





Setting up a deliverers' network.

Physical activity deliverers play a huge role in supporting your project. It's important they are recognised, valued and supported throughout your programme.

You can do this by starting a group or network for deliverers to come together, share ideas, learn, access support and celebrate their contributions and successes.

We've spoken to GOGA Nottingham to find out about their deliverers' network and to hear their top tips.

Nottingham's steps to setting up a network.

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Background.

Nottingham's Deliverers' Network launched in 2021 to provide a platform to bring together providers. The network is commitment to providing inclusive physical activity, and to work together to achieve a clear and consistent offer. Find more information about the network on the **Nottingham** Deliverers' Network website.



Step 1.

Be purposeful.

We started by talking to different deliverers to understand what a network could do. We looked at the existing support for deliverers (e.g. other networks, training, sports organisations). How they received this support and by who. From this we tried to understand what was missing and how we could add value.

By working with deliverers and partners, we knew our network needed to:



Help overcome challenges and barriers to accessing training and resources.



Make more inclusive physical activity.



Help people to work together.



Make the most of other opportunities. E.g. Social Prescribing.



Connecting deliverers to national campaigns and resources.

The Nottingham Deliverers' Network has been an invaluable opportunity to engage with and give back to the numerous providers of physical activity across Nottingham and begin to create something off the back of the GOGA programme but with an aim to grow bigger and wider than any one project alone.

Claudia Russell, founder and coordinator of the network



Previous

Step 2.

Think about who you want to get involved.

It was important for us to think about who we wanted to support through the network and why. This helped us to work out the scope, set up, management and partners of the network.

Through the Get Out Get Active (GOGA) programme and the This Girl Can campaign, we connected with organisations, deliverers, and volunteers who we wanted to work with. We then started to contact the people to find out more about their needs.



Step 3.

Develop and co-produce your network with deliverers.

In 2020, we discussed ideas with a core group of deliverers to gather ideas and create an outline for the network. We worked with local and national organisations that could be key supporters, such as the Active Partnership (Active Nottingham) and Sport England.

The deliverers shaped the network by us working with and listening to them. One challenge for deliverers was working collaboratively as opposed to competitively. Charmaine Daley, Community Instructor, had this to say about the experience:

I think there is a place for the Nottingham Deliverers' Network because sometimes as freelance instructors it can be very isolating and this provides a wider network that you can belong to, it's almost like a bit of a community or a club.

Charmaine Daley, Community Instructor

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Creating an identity.

We created our vision based on feedback from deliverers, organisations and partners. We aimed to start small and grow rather than set out to try and achieve lots of things. We wanted the network to be recognisable. So, we created a logo, branding and now a website to have a clear identity.

Keep it sustainable.

We needed our network to be sustainable. We considered who would manage and coordinate the network and how much resource, time and capacity the network would need.

Our long term aim is for community deliverers to own the network. Until this point, we will continue to work with partners to keep it active.

Some of our aims:

- Bring together likeminded deliverers with a commitment to inclusive delivery.
- Share knowledge, challenges and best practice.

Highlight local experience and learning to elevate local voices nationally and locally.



A place to share and develop new ideas to engage as many people as possible in physical activity.

We have worked in partnership with Active Notts (Active Partnership) to ensure sustainability by:



Creating a shared agenda to make sure we were working towards the same goals.

Regular meetings.



Working on the network launch together.



Using their experience and expertise to develop a training offer.



#GetOutGetActive

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