



CSP Chairs and Directors

11 August 2016

Dear CSP Chairs and Directors,

### **Independent appraisal of County Sports Partnerships**

Andy Reed has published today his independent appraisal of CSPs. Sport England welcomes the report. We believe this positions the network of partnerships to deliver on the government's and Sport England's strategies. His report calls for a clearer, crisper core specification, a tougher performance management system, greater transparency and more accountability. We are pleased that Andy has recognised an ongoing role for CSPs and the CSPN.

The Sport England Board will formally consider the report at its 20 September meeting. Implementing the report's recommendations – not least consulting on a new core services specification and future core funding – will of course take some time. We recognise the need to give some short-term funding security to CSPs so will be asking our Board to extend CSP core funding agreements, at the current run rate, for an additional six months (April to September 2017) to allow time for consultation and the drawing up by CSPs of new funding bids. The CSP Team will be in touch after the Board meeting to discuss next steps.

Separately, we will move quickly now to confirm the next years funding for the School Games and support for the Primary PE & School Sport Premium (the academic year 2016/17). Further to my letter in July, we will also confirm our approach to the Sportivate programme as soon as we can and anticipate we will be able to do this after the September Board meeting. But as I explained in my letter your assumption should be that national funding for Sportivate will end in March 2017.

Our anticipated timeline, which we will propose to our Board in September is therefore as follows:

#### **Now – December 2016:**

- Develop and consult on a new core specification of services for CSPs
- Develop and consult on a new performance measurement regime which tests the quality of CSP local partnerships and plans



- Six month core funding extension award (you should anticipate a decision as normal in December)
- Investment approach confirmed for children and young people programmes (will seek to put the award in place during September)

#### January – March 2017

- New core specification of services and performance measurement regime confirmed
- Investment guide published

#### April – July 2017

- CSPs develop detailed plans for core funding from October 2017 onwards
- Scoping meetings take place between CSPs and Sport England to agree funding range CSPs would be eligible for
- CSPs submit plans
- Assessment and awards made

Sport England looks forward to working with CSPs and the CSPN to implement Andy Reed's recommendations and to ensure the network supports the delivery of *Sporting Future* and *Towards an Active Nation*. We will continue to communicate to the network and through CSPN as these plans develop.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Diaper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mike Diaper

Executive Director, Community Sport