

Future of the East Midlands NGB Forum (Dec 2009)

Feedback from East Midlands NGB Forum Members

In order to consult members regarding the future of the NGB Forum in the East Midlands, an agenda item was delivered at the December 2009 Forum to obtain views on this. Additionally, to obtain a clearer picture on the needs and relative capacities of the NGBs, Officers were also asked to fill out a questionnaire and bring this to the meeting. A matrix of the information collected is attached as an appendix to this document.

In order to elicit information through discussion, the meeting was split into four groups. Three groups were made up of NGBs (based on their relative capacities to deliver) and one group included all the partner organisations.

The following feedback was elicited from these groups.

Group 1 (Lowest capacity)

- Meeting others and networking opportunities are very important to these sports
- Sharing ideas at a regional level is more difficult for these sports (and the Forum gives opportunity for this to happen).
- Important Partners are CSPs, LAs, SSPs. Other partners are of lower priority to these sports
- Regional NGB Forum is helpful. Two meetings per year would be ideal, especially if this included time for CSP engagement.

Group 2 (Medium Capacity)

- The priorities / needs of these sports can differ.
- The meetings are useful for info and networking
- Info from CSPs is useful, but links with the CSPs are also required on a more regular basis.
- Links to SSPs & LAs are important – support to broker these discussions would be appreciated as it's difficult to get to this level.
- Forum also useful for meeting other regional partners, like SkillsActive
- Two meetings per year would be ideal.

Group 3 (Highest Capacity)

- Meeting as a group of similar capacity sports, to problem solve and share good ideas, would be useful.
- All NGBs want to meet the CSPs and find it beneficial when these can be met together. Specific feedback about each sport from each CSP would help when line managing county based staff to direct their time effectively.
- Ideas for best practise are important (inc feedback from other regions). It should be that discussion about the delivery of particular work strands would help everyone.
- Challenges to helpful discussion are that County staff for the various sports vary in capacity and the way they're employed. Additionally each sport can have different priorities and partners they want to target.
- 4 meetings per year is ideal. Perhaps meet all together in the morning and have slots in the afternoon to meet partners.

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Group 4 (Partners)

- High priorities for this group are meeting NGBs, sharing info and meeting other partners
- Medium priorities for Forum Meetings are seeing individual officers and learning about individual NGB priorities
- The group comprises of the right officers and there is the right level of contact at meetings. (Much contact also happens outside these meetings.)
- Partners do manage to get their message across within the current meeting format.
- In general, Regional Forum works well with County Forums and does help shape county agendas. However there's often a different driver at county level and this should be remembered. More synergy between County and regional forums would help agenda setting and info flow between the 2 levels.
- Some partners happy to keep to 4 meetings per year, and some felt that 2 would be better.

General Points about the usefulness of the Regional NGB Forum

- There are a number of sports that struggle to engage at CSP level and find it helpful to meet all the CSPs together at one time.
- The Regional Forum should be a 'Partnership Forum'. It's not just about giving and receiving NGB 'messages'. It should also be about added value and better working together to deliver programs. (This is the way the West Mids Forum is moving.)
- Regional Officers felt it would be useful if meetings had a theme. These could be related to solving a particular issue. The theme could change each meeting.
- NGBs need to engage with other organisations like 3rd Sector, EMDA, local colleges, etc. By definition there are many NGBs and so the Regional Forum plays an important role in helping these partners engage collectively. Some partners struggle to deal with NGBs on an individual basis.
- Irrespective of national direction there are issues affecting engagement that require contact between partners at a more localised level. There are times when this is most effectively done at regional level rather than at individual CSP level
- There are a number of partner organisations that have regional strategies or require engagement at a regional level. NGBs run the risk of missing out on these opportunities if the Regional NGB Forums no longer exist
- It is clear from the matrix below, that the role of Regional NGB Officers has changed in recent months. For those officers who have stayed in Post, the NGB Forum could be used to help them address some of their new challenges (e.g. by providing self-help support on the best way of managing staff).
- In the past some NGBs have struggled to communicate internally across all of their staff. So links forged between the various sports, through the NGB Forum, have helped Regional Managers stay up to date with important information. There is still a case for preserving this facility.

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Appendix 1 – Information regarding the capacity that each NGB has to Deliver its outcomes

NGB	Name	Region	Lone Officer in Region?	Hrs Per Wk	Job Changed?	Expanded at Reg / Local Level?	Other Colleagues in Region?
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Smallest Capacity NGBs

English Lacrosse	Tom Seneviratne	5 Regions E & W Midlands Yorkshire N East & N West	Yes	33 – 40	New Post. Local Dev't Staff and Coaches in other Regions, but not in E Midlands	Yes	Nat Club Dev't Mgr Nat Ed & Skills Mgr
Baseball / Softball UK	Peter Evans	10 Counties (E & W Midlands)	Yes	17 - 24	New Post	Yes	Reg Coach
British Orienteering	Pauline Olivant	5 Counties (E Midlands)	Yes	9 - 16	No significant change	No	Nat Participation Mgr

Medium Capacity NGBs

British Judo	Terri Elliott	5 Counties (E Midlands)	Yes	33 – 40	New Post	Yes	Regional Technical Officer
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Largest Capacity NGBs

Gymnastics England	Samantha Harding	5 Counties (E Midlands)	No	33 – 40	Expanded Role Gone from 1 County Officer to 3 RDO does less work on the ground, but more strategy, planning & staff mgt.	Yes	GDO Derbyshire (f/t) GDO Leicestershire (f/t) GDO Notts (p/t)
Rugby Football League	David Butler	11 CSPs E & W Midlands	No	33 – 40	New Role New staff, less delivery personally. New KPIs from Community Strategy	Yes	RDO Projects RDO Clubs Talent Coach Mgr Talent Coach EM Talent Coach WM Match Officials DO Volunteer Co-ordinator

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Badminton England	James Watmough	5 Counties (E Midlands)	No	33 - 40	Expanded Role Move from managing 6 p/t time county staff to 3 f/t reg staff	Yes	Reg Officer Leics Reg Officer Northants & Derbys Reg Officer Notts & Lincs
English Golf Union / English Women's Golf Association	Kelly Hanwell	5 Counties (E Midlands)	No	33 - 40	New Role Share Mgt of 5 County Officers New Nat remit on Coaching Strategy Team for EGP	Yes	RDO Golf Foundation (schools + Comms) PGA Regional Coach GDO Derbys (p/t) GDO Leics (p/t) GDO Lincs (p/t) GDO Northants (p/t) GDO Notts (p/t)
England Netball	Hayley Peel	5 Counties (E Midlands)	No	33 - 40	New Role. Now manage team of 6 people.	Yes	Regional Co-ordinator NDO Derbys NDO Leics NDO Lincs NDO Northants NDO Notts Regional Talent Coach
England & Wales Cricket Board	Helen Pack	10 Counties (E & W Midlands)	No	33 - 40	Future changes coming up: New job title - "Business & Organisation Dev't Mgr" Line Mgt of County Staff moving to County Cricket Boards Focus on Governance / Compliance / Public Liability	Yes	5 County Cricket Boards with min 3 staff in each office (+ coaches) 6 Regional Posts: Reg Performance Mgr Reg Volunteers Mgr Reg Women's Dev Mgr Reg Funding & Facilities Mgr Reg Training Mgr Reg Chance2Shine DO