

## Summer Provision in Salford (2020)

### Summer provision in Salford - Under usual circumstances

SCL offer 6 holiday programmes across the city with attendances ranging from 40-100 CYP aged 8-16 daily dependant on each site. These are: Oasis Academy, Swinton & Pendlebury Leisure Centre, St. Patricks RC High, Co-op Academy Walkden, Irlam & Cadishead College & St. Ambrose Barlow RC. All of these are run solely by SCL and are charged at a subsidised rate of £2 per day, per child. The only exception is St. Ambrose Barlow RC which offers extended hours and is charged at £15/20 per day; all income generated here is reinvested into community activity offered by SCL. Activities offered at each site are sports, dance, gymnastics, drama, singing, music, arts & crafts, rock climbing, watersports and swimming. Shuttle bus services are offered at some provision where the site may be not easily accessible for some parts of the community.

### Background

Some of the below partnerships actively collaborated prior to the summer 2020 co-designed delivery programme through various community engagement across the city, in the form of youth club style evening provision. Foundation 92 had not previously been part of any partnership work as their operational capacity has been newly formed this year, they have been a welcome addition to this collaboration whilst SCL has operated with significantly lower capacity due to furlough. This summer delivery enabled each area of the city to benefit from the expertise and local knowledge of each engaged partner, with consultation fuelling programme detail and content.

### Summer 2020

The aim for summer 2020 was to recognise potential covid-19 specific transmission risks in "usual" delivery patterns and negate such risks by applying new delivery measures, whilst also adhering to national government restriction such as social distancing. In partnership with multiple organisations across the city, SCL highlighted that children and young people were at high risk of being physically inactive during this period as well as potentially becoming socially isolated, displaying difficulties relating to their mental health, showing an increased need for positive messaging relating to covid-19 measures and how to interact socially with responsibility. As a collective, the various partnerships across the city aimed to engage each neighbourhood in positive activity in parks and green spaces, providing a number of activities considered COVID-secure in adherence to the latest guidance.

No sessions were advertised by any partner. Some retrospective social media messaging was published, but this is framed as "we were here today" rather than a call to invite CYP to a single location. Each member of staff was issued PPE and cleaning resources to ensure than all equipment used could be thoroughly and routinely cleaned throughout. Activities were designed to ensure that limited equipment was used to reduce sharing and close gatherings of groups; this included games such as kick ball rounders or foot golf. The purpose of this provision was to positively engaged CYP that are already out in groups in these parks/green spaces, not to attract new CYP to an area. Staff continuously risk assessed sessions to ensure that participants and staff alike were always adhering to social distancing guidance (as well as the usual standard RA for sports activity). Where groups became too large or non-compliant, staff would stop activity, pack up and leave - thankfully this only occurred once where a park was overrun with people (adults and children) due to a heat wave, staff removed themselves from the park and returned later on once numbers had reduced to run safe activity.

All of the above measures and provision were carried out with the full backing of local authority neighbourhood management and environment teams with a thorough period of planning and preparation before the summer period, as well as continued communication throughout. Activities provided were based on risk assessments and youth voice via youth service consultation in Spring 2020 as well as continued communication with CYP at sessions. Additionally, the locations chosen for activity were based on neighbourhood knowledge and insight for gatherings of CYP as well as RA for safe spaces for activity whilst adhering to ever changing government guidance.

### **Monitoring and Reporting**

Such duties were undertaken by different partners in different areas due to limited capacity at this time, therefore unfortunately we are still collating this data and the below picture is ever changing. Initially we know that Irlam was our busiest location due to a large skate park in Princes Park where YP regularly gather. Reporting during this period for the most part mirrored usual registration procedures, however this summer we additionally implemented track & trace data gathering as per government guidance. See below each neighbourhood in which an engagement offer was delivered, including which partners were involved, this did vary due to capacity limits:

#### **Irlam, Cadishead, Eccles & Barton**

*Salford Community Leisure, Salford City Council Youth Service & Foundation 92*

Activity here was mainly based around sports due to insight gained by youth service youth consultation via detached work in spring 2020. Two sites have had regular offerings, namely Eccles Recreation ground and Princes Park (Irlam).

Irlam attendances 231 and 49 individuals

Eccles attendances 71 and 33 individuals

#### **Little Hulton, Walkden, Worsley & Boothstown**

*Salford Community Leisure, Salford City Council Youth Services, Rio Ferdinand Foundation, Little Hulton Big Local, GMP, Maverick Stars & Foundation 92*

Activity here has varied including multi-sports, dance and boxing. The partnership meet at a central location before relocating at a park within this neighbourhood based on insight from youth services and GMP around gatherings of CYP.

Attendance overall (visits): 240

Individuals: 154

Gender split: Male - 93 Female – 61

#### **Swinton & Pendlebury**

*Salford Community Leisure, Salford City Council Youth Service & Foundation 92*

Each partner took one day of provision per week offering multi-sport activity and access to a specialist Outdoor adventure facility.

Attendance overall (visits): 67

Individuals registered - 23

Gender split: Male - 14 Female – 9

#### **Ordsall, Langworthy, Claremont, Seedley & Weaste**

*Salford Community Leisure & Foundation 92*

Here the partnership spread across two locations; Ordsall Park and Chimney Pot Park (Langworthy) as well as one weekly outreach session which was used to inform activities at the static sessions.

Attendance overall: 416

Individuals registered : 56

Gender split: Male – 39 Female – 17

## **Review**

Insight from key partners such as GMP, youth services and neighbourhood management helped to identify specific locations for activity. Early discussions have begun across all partners involved to agree that some parks/green spaces were not as busy as anticipated despite such insight, this may see a shift in delivery to new hot spots in future. Despite consistent good weather and the easing of restrictions, all partners noted that engagement with YP was positive and only one session across a 6 week period was deemed "unsafe", with staff removing themselves from an overcrowded park on a particularly hot, sunny day; although activity here resumed later that same day once crowds had reduced. Similarly, adverse weather only effected one day (three separate sessions).

Feedback from front line staff suggest that this approach worked positively, staff felt that measures put in place enabled them to safely engage groups of YP that were present. Activities were devised by staff utilising their expertise and ongoing RA relating to guidance and usual risks and hazards for outdoor delivery; this was something that staff found to be easily planned and easily implemented with ideas developing continuously. Despite a new way of working during this period, staff found that the new working circumstances did not prevent them from positively engaging CYP. Additionally, the combination of expertise from neighbourhood management, leisure trust, youth services and other partners enabled a holistic offer whereby sport was primarily used as a positive engagement tool for other services to distribute messaging around COVID restrictions and gather insight from CYP to inform future practice.

## **Limitations**

The clear limitations here were based upon capacity as a key issue, this meant that there was a limited as to how many sessions could be provided in each area and citywide as a collective. Capacity restrictions were mainly affected by furlough. With limitations on staff capacity, those CYP who were in those locations outside of the session times were not engaged; additional session times would have allowed more groups to have been engaged in the programme. Secondly, even at full capacity, the nature of this strategy was to avoid attracting new individuals to a space and to simply engage whoever was already there. This meant that staff were not always used to their maximum capacity, if certain sessions were quiet, we could not promote the sessions to increase participation as this increases the risk of transmission. If COVID transmission was not a concern, promotion would have inevitably attracted many more individuals to each session and capacity therefore maximised.