NATIONAL PHYSICAL ACTIVITY TASKFORCE

Wednesday 27 September 2023, 1100 - 1200 Downing Street

NPAT Members

Independent representatives

- Ugo Monye (co-chair)
- Jill Scott MBE
- Daley Thompson CBE
- Sir Michael Barber

Government

- The Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport (co-chair)
- The Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP, Minister for Sport, Gambling and Civil Society
- Dr Jeanelle de Gruchy, Deputy Chief Medical Officer
- The Rt Hon Mark Spencer MP, Minister for Food, Farming and Fisheries
- The Rt Hon Jesse Norman MP, Minister for Decarbonisation and Technology (Active Travel)

Arm's Length Bodies

- Tim Hollingsworth OBE, CEO of Sport England
- Chris Boardman MBE, National Active Travel Commissioner and Chair of Sport England
- Dame Katherine Grainger, Chair of UK Sport

Local Government Association

 Councillor Liz Green, Chair of the Culture, Tourism and Sport Board

Rotating Members

National Governing Bodies

- Ruth Hall, CEO, Archery GB
- Andy Salmon, CEO, British Triathlon
- Richard Gould, CEO England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)
- Nick Pink, CEO England Hockey

National Sector Partnerships Group (NSPG)

Huw Edwards, CEO, ukactive

Active Partnerships

 Andy Taylor, CEO Active Partnerships

Government Officials

DLUHC:

 Will Garton, Director General, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities

DfE:

- Susan Acland-Hood, Permanent Secretary
- Kat Dixon, Director, Department for Education

DHSC:

 Beth Smout, Public Health Registrar to the Deputy Chief Medical Officer

DCMS:

- Ben Dean, Director, Sport and Gambling
- Adam Conant, Head of Sport
- Simon Mason, Head of Sport Strategy

Observers

No.10:

 Jean-Andre Prager, Special Advisor to the Prime Minister

DCMS:

- Ghazzala Zubair, Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport
- Olivia Lawrence, Diary Secretary and Assistant Private Secretary to the Minister for Sport

NPAT Secretariat

- Juliette Inverdale, Head of Sport Participation, DCMS
- Christina Barningham, Sport and Physical Accessibility Lead, DCMS

Actions

- Terms of Reference agreed by all members.
- NPAT Secretariat to invite HM Treasury to the next meeting.
- Department for Health and Social Care to share updates on the Major Conditions Strategy.
- NPAT Secretariat to commission all standing member government departments to attend and provide data to the analytical sub group.
- NPAT Secretariat to circulate minutes and papers for the next meeting.

Main points raised

Introductory remarks from co-chairs

- Secretary of State for DCMS, Lucy Frazer (LF) welcomed the inaugural meeting of the National Physical Activity Taskforce (NPAT) and encouraged the group to set ambitious targets in order to reduce inactivity across the country.
- 2. LF outlined the aim of the NPAT to bring together different government departments with sector representatives to encourage consistent progress in reducing inactivity.
- 3. LF reiterated the commitment to get 3.5 million more people active by 2030, as set out in the government Sport Strategy 'Get Active.'
- 4. Minister for Sport, Gambling and Civil Society, Stuart Andrew urged the group to commit to challenging targets in order to yield results to tackle inactivity.
- 5. Co-chair Ugo Monye (UM) set out his commitment to the taskforce, highlighting the correlation between physical and mental health and underlined the importance of looking at data to deliver positive change.

The current challenge

- 6. Presentation on inactivity rates in the UK, highlighting the disparities set out in the Sport Strategy.
- 7. Recommendation that the group tackles the inconsistency of physical activity across the country through a local, place based approach.

The importance of physical activity

- 8. Presentation on the health benefits of physical activity.
- 9. Recommendation for the group to focus on the disparities within the following groups, as set out in the Active Lives Survey:
 - a. Gender
 - b. Socio-economic
 - c. Age
 - d. Disability and long-term health conditions
 - e. Ethnicity

Taskforce member commitments and priorities

The following points were raised by NPAT members:

- 10. It was agreed that there must be a focus on action rather than rhetoric.
- 11. There was agreement to hold each other accountable on targets through evidence, data and metrics.
- 12. Thanks was extended to sport sector partners for the high quality provision of physical activity programmes that fosters children's enthusiasm in sport.
- 13. Social prescribing was highlighted as a priority topic.

- 14. NPAT members highlighted the need to continuously measure the economic impact of reducing inactivity.
- 15. Links to existing government commitments to bolster the work of the NPAT were highlighted, in particular the Cycling and Walking Investment Strategy (CWIS) and the Environmental Improvement Plan.
- 16. Sport England's Active Lives Survey and Uniting the Movement were underlined as key to underpinning the work of the taskforce.
- 17. The collective determination of the group was welcomed and all members committed to support the taskforce achieve its targets.
- 18. The need to focus on a local, bottom up, place based approach was made clear.

AOB and closing remarks

- 19. LF thanked the group for their commitments and contributions to the taskforce and summarised the key priorities for future topics as follows:
 - a. Children's activity including school sport
 - b. Health and social prescribing
 - c. Active travel and outdoor recreation
 - d. Tackling disparities and a place based approach