

## **East Midlands Further Education Update**

### **AoC (East Midlands) Regional Sports Strategy Co-ordinator for FE- Sarah Larnder**

#### **Background to role**

- The post came about through the AoC Sports Strategy steering group, consisting of Principals and Heads of Sport, encouraging each of the 27 colleges across the East Midlands (Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire, Lincolnshire, Derbyshire and Northamptonshire) to put funding into the post.

#### **Remit**

- To be an advocate for sport in FE, to raise the profile and share best practice.
- Encourage joined up working and increasing provision by developing relationships between colleges and with key partners: NGB's, CSP's, BCS, Local Authorities and networking groups.
- Act as a regional co-ordinator for FESCO's by developing county working groups/task finish groups and sharing best practice and advice.

#### **The Role of the Further Education Sport Co-ordinator (FESCO)**

*'The FESCO's main responsibility is to engage and encourage more 16-19 year olds within FE Colleges to participate, perform, lead and volunteer in Sport and Physical Activity.'*

The role includes the co-ordination and development of college enrichment activities (extra curricular sporting opportunities), inter and intra college competition, leadership and volunteering opportunities and local community links between college, School Sports Partnerships and local clubs.

All of the above contribute to providing 3 hours of Sport & Physical Activity for all College students in line with the 5 hour offer prescribed by Sport England.

#### **Overall Role of FESCO's**

- To drive the development, improvement and enhancement of college-based sport enrichment programmes for students aged 16-19; increasing participation for all.
- To support, train, develop and deploy sports leaders, volunteers and officials aged 16-19, through existing programmes such as Step into Sport.
- To act as the main link person, in the context of FE, with the SSP and local sporting infrastructure, through CSP's, NGB's and CSN's.
- To develop, where necessary and ensure effective implementation of, the college sport development plan and it's positioning within local sporting infrastructure.

#### **Specific Functions of the FESCO's**

- Enhance and improve planning, development and provision of sport across the college, specifically as part of the enrichment programme, whilst actively involving local sports organisations as exit routes.
- Working with key partners such as SSP, CSP, CSN's, NGB's to ensure mutual key objectives are met through partnership working.

- Working to identify, develop and deploy Young Leaders, coaches and officials to support local school sport, intra mural college competitions and local club activity.
- Audit and develop the college's Gifted and Talented provision, ensuring that it complements and supports player pathways endorsed by NGB's.
- Increase and improve the range of inter and intra- college sporting competitions.
- Joint working with other FESCo's to develop inter-college partnership working.
- To develop and promote college-community club links to provide exit routes for college students.
- To work with Local delivery agencies to upskill college lecturers/coaches through opportunities offered through PESSYP and CSP workforce development plan.
- Identify and seek funding both within college and through local partners to support the implementation of the college's sport development plan.
- Promote the benefits and successes of the college's work within sport and insure a high profile both internally and externally.
- Monitor and evaluate the college's progress in relation to the national targets for participation, contributing to the overall national monitoring and evaluation process.

#### Capacity of the Posts

These posts are mostly part time – they are funded by the Youth Sports Trust for 2 days a week. In some cases, colleges have added to the funding and made the post full time. Others have added lecturing hours to the role to enable the FESCo to be in college five days per week (although not always focussed on the FESCo role). There will also be some who operate for only two days per week or will spread these hours across the week. This situation will differ from college to college.

## East Midlands FESCO Network

Regional Sports Strategy Co-ordinator- Sarah Larnder

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CSCo= College Sport Co-ordinator; Sport England CIF Funded posts that were effectively the first FESCO's with a similar remit. Some CSCo's cover more than one institution. Colleges with a CSCo will also have a FESCO.

