

## **Appendix B**

### **Proposal for capital grant allocation to support delivery of the Sport and Active Leisure Diploma**

**School/Partners involved: Charters School, The Windsor Boys' School, Berkshire College of Agriculture**

#### **1. Introduction**

The aim of the partnership that will deliver the Sport and Active Leisure Diploma from September 2011 is to offer young people, and members of the wider community, the opportunity to have a successful career in the business of Sports and Leisure. This will enhance employment prospects through the acquisition of knowledge, transferable skills and higher levels of qualifications.

A key priority in the diploma's development has been to match training supply to employer demand and to 'professionalise' the workforce. SkillsActive SE has forecast an increase of 117,000 people employed in the sport and leisure sector by 2014: a growth of 31%. Reportedly, 52% of sport and active leisure employers currently have a vacancy. 12% of employers attribute the vacancies to skill shortages. The most common skills lacking were communications and sport specific technical skills. The new UK Coaching structure is likely to drive up demand further. The advent of London 2012 will add significantly to this shortfall.

In order to provide a course that supplies experience and training that meets this demand, links are being put in place with the Private, Voluntary and Public Sectors including Charters Leisure Centre, RBWM Youth and Community, the PCT, Ascot Racecourse, Ascot United, Guildford HEAT, SportsleadersUK, Penguin (event management), Trixter, and Tirabad Outdoor Education Centre.

It is an essential requirement for diploma delivery to build an indoor applied learning facility. The facility includes:

- Up to three covered tennis courts that could also be used for other sports and other groups within the community;
- "Bleacher" seating: for spectators e.g. for RBWM exhibition matches. This will be a new facility not currently available in the Borough except at Magnet Leisure Centre and private venues. It is needed to enable diploma learners to experience real life learning such as stewardship.

It is estimated that this scheme will cost approximately £1m. The remaining £500k would be used to improve existing leisure centre facilities. This would not only provide opportunities for students to learn in a "real world" environment but also benefit the customers of the leisure centre. Proposals could include:

- improved changing rooms

- a cardio fitness area: the equipment for this is already in the school but currently based in a less than ideal classroom area
- climbing wall: an indoor facility not currently available in Windsor/ Ascot

The implementation of this scheme will require some building which will be subject to internal pre planning application protocol.

## **2. Why at Charters?**

This specialist facility will complement specialist sports available to the diploma learners at the other consortium centres: at BCA (high ropes) and at The Windsor Boys' School (rowing). Level 2 Diploma learners will experience all facilities as they will be taught at all three sites on a carousel arrangement. Level 3 learners (equivalent to 3 A-levels) will all be based at Charters. It will significantly enhance the current indoor Charters Site facilities (a sports hall, two squash courts, a small fitness suite)

Charters is the Specialist Sports College in the Borough but its facilities are currently used to capacity. At level 2, Charters has a well established applied learning provision. For example through the Young Apprenticeship Programme where for the recent cohort of 21 pupils there was 100% pass rate with 17 achieving the equivalent of 4A\*s). Other current Sports/ Leisure courses at Charters include: NVQ tennis, NVQ football, and BTEC. At Post 16 there is already a significant pattern of approximately 20 external learners a year choosing Charters because of the variety of sports related provision on offer.

The diploma will complement rather than replace existing popular sports provision. This will be an additional qualification that requires new facilities, particularly because of the new types of applied learning and industry links associated with the diploma. There will also be opportunities to link with other diploma lines such as hospitality, business administration and finance.

## **3. Benefits for Pupils and the Wider Community**

There are a number of benefits for young people and the community arising out of this proposal.

Young people within RBWM will have the opportunity to access the diploma qualification at levels 1,2 and 3, so that their experience of education 14+ will be both challenging and rewarding. It is expected that this will be a popular choice both pre and post compulsory education. In addition, schools outside the Borough may choose to meet their obligation to give their students access to this diploma by participating in the Borough offer. The intention is also to utilise the facilities outside of traditional school hours for diploma students to work with, and for, the local community, including both the Magnet and Windsor Leisure Centre.

The focus will be very much on the applied nature of the diploma which requires the students to acquire knowledge of such aspects as facility

management, customer service, sports development, the media, play work, youth work, coaching etc. In conjunction with Charters Leisure Centre the diploma students will have a significant part to play in the overall management and effective day to day running of the facility. This will include community use entailing evening and weekend shifts that are very much a part of the sport and active leisure industry and are integral to the innovative delivery model.

The facility will enable opportunities from all areas of SEN, including the Resource based students (physical disability) and the Gifted and Talented students wishing to pursue a career in the Sport and Active Leisure Industry. This includes students who aspire to Olympic and Paralympics representation. For example a Charters pupil won 3 gold medals at the 2008 Paralympics, two current Resource students are aspiring to the 2012/2016 Paralympics.

Potential wider benefits for RBWM:

- RBWM will acquire a venue for high quality matches with spectator seating for inter-school competition, and competition at Regional, National and International level.
- There is potential for the facility to be used as a training venue both prior to and during the 2012 Olympics.

Possibilities for income generation include:

- Hiring of the courts with spectator seating/ filming from viewing gallery (e.g. Guildford based basketball, HEAT, have expressed interest)
- Diploma students will be a voluntary workforce, learning on the job, to work for Charters Leisure Centre, Magnet and Windsor Leisure Centre.