



Faith and Sport Forum



Active Black Country



Towards An Active Black Country

Active Black Country



We believe :

**It is every resident's right to be active and play sport
Sport can improve Black Country residents' lives**

Our role :

**Is to promote the Power of Sport and Physical
Activity to improve lives**

Our vision for the Black Country is ;

**“That it is easier for individuals and communities to
be physically active. To be safe, secure, healthy and
passionate about Sport”**



Understanding

- **Inclusion and Diversity** - Equality of opportunity for all
 - Community environment/Community Terms
- **Places of worship are (Touchpoints)** for communities
 - Footfall of people and diverse audiences
- **Mapping** - Approx. 450 built Faith institutions across the Black Country ranging from Churches, Mosques, Sikh Temples, Hindu Temples and other denominations.
 - Networks and Circuits
- **Consultation**
 - Land/Facilities
 - Existing P.A
 - Volunteers
 - Appetite to engage
- However – **Isolation** from Sport and P.A sector support.
 - Workforce/volunteers
 - Facility development for Sport & P.A
 - Connect

Connecting

Faith and Sport Forum

- **Connect places of worship, faith based groups and community organisations with Sports/P.A sector and wider strategic stakeholders.**
 - Places of worship and Faith based groups
 - Sports Providers
 - Workforce
 - Infrastructure and Facilities
- **Further understand and explore challenges but also to maximise opportunities by working in collaboration.**
- **Get more people active from every community**

Balaji Temple



Sport and Faith in Wolverhampton



Background

- The GNSG was the **first** Gurdwara to be founded in Wolverhampton and is still referred to as the foundation of Sikhism in Wolverhampton. The premises were first purchased in 1966.
- Currently in Wolverhampton alone there are 12 Sikh Gurdwara's and two faith schools, Nishkam Primary School and The British Sikh School that are still linked to Cannock Road Gurdwara.
- The Olympic Wrestling club was established in 1972 and has produced **elite** athletes from diverse background and not just the Sikh community.

Wrestling and Wolverhampton

- Wrestling and Wolverhampton has not only helped the local community but is has become the backbone of British Wrestling.
- Members of the team have represented Great Britain at:
 - 1988 Seoul Olympics
 - 1994 Canada Commonwealth Games
 - 1996 Atlanta Olympics
 - 2000 Manchester Commonwealth games
 - 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth games
- The club history boasts 50+ British and English titles.
- Currently we have 8 British Champions including Men, Women and Juniors

This is who we are!

Our team is purely built on Respect and Hard work. The team includes

- White British
- Sikh
- Muslim
- Males
- Females
- Eastern European
- Veterans
- SEN and Autism
- Afro-



British judo team training at the Gurdwara with our Wrestling team to better themselves.



This is our faith- Demo at West Park Vaisakhi Mela



Next steps and sustainability

- The sustainability has been proven and in 2022 the Wrestling club will celebrate its 50th Anniversary. It will also be the same year of the Birmingham Commonwealth games.
- The Gurdwara has now developed other sports that take place on the premises.
- Boxing- Including Box-fit for women and children
- Tennis Foundation- 'Serves' programme
- MMA- We have the Current World Middleweight champion. EFC
- Football- working with Wolves FC and Birmingham FA
- Developing Kabbadi, Gatka, Ju-Jitsu classes
- Scholarship schemes developed at local primary and secondary schools
- In the process of establishing a scholarship programme with Wolverhampton University. The first of its kind in the UK

This is why we believe in faith and sport

- Its develops life skills, communication, understanding and learning of different faiths, confidence building, showing respect and being humble.
- We are unique as we have the coaching and experience to take athletes to elite level.
- We also provide recreational and educational opportunities that can be a pathway to careers in sport or higher education.
- Work with other faith centres to promote sporting activities
- Up to now based on fundraising and the hard work of volunteers from the local community

Support, Network, Guidance

- Massive thanks to Dan Allen from Active Black Country for his ongoing support and development of the multi-sport project based at the Gurdwara
- Looking to expand our network and work with other local and national governing bodies to develop young athletes.
- We are happy to support and structure sporting activities at other faith centres across the Black Country

Sandwell Community Hubs

- Anam Choudhury (CEO)
- Connecting faith centres to community Development

Challenge Board

- Challenges/Barriers
- Opportunities

Staffordshire Cricket

More People, More Teams, More Often



Faith and Sport Forum
Shri Venkateshwara (Balaji) Temple, Oldbury
Tuesday 9th July 2019

Cricket Opportunities for All



STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET



Mohammed Arif
National Growth Manager Diverse Communities
England & Wales Cricket Board

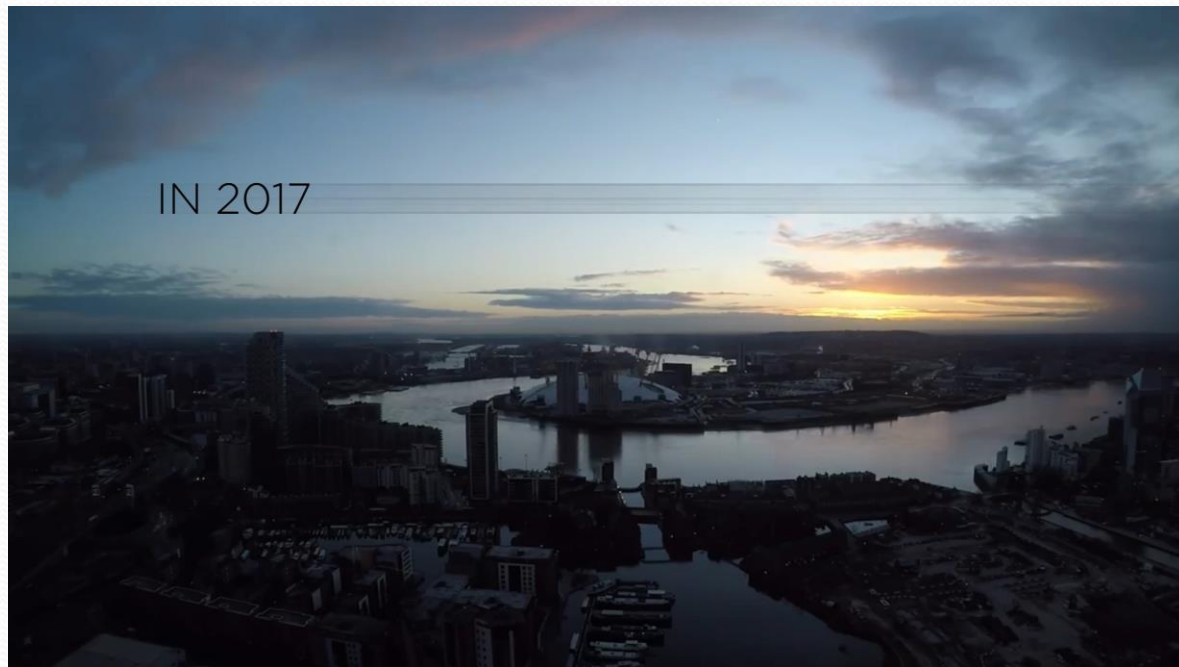


STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET



STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET

IN 2017



STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET

We have created a community & insight led 11 point action plan, employing strong collaborative working across the game, to address the barriers & challenges identified







Cricket is a game that unites communities and improves lives. It has been inspiring generations for hundreds of years. Whether through the drama of a Test Match, a tight finish at a local club, or a game on the beach or in the park, cricket has been evolving all the time as the world has evolved around us.





**STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET**

Jason Britton
Development Director
Staffordshire Cricket



• Who We Are

- Local governing body for cricket in Staffordshire and delivery partner of the England & Wales Cricket Board (ECB)
- Support all aspects of the game
 - Club cricket (x98)
 - County representative teams (u10 to Over 50s – male & female, Visually Impaired, Learning and Physical Disabilities)
 - Schools cricket (via Chance to Shine)
 - Coaches, Umpires, Scorers, Volunteers, Players
- 3 strands – Clubs & Communities, Performance, Schools





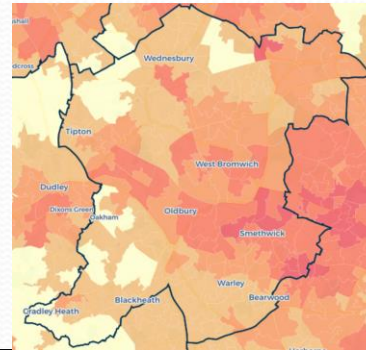
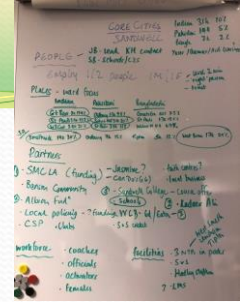
• What Are We Doing?

- Delivering the game's 'South Asian Core City Programme' in Sandwell – another 9 cities across the country.
- Plan to develop partnerships with key agencies – dedicated staffing
- Develop the cricket workforce – coaches, official, volunteers, ambassadors, administrators
- Create fun, safe, short formats of playing to attract and retain South Asian players
- Develop a club & league offer for a fantastic experience with investment into facilities
- Use the power of the passion for the game and international events so more people PLAY, ATTEND & FOLLOW cricket



Why?

- Cricket studies show that c 30% of recreational cricket played is by South Asian people – only 4% in 1st class County Teams
- 60% of 2017 Champions Trophy tickets were bought by South Asian fans – potentially even higher in the current World Cup
- Innate passion the game of cricket amongst South Asian communities (c18% of Sandwell population - >53,000 people)
- To better-support our cricket communities





**STAFFORDSHIRE
CRICKET**

Indie Bharaj
Core Cities Development Officer
Staffordshire Cricket





Core Cities Development Officer – Indie Bharaj

My Expectations for the first 100 days working for Staffordshire Cricket

- Working with local partnerships e.g. Sandwell Council, Sandwell Leisure Trust, Albion Foundation, West Midlands Police, Active Black Country & Faith Centres.
- Supporting projects that focus on Women, Disability and Multi-cultural Communities.
- Getting to know the community and acknowledging local organisations
- Increase awareness and the level of participation in cricket throughout the Sandwell area
- Creating more diversity at all levels (coaching, volunteers & officiating)
- Bolly-Cric-Hit sessions being booked and promoted

OUR VISION
A world where children and young people with disabilities are treated with respect and dignity and are given the opportunity to reach their full potential with love and encouragement from our staff or volunteers.

OUR MISSION
To provide a wide range of high quality services to meet the needs and opportunities to enable both those children and young people with disabilities and their families to enhance their quality of life.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUB (ASC)
We offer a range of activities for children and young people with disabilities and their families. We provide a safe and fun environment where children and young people can enjoy their leisure time and develop their skills and confidence.

APRIL KIDZ (AK)
We provide a range of activities for children and young people with disabilities and their families. We provide a safe and fun environment where children and young people can enjoy their leisure time and develop their skills and confidence.

OUR SERVICES
We provide a range of services to meet the needs and opportunities to enable both those children and young people with disabilities and their families to enhance their quality of life.

OUR ACTIVITIES
We provide a range of activities for children and young people with disabilities and their families. We provide a safe and fun environment where children and young people can enjoy their leisure time and develop their skills and confidence.

OUR CONTACT
If you have any queries or need more information, please contact us at:
Tel: 0121 568 2190 Fax: 0121 568 7771
Email: safss@btconnect.com
Website: www.safss.org.uk



INTER- FAITH ACTIVITIES

- Promoting All Stars Cricket in local faith centres
- Running Women only Bolly-Cric-Hit session in faith centres
- Setting up Diverse Community's Cricket Hubs
- Getting women who volunteer in these faith centres to get some extra qualification/courses.





TENNIS
FOR BRITAIN

SERVES – TAKING TENNIS INTO THE HEART OF THE COMMUNITY

SERVES is the LTA's leading sport for development programme. It provides training, equipment and support that will enable community organisations to deliver regular SERVES tennis activities.

About SERVES:

- SERVES takes tennis out of its traditional areas and right into the heart of communities.
- SERVES makes it easy for people to try tennis who may never have picked up a racket or thought tennis was for them.
- SERVES is fun, informal tennis with no dress code.
- SERVES uses 'pop-up' courts so that sessions can be run almost anywhere.

BBC GET INSPIRED



© 6 Jul 2016 | Get Inspired

Get Inspired visits a mosque in Manchester to see Sporting Equals and Tennis Foundation Serves which takes tennis to faith centres.

"I don't think I'd be playing tennis if it wasn't at the mosque," says 18-year-old Hamza.

Waled Ahmed, a project manager and coach for the project, adds: "There's definitely been an improvement in the children - with their behaviour and especially their confidence."

"They're trying out a new sport - before they'd just been playing football and nothing else."

SERVES — TENNIS ACTIVATOR TRAINING

The SERVES tennis activator training will provide community leaders with game ideas, basic rules and fun ways to introduce tennis to young people.

Whether in a park, faith venue, or in the street. The training will show you how tennis can be adapted to be played in any environment with any number of participants.

The training is a 3 hour practical course and no experience is needed ahead of the training.



GETTING INVOLVED WITH SERVES

The LTA provides:

- An equipment bag with mini tennis net, tennis rackets, tennis balls, cones and line markers.
- Ongoing support and links to wider tennis opportunities.

Your Commitment:

- To delivering tennis as a part of long term ongoing and sustainable programme.
- To attend tennis activator training.
- To complete a short delivery plan for your project.
- To deliver regular weekly tennis sessions.
- To report back through required SERVES project monitoring and evaluation.

Workforce (Q and A panel)

- University of Wolverhampton (Bess Evans)
- Active Black Country (Sanjay Bensal)
- Street Games (Russ Smith)



West Midlands
Combined Authority

Better Streets

Community

Fund

West Midlands Context



The lowest levels for walking in the West Midlands are in Sandwell, Walsall and Wolverhampton



1.8%
of adults cycle to work
(Census 2011)



Levels of cycling in Dudley, Wolverhampton, and Sandwell are approximately half that of the national average



Birmingham is third most congested city outside of London
National Infrastructure Commission

Infrastructure Investment

- Invested over £10 million into the Black Country since 2015.
- Another £23 million has been allocated for cycling and walking over the next 4 years

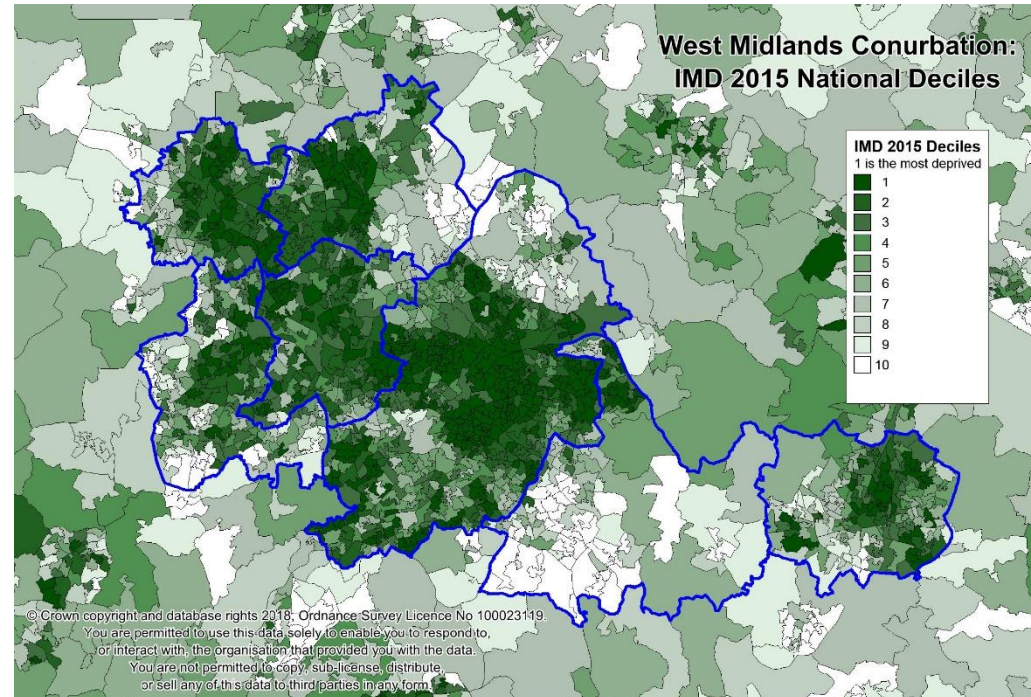


Better Streets Community Fund

- £2 million of funding for small community projects in the West Midlands
- Open to anyone in the West Midlands and applications are submitted via an online form: www.wmca.org.uk/betterstreets
- **Applications open until 31st July.**

Aims of the fund

- To get local communities engaged with cycling and walking in their area
- To deliver at least 1 scheme in each Local Authority.
- To target those areas that are traditionally hardest to reach



What can you apply for?



How to Apply

Apply via the online web form at: www.wmca.org.uk/Betterstreets



For more information please email: BetterStreets@wmca.org.uk

Spectrum of Community Development



Community Asset Fund facts:

- **Launched:** January 2017
- **Value:** Annual budget £15 million
- **Applications to date** – 4,000+ (30 – 40 applications per week)
- **Apply for** - £1,000 - £150,000
- **Average Award** - £35,000
- **Requests to date** - £185m against £32m budget
- **Open programme** – ongoing application/decision making

CAF – key features

- **Open, rolling programme** with no submission dates for receipt of applications
 - Decision dates led by readiness of applicants to submit.
- More **developmental** less judgemental – quality of the idea
- Broader **outcome focused**
- It's about the **space** not necessarily a built facility – range of spaces
- **Add value** through support, guidance at each stage of the customer journey
- Investment in **early stage support**, feasibility through to grant
- **Less bureaucratic** – proportionate information at each stage of the customer journey.

Next Steps

- Surveys (Ballot Box)
- Market Place
- Follow up with organisations and groups