

# SPORT WELFARE OFFICER NETWORK

## UPDATE

### LATEST NEWS

The Sport Welfare Officer (SWO) network came together in May for a learning and connectivity event held in Birmingham. This event was the third national away day to be held so far, providing another opportunity to learn and share experiences.

The event brought together SWOs from across England alongside a number of safeguarding leads from NGBs. The event provided a valuable opportunity to delve into the network's impact and future direction with attendees joining facilitated sessions to share insights and explore practical approaches.

[Click here to read more.](#)



### NEW SUPPLIER ANNOUNCED FOR SPORT WELFARE OFFICER NETWORK

The Active Partnerships National Organisation (APNO) has appointed Sport Structures to develop a club culture reflection approach.

Sport Structures is working with key partners on this project, including NGBs, to ensure the approach is meaningful and meets the needs of their sports.

[Click here to read more.](#)



### INTERIM EVALUATION REPORT HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS OF THE SPORT WELFARE OFFICER NETWORK

The Active Partnerships National Organisation (APNO) has released a summary of its interim evaluation report on the Sport Welfare Officer (SWO) Network, offering valuable insight into progress towards the early outcomes.

Conducted by independent evaluators Ecorys UK and Professor Melanie Lang of Edge Hill University, the report reflects data gathered between September 2024 and March 2025 through SWO data collection, club journey mapping, NGB feedback surveys and reflective practice.

The report reveals strong engagement with National Governing Bodies (NGBs), with each Active Partnership working with an average of **28** NGBs. SWOs across the network have participated in a total of **364** events and between them have supported **556** initiatives, helping to improve safeguarding standards, inclusive practices, and governance across sports clubs.

During this period, more than **2,700** clubs received light-touch guidance, while nearly **640** clubs benefitted from intensive one-to-one support and training, covering key areas like safeguarding procedures and recommended role-specific training.

[Click here to read more.](#)

[Click here to read the key headlines from the evaluation](#)

## GOOD PRACTICE FROM ACROSS THE NETWORK

Liz Wright, the SWO at **Active Cumbria**, was approached by the Chair of Carlisle Aquatics for support to organise swimming specific training on neurodiversity. Carlisle Aquatics really wanted to understand how to support more neurodiverse participants. Because of the fantastic level of interest from clubs all over Cumbria, two courses were arranged. The first one was really well attended and the second is due to take place very soon.

Anita Stewart, the SWO at **Active Norfolk**, is developing 'Mindful Clubs' – an initiative which upskills club volunteers to become Wellbeing Champions, to foster more supportive club environments.

Volunteers and coaches are provided with free mental health training with NHS Norfolk and Waveney Talking Therapies, to help recognise when someone may need some support.

Wellbeing Champions learn how to approach someone and start a conversation, as well as how to signpost to the Wellbeing Service for support. After the training, they receive a PDF booklet with all the information covered and a comprehensive FAQ guide with resources for their club.

**Active Sussex** has developed an animation to serve as an engaging and accessible way to inform and inspire clubs and club welfare officers about the free, local, and professional support available. The video provides a quick, visual, and engaging asset that conveys key messages concisely, allowing clubs to absorb important information. It is also a handy tool for NGBs and other partners to share across their networks.



A Gymnastics Club has recently been supported by Richard Bell the Sport Welfare Manager at **Active Lincolnshire**. Richard supported its club welfare officer to review and rewrite its anti-bullying policy which was later approved by the club's committee.

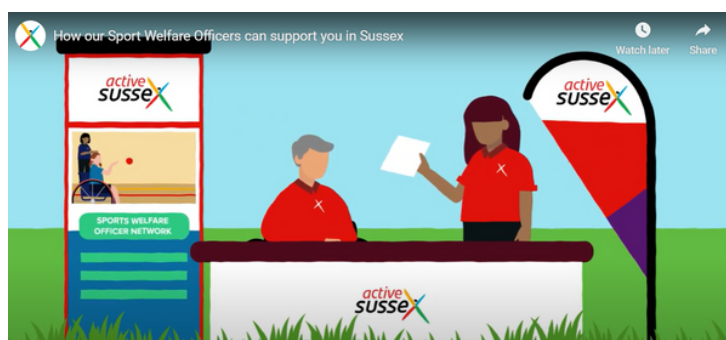
On the support received, the club said

**"Having tried on several occasions to strengthen our anti-bullying policy, the help received brought this to a satisfactory conclusion"**

To help deepen relationships between Active Partnerships and Badminton England (BE), SWOs Lijana Kaziow, **Northamptonshire Sport**, and Veronique Nani, **Be Active**, were invited to run a workshop in July at BE's Directorate Day.

This was a brilliant opportunity to bring to life BE's '**A Sport that Cares**' campaign, discuss everyone's role in prevention and where opportunities exist across different departments, to signpost to the SWO network.

Click the graphic below to view the animation.



# OPPORTUNITIES TO CONNECT AND LEARN



For Club Welfare Officers, Clubs and other  
Physical Activity Providers

Organisation and/or Region	Event/meeting title	Date / Time	Location	More details
<b>National</b>				
Ann Craft Trust	Safeguarding Adults Online Classroom Training for Club Welfare Officers	23/10/2025 18:00 - 21:00	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
Ann Craft Trust	Safeguarding Adults Online Classroom Training for Club Welfare Officers	17/11/2025 18:00 - 21:00	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
<b>South East and London</b>				
London Sport	Sport Welfare Officer online drop-in session	18/07/2025 12:30	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
London Sport	Safer Recruitment Tips for Sports Clubs and Community Groups	22/07/2025 12:30 - 13:30 OR 19:00 - 20:00	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
London Sport	Sport Welfare Officer online drop-in session	29/07/2025 19:00	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
London Sport	Safeguarding Adults Online Course	27/08/2025 09:30 - 12:30	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
London Sport	How to apply for funding through Sport England's Movement Fund	01/09/2025 18:00 - 19:15	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
Leap	Bystander Awareness Training	16/09/2025 14:00 - 16:00	Room 1 Queen Victoria Road, Wycombe HP11 1BB	<a href="#">Click here</a>
London Sport	Safeguarding and Low Level Concerns in Football	25/09/2025 19:00 - 20:00 or 26/09/2025 12:30 - 13:30	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
Active Kent and Medway	Club Welfare Officer Drop-In	6/10/2025 19:00 - 20:00	Online via Teams	<a href="#">Click here</a>

Organisation and / or Region	Event / meeting title	Date / Time	Location	More details
<b>South East and London</b>				
South Central Cluster - Active Oxfordshire, Energise Me, Get Berkshire Active, Leap	Detail to be confirmed - will be a mix of keynote speakers, table discussions & networking	11/10/2025 10:30 - 14:30	Penta Hotel, Reading, Berkshire	Contact your local SWO for details
Active Kent and Medway	UK Coaching - Safeguarding and Protecting Children Training	20/10/2025 18:30 - 21:30	Swanley, Kent	<a href="#">Click here</a>
<b>North West</b>				
GM Moving	UK Coaching Safeguarding Adults	21/07/2025 18:30 - 21:30	House of Sport, Manchester - <b>for those living / running clubs in Greater Manchester only</b>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	MIND: Mental Health - Spot, Support, Signpost	31/07/2025 19:00 - 20:00	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	Neurodivergence Inclusion in Sport & Physical Activity - Access Sport	04/08/2025 18:30 - 20:30	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	WWPIS: Building a Positive Parent Culture in Sport	06/10/2025 19:30 - 21:00	Online via Zoom	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	StreetGames - Keeping Young People Safe in Community Sport	07/10/2025 18:00 - 21:00	Stockport Sports Village, SK6 1QX	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	YGAM: Gambling and Gaming Awareness	20/10/2025 18:30 - 20:30	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	MIND - Youth Mental Health Awareness	23/10/2025 18:30 - 20:30	House of Sport, Manchester	<a href="#">Click here</a>
GM Moving	WWPIS: Engage - Building Positive Relationships with younger athletes' parents	17/11/2025 18:15 - 19:45	Online via Zoom	<a href="#">Click here</a>

Organisation and/or Region	Event/meeting title	Date / Time	Location	More details
<b>North Active Partnerships</b>				
North (North East, Yorkshire and Humber, and North West)	Child Exploitation for sports clubs and organisations	30/09/2025 18:30 - 20:00	Online	<a href="#">Click here</a>
<b>East Midlands</b>				
Northamptonshire Sport in Partnership with UK Coaching	UK Coaching Safeguarding Adults Course	17/11/2025 18:00 - 21:00	Online via Zoom	<a href="#">Click here</a>
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Northamptonshire Sport in Partnership with UK Coaching	UK Coaching Safeguarding Adults Course	19/11/2025 18:00 - 21:00	Online via Zoom	<a href="#">Click here</a>
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<b>South West</b>				
South West Active Partnerships	South West Club Welfare Forum	29/09/2025 18:30 - 20:00	Online via Teams	Contact via your local SWO
South West Active Partnerships	South West Club Welfare Forum	10/11/2025 18:30 - 20:00	Online via Teams	Contact via your local SWO
<b>West Midlands</b>				
Energize STW	Club Welfare Officer Drop-In - Inclusion	21/07/2025 19:00 - 20:00	Online via Teams	<a href="#">Click here</a>
Home Office (DBS Eligibility)	DBS Eligibility Webinar - West Midlands Sports Clubs	06/08/2025 18:00 - 19:30	Online via Teams	<a href="#">Click here</a>

## Awareness Day Campaigns

Lead Organisation	Campaign	Dates	More Details
NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit	Keeping Your Child Safe in Sport	6 - 12 October 2025	<a href="#">Click here</a>
Ann Craft Trust	Safeguarding Adults Week	17 – 21 November 2025	<a href="#">Click here</a>

## Facebook Communities

Region	Who is it aimed at?	How to Join	Facebook Link
South West	All	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
North West	All	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
East	All	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
South West	All	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
South West	CWOs and regional support volunteers/staff	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
North East	All	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
East Midlands	Anyone interested in safeguarding and welfare in sport and physical activity within the East Midlands region.	Just join the group by answering the joining questions via the link.	<a href="#">Click here</a>
North East	CWOs	<a href="#">Email</a> or <a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>
South East and London	CWOs - Hampshire & IOW only	<a href="#">Email</a>	<a href="#">Click here</a>

Scan the QR code to contact your local Sport Welfare Officer



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Child Protection in Sport Unit