-based interventions can make<sup>138</sup>. In turn, consistent funds for organisations who are best able to reach and engage young people at risk was recommended.

Funding provided through the Youth Endowment Fund, investment made through proactive Police and Crime Commissioners, and resource mobilised by the Youth Justice Board<sup>139</sup>, are all helping to realise the potential contribution of sport-based interventions to reducing offending. But the Beating Crime Plan sets out £800m of funding in areas where strategically designed sport-based intervention can make impactful and cost-effective contributions<sup>140</sup>. Ringfencing budget provision for sport-based interventions in delivering the Plan will contribute to ensuring fewer victims of crime, peaceful neighbourhoods, and a safer country.

## Recommendation 2 (c)

Based on the impact sport-based interventions can make to reducing crime and community safety, we are asking Government to ringfence investment for sport-based early intervention, alternative provision and reducing reoffending interventions within funding committed through the Beating Crime Plan. This investment would enable:

- i. Expansion of targeted sport-based desistance programmes within Violence Reduction Unit's direct intervention and community and youth engagement functions.
- ii. Inclusion of impactful sport for development interventions and expertise within Support, Attain, Fulfil, Exceed (SAFE) and Alternative Provision Taskforces, and in the provision of **specialist support for young people at crisis point**.
- iii. Extension and enhancement of funding for sport-based approaches, the compilation of evidence, and dissemination of learning in early intervention (through the Youth Endowment Fund) and reducing reoffending (through the Prison Leavers Project and Commissioned Rehabilitative Services).
- iv. Inclusion of 'spaces for sport' and 'sport-based engagement events' in the eligibility criteria for bids in future rounds of the Safer Streets Fund.
- v. Establishment of an Independent Taskforce on Physical Activity and Sport in the Criminal Justice System.

### **3. DELIVERING FOR THOSE MOST IN NEED THROUGH PUBLIC LEISURE, SCHOOL SPORT AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION, AND HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD**

Investment in public leisure, school sport and physical education, and wrap-around care and holiday activities and food, can make important and cost-effective contributions to the Levelling Up agenda, building back better from the pandemic, and achieving net zero.

As a member of the National Sector Partners Group, who together represent the breadth of the sport, recreation and physical activity sector, the Sport for Development Coalition supports the recommendation of this group for a cross-Government Spending Review settlement which encompasses:

- Dedicated capital investment to green and revitalised public leisure facilities, pitches and parks, and a further National Leisure Recovery Fund.
- A long-term funding commitment for PE and school sport which is built on a national drive to get every child active for 60 minutes every day.
- Department for Education support for the further opening of school sport facilities across the country, ensuring that every child has access to an inclusive, active extended school day.
- Continued investment into the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme to provide sport and physical activity opportunities for the most disadvantaged children during school holidays.

In doing so, implementing clear measures and accountability mechanisms to ensure this investment delivers for the most disadvantaged groups and places, and those facing inequality of opportunity, is critical and will significantly enhance the impact and the return on investment of these policy decisions.

### **Criterion and accountability to maximise distributional impact**

The Treasury's Green Book guidance on appraising the business case for public investment<sup>141</sup> and Magenta Book guidance on evaluation<sup>142</sup> both recommend that distribution analysis should be used to consider costs and benefits of interventions for different population groups.

Applying these principles to interventions and investment in public leisure and green space and community sport and physical activity, as set out earlier in this representation, has shown distributional effects of between two and 10 times for low socio-economic groups and ethnically diverse communities<sup>143 144 145</sup>.

It is important to note that people from lower socio-economic groups and areas of high deprivation experience lower outcomes at the outset, so there is greater potential for gain from interventions. Even so, there are additional impacts and cost benefits from ensuring public investment in sport and physical activity investment predominantly targets those experiencing disadvantage.

As underscored through this representation, substantial inequalities exist in the physical activity levels of adults<sup>146</sup> and children<sup>147</sup>, and in the usage of public leisure facilities<sup>148 149</sup>, based on place, gender, ethnicity, socio-economic status, and disability and long-term health issues. To address this issue and maximise the distributional impact of investment in sport and physical activity, clear and accountable targets on addressing inequalities and associated disaggregated reporting should be a key criteria and requirement for funding.

### **Levelling up through equitable leadership and participatory design**

The importance of cross-sector engagement, equitable leadership, and involving experts by experience in the design, implementation, and evaluation of intervention, stand out as a key characteristic of initiatives which have made discernible impacts in tackling inequalities and



levelling up the outcomes of sport and physical activity participation.

Through Sport England's Local Delivery Pilot scheme, established to understand how working with places could address the stubborn inequalities that exist among the least active, key among the factors identified to affecting meaningful system change were: engaging leaders from across the local ecosystem (from health, social care, active travel, criminal justice, and education); understanding lived experience; distributed leadership; and, establishing shared purpose through co-operation and co-creation<sup>150</sup>. Analysis led by Mind and the Sport for Development Coalition assessing how to maximise the mental health and wellbeing outcomes which can be achieved through investing in sport and physical activity, identified the weaknesses of single sector responses and the critical importance of engaging experts by experience in intervention design, delivery and evaluation<sup>151</sup>.

In framing a response to inequalities in the sector, the critical importance of voice, ownership and equitable leadership structures have been further emphasised by the Coalition's network.<sup>152</sup> These inputs reinforced research conducted by Sported which identified the urgent need for spaces to share experiences of racism and discrimination, stronger representation and pathways for diverse leaders in sporting bodies, and sustained structures to amplify issues and develop, advance and monitor solutions<sup>153</sup>.

## **Realising the potential of VCSE sport and physical activity organisations**

It is also notable that sport and physical activity opportunities across the UK are increasingly delivered through a mixed economy. Stakeholders who support participation opportunities can be generally categorised into three broad categories: i) private, public and leisure management contractors; ii) traditional sports clubs affiliated to governing body structures; and, iii) Third Sector Voluntary, Community And Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations<sup>154</sup>.

Among these stakeholders, VCSE sport and physical activity organisations are often the least understood and recognised category. VCSE sport organisations make up a significant proportion of the 27,000 charitable organisations in the UK that include 'amateur sport' in the description of their activities<sup>155</sup>. Although, the number of VCSE sport organisations far exceeds this number, as there are a range of organisations across the Third Sector who use sport to achieve their aims, but who do not have amateur sport in their articles or describe themselves as sporting organisations.

This extensive group of organisations includes charities, youth clubs, community club organisations and foundations linked to major spectator sports, and faith-based groups, and are the organisations that make up the bulk of the Sport for Development Coalition network. Many of these organisations have developed in response to community demand and 'localism' agendas, and especially to meet the needs of the less advantaged communities<sup>156</sup>. Common features of VCSE sport organisations are a substantial focus on delivering social outcomes that extend far beyond sport and physical activity participation; a strong emphasis of place-based, locally owned interventions; diverse leadership; and clear intentionality in programme design, drawing on evidence-based approaches and well tested theories of change.<sup>157</sup>

There is a well-developed evidence base that these characteristics support VCSE sport organisations deliver more substantial, and often multiple, returns on investment when compared to more traditional offers, and disproportionately deliver outcomes for communities and groups facing the greatest inequality of opportunity. For example, of the 2,600 sport groups 'deeply rooted within their communities' who are working as part of the Sported network across the UK, 40% are directly addressing community cohesion, 29% are addressing crime and anti-social behaviour, and 34% are addressing education and employability<sup>158</sup>. StreetGames' Doorstep Sport programme, which brings sport-based interventions to the doorstep of young people living in disadvantaged areas in England and Wales, has supported three million attendances by young people over the past decade; 84% of Doorstep Sport participants reported high or very high levels of life

satisfaction<sup>159</sup>. Chance to Shine, a national children's cricket charity, reached 609,906 children and young people in 2019, and 81% of participants in the 'Chance to Shine Steet' programme were from diverse ethnic backgrounds. Over 80% of teachers involved in the programmes reported their pupils had improved confidence after participating<sup>160</sup>.

Despite the outcomes delivered by this part of the sector, there are local authorities, schools and education institutions that have limited awareness of the reach and impact of VCSE sport organisations. On this basis, evidencing collaborative cross-sector partnerships, the involvement of VCSE organisations and experts by experience, and the engagement and leadership of diverse community stakeholders in the design, implementation, and evaluation of interventions, should be an additional key criterion and reporting requirement for investment.

### **Recommendation 3**

To enhance the outcomes and return on investment delivered through funding of school sport and physical education, public leisure facilities, initiatives to open school-based sports facilities, and wrap-around care and Holiday Food and Activity programmes, Government is asked to:

- i. Commit to long-term funding to these areas that directs investment proportionate to need and disparity across places and groups; and,
- ii. Include evidence of cross-sector partnership working, the involvement of experts by experience and VCSE organisations, and the engagement and leadership of diverse community stakeholders as a key criterion for funding and ongoing reporting requirement.

## 4. RECOVERY AND REINVENTION OF SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

Realising the substantial costs savings and multiple returns on investment which can be delivered through sport and physical activity-based interventions requires a thriving sector, recovered and reinvented following the pandemic, actively working to tackle inequality across the system.

### Uniting the Movement

The sport and physical activity sector, alongside the arts and entertainment sectors, were among the industries most impacted by Covid-19 restrictions<sup>161</sup>. Sport England's 10-year *Uniting the Movement* strategy not only sets out a road map for sector recovery and reinvention following this shock but has an unapologetic focus on 'providing opportunities to people and communities that have traditionally been left behind, and helping to remove the barriers to activity'<sup>162</sup>. Realising this ambition will make an important contribution to levelling up opportunities for people to live happier, healthier, and more fulfilled lives.

Current Exchequer funding for Sport England supports 14m people to be active through 100 funded organisations and networks<sup>163</sup>. Maintaining current levels of Exchequer investment will be critical to sustain this level of support and the associated health, wellbeing and community benefits delivered. This support also provides the baseline capacity the sector requires to enable the delivery of additional targeted sport and physical activity-based interventions delivering intensive health, education and employment, community safety and education outcomes, and supported through funding in these areas. Given plans to refresh the whole of Government strategy for sport in the coming months, focused on these wider outcomes, maintenance of this baseline capacity is essential.<sup>164</sup>

### Physical activity as a 'product' or 'public provision'

The current community sport and physical activity economy is heavily geared towards those who can pay to be active. The total inputs into community sport and physical activity in 2018 were estimated to be worth £21.85bn<sup>165</sup>. The consumer sector provided the bulk of these inputs (62.7%),<sup>166</sup> followed by non-financial inputs, primarily in the form of volunteering (26.15%). The public and Government sector was estimated to account for 11.1% of total inputs (£2.44 billion). This included £1.18bn through local authorities, £589m expenditure on sport provision in secondary schools and higher education institutions and £389m expenditure on cycling and walking through the Department for Transport. Given community sport and recreation delivers £85.5bn in economic and social value in England, current public investment represents significant value to the public purse.

The modelling above does not draw on official expenditure statistics, however it does provide an indicative picture of relatively low public expenditure on community sport and physical activity as a percentage of overall expenditure. In comparison, government expenditure is just under four-fifths (78%) of total current healthcare expenditure in the country.<sup>167</sup>

Public funding for sport and physical activity has been significantly impacted by cuts to local government budgets. The amount budgeted to be spent on sport and recreation (including leisure centres and sports pitches) by English councils in 2019/20 was 70% lower than in 2009–10.<sup>168</sup> Sport and recreation is not a statutory function for local government, and in a constrained fiscal environment 'councils have increasingly focused on services required for them to meet their statutory duties',<sup>169</sup> and charging for services through sales, fees and charges (SFC) has been the primary strategy used to fill shortfall, further commercialising service provision.

## Impact of Covid-19 on funding and revenue

The shortfall in funding for public leisure has been intensified by the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, with estimates that public leisure providers suffered £600m in lost revenue<sup>170</sup>.

The pandemic has also had a disproportionate impact on the sustainability of sport and physical activity delivery for disadvantaged communities and groups. Research conducted by the Sport and Recreation Alliance on the impact of Covid-19 on grassroots sport showed participation opportunities through community sports clubs in the most deprived areas of the country were expected to fall by 48% compared with just 2% in the least deprived areas. In addition, clubs serving ethnically diverse, deprived, or urban communities consistently reported needing greater financial assistance to return to play<sup>171</sup>. While research by the Activity Alliance revealed double the number of disabled people reported that the pandemic greatly reduced their ability to do sport or physical activity compared to non-disabled people (27% vs 13%)<sup>172</sup>.

Funding for community sport and physical activity through charitable trusts and foundations is also limited. In 2019 total grant making by all charitable foundations was £6.5bn.<sup>173</sup> In 2019 among the top 300 foundations in the UK ranked by giving, who account for just under half of this total (£2.9bn), just five were primarily focused on sport and recreation-based interventions, although a number of others included funding for sport-based interventions in their portfolios (e.g. Comic Relief, BBC Children in Need)<sup>174</sup>. Furthermore, 40% of charitable trusts and foundations expect Covid-19 will have a continued a negative impact on their own finances and predict financial turbulence for the sector. Overall, the long-term plans of charitable trusts and foundations are uncertain<sup>175</sup>. While Third Sector investment in targeted community sport and physical activity-based interventions is important, it is not sufficient to cover any potential reduction in Government funding.

## Providing spaces for sport

As set out earlier in this submission, sustaining public leisure to ensure continued delivery for those most in need represents a valuable investment for government. Even so, funding shortfalls for public leisure estate will likely continue to be an issue across sport and physical activity policy. This situation underscores the importance of delivering the commitment to invest £550m in grassroots football<sup>176</sup>, with a focus on building community pitches as set out in the Prime Minister's Levelling Up speech<sup>177</sup>. While it is understood this commitment was primarily for grassroots football, ensuring a significant number of these pitches are available to the wider community and have the option for multi-sport usage will maximise the impact and community buy-in around this investment.

## Continuing a prudent investment


The £270m support package provided through Sport England to support the community sport and physical activity sector in response to Covid-19 was critically important and provided a basis for recovery and reinvention across the sector<sup>178</sup>. But sustainability challenges remain. In this context, and amongst a backdrop of low levels of public funding for community sport relative to the size of the sector, maintaining current levels of Exchequer funding for community sport and physical activity is essential. Moreover, given the extensive social and economic returns delivered by the sector, and potential to intensify these outcomes through additional targeted interventions, it represents a prudent investment of public money.

### Recommendation 4

Maintain current levels of exchequer investment in Sport England and deliver the commitment to provide more community football and multisport pitches, as catalysts to transform lives and communities through sport and physical activity, and deliver wider impact through a refreshed Government strategy for sport.

## Contact us

 [coalition@sportfordevelopmentcoalition.org](mailto:coalition@sportfordevelopmentcoalition.org)

 Holborn Tower, 137-145 High Holborn,  
London, WC1V 6PL



## Notes

- <sup>1</sup> Davies, L., Christy, E., Ramchandani, G. & Taylor, P. (2020). *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England*. <https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2020-09/Social%20return%20on%20investment.pdf?5BgVln09jwpTesBJ4BXhVfRhV4TYgm9E>
- <sup>2</sup> Sport England. (2017). *Review of the Evidence of Outcomes of Sport and Physical Activity: A Rapid Evidence Review*. <https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/sport-outcomes-evidence-review-report-summary.pdf>
- <sup>3</sup> Hafner, Marco, Erez Yerushalmi, M. Stepanek, W. D. Phillips, J. Pollard, A. Deshpande, M. Whitmore, F. Millard, S. Subel, and C. Van Stolk. (2019). *The economic benefits of a more physically active population*. Rand Corporation. [https://www.rand.org/pubs/research\\_reports/RR4291.html](https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR4291.html)
- <sup>4</sup> Theeboom, M., Colater, F., Truyens, J., Soendgen, N., Gonzalez-Valles, E., Vukasinovic, N. and Vanden Berghe, S. (2017). *Study on the Contribution of Sport to the Employability of Young People in the Context of the Europe 2020 Strategy*. European Commission. <https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/1d46884f-b542-11e7-837e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>;
- <sup>5</sup> Meek, R. (2018). *A Sporting Chance: An independent review of sport in youth and adult prisons*. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/733184/a-sporting-chance-an-independent-review-sport-in-justice.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/733184/a-sporting-chance-an-independent-review-sport-in-justice.pdf) (2019). *Changing Lives: the social impact of participation in culture and sport*. Eleventh Report of Session 2017-19, 7 May 2019.
- <sup>6</sup> Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee (2019). *Changing lives: the social impact of participation in culture and sport: eleventh report of Session 2017-19*. [https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomed/s/734/73405.htm#\\_idTextAnchor002](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201719/cmselect/cmcomed/s/734/73405.htm#_idTextAnchor002)
- <sup>7</sup> Peirce, N., Lester, C., Seth, A., and Turner, P. (2018). *The Role of Physical Activity and Sport in Mental Health, Faculty of Sport and Exercise Medicine UK*. Joint Position Statement with the Sports and Exercise Psychiatry Special Interest Group of the Royal College of Psychiatrists. [https://www.fsem.ac.uk/position\\_statement/the-role-of-physical-activity-and-sport-in-mental-health](https://www.fsem.ac.uk/position_statement/the-role-of-physical-activity-and-sport-in-mental-health)
- <sup>8</sup> Johnson, B. (2021, July 15). The Prime Minister's Levelling Up speech [Transcription]. Retrieved from <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-prime-ministers-levelling-up-speech-15-july-2021>
- <sup>9</sup> Johnson, B. (2021, July 15). The Prime Minister's Levelling Up speech [Transcription]. Retrieved from <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-prime-ministers-levelling-up-speech-15-july-2021>
- <sup>10</sup> Sunak, R. (2021, September 7). *Correspondence to Secretaries of State: Spending Review* [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1015748/CX\\_LETTER\\_TO\\_ALL\\_SECRETARIES\\_OF\\_STATE\\_070921.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1015748/CX_LETTER_TO_ALL_SECRETARIES_OF_STATE_070921.pdf)
- <sup>9</sup> *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England*.
- <sup>9</sup> *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England*.
- <sup>9</sup> *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England*.

- <sup>14</sup> Sport for Development Coalition / State of Life analysis of impact reporting from Coach Core, Dame Kelly Holmes Trust, EFL Trust, Lord's Taverners, Premiership Rugby HITZ Programme, Street Games and Street League.
- <sup>15</sup> Sport England. (2020). *Active Lives Survey, 2018-2019*. 2nd Edition. UK Data Service. SN: 8652, <http://doi.org/10.5255/UKDA-SN-8652-2>
- <sup>16</sup> ukactive Research Institute. (2019). *Moving Communities: Active Leisure Trends 2019 Report*. Powered by datahub.
- <sup>17</sup> Scouts. (2021). *Scouts written evidence for the House of Commons Education Select Committee Inquiry: Left behind white pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds*. <https://committees.parliament.uk/writtenevidence/22927/html/>
- <sup>18</sup> HM Treasury. (2020) *Magenta Book: Central Government Guidance on Evaluation*. March 2020. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/879438/HMT\\_Magenta\\_Book.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/879438/HMT_Magenta_Book.pdf)
- <sup>19</sup> Street Games. (2020). *A Theory of Change: Using Sport to Enhance Positive Outcomes for Young People in the Context of Serious Youth Violence*. [https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/Sport%20and%20positive%20Outcomes\\_Theory%20of%20Change091120.pdf](https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/Sport%20and%20positive%20Outcomes_Theory%20of%20Change091120.pdf)
- <sup>20</sup> National Development Team for Inclusion. (2020). *Model City London - Phase Two Evaluation Report: Sharing the mid-point of the MCL Journey Summary and Insights #2*. <https://www.laureus.com/getmedia/e654fac0-aed1-4457-8dd0-a5509775a2fc/MCL-summary-4th-Sep-2020-v2.pdf>
- <sup>21</sup> Coalter, F., Theeboom, M., and Truyens, J. (2020). Developing a programme theory for sport and employability programmes for NEETs. *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*, 12(4), 679-697.
- <sup>22</sup> Sported. (2019). *In Sport We Trust: How sport can bridge the UK trust deficit*. <http://sported.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/10/In-sport-we-trust-2019.pdf>
- <sup>23</sup> Football Association. (2021). *The Social and Economic Value of Adult Grassroots Football In England*. An Analysis of the Contribution of Grassroots Football to the Nation's Economy and Wellbeing. <https://www.thefa.com/-/media/cfa/essexfa/files/news/2021/the-social-and-economic-value-of-adult-grassroots-football-in-england.ashx>
- <sup>24</sup> Jump and Simerica. (2018). *Revaluing Parks and Green Spaces: Measuring their economic and wellbeing value to individuals*. Fields in Trust. <https://www.fieldsintrust.org/Upload/file/research/Revaluing-Parks-and-Green-Spaces-Summary.pdf>
- <sup>25</sup> Sport England. (2020). *Active Lives Adults Survey: November 2019/22 Report*. <https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2021-04/Active%20Lives%20Adult%20November%202019-20%20Report.pdf?VersionId=OjWdwCLnl3dNgDwp3X4ukcODJIDVG7Kd>
- <sup>26</sup> Marmot, M., Allen, J., Boyce, T., Goldblatt, P & Morrison, J. (2020). *Health Equity in England: The Marmot Review 10 years on*. London: Institute of Health Equity.
- <sup>27</sup> Bambra, C., Lynch, J. & Smith, K. (2021). *The Unequal Pandemic: COVID-19 and Health Inequalities*. Bristol: Policy Press.
- <sup>28</sup> *Active Lives Adults Survey: November 2019/22 Report*. d
- <sup>29</sup> *Active Lives Adults Survey: November 2019/22 Report*.
- <sup>30</sup> Townsend, N. and Foster, C. (2016). *Physical inactivity: economic costs to NHS clinical commissioning groups*. Public Health England. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/524234/Physical\\_inactivity\\_costs\\_to\\_CCGs.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/524234/Physical_inactivity_costs_to_CCGs.pdf)
- <sup>31</sup> HM Treasury, Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government. (2021). *Levelling Up Fund: Prospectus*. March 2021. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/966138/Levelling\\_Up\\_prospectus.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/966138/Levelling_Up_prospectus.pdf)
- <sup>32</sup> *Levelling Up Fund: Prospectus*.
- <sup>33</sup> *Levelling Up Fund: Prospectus*.
- <sup>34</sup> Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. (2021). *Community Renewal Fund: Prospectus*. May 2021. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus/uk-community-renewal-fund-prospectus-2021-22>
- <sup>35</sup> Office of National Statistics. (2021). *Healthcare expenditure, UK Health Accounts: 2019*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthcaresystem/bulletins/ukhealthaccounts/2019>
- <sup>36</sup> Office of National Statistics. (2021). *Healthcare expenditure, UK Health Accounts provisional estimates: 2020*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthcaresystem/bulletins/healthcareexpenditureukhealthaccountsp provisionalestimates/2020>
- <sup>37</sup> Institute of Fiscal Studies. (2021). *An ever-growing NHS budget could swallow up all of this week's tax rise, leaving little for social care*. <https://ifs.org.uk/publications/15599>
- <sup>38</sup> Marshall, L. and Charlesworth, A. (2016). The economic case for preventing ill health. In *A Healthier Life for All the Case for Cross-Government Action*. Health Foundation. <https://www.health.org.uk/sites/default/files/AHealthierLifeForAll.pdf>
- <sup>39</sup> Nikoloski, Z., Alqunaibet, A. M., Alfawaz, R. A., Almudarra, S. S., Herbst, C. H., El-Saharty, S., and Algwizani, A. (2021). Covid-19 and non-communicable diseases: evidence from a systematic literature review. *BMC public health*, 21(1), 1-9.
- <sup>40</sup> HM Government. (2021) *Building Back Better: Our Plan for Health and Social Care*. Presented to Parliament by the Prime Minister by Command of Her Majesty, September 2021. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1015736/Build\\_Back\\_Better\\_-\\_Our\\_Plan\\_for\\_Health\\_and\\_Social\\_Care.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1015736/Build_Back_Better_-_Our_Plan_for_Health_and_Social_Care.pdf)
- <sup>41</sup> The economic case for preventing ill health. In *A Healthier Life for All the Case for Cross-Government Action*.
- <sup>42</sup> World Health Organisation. (2021). *Noncommunicable diseases*. <https://www.who.int/news-room/factsheets/detail/noncommunicable-diseases>
- <sup>43</sup> Smith, A., Kinnafick, F. and Rogers, E. (2021) *Moving for Mental Health following COVID-19: The Role of Physical Activity, Sport and Sport for Development in Promoting Movement and Mental Health*. London: Sport for Development Coalition/Mind.

- 44 *Review of the Evidence of Outcomes of Sport and Physical Activity: A Rapid Evidence Review.*
- 45 *Moving for Mental Health following COVID-19: The Role of Physical Activity, Sport and Sport for Development in Promoting Movement and Mental Health.*
- 46 Townsend, N. and Foster, C. (2016). *Physical inactivity: economic costs to NHS clinical commissioning groups.* Public Health England. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/524234/Physical\\_inactivity\\_costs\\_to\\_CCGs.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/524234/Physical_inactivity_costs_to_CCGs.pdf)
- 47 *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England.*
- 48 *Active Lives Adults Survey: November 2019/22 Report.*
- 49 Sport England, (2018). *Active Lives Children and Young People Survey Academic Year 2017/18.* <https://www.sportsthinktank.com/uploads/active-lives-children-survey-academic-year-17-18.pdf>
- 50 *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England.*
- 51 *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England.*
- 52 Independent Mental Health Taskforce, (2016). *The Five Year Forward View for Mental Health.* A Report from the Independent Mental Health Taskforce to The NHS In England, February 2016. <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Mental-Health-Taskforce-FYFV-final.pdf>
- 53 *Moving for Mental Health following COVID-19: The Role of Physical Activity, Sport and Sport for Development in Promoting Movement and Mental Health.*
- 54 Street Games and Brunel University. (2019). *Sport For Better Mental Health: How training a community sport workforce in Mental Health First Aid will support young people's mental wellbeing in the UK.* [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f020c49b484e47001f2bb5b/t/5f67da65eb716a35bc4624a7/1600641669458/StreetGames\\_Brunel\\_Youth\\_Sport\\_\\_Mental\\_Health\\_Report.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f020c49b484e47001f2bb5b/t/5f67da65eb716a35bc4624a7/1600641669458/StreetGames_Brunel_Youth_Sport__Mental_Health_Report.pdf)
- 55 Dame Kelly Holmes Trust. (2020). *Impact Report 2019/2020.* <https://www.damekellyholmestrust.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=98b5f51b-0ae9-474d-884b-93977b045dbc>
- 56 *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England.*
- 57 *Active Lives Adults Survey: November 2019/22 Report.*
- 58 *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England.*
- 59 Alison, M. (2021). *Proportionate Universalism.* <https://www.sportsthinktank.com/uploads/proportionate-universalism-martyn-allison-march-2021-5188-final.pdf>
- 60 Sport England. (2021). *Uniting the Movement: A 10-Year Vision to Transform Lives and Communities Through Sport and Physical Activity.* <https://www.sportengland.org/why-were-here/uniting-the-movement>.
- 61 Sport England. (2021). *People and places: The Story of doing it differently.* [https://www.sportengland.org/campaigns-and-our-work/local-delivery?section=local\\_delivery\\_pilots#thestoryofdoingitdifferently-12496](https://www.sportengland.org/campaigns-and-our-work/local-delivery?section=local_delivery_pilots#thestoryofdoingitdifferently-12496)
- 62 National Development Team for Inclusion. (2020). *Model City London - Phase Two Evaluation Report: Sharing the mid-point of the MCL Journey Summary and Insights #2.* <https://www.laureus.com/getmedia/e654fac0-aed1-4457-8dd0-a5509775a2fc/MCL-summary-4th-Sep-2020-v2.pdf>
- 63 Active Partnerships. (2018). *Active Burngreave.* <https://www.activepartnerships.org/impact/active-burngreave>
- 64 Kay, T., Meads, C., John, A., Daykin, N., Grigsby-Duffy, L., Lane, J., Dolan, P., Testoni, S., Julier, G., Payne, A. and Tomlinson, A. (2018). *A systematic review of sport and dance participation in healthy young people (15-24 years) to promote subjective wellbeing.* [https://whatworkswellbeing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/evidence-review-full-report-sport-dance-young-people-22june\\_0239581300.pdf](https://whatworkswellbeing.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/evidence-review-full-report-sport-dance-young-people-22june_0239581300.pdf)
- 65 *Review of the Evidence of Outcomes of Sport and Physical Activity: A Rapid Evidence Review.*
- 66 *People and places: The Story of doing it differently.*
- 67 *Model City London - Phase Two Evaluation Report: Sharing the mid-point of the MCL Journey Summary and Insights #2.* f
- 68 Public Health England and University of West of England, Bristol. (2020). *Engaging NHS system leaders in whole systems approaches to physical activity.* [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/941414/WSA\\_and\\_NHS\\_report\\_27.11.20\\_2\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/941414/WSA_and_NHS_report_27.11.20_2_.pdf)
- 69 Bertotti, M., Polley, M. and Jarvis-Beesley, P. (2020). *Social Prescribing for Children and Young People: Resources for developing an accessible, all-age model.* NHS England & Improvement and the Social Prescribing Youth Network. <https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/All-Age%20Social%20Prescribing%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>
- 70 Street Games, Sport Wales and Social Prescribing Youth Network. (2021). *Wales Youth Social Prescribing, Sport and Physical Activity: A Rapid Review.* <https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/All-Age%20Social%20Prescribing%20Executive%20Summary.pdf>
- 71 *Moving for Mental Health following COVID-19: The Role of Physical Activity, Sport and Sport for Development in Promoting Movement and Mental Health.*
- 72 Moving Medicine. *Active Hospitals.* <https://movingmedicine.ac.uk/active-hospitals/>
- 73 Sport England. *Moving Healthcare Professionals training.* <https://www.sportengland.org/campaigns-and-our-work/moving-healthcare-professionals>

- <sup>74</sup> HM Government. (2021). *Plan for Jobs: Progress Update*. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1016764/Plan\\_for\\_Jobs\\_FINAL.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1016764/Plan_for_Jobs_FINAL.pdf)
- <sup>75</sup> Powell, A., and Francis-Devine, B. (2021). *Youth Unemployment Statistics: 14 September 2021*. House of Commons Library. <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/SN05871/SN05871.pdf>
- <sup>76</sup> Adcock, J. (2021). *Labour market statistics: April 2021*. <https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/labour-market-statistics-april-2021/>
- <sup>77</sup> The Prince's Trust. (2021). *Youth Index 2021*. <https://www.princes-trust.org.uk/about-the-trust/research-policies-reports/youth-index-2021>
- <sup>78</sup> *Labour market statistics: April 2021*.
- <sup>79</sup> Learning and Work Institute and Princes Trust, (2021). *Facing the future: Technical Report* <https://learningandwork.org.uk/resources/research-and-reports/facing-the-future-employment-prospects-for-young-people-after-coronavirus/>
- <sup>80</sup> Powell, A. and Bridget-Devine, B. (2021) *Coronavirus: Impact on the labour market*. House of Commons Library. <https://researchbriefings.files.parliament.uk/documents/CBP-8898/CBP-8898.pdf>
- <sup>81</sup> Office for National Statistics. (2021, June 15). *Earnings and employment from Pay as You Earn Real Time Information, seasonally adjusted..* <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/earningsandworkinghours/datasets/realtimeinformationstatisticsreferencetableseasonallyadjusted>
- <sup>82</sup> Office for National Statistics. (2021, 18 May) *Labour market status by ethnic group*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peopleinwork/employmentandemployeetypes/datasets/labourmarketstatusbyethnicgroupa09>
- <sup>83</sup> Public Accounts Committee. (2021). *DWP Employment Support*. [https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5802/cmselect/cmpublic/177/17707.htm#\\_idTextAnchor011](https://publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm5802/cmselect/cmpublic/177/17707.htm#_idTextAnchor011)
- <sup>84</sup> Maguire, S. and Mackay, E. (2016). *Young, Female and Forgotten?* University of Bath and Young Women's Trust. <https://www.bath.ac.uk/publications/young-female-and-forgotten-final-report/attachments/ipr-young-female-and-forgotten-final-report.pdf>
- <sup>85</sup> Renaisi and Institute for Public Policy Research. (2021). *Hidden in Plain Sight: Young Londoners unemployed yet unsupported*. London Youth. <https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/dev/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/Hidden-in-Plain-Sight-Web-Version.pdf>
- <sup>86</sup> Office of National Statistics. (2021). *Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), UK: August 2021*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peoplenotinwork/unemployment/bulletins/youngpeoplenotineducationemploymentortrainingneet/august2021>
- <sup>87</sup> *Hidden in Plain Sight: Young Londoners unemployed yet unsupported*.
- <sup>88</sup> Department of Culture, Media and Sport. (2020, 10 December). *DCMS Economic Estimates 2019 (provisional): Gross Value Add*. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dcms-economic-estimates-2019-gross-value-added/dcms-economic-estimates-2019-provisional-gross-value-added>
- <sup>89</sup> Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, (2020, April 30). *DCMS Sectors Economic Estimates 2019: Employment*. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/dcms-sectors-economic-estimates-2019-employment/dcms-sectors-economic-estimates-2019-employment>
- <sup>90</sup> Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. (2020, January 31). *UK Sport Satellite Account 2012- 2016*. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/676504/Sport\\_Satellite\\_Account\\_2016.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/676504/Sport_Satellite_Account_2016.pdf)
- <sup>91</sup> Davies, L., Christy, E., Ramchandani, G. & Taylor, P. (2020). *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 2: The Economic Importance of Sport and Physical Activity in England*. <https://sportengland-production-files.s3.eu-west-2.amazonaws.com/s3fs-public/2020-09/Social%20return%20on%20investment.pdf?5BgVln09jwpTesBJ4BXhVfRhV4TYgm9E>
- <sup>92</sup> Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity. (2020). *CIMSPA 2020 workforce insight report: Understanding the size and impact of the UK Sport and Physical Activity Workforce*. <https://www.cimspa.co.uk/cimspa-news/workforce-insight#LMI>
- <sup>93</sup> *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 2: The Economic Importance of Sport and Physical Activity in England*.
- <sup>94</sup> *CIMSPA 2020 workforce insight report: Understanding the size and impact of the UK Sport and Physical Activity Workforce*.
- <sup>95</sup> Office for National Statistics. (2020, November 19). *Business Impact of COVID-19 Survey (BICS) results*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/economicoutputandproductivity/output/datasets/businessimpactofcovid19surveybicsresults>
- <sup>96</sup> Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport. (2021, June 3). *DCMS Sector Economic Estimates: Employment Oct 2019 - Sep 2020*. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/dcms-sector-economic-estimates-employment-oct-2019-sep-2020>
- <sup>97</sup> Further Education News. (2021). *Leicestershire Colleges and employers to boost health skills as part of post-Covid recovery plan*. <https://www.fenews.co.uk/press-releases/72844-leicestershire-colleges-and-employers-to-boost-health-skills-as-part-of-post-covid-recovery-plan>
- <sup>98</sup> Youth Employment Group (2021) *Levelling up for young people: Building an Opportunity Guarantee*. <https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/dev/wp-content/themes/yeuk/files/opportunity-guarantee-tw.pdf>
- <sup>99</sup> Office of National Statistics, (2021, August 26). *Young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), UK: August 2021*. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/employmentandlabourmarket/peoplenotinwork/unemployment/bulletins/youngpeoplenotineducationemploymentortrainingneet/august2021>
- <sup>100</sup> Theeboom, M., Coalter, F., Truyens, J., Soendgen, N., Gonzalez-Valles, E., Vukasinovic, N., & Vanden Berghe, S. (2017). *Study on*



- the Contribution of Sport to the Employability of Young People in the Context of the Europe 2020 Strategy: Final Report.*  
<https://op.europa.eu/en/publication-detail/-/publication/1d46884f-b542-11e7-837e-01aa75ed71a1/language-en>
- <sup>100</sup> Coalter, F., Theeboom, M., & Truyens, J. (2020). Developing a programme theory for sport and employability programmes for NEETs. *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*, 12(4), 679-697.
- <sup>101</sup> Morgan, H., Parker, A., & Marturano, N. (2020). Community-based intervention and marginalised youth: inclusion, social mobility and life-course transition. *Journal of Education and Work*, 33(5-6), 327-342.
- <sup>102</sup> Sport for Development Coalition analysis of impact reporting from Coach Core, Empire Fighting Chance, Premiership Rugby HITZ Programme, School of Hard Knocks, Sport 4 Life and Street League.
- <sup>103</sup> Sport for Development Coalition analysis of impact reporting from Coach Core, EFL Trust, Premiership Rugby HITZ Programme, Sport 4 Life and Street League.
- <sup>104</sup> Sport for Development Coalition analysis of impact reporting from Coach Core, EFL Trust, Premiership Rugby HITZ Programme and Street League.
- <sup>105</sup> Premiership Rugby, (2020). *Impact reporting*. Internal.
- <sup>106</sup> Bean Research, (2019). *Street Elite Social Return on Investment Analysis & Report*. [https://www.berkeleyfoundation.org.uk/-/media/foundation/about-us/sroi\\_report\\_on\\_street\\_elite\\_december\\_2019.ashx?rev=4e748c8205fc44b3a05b7564663ed6b2&hash=61C8F21AD917111220877C51EFF2BACC](https://www.berkeleyfoundation.org.uk/-/media/foundation/about-us/sroi_report_on_street_elite_december_2019.ashx?rev=4e748c8205fc44b3a05b7564663ed6b2&hash=61C8F21AD917111220877C51EFF2BACC)
- <sup>107</sup> Youth Futures Foundation. *Meeting the Grantees*.  
<https://youthfuturesfoundation.org/our-work/invest/meet-the-grantees/>
- <sup>108</sup> Youth Employment Group. (2021) *Levelling up for young people: Building an Opportunity Guarantee*.  
<https://www.youthemployment.org.uk/dev/wp-content/themes/yeuk/files/opportunity-guarantee-tw.pdf>
- <sup>109</sup> Home Office. (2021). *Beating Crime Plan*.  
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/ beating-crime-plan/ beating-crime-plan#chapter-2--cutting-homicide-serious-violence-and-neighbourhood-crime>
- <sup>110</sup> Heeks, M., Reed, S., Tafisiri, M., & Prince, S. (2018). *The economic and social costs of crime, second edition*. Home Office Research Report 99.  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/732110/the-economic-and-social-costs-of-crime-horr99.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/732110/the-economic-and-social-costs-of-crime-horr99.pdf)
- <sup>111</sup> *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England*.
- <sup>112</sup> Brosnan, S. (2020). The impact of sports participation on crime in England between 2012 and 2015. *Sport in Society*, 23(6), 1080-1090.
- <sup>113</sup> *Changing lives: the social impact of participation in culture and sport: eleventh report of Session 2017-19*.
- <sup>114</sup> Ministry of Justice, (2021, July 29). *Proven reoffending statistics quarterly bulletin, July to September 2019*.  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/1006052/Proven\\_reoffending\\_stats\\_bulletin\\_julsepFinal.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1006052/Proven_reoffending_stats_bulletin_julsepFinal.pdf)
- <sup>115</sup> *A Sporting Chance: An independent review of sport in youth and adult prisons*.
- <sup>116</sup> *Levelling the Playing Field. About Levelling the Playing Field*.  
<https://www.levellingtheplyingfield.org/about-levelling-the-playing-field>
- <sup>117</sup> HM Prisons and Probation Service. (2021, September 10). *Youth custody data*. <https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/youth-custody-data>
- <sup>118</sup> Walpole, C., Mason, C. & Kenyon, J. (2020). *Vulnerable girls, young women and sport research report for the West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit*. Loughborough University.  
[https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/Vulnerable%20Girls%2C%20Young%20Women%20and%20Sport\\_FINALApril2021LboroUni.pdf](https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/Vulnerable%20Girls%2C%20Young%20Women%20and%20Sport_FINALApril2021LboroUni.pdf)
- <sup>119</sup> Walpole, C., Mason, C., Case, S., & Downward, P. (2019). *Safer Together Through Sport: Creating Partnerships for Positive Change*.  
<https://network.streetgames.org/sites/default/files/Loughborough%20University%2520-%2520Safer%2520Together%2520Literature%2520Review%2520Summary.pdf>
- <sup>120</sup> Walpole, C., Mason, C., Case, S., & Downward, P. (2020). *Sport and Serious Youth Violence: Literature Review Summary Update 2020*. Loughborough University, StreetGames and the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner.  
<https://network.streetgames.org/resources/safer-together-through-sport-creating-partnerships-positive-change>
- <sup>121</sup> Ministry of Justice. (2018). *Government response to A Sporting Chance an Independent Review of Sport in Youth and Adult Prisons*  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/733311/a-sporting-chance-govt-response.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/733311/a-sporting-chance-govt-response.pdf)
- <sup>122</sup> Alliance of Sport in Criminal Justice. (2021). *Under Secretary of State wants to expand sport's role in criminal justice*.  
<https://allianceofsport.org/news/appg-sport-criminal-justice/>
- <sup>123</sup> Jarvis, P. (2014). StreetGames: Changing lives, changing communities, changing sport. *Perspectives in public health*, 134(2), 71.
- <sup>124</sup> *Beating Crime Plan*.
- <sup>125</sup> *Sport and Serious Youth Violence: Literature review Summary Update 2020*.
- <sup>126</sup> Youth Endowment Fund. *Sport and physical activity: Engaging children in regular organised sports*.  
<https://youthendowmentfund.org.uk/toolkit/sport-and-physical-activity/>
- <sup>127</sup> *Safer Together Through Sport: Creating Partnerships for Positive Change*.
- <sup>128</sup> Noble, J. and Coleman, J. *Our Theory of Change: Exploring the role of Sport for Development in the prevention and desistance from*

- crime. Alliance of Sport in Criminal Justice. [http://www.allianceofsport.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/ToC\\_brochureV14hi.pdf](http://www.allianceofsport.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/12/ToC_brochureV14hi.pdf)
- <sup>129</sup> Ekholm, D. (2019). Sport as vehicle of crime and drug prevention and social inclusion objectives. In *The United Nations Expert Group Meeting on the "Integrating Sport into Youth Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Strategies", 16-18 December, Bangkok, Thailand, 2019* (pp. 1-4).
- <sup>130</sup> *Changing lives: the social impact of participation in culture and sport: eleventh report of Session 2017-19.*
- <sup>131</sup> *A Sporting Chance: An independent review of sport in youth and adult prisons.*
- <sup>132</sup> Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner. (2020). *Derbyshire PCC at the Centre of New National Board to Drive Forward Sports-Based Crime Prevention.* <https://www.derbyshire-pcc.gov.uk/News-and-Events-Meetings/News-Archive/2020/PR-838.aspx>
- <sup>133</sup> *Changing Lives: the social impact of participation in culture and sport.*
- <sup>134</sup> Alliance of Sport in Criminal Justice. (2021). *APPG on Sport in the Criminal Justice System.* <https://allianceofsport.org/power-of-sport/appg-spacjs/>
- <sup>135</sup> Morgan, H., & Baker, C. (2021). Strategic or communicative partnerships? Insights from sports programmes in the criminal justice sector. *International Journal of Sport Policy and Politics*, 1-18.
- <sup>136</sup> StreetGames and Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner. (2017) *Survey of Police and Crime Commissioners: Survey undertaken as part of the Safer Together through Sport programme.*
- <sup>137</sup> *Changing lives: the social impact of participation in culture and sport: eleventh report of Session 2017-19.*
- <sup>138</sup> Woodward, J. (2020). *Sport and Community Safety: A formative report.* Batson-Chiles-Webster Commission on Sport and Low Income Neighbourhoods.
- <sup>139</sup> Ministry of Justice. (2020). *Tackling Racial Disparity in the Criminal Justice System: 2020 Update.* Includes progress responding to the Lammy Review into the treatment of, and outcomes for, Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic individuals in the Criminal Justice System. [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/881317/tackling-racial-disparity-cjs-2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/881317/tackling-racial-disparity-cjs-2020.pdf)
- <sup>140</sup> Sport for Development Coalition analysis of Beating Crime Plan.
- <sup>141</sup> HM Treasury, (2020). *Green Book: Central Government Guidance on Appraisal and Evaluation.* [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/938046/The\\_Green\\_Book\\_2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/938046/The_Green_Book_2020.pdf)
- <sup>142</sup> *Magenta Book: Central Government on Evaluation.*
- <sup>143</sup> *Revaluing Parks and Green Spaces: Measuring their economic and wellbeing value to individuals.*
- <sup>144</sup> *The Social and Economic Value of Adult Grassroots Football in England: An Analysis of the Contribution of Grassroots Football to the Nation's Economy and Wellbeing.*
- <sup>145</sup> *In Sport We Trust: How sport can bridge the UK trust deficit.*
- <sup>146</sup> *Active Lives Adults Survey: November 2019/22 Report.*
- <sup>147</sup> *Active Lives Children and Young People Survey Academic year 2019/20.*
- <sup>148</sup> ukactive Research Institute. (2019). *Moving Communities: Active Leisure Trends 2019 Report.* Powered by datahub.
- <sup>149</sup> Moving Communities, (2021). Sector Recovery Analysis: Weeks 1 – 6. <https://movingcommunities.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/Wk-1-6.png>
- <sup>150</sup> *People and places: The Story of doing it differently.*
- <sup>151</sup> *Moving for Mental Health following COVID-19: The Role of Physical Activity, Sport and Sport for Development in Promoting Movement and Mental Health.*
- <sup>152</sup> Sport for Development Coalition. (2020). *Spotlight on 2021: End of Year Forum Survey,* collated responses.
- <sup>153</sup> Spoted. (2020). *Tackling racism at the grassroots.* <https://spoted.org.uk/tackling-racism-media-release/>
- <sup>154</sup> Godfrey, T., Mason, C., & Downward, P. (2020). *COVID-19 and the resilience of third sector sports organisations in the UK.* Awaiting publication.
- <sup>155</sup> Charity Commission. *Register of Charities.* <https://register-of-charities.charitycommission.gov.uk/>
- <sup>156</sup> Godfrey, T. (2020). *Partnerships, Policy and Practice: An examination of organisational capacity within Third Sector Sports Organisations in England* (Doctoral thesis, Loughborough University). [https://repository.lboro.ac.uk/articles/thesis/Partnerships\\_policy\\_and\\_practice\\_an\\_examination\\_of\\_organisational\\_capacity\\_within\\_third\\_sector\\_sports\\_organisations\\_in\\_England/12594221/1](https://repository.lboro.ac.uk/articles/thesis/Partnerships_policy_and_practice_an_examination_of_organisational_capacity_within_third_sector_sports_organisations_in_England/12594221/1)
- <sup>157</sup> Laureus Sport for Good and Commonwealth Secretariat. (2018). *Sport for Development: The Road to Evidence.* <https://www.sportanddev.org/en/document/research-and-project-evaluations/sport-development-road-evidence>; Schulenkorf, N., Sherry, E., & Rowe, K. (2016). Sport for development: An integrated literature review. *Journal of Sport Management*, 30(1), 22-39.; and, Sport for Development Coalition (2015) *Sport for Development Outcomes and Measurement Framework,* [https://londonfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/Sfd%20Framework\\_0.pdf](https://londonfund.org.uk/sites/default/files/images/Sfd%20Framework_0.pdf)
- <sup>158</sup> Spoted. *Our Impact.* <https://spoted.org.uk/our-work/our-impact/>
- <sup>159</sup> Street Games and Brunel University, (2019). *Sport For Better Mental Health: How training a community sport workforce in Mental Health First Aid will support young people's mental wellbeing in the UK.* [https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f020c49b484e47001f2bb5b/t/5f67da65eb716a35bc4624a7/1600641669458/StreetGames\\_Brunel\\_Youth\\_Sport\\_\\_Mental\\_Health\\_Report.pdf](https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5f020c49b484e47001f2bb5b/t/5f67da65eb716a35bc4624a7/1600641669458/StreetGames_Brunel_Youth_Sport__Mental_Health_Report.pdf)
- <sup>160</sup> Chance to Shine, (2021). *Our Impact:2020 Impact Report.* <https://www.chancetoshine.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=5708dcb8-fc3e-4a1f-8f68-1298a2d6d637>
- <sup>161</sup> Office for National Statistics. (2020, November 19). *Business Impact of COVID-19 Survey (BICS) results.* <https://www.ons.gov.uk/economy/economicoutputandproductivity/output/datasets/businessimpactofcovid19surveybicsresults>

- <sup>162</sup> *Uniting the Movement: A 10-Year Vision to Transform Lives and Communities Through Sport and Physical Activity*,
- <sup>163</sup> Sport England internal analysis.
- <sup>164</sup> National Plan for Sport and Recreation Committee, (2021). *Corrected oral evidence: National plan for sport and recreation, 7 July 2021*. <https://committees.parliament.uk/oralevidence/2540/html/>
- <sup>165</sup> *Measuring the Social and Economic Impact of Sport in England - Report 1: Social Return on Investment of Sport and Physical Activity in England*.
- <sup>166</sup> This figure includes £2.6 billion of inputs for sport clothing and footwear.
- <sup>167</sup> Office of National Statistics. (2019). *Healthcare expenditure, UK Health Accounts: 2018*, Online. <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthcaresystem/bulletins/ukhealthaccounts/2018>
- <sup>168</sup> Harris, T., Hodge, L., and Philipps, D. (2020). *English local government funding: trends and challenges in 2019 and beyond*, Institute of Fiscal Studies, Online. <https://www.ifs.org.uk/uploads/English-local-government-funding-trends-and-challenges-in-2019-and-beyond-IFS-Report-166.pdf>
- <sup>169</sup> *English local government funding: trends and challenges in 2019 and beyond*.
- <sup>170</sup> Association for Public Service Excellence, The Local Government Association and The Chief Cultural & Leisure Officers Association. (2021). *Securing the future of public sport and leisure services*. [https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/Securing%20future%20\(suimary\)%20with%20links.pdf](https://www.apse.org.uk/apse/assets/File/Securing%20future%20(suimary)%20with%20links.pdf).
- <sup>171</sup> Sport and Recreation Alliance. (2021). *COVID impacts most acute in deprived and ethnically diverse communities*. <https://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/news/covid-19/covid-impacts-most-acute-in-deprived-and-ethn>
- <sup>172</sup> Activity Alliance. (2021). *Annual Disability and Activity Survey 2020-21: Full report February 2021*. <http://www.activityalliance.org.uk/how-we-help/research/6011-activity-alliance-annual-disability-and-activity-survey-feb-2021>
- <sup>173</sup> Pharoah, C. and Walker, C. (2019). *Foundation Giving Trends 2019: Top 300 Foundation Grant-Makers*. Association of Charitable Foundations, London: Association of Charitable Foundations. [https://www.acf.org.uk/downloads/publications/ACF\\_Foundation\\_Giving\\_Trends\\_2019.pdf](https://www.acf.org.uk/downloads/publications/ACF_Foundation_Giving_Trends_2019.pdf)
- <sup>174</sup> The five sport-focused charitable trusts and foundations identified in the 'Top 300' were: Football Foundation [£49.66 million total giving per year]; the Professional Footballers Association Charity [£17.41 million]; London Marathon Charitable Trust Ltd [£8.4 million]; Sports Aid Trust [£3.54 million]; and, Laureus Sport for Good [£3.52 million]. Other major charitable trusts and foundations do have sport-related portfolios (e.g. Comic Relief, BBC Children in Need) and there are additional substantial non-government funds such as the Premier League Charitable Fund (PLCF) [£35million a year – see *Premier League Charitable Fund*. <https://www.premierleague.com/communities/plcf>]
- <sup>175</sup> Association of Charitable Foundations. (2021). *Rising to the Challenge*. Charitable Foundations' responses to Coronavirus and their forecast for the future. [https://www.acf.org.uk/common/Uploaded%20files/About%20us/News/Rising\\_to\\_the\\_Challenge\\_-\\_ACF\\_Coronavirus\\_Report\\_FINAL.pdf](https://www.acf.org.uk/common/Uploaded%20files/About%20us/News/Rising_to_the_Challenge_-_ACF_Coronavirus_Report_FINAL.pdf)
- <sup>176</sup> BBC. (2019, December 7) General election 2019: Tories pledge £550m for grassroots football. <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/election-2019-50695211>
- <sup>177</sup> Johnson, B. (2021, July 15). The Prime Minister's Levelling Up speech [Transcription]. <https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/the-prime-ministers-levelling-up-speech-15-july-2021>
- <sup>178</sup> Sport England. *Funding, innovation and flexibility*. <https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/coronavirus/funding-innovation-and-flexibility>