



The Roles of Sport and Education in the Social Inclusion of Asylum Seekers and Refugees:

An Evaluation of Policy and Practice in the UK

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The Research Teams and Roles

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Dr. Mick Green undertook the initial scoping of the project with Professor Henry and preliminary fieldwork in the development of the research proposal. Elesa Argent and Moran Betser-Tayar planned and developed the searches for the systematic review reported in section 2 of the report. Dr. Mahfoud Amara undertook fieldwork in the East Midlands (with Dawn Aquilina) and South Wales (with Professor Henry), and Dr. Amara, Dawn Aquilina, and Professor Henry undertook the analysis of material for the systematic review, and the staging of the Loughborough Workshop.

Professor Fred Coalter planned and directed the fieldwork undertaken in relation to the Glasgow case studies and the staging of the Glasgow Workshop, together with John Taylor.

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Amity Project–Leicester
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Welcome Project–Leicester
Women’s Welcome Project–Leicester
The Algerian Association in Nottingham
Derby Bosnia Herzegovina Community Association
Madeley Youth and Community Centre (Derby)
Charnwood Arts – Sports Link
Charnwood Arts – Dreamers Youth Project-Loughborough Youth Centre
UK Sport
sportEngland

Cardiff Region:

Sports Council for Wales
Welsh Local Authorities Consortium for Refugees and Asylum Seekers,
Displaced People in Action–Wales
Football team of Cardiff Zimbabwean Association
Swansea Bay Asylum seekers Support Group
Swansea World Stars football team

Glasgow Region:

Central Registered Body in Scotland
Glasgow City Council – Cultural and Leisure Services
Glasgow City Council – Social Work Services
Hitsport
Kingsway Court Health and Wellbeing Centre
Maryhill Integration Network
Scottish Asian Sports Association
Scottish Executive
Scottish Refugee Council
Scottish Rocks
Strathclyde Police
Toryglen Information Station
Venture Scotland
Volunteer Centre, Glasgow
Woodlands Youth Centre

1. Introduction

The project reported in this report represents one of approximately 185 projects at local, regional, national, transnational or community-wide level, selected and co-financed by the European Commission DG Education and Culture, under the aegis of the *European Year of Education through Sport* (EYES 2004), a policy initiative of the Council of Europe and the European Parliament.

The specified aims of the *European Year of Education through Sport* were defined as follows:

1. to raise the awareness of educational and sports organisations of the need for cooperation to develop education through sport and its European dimension, bearing in mind the great interest shown by young people in all types of sports;
2. to take advantage of the values conveyed by sport to increase knowledge and skills, enabling young people to develop their physical capabilities and inclination to personal effort, as well as social capabilities such as teamwork, solidarity, tolerance and fair play in a multicultural context;
3. to raise awareness of the positive contribution made by voluntary work to informal education, particularly for young people;
4. to promote the educational value of mobility and pupil exchanges, particularly in a multicultural environment, through the organisation of sports and cultural meetings as part of school activities;
5. to encourage the exchange of good practice concerning the potential role of sport in education systems in order to promote the social inclusion of disadvantaged groups;
6. to establish a better balance between intellectual and physical activities during school life by encouraging sport in school activities;
7. to examine the problems linked to the education of young sportsmen and women engaged in competitive sport.

The project reported here principally addresses the second of these objectives, since it seeks to identify ways in which sport has been used for the social inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in UK contexts. This project, though it is restricted to a UK focus, shares some of the concerns of a European Commission funded project *Sport and Multicultural Dialogue*, a review of policy in the 25 Member States, undertaken by three of the authors from the ISLP together with PMP Consultants (2004).

1.1 The Policy Context

The reception of migrant groups is an issue which faces all European Union Member States. The majority of EU member states have become the final destination of new migrant flows, such as economic migrants, asylum applicants, or persons who have been forced to leave their country because of a combination of factors (e.g. social deprivation, political instability, violation of human rights). However, while Western European countries have had a longer experience of developing mechanisms and policies for integrating migrants and refugees into their host societies, other states, particularly in Eastern and Central Europe, such as Poland, Latvia, Lithuania, and Hungary, have historically been known as providers of labour migrants and for these states the reception of economic migrants and asylum applicants in such numbers is likely to be a recent phenomenon.

This is not to say that the integration process has been met in Western societies without conflict and tension both between newly established minorities (newcomers), national minorities and established communities of immigrants on the one hand, and newcomers and the host population on the other. The conflicts emerging from the arrival of convention or programme refugees in different European cities and communities is headline material for many of the European 'tabloid' newspapers, and for some political parties and governments it is becoming a central political and electoral issue.

Despite the existence of a standard definition of 'recognised' or 'genuine' refugees (according to the 1951 Convention) there are still some gaps in the European and nation-states' legislation in relation to the treatment of alleged 'non-genuine' asylum applicants. One of the most important issues to arise is associated with the rights (to social benefits, housing, health services and employment) of those asylum applicants whose application has failed but who have been granted temporary residence on humanitarian grounds or are waiting to be deported.

The tensions and human rights concerns that the *Sangatte* Centre in the *Pas de Calais* region provoked both in France and the UK in the early part of the decade reflect the complexity of the asylum question in Europe and underline the importance of developing consistency in European legislation and procedures. Anthony Richmond goes even further, calling for a replacement of the UN Convention on Refugees, which he describes as anachronistic. According to Richmond (2002: 710):

Originally intended to meet the situation created during and after World War II, the Convention no longer addresses the crises that have occurred since the end of the 'Cold War'. Its interpretation varies widely from one jurisdiction to another. The distinction between persecution and systematic discrimination has become blurred. New international laws are needed that will protect all migrants, including contract workers, against discrimination, and facilitate temporary and longer term asylum and protection of those who face persecution in their own countries

Although there is considerable general literature on the use of sport as a tool for combating social exclusion, there is little material relating to the use of sport for the integration of refugees and asylum seekers. The literature on refugees and asylum applicants' needs focuses mainly on health, and social and judicial matters with little discussion in relation to culture and sport. This is to some degree to be expected since for governmental authorities and non-governmental associations sport and social provision are not seen as a priority for refugees and asylum applicants. In the first year of settlement attention is focused first on health (psychological and physical) and education (e.g. language courses, integration into the schooling and higher education systems). In addition, it might be assumed that refugees and asylum applicants are identified as ethnic minorities and as such should have access to the same sporting programmes that target other citizens from ethnic and immigrant backgrounds. Such an assumption is more likely to be valid for refugees whose status allows them to have the same social rights of citizenship as the majority of the population. Finally, when refugees and asylum applicants first arrive in the host country, they may see sport as a luxury or as accessible only to local citizens.

Many refugees and asylum seekers come from countries and cultures where the notion of leisure time as it is understood (time spent free of obligation and necessity) and commodified in western societies, is not applicable. Moreover, the socio-economic conditions under which refugees are living, prevent any real qualitative transformation of their free time into 'leisure'. Most are obliged, at least in the early

years after arrival, to take up the unskilled jobs of earlier generations of labour migrants in order to meet day-to-day living expenses. Sport activities here may be seen as a an irrelevant distraction, or even a possible source of injury which may cause loss of essential earnings.

With regard to the use of sport as a vehicle for aiding the process of social inclusion of asylum seekers/refugees, such concerns reflect broader EU objectives in the fight against poverty and social exclusion (Council of the European Union, 2002: 2) as discussed at the European Council of Lisbon in March 2000. Such concerns are manifest, for example, in a report by the Council of the European Union's Social Protection Committee on the subject of the *Fight against poverty and social exclusion: common objectives for the second round of National Action Plans* (Council of the European Union, 2002: 1). In the section of the report entitled, 'Facilitating access to resources, rights, goods and services for all', the following objective draws attention to the value placed upon access to educational and sporting services:

To develop, for the benefit of people at risk of exclusion, services and accompanying measures which will allow them effective access to education, justice and other public and private services, such as culture, sport and leisure. (2002: 11, emphasis added).

More specific examples of the use of sport as a vehicle for social inclusion purposes can be found in the work of the EU Networks on Reception, Integration and Voluntary Repatriation Project (RefugeeNet, 2003), which includes the work of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) Task Force on Integration. The aim of these EU Networks is to develop issue-oriented set-ups on refugee integration themes, which include education, vocational training, community organisation and health among others. Within these broad themes, the positive contribution made by sporting activities in different EU member states has been highlighted e.g. in Finland, "to integrate ethnic minorities [including refugees] with the local population using sports as the effective tool"; in the Netherlands, a project "to enhance the social networks of unaccompanied minors and young refugees involving ... sports, swimming, roller-skating (sic) etc."; and in Denmark, the integration activity focused on "Qualifying the young refugees in a broad sense: towards labour market, local area, to participate in society, sports clubs, leisure time' (RefugeeNet 2003). Further work in this field has also been commissioned by the Council of Europe e.g. a *Sports Information Bulletin* (which includes a section entitled, "Exemplary initiatives of social cohesion for refugees and displaced persons, ethnic minorities and immigrants, and the unemployed" (Council of Europe, 2000) and the Council of Europe Committee for the Development of Sport e.g. *Towards a Comprehensive Policy on Sport and Social Cohesion* (Council of Europe, 2000).

While the dispersal and/or inclusion of asylum seekers/refugees *per se* has increased as a policy priority in recent years for different levels of government in the UK (Bloch & Levy, 1999; Carey-Wood, 1997; Castles, Korac, Vasta, & Vertovec, 2002; Home Office, 2000, 2001, 2002; Ndofor-Tah, Clery, & Makarewich-Hall, 2003) (Zetter, Griffiths, Ferriti & Pearl, 2003) from work in the case study regions reported below, it is clear that there is a somewhat more ad hoc and fragmented approach to the potential use of sport as a vehicle for social inclusion purposes in respect of asylum seekers/refugees. It is acknowledged that this relative lack of (sport as a) policy priority may be due, in part, to more 'pressing' needs such as health, housing, employment and language training.

The relevance of sport as a vehicle for social inclusion purposes in respect of our target groups is discussed in more detail in Sections 3 to 6 which discuss the three

case studies that form the core of the project's empirical work. It is worth noting, however, that this proposal addresses the Government's concern to promote joined-up policy-making across different policy sectors. For example, *Game Plan* – the Government's sport policy document – states that:

[sport and physical activity] Participation levels need to be raised for the whole population; but interventions should focus on the most economically disadvantaged groups, and within those especially young people, women and older people' (Department for Culture, Media & Sport [DCMS]/Strategy Unit 2002: 89, emphasis added).

While health-related benefits are cited as a key outcome of this approach, the policy document also proposes that this should “fit with other overarching objectives (crime reduction, *education, social cohesion* etc” {Department for Culture Media & Sport, 2002 #61:95}, emphasis added). Moreover, the project provides much needed information, as *Game Plan* acknowledges the historic “lack of systematic data collection or monitoring [and the Government] currently lack the data to adopt a sophisticated evaluation model for choosing policy interventions” (DCMS/Strategy Unit 2002: 95).

1.2 The Aims of the project

Claims are often made that sport has a significant potential for social inclusion, and such claims are certainly pertinent to the situation of refugees and asylum seekers communities. They range from individual benefits of participation (health, fitness, dealing with stress, enhancing life quality), social benefits (tackling isolation and building social networks), community benefits (using sport as a vehicle of communication between refugees, asylum seeker groups and host communities), and societal benefits (reducing problems of crime and delinquency). However little is known about work in sport in relation to individuals and groups from refugee and asylum seeker communities.

This project therefore seeks to identify and evaluate ways in which sport has been used, for the purposes of promoting the social inclusion among asylum seekers and refugees. The project has involved case studies of organisations serving particular refugee and asylum seeker communities in three UK locations in the East Midlands (England), the Glasgow (Scotland) and Cardiff (Wales). The project aims to clarify ways in which sport has actually been accessed and used by individuals and groups from such communities, the meanings and values associated with sport for such groups, the potential for development in this area, and to identify lessons learned in terms of good practice in relation to policy and provision.

It is acknowledged that, while the range of organisations involved in providing support and resources for these groups will initially be concerned with ‘fundamental requirements’ such as health, housing, employment and language training, the value of sporting activities as one aspect of an holistic approach to formal and informal education systems should not be underestimated, and for many can be key in relation both to aspects of integration with the local community and to the quality of everyday life.

Education, whether formal or informal, does not stand alone and it is clear that there is an urgent requirement for cross-cutting, or joined-up initiatives, between private, public and voluntary sector organisations if sporting activities are to become embedded within education systems in order to achieve the type of goals often highlighted by bodies such as the EU and local/regional/central government authorities in the UK. The primary aim of such goals is often couched in the language

of helping disadvantaged groups, such as asylum seekers and refugees, to break down barriers faced in an unknown country. Goals such as teaching the values of solidarity, respect for others, participation and fair play, fostering participation in public life and promoting democratic values and citizenship, particularly amongst young people. In attempting to achieve such goals, the inter-linking of sport within education systems is particularly relevant if eventual outcomes such as promoting tolerance, acceptance and respect for diversity towards others, inter-cultural understanding and the combating of all forms of discrimination, are to be achieved.

The project consists of four elements. The first is a systematic review of the literature and evidence undertaken in relation to the use of sport with refugees, asylum seekers and other marginal groups. Systematic reviews, initially developed in the field of medical research, provide essential policy evaluation in order to support evidence-based policy practice. The second element is three sets of local case studies of the delivery of sport to refugee and asylum seeker groups through formal and informal education conducted in the East Midlands region, Glasgow and Cardiff. The third element of the project was the staging of workshops with those involved in the delivery of services to disseminate findings and to foster good practice. The fourth element of the project is this final report itself, which is intended to highlight the implications of findings for further practice in the wider national and European context.

1.3 Clarification of Terms

The focus of our proposal is on 'social inclusion' (Call for Proposals DG EAC 04/03) and we take this term (following Castles *et al.* 2002) to incorporate aspects of a range of other terms, including social 'integration', 'cohesion', 'assimilation', 'acculturation' and 'adaptation'. The use of the term social inclusion in this proposal is thus guided by Castle *et al.*'s work and their reference to inclusion as:

... the way newcomers are included in specific sectors of society such as the labour market, housing, education, health and social services, (sic) neighbourhood life. Inclusion refers to how immigrants and refugees have access to, use, participate in, benefit from and feel a sense of belonging to a given area of society (2002: 14).

In respect of notions of social 'integration', we follow the definition adopted by the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), which characterises it as:

... a long-term two way process of change, that relates both to the conditions for and the actual participation of refugees in all aspects of life of the country of durable asylum as well as to refugees' own sense of belonging and membership of societies. The objective of integration programmes and policies should be the establishment of a mutual and responsible relationship between individual refugees, civil society and host states which promotes equality, self-determination and sustainable self-sufficiency for refugees and acceptance and positive action in favour of refugees by European governments and societies (quoted in RefugeeNet 2003).

With regard to notions of social cohesion, the term 'community cohesion' is used by the Local Government Association (LGA) (Local Government Association, 2002) in drawing attention to how 'sport and cultural activities' can be used to promote community cohesion. For the LGA,

Community cohesion incorporates and goes beyond the concept of race equality and social inclusion [and] a cohesive community is one where:

there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities;
the diversity of people's different backgrounds and circumstances are appreciated and positively valued;
those from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities; and
strong and positive relationships are being developed between people from different backgrounds in the workplace, in schools and within neighbourhoods
(LGA 2002: 6).

The LGA is also clear that the use of sport in education systems should be promoted if community cohesion between diverse groups is to be achieved. The LGA has recommended the organisation of "inter-school sports and cultural events [and that schools should] develop curriculum and extra-curriculum cross-cultural programmes and activities, e.g. for arts and sport..." (LGA 2002: 32, 34).

Our research approach was thus formulated in line with the ideas underlying the above definitions.

1.4 The Structure of this Report

The remainder of this report deals with the systematic review and fieldwork undertaken to inform the study. Section 2 provides a summary of the academic and policy-related literature undertaken to inform the study. Sections 3 to 6 outline the findings from work in the case study regions including the workshops held in the regions. The final section outlines conclusions and policy implications from the study.

2. The Systematic Review

2.1 The Systematic Review Approach

In order to identify what is known about factors associated with the social inclusion of refugees and asylum seekers through sport, a systematic review of the academic and policy related literature was conducted. Such an approach reflects Home Office concerns in this area, as indicated in a study that explored the feasibility of applying systematic reviews to government policies with refugees (Schibel, Fazel, Robb, & Garner, 2002). As Schibel et al. noted, 'the Home Office wishes to evaluate carefully the evidence underpinning various strategies promoting refugee integration' (2002: 1). Our approach is in line with that advocated by the Home Office report, *Integration: Mapping the Field*, which argued that:

There is a lack of studies that combine quantitative and qualitative research methods. The process of integration as a complex social phenomenon requires to be systematically explored by a combination of representative surveys and in-depth interviews. Combining the two research methods is useful because it makes it possible to identify overall trends among newcomers as well as acquiring more in-depth knowledge about many aspects of integration that are not quantifiable (Castles et al. 2002: 82, original emphasis).

Systematic review has been applied for some time in medical sciences, where it has made a significant contribution towards improving the quality of review process by surveying, summarising and synthesising research in a systematic, transparent and reproducible manner. Transparency and reproducibility are accomplished by the systematic application of a carefully described protocol for searching for material, and for the inclusion or exclusion of material from among that which has been identified in the search process. The systematic review approach linked to policy is not so much a matter of identifying best practice but rather of marshalling the evidence for explanations of how and why policies work. As Pawson (2002: 212) states:

systematic review rather than attempting to search out exemplary initiatives and 'best buy' interventions ends up with a theory about why, for whom, in what circumstances and in what respects a particular policy stratagem will succeed.

Since the 1980's British Central Government has placed an increasing emphasis on ensuring that policy and practice are informed through a more rigorous and challenging evidence base research. The growth use of the three 'E' initiatives (economy, efficiency and effectiveness) have focused on the delivery of public services and led to the development of detailed guidance and best practice manuals in many disciplines (Tranfield & Denyer, 2002). There is currently much interest in the UK and other countries in research synthesis and systematic reviews of available evidence (Davies, 2000).

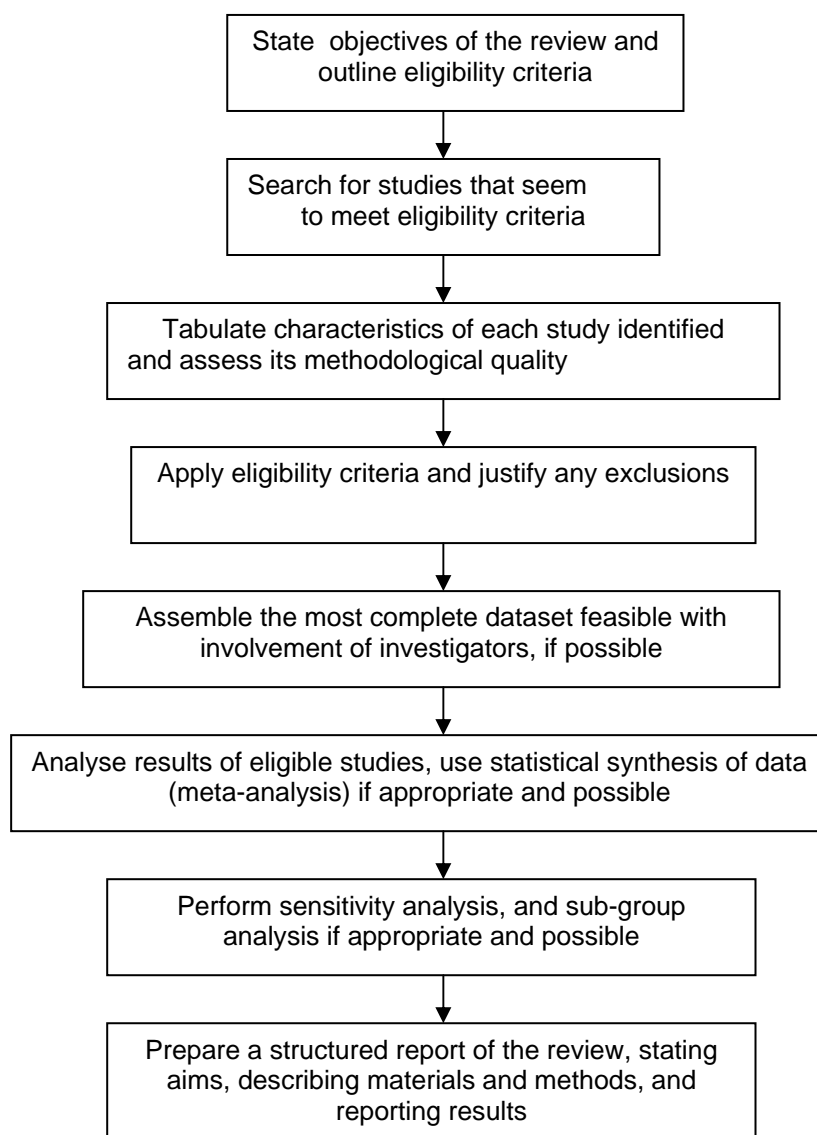
The movement to base practice on the best available evidence has migrated from medicine to other disciplines. In the UK, the department of Education and Skills (DFES) has established a Centre for Evidence informed Policy and Practice in Education. Moreover, a 'What Works? Programme' was introduced in the probation service following the Crime Reduction Strategy published by Home Office in July 1998. The aim was to develop successful intervention programmes based on hard evidence so they could be used as models for day-to day probation practice (Home Office, 1998). In 2001, the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), funded

the Establishment of the network (the Evidence Network) of multi-disciplinary centres dedicated to the improvement of evidence based policy and practice in social sciences (Tranfield and Denyer, 2002). This national centre aim to use systematic review to inform and improved decision making in Government, business and voluntary sector.

Systematic review (see Figure 2.1) differs from traditional narrative reviews by adopting a replicable scientific and transparent process, in other words a detailed technology. The aim of the systematic review approach is thus to minimise bias through an extensive literature search of published and unpublished studies by providing a detailed report of the reviewer's decisions, procedures and conclusions (Tranfield and Denyer, 2002)

<http://www.mrc.ac.za/cochrane/systematicdiagram.htm><http://www.mrc.ac.za/cochrane/systematicdiagram.htm>

Figure 2.1: What is a Systematic review



Adapted from Medical Research Council of South Africa, 2001 – <http://www.mrc.ac.za/cochrane/systematic.htm>

2.2 The Systematic Review Process

The following section outlines the key elements of the systematic review process. This process is followed by a detailed account of systematic review conducted as part of this study.

The systematic review process consists of the following key stages:

Figure 2.2: Stages of a systematic Review

<p>Stage I: Planning the Review Phase 0 Identification of the need for a review Phase 1 Preparation of a proposal for a review Phase 2 Development of a review protocol</p> <p>Stage II: Conducting A Review Phase 3 Identification of Research Phase 4 Selection of studies Phase 5 Study Quality assessments Phase 6 Data Extraction and monitoring progress Phase 7 Data synthesis</p> <p>Stage III: Reporting and Dissemination Phase 8 The report and recommendation Phase 9 Getting evidence into practice</p>

Source: Stages of a Systematic Review (Clarke & Oxman, 2001)

Stage I - Planning A Review

A review panel is formed that encompasses a range of experts in areas of methodology and theory. Regular meetings allow disputes over inclusion and exclusion of studies to be discussed and decided. At this stage, an 'iterative process of definition, clarification and refinement' occurs (Clarke & Oxman, 2001). Scoping studies are also conducted at this point, which constitute a brief overview of the theoretical, practical and methodological history and key discussions associated with the field(s) and sub-field(s) of study. This forms the basis for formulation of the review question, which is entitled the 'review protocol'.

The review protocol is a plan that helps to protect objectivity by providing explicit descriptions of the steps to be taken. This includes:

- (a) The specific questions addressed by the study (in this case the nature of social inclusion, the roles which sport might play in this process generically and specifically with the target groups).
- (b) The study focus in terms of population or sample (in this case refugees and asylum seekers)
- (c) The search strategy for identification of relevant studies.

The criteria for inclusion or exclusion of studies (Davies & Crombie, 1998)

In other fields such as medical science, when the protocol is completed, it is registered with appropriate review group editors, such as The Cochrane Collaboration¹. If satisfactory, the review is published to encourage interests parties

¹ The Cochrane Collaboration, founded in 1993, is an international non-profit and independent organisation, dedicated to making up-to-date, accurate information about the effects of healthcare readily available worldwide. It produces and disseminates systematic

to contact the reviewers and to avoid duplication of studies. The researcher may employ flexibility in his/her approach, as needed, but is required to state explicitly the reasons for any modifications that occurs, including the rationale associated with the modification. This retains transparency, whilst accounting for author bias, as all adaptations are explicitly explained.

Stage II - Conducting a review

As a systematic review allows a comprehensive, auditable search, it often requires considerably more time than the narrative process and requires substantial perseverance, and attention. The search strategy must be reported in sufficient detail to allow replication. The output of this information search will consist of a full listing of articles and papers upon which the review is based. A study may only be merited for inclusion if it passes all inclusion criteria. As the selection of inclusion and exclusion criteria is in characteristically a subjective process, the panel remains closely involved throughout the process. The reviewer initially conducts a review of all potentially relevant citations identified in the search. Relevant sources are retrieved and the abstract or full text is reviewed in order to assess inclusion status. Each inclusion and exclusion made at this point is recorded with reasons for exclusion and inclusion.

Because management and policy studies generally do not make raw data available, the decision to include a document will usually be made upon an assessment of the more subjective findings and conclusions of the author. Rarely is data revisited and retested. The difficulty in specifying and conducting quality assessment of studies is a major challenge in developing a systematic review methodology for policy research. In order to minimise human error and bias, The Cochrane Collaboration regards the use of data-extraction forms, which display general information (title, author, publication details, study features, specific information) and notes on emerging themes. The purpose is to serve three important functions:

1. The data extraction form represents a visual representation of the formulated research question and assessment of the associated studies
2. The form acts as an historical record of the decision made during the systematic review process
3. The form is the data repository from which the analysis will emerge (Clarke and Oxman, 2001)

The data extraction process requires a documentation of all steps taken. At this point, double-extraction procedures may be conducted by two independent researchers and results compared and reconciled.

Stage III - Reporting and Dissemination

A well-executed systematic review makes it easier for the researcher to understand the research, by synthesising extensive primary research papers from which it was derived. In the case of policy studies, a two-stage report might be produced. The first is a 'descriptive analysis' of the field, achieved through the use of a simple set of

reviews of healthcare interventions and promotes the search for evidence in the form of clinical trials and other studies of interventions. The major product of the Collaboration is the Cochrane Database of Systematic Reviews which is published quarterly as part of The Cochrane Library (see <http://www.cochrane.org/reviews/clibintro.htm>).

categories with the use of extraction forms (for example, the number of articles that exist about a subject, key authors etc.). The researcher should be able to provide a broad ranging descriptive account of the field with an audit trail that accompanies their conclusions. A 'Thematic Analysis' must also be reported, which states whether the results were obtained via an aggregational or interpretive approach, and which references broad themes apparent across the literature reviewed. This may lead to the development of overarching themes and formulation of key questions. Linking themes across various core texts is an integral and valued part of the process.

Decision makers are encouraged to apply critical analysis and problem solving skills to the outcome of the systematic review and not simply rely solely on the outcome of the review (Bero & Rennie, 1995); (Rosenberg & Donald, 1995). In the policy field, there is a specific need to recognise that evidence alone is often insufficient and incomplete. Thus, we may relate to the systematic review process as '*evidence informed*' rather than '*evidence based*' (Nutley, Davies, & Walter, 2002); (Nutley & Davies, 2002)

An audit trail of document and panel outcomes allows the reader to acknowledge the process through which the author has identified key concepts, thus accounting for any inherent bias at this stage of the review process.

2.3 The Steps taken in the Systematic Review of Literature on Sport and Social Inclusion of Refugees and Asylum Seekers.

Table 2.1 outlines the main steps taken in the systematic review, as they were applied in this study. This precedes a detailed analysis of each stage of the review process, with specific focus on the descriptive and thematic findings of the review.

Table 2.1: Key Stages of the Systematic Review Undertaken for this Project

Stage 1: Planning The Review	
Step1 Forming a review panel	<p>Professor Ian Henry (Sport and Leisure Policy) Professor Fred Coalter (Stirling University) Ruth Stubbing (Library and Information Sciences, specialising in Social Sciences) Moran Betzer-Tayar (Research Assistant)</p> <p>The members of the review panel were chosen based on their expertise and experience within the field of study, and their involvement within the project process.</p>
Step 2 Mapping the field of study	<p>Definition, clarification and refinement of research aims and objectives. Review of key papers, used to justify key words selection and review strategy.</p> <p>Meta Keywords: Refugee OR Asylum Seekers AND (in case of more than 100 articles) Women OR Young People Or youth Additional Keywords: Integration, Assimilation, Adaptation, Sport or Leisure, Recreation, Physical Education, Social Inclusion, Social Exclusion, Culture, Community Cohesion, Policy, Play or Game, Ethic Minorities</p> <p>The aim of the Systematic Review is to explore the potential role of sport in formal and informal education systems as a vehicle for social inclusion of asylum seekers/refugees. The objective of this research is to explore and interoperate the followings:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To encourage the exchange of good practice concerning the potential role of sport in the promotion of social inclusion of disadvantage groups. • To raise the awareness of the positive contribution made by voluntary work to informal education, particularly young people. <p>As the search of individual keywords returned an unfeasibly high number of documents, it was decided by the panel that each keyword should then be combined with the terms 'young people, or youth or women' (since these reflected key target groups) to refine results the number within the parentheses is after the combination of the terms (see Table 2.2)</p>
Step 3 Producing a review protocol	Discussion of the problem, statement of problem's significance (<i>Neither descriptive nor empirical data currently exists on the specific topic</i>), search strategy, study selection criteria, quality assessment. Data extraction procedure, data synthesis procedure, project timetable.
Stage 2: Identifying and Evaluating Studies	
Step 4 Conducting a Systematic search	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Group Key words into search strings - Search appropriate (number of) databases (Assia, BHI, PsycInfo, Worldwide political abstracts, IBSS, ukop, LexisNexis, Sociological Abstracts, Tour CD, Sport Discuss). <p>Databases Chosen for reasons of relevance to the field of study (social science, governmental documents, policy, organisations, psychology, sport)</p>
Step 3: Extracting and Synthesising Data	
Step 6: Conducting data synthesis	Descriptive analysis: citation information, location, context, population, methods of data collection and analysis, sample sizes
Step 7 Conducting data synthesis	<p>Bringing together findings to achieve a greater level of understanding and higher level of conceptual/theoretical development.</p> <p>Meta- synthesis i.e. techniques of meta-ethnography conducted to critically analyse data (key metaphors, emergent themes, perspectives, organising principles and/or concepts)</p>
Stage 4: Reporting	
Step 8 Reporting the descriptive and thematic findings	Introduction, review methodology, findings, discussion, conclusion.
Step 9 Informing research and practice	

Database search results returned a total of 100 or less documents, the returned documents were reviewed for relevance, based on review of document title and abstract and excluded if irrelevant to the subject area. Meta-synthesis of documents highlighted emergent themes, which provided a rationale for the creation of further exclusion criteria. Initially, documents were included according to academic relevance, content and language (English). Theses were excluded, as most of those identified derived from North America, or other regions where acquisition of the document was extremely difficult, and where social context was substantially different. Table 2.2 illustrates the result of refined key word research by search engines.

Table 2.2: Results of keyword searches: refugees and asylum seekers and women or young people or youth

	Sports Discus	Sociological Abstracts	British Humanities Index	Psycinfo	Assia	IBSS	World wide political abstracts
Sport or leisure	16	7	2	3	2	3	1
Social inclusion	0	4	1	0	3	1	1
Culture	3	203	10	285 (51)	57	0	123 (7)
Community cohesion	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Integration	1	232 (26)	17	69	39	7	118 (5)
Assimilation	0	128 (11)	1	206 (24)	6	101	22
Adaptation	1	146 (19)	3	146 (23)	33	132 *7	12
Policy	0	602 (61)	111 (8)	105 (19)	165 (9)	769 *31	762 (27)
Social cohesion	1	8	0	2	2	0	1
Physical activity	3	0	0	1	0	0	0
Recreation	1	3	0	2	0	0	0
Play or game	0	36	17	20	18	31	43
Social Exclusion	0	7	2	15	10	24	4
Ethnic (Minority or minorities) and (assimilation or integration) and (sport or leisure/or recreation)	26	10	0	5	0	0	0

Key:

1. Number in brackets indicates the number of documents after adding the combination of (women /or youth/or young people) as additional key words
2. * = the number of documents after limiting the search to items from 1995 to 2004

Since Sport Discus was the only database employed dedicated to academic and policy publications associated with sport, a separate search was undertaken employing the keywords Ethnic minorities and sport and leisure or recreation (and combined with women /or youth/or young people) yielding 214 (and 46) references respectively.

A separate search was also conducted on two other generic databases relating to policy UKOP and LEXISNEXIS² using the keywords 'Refugee * or asylum seekers * and (sport /or leisure /or recreation)' generating 100 (UKOP) and 40 (LEXIS NEXIS) references

2 Further exclusion criteria for this database were as follows: (a) Newswires were excluded since treatment was by definition insubstantial; (b) only those sources which exhibited three or more mentions of the keywords were included (to ensure that the treatment of the topic was central rather than peripheral to the article); (c) only selected UK broadsheet newspaper reports were included because of the tradition of greater depth of treatment (Independent, Guardian, Daily Telegraph, Scotsman, Wales on Sunday, Times)

2.4 Reporting the thematic findings

This section reports and discusses the findings of the descriptive and thematic analyses. After finishing the retrieval stage which consisted of the selection of relevant articles based on criteria of inclusions and exclusion set by the expert panel, this was followed by the categorisation of articles based on criteria set by the research team (e.g. information on the article, research issues, research methodology, conclusion and recommendations), and subsequently the final stage, that of conceptual content analysis.

Conceptual analysis begins with identifying research questions and choosing a sample or samples. Once chosen, the text must be coded into manageable content categories. The process of coding is basically one of selective reduction. By reducing the text to categories consisting of a word, set of words or phrases, the researchers were able to focus on, and code for, specific words or patterns that are indicative of the research question. Thus, the general aims of the conceptual analysis of the systematic review were as follows:

- to find out how integration through sport was defined in relation to refugees and asylum seekers;
- how issues such as the integration of ethnic minorities into their host country in general and integration of refugees and asylum seekers in particular were discussed by authors; and
- what type of recommendations have been put forward by the authors

The endeavour was to compare the debate on the integration of ethnic minorities through sport, which is reasonably widely discussed in the literature, with the more recent debate on the use of sport for the integration of refugees and asylum seekers. Examples of categories used in the coding procedure include the following:

Main Categories:

- Refugees
- Asylum Seekers
- Ethnic Minorities
- Sport
- Integration

Sub Categories

- Gender
- Nationality
- Culture
- Geography
- Age e.g. unaccompanied children
- Methods/research approach (Type of Analysis)
- Type of Activity: (Sport/Leisure/Physical activity/Health-related activities)

Other categories emerged while analysing the articles. For instance race/ ethnicity and participation in sport; religion and participation in sport and leisure; immigration and leisure; acculturation and other concepts that are discussed further in the following sections.

General issues around the integration of ethnic minorities through sport

The major focus in relation to the integration of ethnic minorities (or immigrant populations) and sport are integration and exclusion of young people through urban park and recreation provision; the importance of community driven policies in the success of social inclusion policies and the importance of sustaining cultural heritage, (including leisure) within the traditions of family and the small community.

The subcategories emerging under this theme include:

- Integration, social exclusion and recreation (Ravenscroft & Markwell, 2000);
- Race, ethnicity and sport performance (Knoppers & Anthonissen, 2001);
- Race, ethnicity and participation in sport (Carrington & Williams, 1988);
- Religion (or Muslim cultures) and participation in sport (Taylor & Toohey, 2002);
- Social inclusion policy (Curry, Joseph, & Slee, 2001);
- Sport as a tool of integration (Elling, De Knop, & Knoppers, 2001);
- Sport and Ethnic Minority youth (De Knop, 1995);
- assimilation, ethnic minorities and leisure experiences (Tirone & Pedlar, 2000);
- Ethnicity, recreation, integration and social exclusion (Ravenscroft & Markwell, 2000);
- Target groups range from young people who are urban park users; Euro-Dutch women and ethnic minority men and women (The Netherlands) Young people of South Asian descent (UK); (Ravenscroft & Markwell, 2000), Knoppers and Anthonissen, 2001)
- Ethnic and Racial Minorities (including Islamic Dutch-Turkish and Moroccan women and girls) in The Netherlands; Turkish Migrants in the Federal Republic of Germany, in Europe, to South Asian Teens and Young Adults in Canada and Muslim women living in Australia (Knoppers & Anthonissen, 2001); (Frogner, 1985); (Toohey, 1997).

We can sum up the obstacles to integration according to the authors cited above as follows:

- The effects of gender and race/ethnicity are multiplicative, their so-called 'cultural' and 'religious' backgrounds often prevent them from being part of 'white' (European) clubs, at the same time their womanly bodies fall short of the male norm.
- Ethnicity accentuated the high participation rates of males and the low participation rates of females.
- 'Muslim' women experience considerable difficulties accessing programmes and services that meet their religious requirements and consequently feel systematically constrained in their recreation participation.
- Whole ethnic/racial minorities participate in sports relatively less frequently and are less formally organised in sports clubs than the white ethnic majority across social class, age and gender.
- Participation in ethnic sport did not influence individual assimilation and personal integration.
- Social and economic disadvantage and exclusion have racial and age-related dimensions.

Other Issues

Gender issues

De Knop, Theebom, Van England *et al.* (1995) set out to examine the possibilities of sport as a means of social integration of young immigrants living in Belgium. The results of two research projects carried out in 1992 and 1993 show that despite the low sport participation rates among young immigrant girls, they show a distinct interest in sport. The major reasons for not taking part in sport programmes is related to what the authors define as 'the Islamic rules of life' which these girls are obliged to follow. Therefore, they recommend taking into account the cultural differences that exist between young immigrants and native club members; the will to attract immigrant members as part of non-discrimination policy, which not only refers to club membership, but also to equality of opportunity to participate as members of the board. The best way to integrate immigrants in the board of clubs or federations. It is concluded, is to stimulate the immigrant members to follow sport training courses.

Knoppers and Anthonissen (2001), in their article entitled 'Meanings Given to performance in Dutch Sport Organisations: Gender and Racial/Ethnic Subtexts', argue that:

- The meanings given to performance show that there is congruency but also contradiction in the construction of gender and race/ethnicity by coaches and managers in sport organisations.
- At times 'white Euro-Dutch' women and ethnic minority men are seen as deficient and at other times these women are collectively allied with Euro-Dutch men. Ethnic minority women are rarely in the picture.
- The effects of gender and race/ethnicity are multiplicative, what is defined by the authors as cultural/religious background often prevent them from being part of white Euro-Dutch clubs, at the same time their womanly bodies fall short of the male norm.

Carrington and Williams (1988) in their paper Patriarchy and Ethnicity: The Link between school Physical Education and community Leisure Activities come to the conclusion that patriarchal relations are culturally reproduced through leisure (especially recreational sport). It was evident in the authors terms that ethnicity accentuated the high participation rates of males and the low participation rates of females due to a number of factors:

- Females were subjected to much greater parental control than males, appeared to attach greater importance to 'izzat' (need to uphold the family's status and honour)
- Parents were generally apprehensive about any out-of-home activity, including sport, in which their daughters were unsupervised or which would bring them into direct contact with the opposite sex.
- Experiences of racism at school, work and 'on the streets' served to heighten parents' fears about their daughters' out of home activities
- Single-sex provision is rare

Taylor and Toohey (2002) in 'Behind the veil: Exploring the recreation Needs of Muslim women' address the issue of gender and participation in sport in relation to Muslim religious identity. They discuss what they consider another limiting factor that explains the low participation rates of females in this case Muslim women in Australia. The narratives suggest that many Muslim women experience considerable difficulties accessing programmes and services that meet their religious requirements and consequently feel systematically constrained in their recreation participation.

They conclude that most of the problems in service provision derive from a lack of knowledge and understanding about this population's needs and requirements and therefore providers must aim to go beyond stereotypes and find out what the women's needs are and aim to address these accordingly. They conclude that it is evident that it is the way that recreation is organised and not the activities themselves that are the main limiting factor.

Taylor (2003) take a more inclusive approach by addressing the issue of women's participation in sport in relation to ethnic differences. The author concludes that women from minority ethnic backgrounds have significantly lower participation rates in sport and physical education than Anglo-Saxon women. Thus, it is imperative that sport organisations become gender and culturally, inclusive and address opportunities and challenges this brings.

In the same vein Kennedy, Devoe *et.al*, (1998) state that in order to facilitate exercise adherence it is important to identify and remove real and perceived barriers in promoting the adoption and maintenance of positive health behaviours among minority groups. In Taylor and Toohey's (1997) paper, the relationship between women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and sports was investigated. The paper concludes that there is a conflict between sport providers' perceptions of the needs of women from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds and the views of the women themselves. Providers generally perceived the problem of low participation in sport as relating the women's culture (a cultural deficit explanation); whereas, the women interviewed mainly associate their low participation rates with exclusionary practices engaged in by providers. To resolve this conflict of interests or perceptions Rublee (1991) suggests that empowerment to make choices, and social participation in the process of making decisions and implementing change, will almost certainly enhance well-being and the potential for social integration (of immigrant women).

Leisure facilities

Ravenscroft and Markwell (2000) discuss the role that the efficient use of urban parks and playgrounds can play in the integration of disadvantage population in urban areas. Following long term social change in the UK there has been a growing political recognition that social and economic disadvantage and exclusion have racial and age-related dimensions. In addressing these issues much emphasis has been placed on the rhetorical connection between the provision of public leisure facilities and the promotion of social and racial integration. However, according to Ravenscroft and Markwell, while there has been much work related to leisure centres and other facilities, there has been little consideration of the potential role of urban parks and playgrounds.

Religion

It should be noted that recent treatment in the literature, of leisure participation in relation to religious factors, is limited almost exclusively to Islam or Muslim communities, neglecting other religions or belief systems. One may conclude that while, in the various authors' world views, the question of participation in sport and leisure, had already been 'resolved' in relation to other religions, this was not the case in relation to Islamic traditions.

Most of the articles which relate to this topic discussed participation in sport exclusively in relation to gender issues. This reinforced the idea that when it comes to Muslim traditions and Muslim communities in Europe, gender equality is **The** (with a capital T) debate. Thus the degree of integration of Muslim communities in Europe

is judged by the participation of girls or women in sport, physical education and leisure, and this is taken as a sign of acceptance by the Muslim communities of the host societies' norms and value systems. Some of the points raised by the authors include the following:

1. Girls antipathy towards P.E. seemed to increase with age and is especially pronounced among Muslim pupils (Carrington and Williams, 1988). The narratives suggest that many Muslim women experience considerable difficulties accessing programs and services that meet their religious requirements and consequently feel systematically constrained in their recreation participation (Taylor & Toohey, 2002).
2. The major reasons for not taking part in sport programs are related to the 'Islamic rules' of life which these girls are obliged to follow. Despite the low sport participation rates among these girls, they show a distinct interest in sport (De Knop, 1995).

Cultural Heritage and cultural sensitivities

Tirone & Padler (2000) discuss the importance of sustaining cultural heritage, including leisure within the traditions of family and the small community. They argue that understanding of the meanings and values of leisure of different ethnic groups, and the antecedents and contexts in which the constraints are experienced or perceived, will help to develop an integrated body of knowledge of leisure behaviours that encompasses a multicultural perspective. According to Tsai and Coleman (1999) to better understand leisure attitudes and behaviours of ethnically diverse population, a conceptual framework that incorporates the social-cultural perspective of ethnic minorities is necessary

Participation

Integration of minorities was also argued in relation to the phenomenon of participation. Taylor (2003) suggests some recommendations to be taken into consideration in relation to non-English speaking women with particular reference to one sport – netball. Participation rates were particularly low amongst first generation players but increased for second generation players. However more needs to be done. In order to increase participation levels the author advocates the following:

1. In netball there are few role models for girls from marginalized ethnic groups to emulate.
2. In the interests of equity, sport organisations should go beyond stereotypes, to find out women's needs and requirements and aim to address these accordingly.
3. It is imperative sport organisations become gender and culturally inclusive and address opportunities and challenges this brings.
4. It was evident, that ways in which sport activities were organised, rather than the activities themselves, were the main limiting factors.
5. Women should not have to subvert their identities to enjoy benefits of sport participation

Kennedy *et al.* (1998) took a different stand point in their research study by focusing on the attitudes of the minority-group (in this case sedentary Mexican American women) towards exercise. They looked at the relationship between attitudes and participation in health-related exercise over a nine-month period.

1. In order to facilitate exercise adherence it is important to identify and remove real and perceived barriers in promoting the adoption and maintenance of positive health behaviours.

2. These findings indicate that through regular participation in an exercise regimen, factors perceived as barriers to exercise can be decreased over time and the perceived benefits gained will increase, thus resulting in a more positive attitude and outlook for continued participation in regular physical activity and wellness

Bull *et al.*, (2001) discuss participation through the investigation of what they refer to as the stage of readiness to exercise of ethnically diverse women. They assessed the stage of readiness to exercise and readiness to be physically active in a national survey of women aged 40 years and over from various racial/ethnic group in the U.S. The results of the sampling plan (the Behavioural Risk Factor Surveillance Survey) have important implications for the use of change measures with populations of older ethnically diverse women particularly, and the popularity of modifying questions to reflect 'lifestyle' or moderate-intensity physical activity.

Leisure constraints

Lindstrom & Sundquist (2001) carried out a population based study to investigate the relationship between migration status and sedentary leisure-time physical activity status in the city of Malmo, Sweden. The authors refer to immigrants but do not specify the country of origin of these people nor how long they had been residing in Sweden. This highlights the inconsistency in the terms used to refer to minority groups within nation states usually categorised in the Anglo-Saxon (multiculturalist) literature as ethnic minorities. Tcha and Lobo (2003) use the same terminology to refer to Koreans living in Western Australia in their study to identify the types of constraints to leisure, as do Tsai and Coleman (1999). The latter explored the leisure constraints perceived by Chinese immigrants in Australia and conclude that understandings of the meanings and values of leisure of different ethnic groups, and the antecedents and contexts in which the constraints are experienced or perceived, will help to develop an integrated body of knowledge of leisure behaviours that encompasses a multicultural perspective.

Ethnicity:

Scott Fleming's (1994) article entitled 'Sport and South Asian Youth: the perils of 'false universalism' and stereotyping' reflects a theoretical approach underpinning sport and ethnicity. This paper offers a critical reflection on some of the important studies that have informed this under-researched area of leisure studies. According to the author the failure to fully acknowledge South Asian heterogeneity - a failure manifest as 'false universalism' - operates at three different levels: collective treatment of all minority groups; mistaken assumptions about all South Asians; and a misunderstanding about the full complexity of South Asian heterogeneity. Secondly, false universalism leads to the sort of crude stereotypes about the sporting aptitude and preferences of young South Asians that are generally prevalent, and can also become internalised by South Asians themselves.

Karlis and Dawson (1995) in their paper 'Ethnicity and Recreation: Concepts, Approaches and Programming' explore the potential links between the theoretical approaches to ethnicity and recreation and the practical implications for policy makers in this regard. The findings of the paper show that there is no direct linkage of theoretical approaches and practical programming with regard to ethnicity and recreation. However, if those challenged with developing programmes for ethnically diverse populations or specific ethnic groups are aware of the variety of existing approaches to ethnicity and their implications for programming, then perhaps more informed effective service may result.

2.5 Integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers (EU and beyond)

How can integration be achieved?

In the study entitled 'Liminalities - Expanding and constraining the options of Somali youth in Helsinki' Alitolppa-Nitamo (2001) looks at Somali youth - 'the generation in-between' - who arrived in Finland in their early teens or as teenagers in the 1990s. She argues that their voice is often ambiguous in the process of cultural construction and ethnic reconstruction. Dissonant acculturation and role reversal within the families and a family culture that emphasises strong parental authority place these young people in a liminal position. However, through their intense contact with educational institutions and peer groups, young people acquire new influences, which often lead to dissonant acculturation and intergenerational conflicts in their families. Due to their better knowledge of the Finnish language and understanding of the functions of Finnish society, the role of the families may become reversed, particularly in contacts with mainstream society.

In another study conducted both in Finland and Canada, Valtonen (1999) looked at 'The social participation of Vietnamese refugees' and how these could be integrated in their host societies using societal participation and analytic framework. The results show that in Finland the parity of opportunity to develop language and labour market related skills has had significant gender-based implications, fostering the participation of women of all educational and socio-economic levels in language and labour market training and later in labour force. The 'gate' to economic participation in Canada included opportunities in ethnic enterprises, and ethno specific settlement services, which are not developed in Finland, where alternatively, seasonal participation in the agriculture sector can be seen to represent a form of biological and geographical adaptation.

In the study 'Upon Closer Acquaintance: The Impact of Direct Contact with Refugees on Dutch Hosts', based on the assumption that integration is an interactive process of change that involves both refugees and people of the host society, Marlie Holland (2001) discusses the impact of direct contact with refugees on specific circles of Dutch people who participated in the study (Voluntary refugee workers, language tutors etc.). Due to this contact, participants generally gained a more differentiated insight into the reality of refugees as well as into the characteristics of their own society. However, if humanitarian commitment is not accompanied by sufficient political awareness about refugee issues and inter-ethnic relations, direct contact can also lead to disappointment and new prejudices.

Korac (2003) in her study 'Integration and How We facilitate it: A comparative study of the Settlement Experiences of Refugees in Italy and the Netherlands', provides further insight on how integration of refugees can be facilitated. It examines how refugees themselves perceive their social condition in the two contrasting 'models' of integration in Italy and the Netherlands and how they define integration success and develop strategies to achieve their goals. The narrative of refugees explored in this paper documents that integration, as it is perceived and desired by the refugees themselves, is both about its functional aspects and about social participation in a wider community. These aspects of integration consist of sets of overlapping processes that take place differently in spheres of the receiving society and have various outcomes. Therefore policy makers should recognise this complexity and acknowledge refugees as social actors rather than turning them into policy objects in order to facilitate integration in each of these sub-sectors.

Barriers to Integration

Goodkind and Foster-Fishman (2002) sought to understand the participation experiences of 54 Hmong refugees living in multiethnic housing development in a medium-sized Midwestern city in the U.S. Interviews revealed that while Hmong residents valued participation highly, most were excluded from meaningful avenues for participation because of multiple barriers, including language differences, time constraints, and discrimination. More importantly, no support to address the barriers existed in their communities.

Van Der Veer (2003) in his study 'The future of western societies: multicultural identity or extreme nationalism?' reviews the results of the Year 2000 (Y2K) study concerning hopes, fears and expectations about inequality and in particular about the relations between different ethnic groups in society. Report of three recent international (two studies carried out in the Netherlands at the end of 1999 and some results of an international comparative study in Norway, U.S., Denmark and The Netherlands) investigations on one aspect: young people's attitudes to immigrants and integration of ethnic minorities in western world. The results show that differences relate to the country the study was made in and the category of immigrants one asks about. The youngest respondents are generally most positive, or least negative; this may indicate according to the author that intolerance and racism is again on its way down after a period of growth.

2.6 Integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers (UK)

Definition of Integration

A separate study on Bosnian Refugees living in Britain by Lynette Kelly (2003) explores the way in which migrants are incorporated into the host society. The British model is loosely based on notions of multi-culturalism. Groups of migrants are considered to constitute a community and, through community leaders, the needs of the group can be conveyed to others. The same model has been used for the incorporation of refugees into society and informs current legislation and policy as well as the work of refugee support agencies. The article looks at the refugee themselves and the community associations that have been established and comes to the conclusion that the associations exist largely as a result of the benefits that can be obtained through them and that there is no informal Bosnian community. Instead, there is a contingent community: a group of people who will, to some extent, conform to the expectations of the host society in order to gain advantages of a formal community association, whilst the private face of the group remains unconstituted as a community.

Barriers to integration

In her study 'The importance of Convention status: A Case Study of the UK' Alice Bloch (2001) examines the social and economic rights afforded to different statuses in the area of social security, housing, employment and family reunion. The paper explores the interaction of social and economic rights and security of residence on the experiences of those seeking protection. The results show that the attitudes towards settlement, aspirations for return migration and economic participation were all affected by immigration status. In addition, immigration status was mentioned most often as a barrier to settlement. Having refugee status is crucial for the successful settlement of forced migrants in the UK. Refugee status brings with it a set of rights and security of status and without these rights, forced migrants find it much difficult to settle and lack an incentive to do so.

On a similar note Zetter and Pearl (2000) examine some of the consequences of recent (mid-1990s) policy shifts in relation to refugees and asylum seekers which have become increasingly restrictive for Refugee Community-based Organisations (RCO). The article shows how, on the margins, RCOs have articulated the needs and expanded activities for their client group in an increasingly constrained policy arena. However, the vital resources that RCOs could provide are often neglected and marginalised as the group they serve. Financial and legal constraints to RCO action have resulted in pragmatic responses, a generally poor quality of service provision, very limited access to public resources, lack of co-ordination and networking, and limited professional capacity.

The Role of the Media

Coole (2002) analyses press coverage in her study 'A warm welcome? Scottish and UK media reporting of an asylum seeker murder' and comes to the conclusion that the media coverage of the Glasgow murder elicited a contrasting view of asylum seekers, as the press re-focused the negativity that they had previously addressed at them, back on the host community, which they then painted as unproblematically racist. The tables had turned; journalists were now sympathetic to the plight of asylum seekers as lost souls seeking refuge in a civilised and compassionate country. The locals in Glasgow's Sighthill were depicted as racist and hostile to asylum seekers, and were even blamed for creating an antagonistic atmosphere in which violence towards asylum seekers could thrive.

2.7 Integration of refugees and asylum seekers through sport

The general observation that we can make in relation to the main focus of articles in this category is that most of them referred to integration in relation to recreation and leisure rather than sport. One may conclude that leisure is perceived as more accessible to refugees and asylum seekers than competitive and structured sport. The subcategories emerging under this theme include:

- Refugees settlement and leisure needs in urban cities (Candappa & Igbini, 2003).
- Meaning of leisure in international circumstances i.e. refugee camps (Russell & Stage, 1996); (Blanchard, 1991); (Sokolyk, 2003); (Voskanyan, 2003).
- Refugee participation in Multiethnic communities (Goodkind & Foster-Fishman, 2002); (Van Der Veer, 2003); (Valtonen, 1999)
- Refugee youth or 'the generation in-between' (Alitolppa-Nitamo 2001), refugee integration into host society (Korac, 2003).

Definition of integration

In the article of Blanchard K. (1991) which target Laotians in middle Tennessee, integration is defined mainly through reinventing culture (acculturation). The Laotian community had rethought traditional understandings of sport and leisure and the roles these ought to play in their new lives as Americans. This illustrates, according to the author, the fluid nature of culture and the way in which traditions are subject to constant rethinking and redefinition as ethnic groups struggle to manage their lives in the face of changing circumstances. The other article by Candappa and Igbini (2003) discusses the obstacles of integration rather than the process itself, and in particular the restricted nature of refugee children's social lives as compared with those of their peers.

Whilst other articles discussed integration in host societies in general terms, one of the articles (Russell & Stage, 1996) discussed the significance of leisure in trans-local context (refugee camp), specifically for Sudanese women.

Target groups

Most of the materials dealt with refugees rather than asylum seekers. The article by Blanchard (1983) focused on a well established refugee (Laotian) community whereas the more recent articles (Russell & Stage, 1996), Blanchard, 1991) tended to address other groups such as young refugees and women refugees in different localities, for instance cities (e.g. London) and in more remote locations, such as refugees camps.

The meaning(s) of leisure

Russell and Stage (1996) refer to leisure among Sudanese women in an extreme context (a refugee camp). The authors concluded that the meaning of leisure is dependent on the environment and life circumstances of the individuals. In this case for Sudanese refugee women leisure does not mean self-fulfilment and creative action, but it is a burden. "An abundance of meaningless free time, a thwarting of traditional role activities and a dependency on others, have stolen self-expression and become major enemies of their (the women refugees) daily life and culture."

Candappa and Igbinigie (2003) came to the conclusion that leisure time is dependent on the way the family defines gendered responsibilities for their children according to practices prevailing in the home country. In terms of friendship, the survey, conducted with refugee and non-refugee children aged between 11 and 14 in two London schools, points to more restricted social networks among refugees than among the other children. Additionally, and in relation to with whom leisure time is often spent, the restricted nature of refugee children's social lives as compared with those of their peers is evidenced in the survey.

In comparing the leisure participation of young refugees with their peers in urban contexts, both in host societies and the home country, Voskanyan (2003) comes to the conclusion that refugee' leisure is disadvantaged in comparison with that of longer-established capital city dwellers, partly due to the formers' more limited stock of households leisure equipment, and partly to their lack of relevant (in the cities) socio-cultural capital. However, the refugees' leisure was advantaged vis-à-vis that of age peers who were living in the provinces of their respective countries. Both refugee groups were likely to have gained leisure advantages as result of their migration to the countries' capital cities. That said, all main characteristics of the refugee's leisure were much more widespread throughout both countries. The leisure of all groups was characterised by a privatism that had spread with the decline of public sector leisure provisions, the dominance of consumer culture despite the populations' lack of spending power, and the absence of effective voluntary associations.

Sub categories

Cultural Heritage/gender roles

In terms of social role, greater responsibilities towards homes and families are assigned to refugee children in comparison with other children in the survey. The case study data indicates that a refugee child's home responsibilities were often gendered according to practices prevailing in the home country. A survey conducted by Candappa and Igbinigie (2003) points to more restricted social networks among refugees than among other people.

2.8 Conclusion and Overview

The question of integration of refugees and asylum seekers into host communities has tended to be discussed as a branch of migration and minority studies, rather than as a topic in its own right. One might argue that refugees, and even more so asylum seekers, represent the minority of the minority in that they face the same challenges and concerns that other established 'ethnic' minorities are facing in terms of cultural, social and economic integration. The other concerns which are also less evident in the literature retrieved relate to the specific migration status of refugees and asylum seekers in the host society and the effect of their status on their own needs for, and conception, of 'integration'. According to the systematic review results, the literature on the integration of refugees and asylum seekers tends to focus mainly on psycho-social analysis and health-related studies, which use positivist research paradigms, surveys and quantitative data to discuss the psycho-social condition of these groups tending to treat them as homogenous communities, rather than focusing on individual perspectives or pluralistic experiences of refugees and asylum seekers.

Even when a sociological approach is employed, the study of refugees and asylum seekers in the host community or society tends to be explained in relation to migration and minority studies, without taking into account the contemporary 'post-modern' challenges of global migration and the diverse experiences of refugees and asylum seekers in a more 'globalised' or 'translocal' world. This is evident in the limited number of research projects which focus on the individual biographies of refugees, including men, women, and accompanied and unaccompanied children. The other observation to make relates to the lack of consideration given to the question of 'integration'. How integration as a concept is applied or conceived may take different meanings for refugees and established ethnic minorities, on the one hand, and on the other, for asylum seekers, including those waiting for refugee status, or those who have been given leave to remain for humanitarian reasons, or are waiting to be deported.

When it comes to the issue of sport and social inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees, from the few articles that were retrieved, terms such as 'sport' (competitive or non-competitive) and social inclusion were absent. The situation of refugees and asylum seekers was more often discussed in relation to leisure and recreation than to sport per se.

We conclude thus that more research needs to be done in relation to the impact of sport, leisure and play, including the following themes:

- in the social interaction of refugees and asylum seekers (both as community and individuals) with the host community and society, including national minorities;
- the impact of a host society's culture of sport and leisure on the sporting and leisure needs and practices of refugees and asylum seekers (across gender and generations); sport and social insertion and socialisation of refugees into host societies (including their integration into a work environment as sport volunteers, sport coaches, athletes, professional players);
- leisure, sport and conflict resolution within refugees and asylum seekers communities in the host society.

- more attention should also be given to the use of sport, leisure and play for the psychological rehabilitation of asylum seekers (particularly unaccompanied children and teenagers) e.g. the use of sport and forms of play to help post war trauma treatment).

3. The Case Studies: the Research Approach

3.1 Introduction

The fieldwork for this report was undertaken in the period from April 2004 – December 2005³ with workshops held in December 2005 in Loughborough (at Loughborough University) on 6 December and in Glasgow (at the People’s Palace) on December 9.

The selection of the case study regions had been premised on two key factors:

- the Government’s asylum seeker/refugee dispersal policy which had resulted in considerable numbers of these groups being re-located in the three regions / localities;
- the evidence in each location, from our preliminary investigations of an emergent concern to use sport as a policy vehicle for social inclusion purposes in respect of asylum seekers/refugees.

In order to ascertain the level of interest in the nature of the project at national, regional and local levels, the research team had contacted over 30 organisations working in the educational and community sport fields, including national sports councils. With regard to the three case study locations, initial support and enthusiasm for the project at local/regional levels was unanimous. The principal organisations expressing support were: Sport England, **sportscotland**, Scottish Executive, Scottish Refugee Council, Scottish Asylum Seekers Consortium, Glasgow City Council, East Midlands Consortium for Asylum and Refugee Support, Voluntary Action Leicester, Amity Project–Leicester, Welcome Project–Leicester, Women’s Welcome Project–Leicester, Charnwood Arts, Welsh Local Authorities Consortium for Refugees and Asylum Seekers, Displaced People in Action–Wales and Sports Council for Wales.

The project proposal had identified a five stage approach to the project. The five stages were as follows:

1. Scoping of the activities in the region.
2. Selection of case studies
3. Conducting of fieldwork for each of the cases.
4. Staging of a workshop within each of the three regions to publish findings / conclusions from the field work, elicit responses and ‘check’ against the perceptions of key actors.
5. Writing up of a final report.

However when detailed fieldwork commenced it became clear that, while communities of interest existed to some degree among the disparate groups operating in this policy area in the East Midlands and Glasgow, the position in South

³ It had originally been intended to commence fieldwork earlier in 2004 but a delay in the issuing of contracts for this round of EYES meant that the start date for the systematic review and for subsequent case study fieldwork was delayed.

Wales was much more fragmented and despite attempts for example by the officers of the Welsh Sports Council to bring interested parties together there was a lack of organisational commitment to work together, or even to communicate formally or informally on what was being done in the field. There was what an officer from one prominent organisation described as “a mixture of apathy and inter-organisational jealousies which has resulted in organisations doing their own thing without reference to each other” (Interview 14 September 2004). It was therefore decided that in the case of Cardiff / South Wales, in place of formal workshop bringing together the various parties, the fieldworkers would test out ideas with the case study organisations and representatives of relevant organisations through one-to-one interviews and discussions. Though this was inevitably a more time consuming approach, there were relatively fewer organisations active in this region and this seemed to be the only viable approach available to the research team. In addition representatives from the South Wales organisations were invited (and financed) to attend the East Midlands Workshop.

3.2 Identification and Selection of Appropriate Case Study Projects / Organisations

The selection of case study organisations in each of the regions was intended to re-reflect

- voluntary and public sector initiatives
- a range of client groups including: children and young people; adults; males and females;
- a range of countries of origin of refugees and asylum seekers;
- a variety of sports and activities;
- organisations whose *raison d'être* was predominantly in providing for refugees and asylum seekers generic needs but which provided sporting opportunities, and organisations operating primarily in the sports field but which made provision for or fostered provision for refugees and asylum seekers.

In addition of course the inclusion of case study organisations was premised upon their willingness to participate in the project.

3.3 Data Gathering and ‘Top Down’ versus ‘Bottom Up’ Perspectives on the Organisations and their Work

The methods employed for eliciting information on the activities for the organisations involved a mixture of field observations, face-to-face and telephone interviews, and analysis of documents relating to the projects. It was decided fairly early on in the process that the case studies would reflect both the experiences of the refugees and asylum seekers as members of clients / beneficiaries of provision, and of managers / policy implementers charged with delivering services to this group. While in all three case study areas information was sought from both sets of stakeholders, the East Midlands and Cardiff studies placed a greater emphasis on the experience of the refugees and asylum seekers themselves, while the Glasgow study focused predominantly on the policy deliverers. Thus the studies involved both a ‘bottom-up, ethnographic approach to the problem while the Glasgow study opted for a more managerialist orientation. This ‘eclectic’ approach to data collection and analysis reflects the fact that the research was exploratory, rather than seeking to identify representative patterns of activity.

The analysis of observations in each of the three case study areas is provided below in sections four to six of this report.

4. The East Midlands of England

4.1 Introduction: the Policy Context in the East Midlands

In the East Midlands a range of local organisations charged with the dispersal and social inclusion of asylum seekers/refugees increasingly have sought to adopt policy responses that promote sporting activities as an aspect of social inclusion; yet, a number of difficulties or disparities remain in this regard. During preliminary research on this project, comments from representatives of the Leicester-based Amity Project and findings from recent research reports (Leicestershire Health Authority, 2001; O'Neill & Tobolewska, 2002; Refugee Action, 2002; Subhra, 2002) conducted in the East Midlands on asylum seekers/refugees illustrated the complexity of these issues. Kweku Amponah of the Amity Project pointed out that the vast majority of asylum seekers in the East Midlands are single people, aged between 14 and 40, many of whom are relatively "fit and healthy; yet, they have no organised outlet for their physical capabilities" (Interview: 6 August 2003). In respect of sporting provision in Leicester, he suggested that there had been no co-ordinated effort to provide sporting activities for asylum seekers and refugees, apart from a summer scheme initiated in 2002.

This is not to suggest that policy-makers had ignored the issue in the East Midlands. A number of 'multi-agency forums' had been set up, comprising voluntary groups and departments from the City/County authorities. The Leicester Forum convenes monthly in order to provide a form of co-ordinated provision in, for example, housing, employment and health matters. Yet, at the time of the research, personnel from the local authorities involved with sport/leisure provision had not attended the forum. However, it should be noted that there has been positive collaboration between agencies working on behalf of asylum seekers/refugees and Leicester City Council, in that the latter provided 'leisure passes' for use at the city's sport/leisure facilities. With regard to sporting activities as a 'relevant need' for asylum seekers/refugees, Mr. Amponah emphasised that:

Regardless of what the asylum seekers' needs are, if there was some sort of [sport] programme, or some concerted effort to ... publicise the fact that there was some kind of sport provision, they [asylum seekers/refugees] would be there. (Interview: 6 August 2003).

One example of the type of initiatives called for above was the VAL/Amity-inspired 'sports leadership training course' set up in conjunction with Leicester City Council, which not only provided sporting activity but also aimed to address wider educational development concerns e.g. positive thinking and self development; which has "more to do with who you are and how to give ... certain leadership skills than the sport itself" (Interview: 6 August 2003). Interestingly, the Local Government Association (LGA) has provided policy guidance on the value of sport and cultural activities in *Guidance on Community Cohesion*. Under the report's section entitled, 'Asylum Seekers, Refugee and Travelling Communities', it states that:

Local authorities, working with local partners ... have an important role to play in seeking to facilitate the integration of newly arrived communities ... this may best be achieved through information sharing – by publicising the community and leisure activities that can be accessed locally. (LGA 2002: 26).

This example reveals that, while policy outputs such as the LGA report may signpost good practice, the reality 'on the ground' may be somewhat different. The implication being that, in general, the nature of service provision for sport/leisure activities for

social inclusion purposes within an holistic educational framework, in respect of asylum seekers/refugees, draws attention to a potential 'gap' at the local level. This is also signalled in a report by Gersh Subhra, 2002 (Senior Lecturer, University of Derby) entitled, *Refugee Needs and Gaps in Services – Derby, Leicester and Nottingham*, which draws attention to 'Ideas for Service Developments', one of which is that:

Various agencies could be involved in organising more leisure, sports activities, visits to see other parts of the country-side and the establishment of groups to counter the stress of living in either a large hotel with lots of people and noise or in isolation within the community (Subhra 2002: 71, emphasis added).

Moreover, a report by O'Neill & Tobolewska (2002) entitled, *Towards a Cultural Strategy for Working with Refugees and Persons Seeking Asylum in the East Midlands* found that access to sports, leisure and cultural activities was one of a series of changes that these groups would like to see happening (O'Neill & Tobolewska 2002: 11). Interestingly, given the title of this last report, while Leicestershire County Council's *Cultural Strategy* notes the potential of the 'arts, culture, heritage, media and sport to enhance the quality of life', it contains no specific acknowledgment of the particular needs of asylum seeker/refugee groups (Leicestershire County Council, 2002: 14).

Health-related and quality of life issues had also been highlighted by Dr Mehdi Barghchi, founder of the Welcome Project-Leicester and Women's Welcome Project-Leicester, which provide forums for asylum seekers/refugees to begin the process of integration through various educational settings. With Home Office funding, over the previous two years the Welcome Project had set up two summer scheme projects for asylum seekers and refugees, a key aspect of which centred on providing sporting activities (Personal communication, Dr Mehdi Barghchi: 12 September 2003; see also Refugee Action 2002; Leicestershire Health Authority 2001).

From this brief preliminary review of the East Midlands case, it was clear that sport/leisure/cultural activities were beginning to emerge as a potentially powerful tool in helping to shape social inclusion policies in respect of asylum seekers/refugees. However, few statutory bodies explicitly acknowledged the value of sport for social inclusion purposes at a policy guidance level. One exception, which we have already noted, was the Local Government Association (LGA), which argued that:

Art, sport and leisure services can be a powerful tool to engage all sections of the community and to break down barriers that exist between them. People take part in leisure and cultural activities through choice and marginalised groups are often more willing to engage with such activities than other locally/nationally government funded activities (LGA 2002: 31, emphasis added).

Given the policy relevance of 'sport and leisure services' in helping to 'engage all sections of the community' as identified in the above statement, one aspect of this research is to investigate the potential for the type of (policy) disparities highlighted by the rhetoric of the LGA, for example, and the reality of evidence on the ground at local/regional levels. A further related aim of the research was to consider the potential for collaboration between organisations and sectors in order that the disparity highlighted in the Leicester example might be addressed with greater clarity. In this regard, the LGA draws our attention to the value of 'Sport and cultural activities [to] provide an opportunity for "joined up working" with other public and voluntary agencies seeking to address social issues, which contribute to community

cohesion' (LGA 2002: 31). The notion of joined-up working, or 'joined-up policy-making' between central government departments, non-departmental public bodies (for example, Sport England) and the private and voluntary sectors, is a theme central to the Labour Government's mandate; a theme, moreover, that is particularly apposite here. The finding of the empirical work undertaken in the East Midlands Region do highlight the complexity of inter-organisational involvement, and thus the requirement for an evaluation of the efficacy of collaborative, or joined-up approaches

4.2 Policy Initiatives and Case Study Organisations

The six case study projects investigated in the East Midlands were drawn from Derby, Leicester, Loughborough and Nottingham, and were a mixture of voluntary sector-led and public sector-led projects. Each of these projects is described in summary form in a table (Tables 4.1-4.6) and discussed in more detail in the sections below.

Madeley Youth and Community Centre, Derby

Table 4.1: Madeley Youth and Community Centre (Derby)

Origin of the project: Initiated by two youth workers (one of them a refugee from Northern Iraq) at Derby's Madeley Youth and Community Centre. Targeting Kurdish asylum seekers.

Objectives: Initiating football games, and socio-cultural activities to bring together Asian British and Kurdish asylum seekers, to initiate a dialogue with the aim to decrease tensions between the two communities. Furthermore, to reduce criminality and violence by strengthening shared religious (Islamic) values.

Partners: A partnership between Derby City Council, Madeley Youth and Community Centre, Police authorities, Derby Kurdish Association, Pakistani community in the Normanton area.

Actions:

- Organisation of Kurdish asylum seekers community around the Derby Kurdish Association. An association initiated with the support of youth workers at Madeley Youth Centre, as part of the regeneration scheme, with the aim to initiate a dialogue between representatives of Kurdish asylum seekers and the Asian community in the Normanton Area.
- Establishing a Kurdish football team called 'Azzardi'
- Organisation of football tournaments between Asian and Kurdish youth
- Integration of Kurdish and other refugee football players into Asian football teams
- Encouraging both Asian and Kurdish youth to get involved in organising sporting and social activities.
- Facilitating the access of Kurdish asylum seekers to local leisure facilities
- Offering opportunities for training
- Integration of Kurdish asylum seekers into British (multicultural and multi-racial) culture, including sporting culture (e.g. cricket and rugby).
- Establish a channel of communication between local police authorities and minority groups. Most of the sporting initiatives in the area were sponsored by the local police authority and the local youth centre

- Inviting the Kurdish community to join with the local Muslim community during religious occasions (Friday prayer, Aid prayer, Ramadan) to strengthen common religious values. The sense of belonging to a common religious identity (Islam) is seen as stronger than that of belonging to a national grouping (UK).

Major Obstacles:

- Lack of volunteers. Two volunteers both of them full time youth workers at Madeley Youth and Community Centre.
- The pervading atmosphere is of mistrust and misunderstanding between Asian youth and Kurdish asylum seekers due to day to day tensions.
- Lack of knowledge among members of the host society (Asian minority) about asylum seekers status in the country, and of the difference between refugees, asylum seekers and economic migrants which prevent them from fully comprehending the circumstances and 'life conditions' of the newcomers.
- Lack of communication between the local authority and local communities about the dispersal policy for asylum seekers in the region.
- The status of Kurds in the Normanton area (most of them are asylum seekers waiting for their refugee status, but some, having had refugee status rejected, choose to remain in the country as illegal immigrants).

Positive Elements of Sports:

- Presented as being a useful tool for initiating a dialogue and thus decreasing tensions between the two communities and establishing a channel of communication between the police authority and communities which may contribute to crime prevention in the area.
- Sport is employed by the Kurdish asylum seekers in Derby to build a link with the Kurdish Diaspora in the UK (through the organisation of football matches and tournaments).
- Obtaining the financial resources needed for sporting activities does not seem problematic in the Normanton area.

Criteria of Evaluation: Unlike Local Authority initiatives such programmes are not required to produce statistical data. Evaluation is thus based on personal observation.

Source: Documentary sources, and interview with Youth worker at the Madeley Youth and Community centre in Derby.

The project is located in the Normanton area in Derby, an area known for its high crime rate⁴ as well as its significant concentration of British Asian population and 'newcomers', asylum seekers and refugees (mainly Kurdish Iraqi). The area has experienced a new type of violence in recent years, characterised by inter-ethnic minority clashes⁵ between British Asian youth and asylum seekers from Northern Iraq. It is worth emphasising that the integration of refugees and asylum seekers into the host society is usually discussed in relation to minority versus majority, as if it is taken for granted that established minority groups, because of their history of migration and the difficulties they themselves went through to integrate into the host

⁴ <http://www.saferderby.org/news3.htm>

⁵ For more details see the BBC news article "Asylum tensions 'fed by rumour'" <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/debysire/3332879.stm>.

society, will be more open to the hosting of refugees and asylum seekers than the majority. Here we have an example of tensions arising between two minority groups. On the one hand there is as a 'well established' minority group, its members having a historical and cultural tie with the host society; on the other hand, a minority of asylum seekers, 'newly established' with different cultures and experiences of migration. Most of these newcomers end up in Derby as part of a national dispersal programme for asylum seekers in the UK⁶. The other major difference lies in demographic characteristics. While British Asian minority is diverse and composed of nearly three generations (ranging from grand fathers, the first generation of immigrants typically the 'holders of tradition', to third generation, the symbol of translocal culture and of western-Asian hybridity), the majority of members of the Kurdish community are young and single, and, for them, western culture with its multicultural, multiethnic make up, democratic tradition, and individualised (secularised) view of social order is a new experience. They have different aspirations too in that they are a community striving for full (cultural and political) recognition in the national space, and one which strives for its basic need of refuge to be acknowledged.

In contrast to other case studies in the East Midlands, sport has been utilised in the Normanton area to tackle two types of problem. One use of sport (which is shared with other case studies investigated) promotes the social integration of asylum seekers into the host community. The second, uses sport to curb urban violence and to decrease tensions between the two minorities which share the same religion but differ in terms of culture, religiosity, citizenship and social status.

Yeah...Ramadan is coming ...you know when we break the fast ...for this centre to get Pakistani and Kurdish people together ...they are all Muslims ...we shouldn't be doing this...that one way ... A Pakistani who works with me is organising ...it is going to be this Ramadan...again through that you break down barriers...apart from sport ...one good thing...what we get in common with them is our religion ...which to me is the most important thing...I am a Pakistani...but first of all I am a Muslim ...that's how I see it ...and lot of people when you talk about Islam we have got something in common ...we become related

Volunteers arranging football sessions for Kurdish youngsters have to face different challenges, as is evident from the interviewee's responses to interview questions:

1) Youth workers have to play the role of intermediaries between the two communities. They use football as a vehicle since it is popular among both communities. However, such uses have limitations due to the physical nature of confrontation involved (as with other contact or invasion sports) so setting teams against one another has to be guarded against. Nevertheless, used appropriately, it can foster an environment of dialogue and mutual understanding:

we can organise a cricket game with them and try to bring them into the sport... there are other sports such as rugby and tennis ...but at the moment they are just interested in football...I asked them if they do anything else if they practice a sport which no member of the community plays...like a Kurdish sport ...traditional sport...and they said no...they are just interested in football ...it is very limited what you can do with them.

⁶ Dispersal for asylum-seekers (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/551880.stm>)

Different views...some lads say that they don't like them ...but if you go and talk to the people who play in the same football team as them ..they will say that they are very good lads ...they are not all bad...the people that don't communicate with the Kurdish people they're the ones who see them as dangerous (hanging around in the corners)...they are just messing about ..with our girls...these kind of views...if you don't know someone...if someone is just standing their you can just have different views about them...just by looking at them physically...but when you communicate with someone...then you say hang on I shouldn't stereotype this person because he is different or he is not talking to me ...that's how it works...you can always stereotype someone...but when you start talking to them you can see that they are not bad persons.

...they can see that sport can help in breaking down the barriers...we get to meet each other ...sport is a good way of communicating with people ... last year there was a Pakistani football team (playing Sunday league) with some Kurds amongst them

2) A second goal is to organise the Kurdish youngsters in an association with a moral entity accountable to local community, local authority and the society. This may be a difficult endeavour for two main reasons: a) the nature of asylum status (they cannot assume an independent individuality because of the restricted civil and civic rights); b) the psychological nature of Kurd asylum seekers, for whom the state (symbolised in *Saddam's regime*) is conceived as an obstacle to their personal fulfilment in their host society:

The status of Kurds in the Normanton area is in itself an obstacle for integration. Most of them are asylum seekers waiting for their refugee status, or their refugee status was rejected by the authority and they choose to remain in the country as illegal immigrants, or they have been granted leave to remain on humanitarian basis. This explains partially the unwillingness of asylum seekers to get involved in what they see as British culture. For instance, training, learning the language or to take part in other (unknown) sporting activities.

This is evident in the account of the interviewee..

The Kurdish community itself suffered quite a lot ...what happened to them under the regime of Saddam Hussein ...they seem to think that everybody is like that, everybody is against them. They get quite angry...they are very ...when you communicate with them ...they seem to think that you are after something ...even when you asked them 'how are you?' they get a bit defensive.

... a lot of tension is arising ...because they think that they will go back anyway ...the 'I don't care' attitude because 'I am going back anyway' ...the police aren't bothered ...even the short time that they are here they have to obey the law...you are in another country ...when I organise these meetings I talk to them about the law and how they should present themselves ...explaining that the laws of this country are different ...the group that I am working with are 40...they are all decent people ...they don't cause trouble...but there are more things to be done. With limited workers there are more things to be done.

3) A third issue to address is the fact that the local British Asian population feels that the policy of concentrated asylums locally is unfair.

we feel as Pakistan community that they [City Council] always seem to let the asylum seekers come to Normanton and not go to different areas of Derby ...Derby city council has to take responsibility ...there are too many asylum seekers in Normanton...the rest of the city should be held responsible for segregating people in different areas

The rationale is that because it is mainly populated by minority populations they may think that it would be easier for the Kurds to integrate?

That's just policy which makes them (local council) happy...they want to keep minority people together ...there are more tensions between minority groups than there are between minority and majority.

4) A fourth issue highlighted in the case study is the difficulty in working in an environment characterised by complex asylum issues. This may have to do partially with the differences in the history of economic migration of Asian minorities and the 'forced migration' of Kurdish community.

They don't have that sort of training ...that why some of the tensions arise ...there was a meeting 6 months ago where landlords from the Pakistani community came and said they're not renting their houses to Kurdish people...that's how far it got ...don't let them in to our shops ...don't sort of help them in any way ...which I think is unfair, because it is only minority that causes trouble...in every community...you got Pakistani lads who cause trouble with Pakistani girls...we have been stereotyped as Pakistani by British people and now we are stereotyping someone else...we should not be doing that'.

Finally it is worth noting that the police have supported and even organised locally a number of football competitions, recognising such events as a means of reducing local tensions.

The Derby Bosnia-Herzegovina Community Association, Derby

Table 4.2: Derby Bosnia Herzegovina Community Association

Origin of the project: The Bosnian Community Centre was established in 1996, following a demand made by the Bosnian refugee community in Derby to have their own self-administered association. There are about 8,000 Bosnian refugees living in the UK, 450 of them live in the East Midland Area.

Objectives: The aim of the Bosnian-Herzegovina Community Centre (BHCC) is to work as an intermediary between the Bosnian community and the local authorities, to facilitate their integration into the British society and their openness towards the local host community. The priority of the centre is centred around issues such as housing, education, and protection of the community from violence and racist abuse. The BHCC targets families, adults and dependent children.

Partners: Local Council, Derby Refugee Advice Centre.

Actions: the centre has been arranging 5-a side football sessions, football and basketball tournaments with other refugee groups and members of the local ethnic community. The Bosnians have their own basketball team playing in the regional league as well as a folkloric dance club (popular among girls).

Major obstacles:

- The Bosnian community faced some problems at the beginning mainly due to language barriers and difference in cultures (Muslim coming from an Eastern European and ex-communist country)

- Different system of local governance – the system of governance in the host country (Britain) is decentralised, which makes a request for funding from the right authority a complex task for a newly established association. Distribution of financial and material aid tends to be selective, often targeting established associations with long experience. Most of financial aid is channelled through the local authority and it is often difficult to get the funding required by the organisation for sports tournaments (e.g. to cover the expenses for transport, hiring of facilities and referees).
- Sport can have some divisive characteristics if it is not applied in the right manner and context. For instance, the first Bosnian teams which participated in local sporting tournaments felt a sense of rejection (even hostility) from other local participants as a result of their difficulties in communicating in English. On some occasions they had to withdraw from games to protest against lack of protection from referees and excessively 'aggressive' play by other teams (particularly those composed of 'English' players).
- It is suggested that after ten years of presence in Derby, the Bosnian community still has problems in interacting with the local host community, mostly with the younger generation (15-17) of English 'white background'.
- Difficulty experienced by young Bosnian talented sportspersons integrating into local sports clubs. The only example of integration was the basketball team which plays in the local league. The popularity of basketball in the home country (ex-Yugoslavia) gives the Bosnians an advantage over the local players. They are more accepted because of their standard of play. However, to avoid conflict and to not to be identified as Bosnian refugees, the team has chosen to have an English name – 'SHADOW'
- Young generations of Bosnians despite being fluent in English and holding citizenship of this country still feel like 'foreigners'. This sense of isolation or 'foreignness' is more marked among Roma Bosnian. They feel subject to double prejudice, by virtue of their refugee status, and of their distinctive Roma culture. They tend to be less active due to their particular lifestyle. Most of the younger members are married at the age of 16-17, which may be seen as an obstacle for integration.

Positive elements of sport

- Sport is conceived as a universal language that can break down cultural and linguistic barriers
- Effective tool for the integration of refugees into host community and can build positive relations with other established ethnic minorities
- Participation in conflict resolution: sport and the English context has facilitated the reconciliation between the ex-Yugoslavian nationalist groups. The leader of the BHCC points out that it is easier to organise a football game between Bosnian and Serbian refugees in England than in the home country. The two groups tend to forget their nationalist and religious differences and concentrate more on their new, shared identity, that of refugees in Britain.

Recommendations

We can summarise the recommendations of the BHCC leadership in terms of the provision of sports activities for refugees and asylum seekers as follows:

- It is preferable to target ethnic communities as whole and as part of a general programme of integration rather than targeting communities separately. This can create some tensions. One group (particularly refugees) may be seen as more privileged than others (the local host community). In the interviewee's terms the financial support should come from big sporting clubs rather than from local voluntary associations which are usually managed by parents from the local community, and who tend to focus more on the problems of their own local population
- Joint activities with the local community should be encouraged. It is even recommended to have a mixture of participants from different communities because this brings a greater sense of security and avoids, particularly for Bosnians participants, to be singled out as 'Bosnians – Muslim -refugees'.

Source: Documentary sources and interview with the leader of BHCC in Derby.

The Derby Bosnia Herzegovina Community Association⁷ is an example of a rather more established community, having been in existence for 10 years. However, although it has experienced some success in building links with the wider community, it also had to face some problems:

Regarding the question of integration of Bosnians into local sports clubs, it has been a difficult task. ...they (Bosnians) need to be 2-3 times better than English players to be accepted in the team... The only example of integration is a basketball team which is now playing in the local league. The popularity of basketball in the home country gives the Bosnians an advantage over the local players. They are more accepted because of their performance. However, to avoid conflict and not to be identified as Bosnian refugees, the team has chosen to have an English name – 'Shadow.' (BHCA Project Advise Worker)

Sport is seen at the BHCA as “a universal language that can break down cultural and linguistic barriers” but it can reinforce such barriers if it is not applied in the right environment. The first Bosnian teams which participated in local sporting tournaments experienced a sense of rejection (and even hostility) from other participants from the local community because of their difficulties in communicating in English.

'On some occasions we had to withdraw from the game to protest against the decision of the referee and the excess of 'aggressive' play of other teams (particularly those made of English players). ... English teams tend to be more 'physical' in their game and do not find it easy to accept defeat particularly when the opponent is a Bosnian refugee team'. (BHCA Project Advise Worker)

However, in contrast to other cases such as the Nottingham based Algerian Association, intra-group difficulties were not evident on the sports field, in fact sport was even seen to aid conflict resolution in ways in which would be almost impossible in the country of origin:

It is easier to organise a football game between Bosnian and Serbian refugees in England than in the home country. The two groups tend to forget their nationalist and religious differences and concentrate more on their new shared identity- refugees in Britain. (BHCA Project Advise Worker)

Nevertheless integration or adaptation to local circumstances was always likely to be more difficult for some groups than others:

Young generations of Bosnians despite being fluent in English and holding citizenship of this country still feel like 'foreigners'. This sense of isolation or 'foreignness' is particularly evident among Roma Bosnians. They feel that there is prejudice against them, both because of their refugee status and their distinctive Roma culture. They tend to be less active because of their particular lifestyle. Most of the younger members are married at the age of 16-17, which may be seen as an obstacle for integration. (BHCA Project Advise Worker)

The issue of the twin effects of Bosnian and Roma identity is one which needs to be considered more fully. Roma groups have often been outsiders in the communities which they have left and carry forward that outsider identity into the new context.

⁷ <http://www.bihcommunityderby.co.uk/en/services.htm>

Voluntary Action Leicester: Asylum Seekers and Refugees Sports Development Project

Table 4.3: Voluntary Action Leicester, Asylum seekers and Refugee Sports Development Project

Origin of the project: The project was developed during the summer scheme programme of 2002, when it was identified that sport was a significant tool in the engagement and cohesion work undertaken with the asylum seeker community. The next stage was to recruit a core of participants who would best represent the organisation's aims and objectives. As it was, footballers of varying abilities and backgrounds came forward. It was soon noted that some of the players were of notable calibre, including people who had played professionally in their own countries, and in one case, had been an international athlete.

Objectives:

- To positively reflect and enhance the standing and the ability of refugees and asylum seekers
- To run courses for client groups, particularly in the areas of sports coaching, leadership and management with a strong emphasis on citizenship.
- To promote, develop and support sporting projects, amongst the refugee and asylum seeker community in Leicester
- To uphold equal opportunities, to work towards the elimination of all discrimination, and strive for good relations amongst all members of the community.
- To utilise our own network to act as a referral agency for other projects and services
- To recruit and develop volunteers and encourage them to utilise their skills in their communities
- To liaise with statutory, non-statutory, voluntary organisations and academic institutions to produce policy documents looking at sports provision locally and nationally
- To fundraise locally and nationally in order to achieve our aims and meet objectives

Value: belief that disciplines and abilities used by individuals in their sports training and development can be adapted to other aspects of their lives; improving self-confidence, health and empowerment (in making informed choices for asylum applicants and refugees' future).

Actions 2003-2004:

- Represented Leicester in the Unity Cup co-organised by 'Kick-it-out', finished runners-up
- Winners of Leicester 7's competition
- Streetleague champions
- Took part in Leicester F.C.'s Community Days at Walkers stadium - Worked in partnership with British Sports Trust, Amity Project, Voluntary Action Leicester, NIACE, Probation Service and Y.O.T. among others
- Co-ordinated and managed the South African team for the Leicester celebrations of South Africa Day (10 year anniversary) Score: South Africa 4 England 3
- Gained qualifications to teach through the Sports Leadership Award
- Organised various tournaments around the city inviting teams from different parts of the country
- Co-ordinated teams for FAR (Foxes Against Racism⁸)

⁸ FAR was set up following the visit to Leicester of the National Football Task-Force in 1997. The Task Force received evidence from professional organisations and local community groups in Leicester and made references to the East Midlands visit in its final report. A local task force was set up in Leicester to deliver locally the recommendations made to all football clubs and local groups in the report. Eventually this task force evolved to become Foxes Against Racism (FAR). FAR has received funding support from Leicester City Football Club, Kick It Out, the Professional Footballers Association, Leicester City Council, the Sir Norman Chester Centre for Football Research at the University of Leicester, the Leicester Mercury, BBC Radio Leicester and from UNISON. We have also received support from individual funders. For more information see Foxes Against racism web page (<http://www.le.ac.uk/far/>)

Types of sports activities : Football, swimming, basketball, table-tennis, netball. Provision of leisure pass (free membership card) to access leisure centres.

Target: Asylum seekers and refugees (both genders) in the region of Leicester

Partners: Leicester City Council, Leicester Racial Equality, De Montfort University, Voluntary Action: street league, Professional sports clubs.

Evaluation: Based on the results of interviews conducted by the ISLP research team with the leader of the Voluntary Action Leicester, Asylum seekers and Refugee Sports Development Project

Positive elements

- Sport can actively participate in the building of self-esteem among refugees and asylum seekers.
- For asylum seekers it is a means of mental and physical healing.

Major obstacles :

- Lack of funding needed to organise regular sports activities, hiring of facilities, and provision sports kits.
- lack of managerial skills needed to put a good application forward are constraining refugee groups from participating (difficulty in meeting the local council criteria for funding)
- Discontinuity in the level of participation

Recommendation

We can summarise the interviewees' recommendations as follow:

- Targeting refugees and asylum seekers (as sports people and not as distinct groups) as part of the general scheme of social inclusion and community cohesion
- Flexibility in terms of funding. Thinking of creative ways on how to engage refugees and asylum seekers team without expecting them to have a management committee, structure etc. The cost of monitoring the financial grant sometimes is even higher than the grant itself, thus there is a need to find the right balance to ensure that applicants do not lose out to criteria and policy
- Encouraging commercial involvement as long as that any involvement would have to be on the general basis of social inclusion
- There is a need by the government and local authorities to reconsider the unifying force of sport, thus the need for more encouragement of local initiatives that mobilise sport as a means of community cohesion in general and the integration of refugees and asylum seekers in particular.

The third case study relates to the Asylum Seekers and Refugee Sports Development Project (ASRSDP) in Leicester. This differs from some of the other projects which can both be characterised as 'self help' projects, since ARSDP is an initiative under the auspices of Leicester Voluntary Action providing services for its 'client' group. The organisation focuses on sport as its primary vehicle for working with refugees and asylum seekers, and uses sport as a means of drawing refugees and asylum seekers into social networks.

The group has focused predominantly on football but has also used netball as a vehicle for reaching female refugees. The group has been particularly successful in competitive sport, winning or doing well in a number of local football competitions. It was recognised that if refugees were going to be introduced to a local club it was

best to identify clubs struggling for players. This was done so that new players were seen from the start as a contribution to a solution to the club's problem, rather than being seen as a 'problem' of integration to be dealt with by the club.

One of the aims of the project is also to train refugees and asylum seekers to gain sports leadership qualifications which can make them more job ready whether or not they wish to work in sport, since gaining the qualification itself tends to boost self esteem and confidence.

The project would also like to see self sustaining groups develop but the lack of managerial skills, time resources, or permanency of situation on the part of the refugees and asylum seekers themselves tends to mean that much of the time of the project worker is taken up in organising on behalf of such groups, or making applications for funding on their behalf. The bureaucracy involved in obtaining grants militates against any refugee group applying without professional assistance.

Sports Link, Loughborough: an Initiative by Charnwood Arts

Table 4.4: Sports- Link – An Initiative by Charnwood Arts (Loughborough)

Origin of the project: In the early summer of 2001, a number of street disturbances occurred in towns and cities in England involving large numbers of people from different cultural backgrounds. In response The Government set up a ministerial group on public order and community cohesion to investigate why these disturbances took place and how to achieve and promote better community cohesion, based upon shared values and a celebration of diversity. A review team, led by Mr Ted Cattle gathered the views of local residents and community workers in the affected towns and cities to identify why the disorder was happening and made recommendations on how to prevent it. The Neighbourhood Renewal Unit tabled a paper on developing and maintaining cohesion in communities that had experienced disorder or those who were considered at risk. The paper proposed the employment of community facilitators to consult with their communities, and work towards achieving community cohesion through a number of engagement activities.

Objectives: An initiative by Charnwood Arts which part of its agenda is to improve community cohesion – bringing people together. Therefore, it is responsible to co-ordinate various multi-cultural activities including Sports- Link.

Partners: A partnership between Charnwood Arts, Sport England, Charnwood Borough Council, Charnwood Racial Equality Council, Leicestershire Constabulary, and Charnwood Council for Voluntary Service.

Actions: The Sports-Link Project Officer's job is to co-ordinate with all these partners to provide sport and recreational opportunities to young people and their families focussing on Community cohesion issues over a 5-year period.

Also, work closely with Charnwood Borough Council, Loughborough University and other mainstream facilities to provide opportunities for Refugee and Asylum seekers to take part in activities run by mainstream providers.

Major Obstacles: Since sport is a relatively new area in the remit of Charnwood Arts, they are still looking for more and better ways of developing such activities. In fact a sport development plan is currently being drafted to give more structure to current and future initiatives.

Positive Elements of Sports:

- Presented as being a useful tool to achieve community cohesion
- Positive feedback from target groups regarding initiatives
- Health-related benefits linked to such activities
- Educational benefits in terms of increased awareness about particular groups in society such as asylum seekers

Criteria of Evaluation: Unlike Local Authority initiatives such programmes are not bound to produce statistical data. Instead the Project Officer submits a personal report periodically to monitor the project's evaluation to date.

Source: Interview with Sports-Link Project Officer and internet sources available at: <http://www.sportslink.info/>(Charnwood Arts, 2003)

Sports Link is a spin off from the Charnwood Connecting Communities project which was created in 2002, coordinated by Charnwood Arts, and supported by key organisations including Charnwood Borough Council, Charnwood Racial Equality Council, Leicestershire Constabulary, and Leicestershire County Council. The project focused initially on 9 areas of Charnwood to identify and explore issues and processes that either promote or act as a barrier to community cohesion locally. The project employed facilitators to carry out consultation work through a series of creative programmes. The Sports-Link Project was one which was developed in response to this consultation exercise.

Charnwood Arts, through the Connecting Communities partnership secured funding from the government's Active Communities Development Fund to employ a Sports-Link Project Officer on a 5-year contract to develop sport and recreational opportunities focusing on cohesion and access issues. The original project rationale included in the funding application laid stress on the role the Sports-Link project might play in developing cross-cultural networking and participation across Charnwood as well as promoting local sport more generally. Another aim of the project was also to develop and influence mainstream practise in terms of access, engagement, promotion and cultural awareness.

The Sports-Link Project Officer who has been in post since August 2003 describes her role as one of,

working in partnership with other individuals and agencies focusing on bringing people together through sport and recreational activities, celebrating differences, and working with communities to open access to opportunity.

The project seeks to develop or assist others in developing, schemes which will promote links between different communities or promote access for disadvantaged groups. Thus Sports Link has promoted the Global All-Stars football team which incorporates refugees and asylum seekers with young local people. It has also run courses for Asian Women in terms of aerobic exercise for those on GP referral schemes, promoted participation in local leisure centre activity among Bangladeshi males, and have cooperated with the university in promoting single sex sporting environments for Muslim girls.

The project is still developing and although its piecemeal approach allows it to attack a variety of problems or target a variety of client groups, the Project Officer suggest that developing on-going projects which will be taken forward by the community groups themselves should be the priority.

Dreamers Youth Project, Loughborough

Table 4.5: Dreamers Youth Project-Loughborough Youth Centre

Origin of the project: Dreamers is a Leicestershire County Council Youth Work Project. The Project was established in May 2002 By Selim Aslandi, a young asylum seeker from Kosovo and youth worker Andrew Lake. A weekly programme of educational and social activities is run by this group. Today, Dreamers weekly meetings attract between 20-40 young people. Over 60 young people are on the database mainly coming from Kosovo, Albania, Afghanistan and Iraq.

Objectives:

- to provide support to young people and aid them in the development of skills and knowledge needed to develop a successful life in Britain
- to provide advice on issues of immigration, benefits, housing issues, legal matters and understanding agencies and how to make good use of them
- to create a safe and relaxed environment for these young people to come together for discussion sessions, games, 'hanging out' etc.

Positive Elements of Sports:

- A tool to negotiate differences with the host community
- an effective way to initialise socialisation
- creates a relaxed environment where young people can share their experiences

Major Obstacles:

- lack of parental figures distorts reality/ loneliness
- language barriers
- bidding for funds is a long and tedious process sometimes not even worth the time and effort

Criteria for Evaluation: The youth worker has to produce a report for every bid he gets granted after completion of that particular initiative.

Source: Interviews with Youth Worker Andrew Lake and three youths

Dreamers is a Leicestershire County Council Youth Work Project. The Project was established in May 2002 By Selim Aslandi, a young asylum seeker from Kosovo and youth worker Andrew Lake. A weekly programme of educational and social activities is run by this group. The programme is specially designed to provide support to the young people and aid them in the development of the skills and knowledge needed to adapt successfully to life in Britain. Advice is also provided about immigration, benefits, housing issues, legal matters and understanding agencies and how to make good use of them. Today Dreamers weekly meetings attract between 20-40 young people. Over 60 young people are on the database and mainly come from Kosovo, Albania, Afghanistan and Iraq.

During fieldwork for this case study, face to face interviews were organised with three young unaccompanied refugees. The access was facilitated by youth workers in charge of Dreams projects at Monfields Lodge Youth Centre. The interviewees (a refugee from Kosovo, student at Loughborough College, studying sport studies, and a player in a local football team, and his friend a refugee from Albania) were 19 years old. The interview themes focused on:

- Personal experiences in the host society
- Sport/recreation and leisure needs and interests (before and after arrival)
- Levels of practice of sport/leisure and recreation activities (positive and negative impacts)

The main aim of the interview was to understand the sporting needs of refugees and asylum seekers and see how recreational and leisure activities and sport in particular had helped them to integrate in their host community. By integration we mean, socialising with other young refugees or young people from the host community (decreasing tensions, establishing links) and developing general well being (improving their day-to day life in their host community).

The interviews showed that non-accompanied teenagers (asylum seekers and refugees) are less reluctant, than their adult counterparts in other case study organisations, to negotiate links with the host community, and sport (not necessarily in competitive sense but on a more recreational level). In these cases it was seen as a helpful tool. One can argue that the feeling of differences at least from other teenagers in the community is reduced by the sentiment of having a shared globalised culture (Mc Donald's, Nike, Hip Hop and Urban culture...).

It is not only about spending leisure time...you get to know people...you make your social life more interesting...the aim is not playing football...is just to go and show that we are not different people ...if you stay out of society you will be seen as different ...and they will treat you differently...but if you go and socialise with them and go out with them ...they will look at you the same...(refugee from Albania)

However, the absence of parental figures (some had lost parents in civil wars, others had left relatives in their home country), and of language skills to express their emotions are the major obstacles to their personal fulfilment. It is worth emphasising that the youth workers in this context have to not only go through their usual day to day tasks but also to meet the challenge of playing the role of an older brother/sister and sometimes a substitute for the parental figure.

If you are living alone ...every one lives on his own ...for myself when I started playing in the football team I did not like it ...because it was only me I had to cope with things ...to do my washing...every thing has to be done by one person...and then you had to play football ...after my training ... I eat outside ...I get really tired (refugee from Albania).

it was hard to make friends ...we were all together playing in the park ...and people came over to play with us sometimes ...we did not speak English ...it was hard for us to know people ... we were living in the same house ...we all speak the same language ...we used to go and play in parks , because there are no other places...people were looking at us, watching us ...and they were interested to join us ... It was very hard in every aspects sport, social life ... very hard (refugee from Kosovo)

Loughborough Youth Centre's Support Project for Young Refugees and Asylum Seekers, was instrumental in combining games (sport in the general sense of play) and arts⁹ in the psychological rehabilitation of young asylum seekers and refugees. The significance of providing a relaxed environment¹⁰ where refugees and asylum seekers can meet, eat together, play and talk about their personal issues is of paramount importance in the process of re-building the feeling of trust and sense of togetherness (broken by the war in the home country):

9 The arts element of the project includes for example, the publication of Land of Dreamers, a Charnwood Arts creative consultation by cartoon, where newly arrived refugees and asylum seekers were asked to produce a cartoon, with the help of a professional artist, to express their emotions in relation to events in the home country and to reproduce their daily life experiences in the host community.

10 It helps also the researcher to get a sense of the field and close contact with interviewees.

yes it was ...through play you get to know people ...is like having a cup of coffee ...you get to know the person (other young refugees) better ...this is the best way... Youth workers have organised for us a day out for skiing I really like it. (young refugee from Albania) .

The Algerian Association, Nottingham

Table 4.6: The Algerian Association in Nottingham

Origin of the project: The Algerian association in Nottingham was officially established in 2002. It has actually 200 members including refugees, asylum applicants and non refugees.

Objectives: to bring Algerians together; organise social, sporting and educational activities, for adults and their dependent families.

Activities: weekly indoor and outdoor football sessions for Algerian immigrants, refugees and asylum seekers; organising sporting activities (mainly football and Martial arts) for dependent children.

Funding: mainly from the local scheme as part of different development and integration scheme (e.g. Neighbourhood Renewal, crime prevention...), in addition to self (leader and members) funded activities (for booking of facilities and organisation of tournaments)

Positive elements: the importance of the positive (mental and psychological elements) of sport and the role that it can play in breaking the state of isolation and depression that an asylum seeker or a refugee is going through during his/ or her stages of settlement.

Major obstacles:

- Absence of specific targeting strategies that target the specific sporting needs of refugees and asylum seekers.
- Lack of co-ordination between different governmental and non-governmental agencies.
- A feeling of incompatibility between refugees association's needs and the administrative requirements for funding.
- The status of asylum applicant, which make the integration of talented asylum seekers into sporting clubs a difficult task (the impossibility of obtaining a work permit)
- The lack of representativeness at the level of local city council. Refugees are usually presented by members of established ethnic minorities (Asian/Afro-Caribbean) who have different history of immigration, and coming from different cultural and religious traditions. They are not fully aware about the specificities and the real needs of refugees and asylum seekers. It should be noted that most of refugees and asylum seekers in the region of Nottingham are coming mainly from Africa, Iraq, and Albania.
- A feeling of discouragement resulting from the incomprehension of the decision makers or normal people about the real situation and needs of asylum applicants.
- The negative role of the media in creating a distorted image about asylum seekers and the hostility and prejudice that this image can create among the community.
-
- Dependents children are more enthusiastic about practicing sport activities, but the level of participation, particularly in relation to girls, depends on the cultural readiness of the parents to allow their children to participate in sport. Thus, culture, or the sense of insecurity which results from unfamiliarity with the new cultural setting, can be another obstacle for participation in sport.

Recommendations

We can summarise the recommendations of the interviewees in relation to the provision of sports activities for refugees and asylum seekers as follow:

- Refugees and asylum seekers should be targeted as ethnic minorities rather than distinctively in order to reduce rivalries between communities.
- The role of the authorities should be contacting associations, under different schemes and for the association themselves, based on their own particularities, should choose to take part in the event. In other words sports initiatives should not be imposed. The role of the local authority and other government agencies will be more efficient if it is turned toward general supervision and motivation (e.g. facilitate access, flexible procedures in the delivery of work permit for talented asylum applicants)
- More acknowledgement of the diverse needs of refugees and asylum applicants. According to interviewees, refugees are experiencing more diverse and complex problems than other citizens.

Source: Based on organisational documents, and interviews with the leader of Algerian Association in Nottingham, as well as members, including an Algerian refugee and an Asylum seeker from Congo.

The Algerian Association in Nottingham has been in operation for two years, and in this organisation, interviewees recognised the important physical and psychological contribution of sport:

'There is a need for sport...sport can help to break the isolation of refugees and asylum seekers even some of their family members...if there is within the community a team playing every Sunday ...let me waste my time instead of sitting alone ...meeting other people , playing around ...try to break up the isolation, and the misery that you going through for that particular time...sport is very important , particularly for people who are going through stress...' (Congolesse asylum seeker)

At the level of integration into the wider community, asylum seekers in particular – because of their tenuous opposition – were less able to make contact with wider social groups in the host community.

Political tensions from the homeland sometimes surfaced on the sports field so that the consequences of exposure to sport were not always positive.

'When you play Algerians against Algerians there is always tension ...we bring the anger of the country with us...what was happening in the country is still in the minds of people ...playing football is a way to express your anger ...we are the only team ... that always end up with fights or somebody bleeding ...' (Algerian leader of Association)

The pressure to do something of a sporting nature in this group came from the members themselves, but problems of coordination with the local authority meant that access to grants or to facilities was difficult to negotiate:

'We tried to organise a football game last March through the NDC New Deal For the Community ... they have been given five million pounds to regenerate the area...they are supposed to work to alleviate the level of poverty in the area...we told them give us the means and we will organise 10 or 11 teams involving different communities Algerians, Kurds, Somalians, Eritreans, the Congolesse from Kinshasa and from Brazzaville, Ivory Coast...' (Algerian leader of Association)

The bureaucracy of grant aid application for such groups was a difficulty cited by all organisations reviewed who dealt with refugees and asylum seekers. In addition interviewees pointed out that the representatives of these groups at local authority level tended to come from established ethnic minority groups and therefore did not have a full appreciation of the real needs of their members.

Amongst the major beneficiaries of sporting activities provided were children of refugee families, but there was some conservatism in respect of allowing girls access to such activities:

'We organise every Friday prayer programmes for kids...we do martial arts ...one of the activities that we saw the kids are really enthusiastic about it...one hour football one hour martial arts...there are only boys because there is another mentality about the girls ...although they are young ...they practice sport in school but parents do not allow them to attend the activities organised by the association ...people when they come here they try to keep their culture...even when the activities are centred around education (home work sessions) ...it is a mentality'. (Algerian leader of Association)

4.3 Conclusions

In each of the case studies which were based in the cities of Nottingham, Derby and Leicester, a range of benefits of sport for refugees and asylum seekers were identified, together with some problems in provision. The evaluation of refugee and asylum seeker's experience of policy can be summarised as follows:

1. There is a demand from refugees and asylum seekers themselves for access to sporting opportunities though probably not in the early days following arrival where other preoccupations such as health, housing and security dominate.
2. Sporting activity is recognised as being able to provide benefits at the individual level of health and psycho-social well-being.
3. Sport can play a role in increasing the levels of interaction between refugees and local host communities, and thus in decreasing tensions and misunderstanding, but there is also room for the increase of tensions unless sporting situations are managed appropriately. Mixing teams so that an 'us and them' mentality does not develop would be an example of situation management to reduce the possibility of tensions arising.
4. Where refugees are introduced into clubs, this is likely to be more successful where such an influx can improve the viability of the club (in terms of numbers) or the success of the club (in terms of available talent).
5. Team sports provide the greatest potential for the greatest number of people to interact with host communities, however individual participation within established teams should not be underestimated.
6. While funding may be available from various sources the bureaucracy associated with making an application discourages applications from even the more permanent let alone the more transient refugee and asylum seeker groups.
7. The dominant sporting practices will tend to be associated with male participation predominantly, thus care may be required to ensure gender equity.
8. Sports leadership training can be useful as a source of training volunteers, but also as a means of enhancing other competences (e.g. language and communication skills), improving self esteem and enhancing employability.

5. The Cardiff and South Wales Case

5.1 Introduction

In Wales, the Welsh Local Authorities Consortium for Refugees and Asylum Seekers is a key facilitating body for the co-operation of a range of stakeholders to enhance and co-ordinate services and support to meet the needs and aspirations of asylum seekers and refugees. The stakeholders include statutory, voluntary and private organisations, as well as involving asylum seekers/refugees and refugee organisations. The consortium operates through a structure that includes a broad range of different agencies and organisations both at a national level, and also locally in each of the four NASS (National Asylum Support Service) designated cluster areas of Cardiff, Newport, Wrexham and Swansea. The Consortium's manager is fully supportive of this proposal and has stated that 'From my observations, and [from] what I hear, sport is valued highly by asylum seekers – both football and also swimming and gym and other sports' (Personal communication, 5 September 2003). An organisation called Displaced Persons in Action (DPIA) has supported much of the sports activities involvement throughout Wales to date. A significant example of the use of sport in Cardiff was the introduction of 'sport and leisure grants' (Cardiff County Council 2003). These grants will be allocated 'To assist the development of sport in the local community with particular regard for young people' (Cardiff County Council 2003). The County Council's Leisure and Lifelong Learning Service considers applications for this purpose, one aspect of which is the potential for targeting specific groups, with 'refugees' listed as one of the groups on the grant application form (see also, University of Wales, Swansea 2003).

5.2 Examples of Sport Initiatives Targeting Refugees and Asylum Seekers

Swansea World Stars Football team

Table 5.1: Swansea World Stars football team

Origin of the project: The Swansea Bay Asylum Seekers Support Group (SBASSG) is a community group run by asylum seekers, refugees and other local people. The group was set up in 2000 when the 'dispersal' policy was announced.

Objectives: To improve conditions for asylum seekers and refugees, to improve public understanding of refugee and asylum issues; to lobby service providers and policy makers; and defend asylum seekers threatened with deportation to places which are manifestly unsafe for them. *In October 2003 SBASSG won a Welsh Diversity Award 2003 for Best Organisation (Youth Category), awarded by Black Voluntary Sector Network Wales*

Actions: SBASSG organise regular get-togethers and occasional social and cultural public events; assist families and individuals in crisis; work with organisations in the voluntary and public sectors.

Funding: Swansea Bay Asylum Seekers Support Group

- **January 2005** The Swansea World Stars football team has been awarded a grant by the Communities First Trust Fund (ref. CFTF 1-0666) to pay for kit and equipment and other expenses up to £3,600 over the next 12 months. The grant will be managed by Swansea Bay Asylum Seekers Support Group.

- **In September 2004** awarded a grant from Comic Relief, of £10,000 a year over three years.

- **In summer 2004** awarded a grant of £5,000 from Swansea Council,

- **In summer 2002** SBASSG received a grant of £4,500 from the Home Office Refugee Integration Unit for 'purposeful summer activities'. (some of the was used to establish the Swansea World Stars football team).

Swansea World Stars football team (S.W.S): The soccer team was founded in spring 2002. After a season in Swansea Bay Race Equality Council's Zebra League (2003-4), S.W.S. is now in Swansea Senior League division 4.

Major obstacles: Lack of funding and volunteers

Positive elements of sport: Sport can help asylum seekers to keep fit while they are waiting for their case, which according to the interviewee this may take months or years. Sport can help them to occupy positively their time and prevent them from committing any crime.

Source: Interview with a Volunteer from SBASSG and the captain (asylum seeker from Sierra Leone) of the Swansea World Stars football team. For more information about the team see also SBASSG web page (<http://www.hafan.org/>)

The Swansea World Star case is quite different from the case studies described in the East Midlands. There is a deliberate choice by the participants, mainly asylum seekers, to participate in a competitive football league. The reasons for this are mainly:

a) They wish to differentiate themselves from other (heterogeneous) ethnic minorities in Swansea. Playing football is becoming a way for asylum seekers to express their 'exclusive' status in the host society, and competitive sport, playing to win, symbolises in a way their distinctive struggle for recognition.

Yes, at first when I moved to Swansea we had accommodation with different people and there were a lot of boys in there. People just sat there worrying about their fate. We only used to go out on a Monday to go to the post office and collect our support relief. The rest of the times the boys just stood around doing nothing, watching TV so one day I gathered them all around and told them 'listen, we're going to kill ourselves out of worry, worrying about the future and what will happen. The best thing is to go and kick a ball' (asylum seeker)

b) Competitive sport is seen as the shortest way to what asylum seekers perceive as mainstream British-Welsh culture. Participating in a competitive league is the beginning of some sort of 'normalisation' process, resulting from symbolic recognition by the host community of asylum seekers' presence in a distinctive physical space, that is a football pitch (at least for the time of a football game). Accepting the rules of the football game, even if they are institutionalised by a small local league, is an occasion for the asylum seekers to show their willingness to obey the law of the host country.

Our main aim is to prove to the community that yes we are refugees and asylum seekers but we are here to do good things and we're doing that through football...(asylum seeker)

The choice to play competitively however does not come without its own problems. Some of these issues raised by the interviewees (volunteer from SBASSG and the captain of Swansea World Star) can be summarised as follows:

(i) Rivalries with other minorities groups and organisations

The team started to play first in the 'Zebra league', a league which was initiated by Racial Equality Council predominately for ethnic minorities groups in Swansea. According to the interviewee the Racial Equality Council in Swansea was reluctant to support the refugee team as those in charge of ethnic minorities in Swansea looked at asylum seekers and refugees as 'new comers' hence 'new competitors' in accessing the already limited sources of funding.

To protest against what they perceived as an unfair treatment by the Swansea Racial Equality Council, S.W.S FC decided to drop out of the Zebra League and to join the Swansea (fourth division) football league.

(ii) How to tackle rivalries within the team?

The other point that was raised during the interview is the role and responsibility of the team manger. For the interviewee (volunteer in SBASSG) it is in the 'best interest' of the team to have a 'white' coach, rather than one from the asylum seeker and refugee community or from British ethnic minorities. The presence of a 'neutral' coach from the host community is seen as a helpful aspect in decreasing inter-ethnic rivalries within the team¹¹.

(iii) Lack of training

There is a feeling that regional refugee organisations are reticent about dealing objectively or impartially with 'national' problems of social integration when it comes to organising activities for refugees and asylum seekers. One of the interviewees goes as far as accusing some of the regional organisations of being more concerned with their own prestige than with meeting local needs, and suggest there is a lack of professionalism in relation to the management of events in general and sport management in particular.

(iv) Football as a tool of integration into mainstream British culture : 'no to victimisation'

The other motivation according to the interviewee was the wish of the refugees and asylum seekers to be in contact with what they see as mainstream white British or Welsh culture, since most of the teams playing in the fourth division are from 'white backgrounds'.

Integration into the fourth division has not been trouble-free. The principal interviewee talked about regular incidents of excessively aggressive play and racists chanting (anti Arab and Anti- Black) that the team had to face in every away game, particularly when the opposing team was losing. Moreover, the traditional social events which usually take place after the game, drinking and sharing a meal at a local pub, did not always achieve the objective of increasing interaction between players from the host region and refugees and asylum seekers away from the football pitch.

Oh it's normal, ninety minutes you are enemies (you have to face a hostile environment) but after that you are friends. You shout a bit but then we go to the pub together. Every time we play at home we take all the players to the pub after that for a chicken curry

¹¹ It is worth noting that the two most influential persons in the team are an asylum seeker from Sierra Leone (Black Africa) and a refugee from Northern Iraq. Both leaders are said to tend to favour one group over another (African over Kurdish players or vice versa).

etc...so they (opponents) usually are curious to get to know us better. They tell us what a nice team we have and what we're doing...I mean we try as much as possible to communicate with the other players. It's a positive experience overall.

(v) Funding and asylum status : the main obstacles?

The team has to pay for every home game £37 to the league, £9 for referee, £40 for a meal after the game and £5.50 for laundry. For a team composed mainly of refugees and asylum seekers these sums of monies are just impossible to maintain. Regarding this point, the principal interviewee acknowledges that there are many funding schemes out there, but they are hard to target ...not specific enough and too demanding (asking for detailed information about types of expenditures required). Furthermore, they have different parameters which change over time.

Because we're playing in Division 4 now, we tried to contact everyone asking for sponsorship. ...the players have got no money and sometimes we need to travel for games.... At the beginning we had so many problems which have to do with insurance, kits, equipment, transport etc..

(vi) General Considerations

Taking into account the lack of financial support, and the divisive nature of competitive sport, one might ask whether the route of competitive sport is the best option for the integration of asylum seekers and refugees into the host community. Significant problems arise from a competitive context, such as:

- the restrictive rules of the game (number of players, time...), do not allow the participation of all players;
- the lack of coach's awareness/competence in dealing with the complexity (pedagogical, didactic, sociological and psychological) of coaching a team involving refugees and asylum seekers, in other words the lack of a much needed educator/trainer to balance between socio-psychological well being of players and the competitive objectives of the team.

Having a coach representing 'majority' culture in the host community is not enough. To be attentive to the particular socio-psychological demands of refugees and asylum seekers, a team manager who has both the training and experience of a football coach and that of a social worker, is required.

The other difficulty cited here but which is shared by all of the case study organisations investigated, is funding. For SWS this financial difficulty is made worse. They have to face two types of inequalities, social and economic. As a refugee / asylum seeker group they have little personal disposable income, while the team itself because of its lowly status in the fourth division has little access to other sources such as sponsorship.

Even the limited prospect of targeting local sponsors had been undermined as a result of the bad publicity that Swansea had received after the assassination of *Kalan Kawa Karim* (a Northern Iraqi refugee) (BBC News, 2004) ¹².

12 http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/south_west/3646436.stm

see also "Racism 'common' in city – claim" (<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/wales/3639502.stm>);

Cardiff Zimbabwean Association Football team

Table 5.2: Cardiff Zimbabwean Association football team

Origin of the project: Displaced Persons in Action initiative

Objectives:

- The relief of people who are displaced due to hostilities, persecution, oppression, discrimination, natural disasters or other like causes, and their families and dependants suffering need, hardship and distress.
- The advancement of their education.
- The provision of facilities for recreation and leisure-time occupations in the interests of social welfare and in order to improve their conditions of life

Partners: Welsh Refugee Council and organisation called SOVA (Supporting Others through Volunteer Action) – provide mentoring services and one-to-one sessions for asylum seekers and refugees.

Funding: DPIA has received project funding from The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and The Community Fund. The children's work is funded through Children in Need.

Actions:, offering opportunities for training, activities, educational visits, and special projects, working in partnership with other voluntary organisations. Involve asylum seekers and refugees in decision-making regarding project design, implementation and evaluation.

Coordinating with Swansea Refugee World Star, Refugee Football team in Newport, Zimbabwean and central African football team in Cardiff.

Football team of Cardiff Zimbabwean Association:

Aims:

- centred around social goals
- Strengthening the sense of togetherness (Zimbabwean)
- Using football team as a forum of debate and a tool to disseminate information

Funding:

- Still in the initial stage of applying for funding with the support of DPIA.
- Examples of targeted foundations, Barclays Bank sport kits scheme (Barclays Spaces for Sports)¹³.

Activities: Organising football games with other local teams; playing in Church league

Criteria of evaluation: Absence of monitoring mechanisms. The lack of leisure passes distributed make it harder to evaluate the number of refugees and asylum seekers participating in sport and leisure activities.

Recommendations:

- More focus on Health-related fitness
- Increase the social awareness of sporting organisations about the refugee and asylum seekers needs

¹³ <http://www.barclays.co.uk/spacesforsports/kit.htm>

Source: Interview (13/11/04) with DPIA community development worker; member of the DPIA management committee (used to run DPIA football team and other sporting activities e.g. swimming); Chairman of the Zimbabwean association; Zimbabwean refugee

The DPIA used to run a football team of asylum seekers and refugees, playing in the Cardiff District Football Association. However, the team was disbanded as a direct result of; lack of funding, a lack of volunteers (one social worker in charge of the team), and the difficulty of coping with maintaining a consistent number of players for the team with the dispersal of asylum seekers in different regions.

Thus, DPIA through its supervision of the Cardiff Zimbabwean Association football team is aiming at repositioning itself as a credible association in the region, specialised in the provision of facilities for recreation and leisure-time occupations for refugees and asylum seekers in Cardiff:

A few days ago I was presenting some ideas to Cardiff City council to see if there could be some kind of service level agreement or some kind of levy on the amount they would charge you to use the astro-turf and leisure centres. I think it's the Swansea All-Stars who are doing that already. They have an agreement with Swansea City Council and they let them have it at a reduced price and that is sort of their way of showing that they're committed. They're not giving you money but they give you the hiring of facilities for free. This is an idea that I had today so I'm calling on organisations to put their money where their mouth is and do something positive... There's a lot of potential isn't there...sitting here chatting makes me realise how much we can do. We're quite lucky in Wales in the way the funding works which is separate to England so accessing funds is easier. And we have a sports development officer for Wales who we can get in touch with to get access to this little pot of funding. (DPIA community development worker)

The Cardiff Zimbabwean Association¹⁴ shares the same ambitions as Swansea World Star (S.W.S) that of establishing a competitive football team representing the Zimbabwean community in Cardiff, with the aim of reuniting Zimbabweans, of different political backgrounds, under one organisation. In comparison to S.W.S priorities are directed towards a more internal social role which is strengthening the sense of togetherness, as part of the Zimbabwean diaspora in the UK. There is an explicit intention of those in charge of the team to prioritise social objectives over competition:

...at first we thought it was going to be a one-off activity but the response was so positive. They started coming in and we realised that we need to keep the team there. There are people who keep to themselves and they don't want to interact but the sport brings them together. It's different. It's a totally different kind of life than the one we have in Africa so it ends up being more than sport, because we share problems and ideas. The team is made of Zimbabweans. Basically, the Zimbabwean Community in the UK is quite big and there are teams all over the place (chairman of the Cardiff Zimbabwean Association)

'The main idea behind this is that we might get to play other Zimbabweans from across the country like in Birmingham, Coventry, Luton, Bristol because there are teams in all these places. The intention is to have tournaments and move and play other Zimbabwean... We say we are Zimbabweans regardless if you're an asylum seeker or refugee or an

14 Is a refugee association Member of Refugee Voice Wales (composed of 45 refugee communities)

academic. The bottom line is that we are Zimbabweans so let's come together as brothers and sisters. Zimbabwean...When we started this organisation I informed my community that this has to be a community-led thing because they're like a baby. If there is a refugee or asylum seeker we encourage him and go out of our way to make sure he participates in such initiatives to make him feel part and parcel of what we do. Because when we're playing we don't think of the status if he's a refugee or an asylum seeker (chairman of the Cardiff Association) .

there isn't much space for people to meet in the community like this soccer team where the passing on of information is much easier. That's why we identified a soccer team as one of the best vehicle to disseminate information because some of us are not even that skilful in football. Ours is more for social and recreational purposes. Our soccer team is the meeting point for everyone. Then if other players feel confident they can move on to more professional teams.(Refugee)

we made it clear from the beginning that this team is more for social rather than competitive purposes. We wanted to bring as many people as possible in the beginning so that everyone can play. The talented ones will be taken aside (to better teams)and the rest of the team will continue to function as a social team (Refugee)

Interviewees were asked whether any activities were organised for Zimbabwean women by the organisation. The responses suggested that little thought had been given to this issue, and leading figures in the organisation were not well informed about local possibilities. Women's roles in the organisation were secondary: they should "initiate programmes of their own" ... they tend not to be "heavily involved in sports", but they are "always present when we play". The patriarchal nature of the organisation is evident in such comments.

Interviewer: What about activities for women?

Refugee - Women are adults, you know they can come along and initiate programmes of their own.

Chairman of the Cardiff Association (CCA) - As far as women are concerned, from when they were back home they weren't that heavily involved in sports. But there are other issues that come into play as well like their role within the family makes it difficult for them...Having said that they are always present when we play and I'm sure that when we start playing in a proper tournament their participation will come even more strongly. It would not be a soccer team it will end up being an enterprise. ...Back home they used to play netball but I have never seen netball here...

Interviewer: Oh but netball is very big here!

Refugee- I've never seen it socially, in parks or anything else..

Social worker- Most netball courts are in leisure centres

CCA- So this could be something we could work on...it's a challenge

Social worker – definitely, send in any women who are keen on playing netball and we'll arrange for them

CCA- I know they do...I can promise you that they will come along because they are proficient in netball. Especially now that we will move into leisure centres ourselves I'm sure they will feel more confident in accessing these places even on their own

Refugee-I'm wondering also how we can perhaps gain access to rugby for the children. It may be a way of integrating them into a mainstream British sport ...

Social worker- There are a lot of after school clubs playing rugby. So maybe it could be an idea to approach these clubs and tell them can we work together? can we bring our children along? And contact other sport development workers to see how these people (all

refugee children) can access rugby... so this is something else that Refugee Voice can think about.

The other point worth mentioning, one which has been neglected in other cases, is the role that sport, not as a form of physical activity but as a form of culture and lifestyle, can play in strengthening the sense of unity and togetherness among an ethnically and politically heterogeneous community. This was eloquently put in the following comments:

So tensions might have been there in the beginning but we have come together since we have emigrated to Cardiff. It is so much easier to put away your differences (between tribes) when you're away from the politicians that continuously drum up hostilities. I think Africa will benefit so much from the second and third generation who have lived here and will go back. Africa will gain so much...because the perspective have changed so much, they could see things differently... I don't know how much you'll be able to convince people with your research that sport does bring people together because when you tell someone from Britain 'sport brings people together' they will not understand...it's just fallacy! But when you talk about Africans and their backgrounds, and sport bringing them together you will see the difference. Don't bring Africans to a politically charged thing because they are highly political, don't bring them in when they need to discuss things in a tension-led field but a way to break the tension is sports...Back home it was the tribe that determined which team you should support whereas here it has moved away from that and now it depends on the desire to see the style of game you like. People from different tribes are now supporting the same team (Arsenal or Manchester). They picked them based on their playing skills...Back home we could never do that because your father would say that it's taboo in his house and will not let you mention it (Zimbabwean refugee)

5.3 Conclusions

The two case study organisations in the South Wales region display markedly different approaches. The first is looking to building bridging capital between the refugee groups and the host communities by performing in a shared realm, that of competitive sport. The financial costs of doing so place a heavy burden on the organisation and this, together with the requirement to maintain internal cohesion with a diverse membership of the team, represent the major challenges. The second is focusing on sport as a vehicle for internal cohesion of the Zimbabwean community. The primary source of identity here is that of the Zimbabwean national identity, and ethnic and associated political divisions which may have assume prime importance while in Zimbabwe, are no longer primary identity markers of the group. Sport provides a means for sociability rather than an arena for performance, melding groups together despite former rivalries. Whether all Zimbabweans are incorporated in this process is challengeable. Women in particular are, as yet, only background figures in this process, as partners / spouses and spectators rather than full participants, reflecting as one interviewee indicates, the patriarchal nature of the "situation back home".

6. The Glasgow Region Case Studies

6.1 Introduction and Policy Background

This report presents the findings of five case studies, interviews with representatives of strategic organisations (e.g. Scottish Executive, Scottish Refugee Council) and a workshop in Glasgow, all undertaken in the autumn/winter of 2004.

The aim of the study was to explore ways in which sport has been used to promote the social inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees. More precisely the objectives were to assess policy and practice across the public and voluntary sectors in Glasgow and identify good practice upon which practitioners/policy makers can draw for future decision-making.

In April 2000, Glasgow City Council entered into a five-year, £101 million, contract with the National Asylum Support Service (NASS) to provide housing and support for asylum seekers sent to Glasgow under the Home Office dispersal initiative. Under this scheme, asylum seekers have no choice as to where they are sent. By February 2004, 5,587 asylum seekers were living in NASS accommodation in Glasgow, while it is estimated that there are around 10,000 asylum seekers and refugees living in Scotland. The asylum seekers in Glasgow are mainly housed in what is classed as 'void accommodation'; which Glasgow City Council is unable to let in Sighthill, Red Road, Kingsway, Castlemilk, Toryglen, Cranhill. In addition, a number of other areas also house smaller numbers of asylum seekers (SRC Briefing, September 2003).

The asylum seekers and refugees housed in Glasgow come from about 30 different countries, with 40 per cent being women. In a Glasgow population of 577,869 (Census 2001), approximately one per cent of the population are asylum seekers and refugees. In total, 6.5 per cent of the Glasgow population is non-white.

In July 2003, 1,700 positive decisions were made on those seeking asylum - approximately one half chose to remain in Glasgow.

6.2 Research Approach

The research included:

- Five case studies reviewing the role of organisations involved in delivering sports activities to asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow;
- Interviews with representatives of strategic organisations involved in sport and supporting asylum seekers and refugees; and
- A workshop held to explore issues already identified and to extend the data collection process.

The case studies were undertaken via face-to-face and telephone interviews with organisers, deliverers (e.g. coaches/leaders) and participants in sports activities.

Due to a lack of continuity in some activities (because of non-availability of coaches/leaders, or lack of transport to take participants to venues), fewer interviews with participants were undertaken that anticipated.

The five case studies were (see Table 6.1 for summary information):

- Kingsway Court Health and Wellbeing Centre
- Maryhill Integration Network

- Operation Reclaim
- Scottish Asian Sports Association
- Venture Scotland

Selection of Case Studies

The Scottish Executive, the Scottish Refugee Council (SRC), Scottish Asylum Seekers Consortium, **sportscotland** and Glasgow City Council Cultural and Leisure Services Department were contacted to obtain details of the organisations and projects providing sporting opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees.

The five were selected because they:

- Represented a range of different types of organisations (statutory and voluntary services, with input from commercial organisations);
- Provided a range of sporting opportunities (indoor, outdoor, countryside sports; team and individual sports); and
- Provided opportunities to a range of participants (males and females; children, young people and adults).

Table 6.1 below presents a summary of the work of the organisations included in the case studies. The findings from the case studies are presented throughout the report and are referenced where necessary.

Table 6.1: Summaries of case studies

	Kingsway Court Health and Wellbeing Centre	Maryhill Integration Network	Operation Reclaim	Scottish Asian Sports Association	Venture Scotland
Location	Kingsway Court, West Glasgow	Maryhill, North West Glasgow.	Red Road flats, North Glasgow.	Glasgow (and other parts of Scotland)	HQ Edinburgh; Glen Etive Bothy
Background	c Approximately 800-900 asylum seekers and refugees are housed in the local area.	The network runs 5 International Meeting Places that provide a range of services. These services aim to support approximately 200-300 asylum seekers and refugees housed in three areas of Maryhill, including families and single people.	The Red Road flats are home to approximately 3,000 asylum seekers and refugees. Operation Reclaim was initiated by the police in response to high levels of disorder (gang fighting and assaults) in and around Red Road, and to a request from young asylum seekers and refugees for safe areas to play or take part in sport. This disorder was preventing residents from using the recreation area adjacent to the tower blocks.	Set up 14 years ago, SASA is a voluntary led organisation whose original aim was to provide opportunities for Asians to take part in sport. Over the last two years SASA has sought to provide opportunities for a wider population, including those from new communities in Glasgow (asylum seekers and refugees). SASA is about to change its name to reflect more accurately the wider target groups. It may soon become SEMSA – Scottish Ethnic Minority Sports Association.	Venture Scotland provides opportunities for young people to develop self-awareness and appreciation of the outdoors through weekend courses run at the Glen Etive Bothy on the west coast of Scotland.
Aims and Objectives	To create a multicultural meeting place, which celebrates diversity and seeks to reduce barriers of fear and ignorance, with a view to improve the health and wellbeing of the whole community.	To help alleviate poverty and promote the education of asylum seekers and refugees in the Maryhill area, promoting their settlement and integration into the communities of Maryhill.	To reclaim the recreation area for the residents. The police provided two officers to be on site from 6-9pm Monday to Friday. Cultural and Leisure Services arranged for organised sports activity to be provided during these hours.	To encourage Asian community to participate in sports with a view to developing better fitness health and physical skills particularly in Asian games.	To build self-confidence in participants, develop greater self-esteem and create friendship groups.

Sports	Football; basketball; country walks.	Football; Health and Fitness activities; swimming.	Football; basketball; dance; golf; and cricket.	Badminton; Cricket; Football; Hockey; Kabadi; Netball; plus school holiday programmes.	Walking, abseiling; rock climbing; raft-building.
Delivery of activities	Activities are delivered by a combination of volunteers, paid coaches and staff from the centre.	Activities are delivered by a combination of volunteers and paid coaches.	Hitsport (coaching services company) and the Scottish Rocks (pro basketball team) were contracted by Cultural and Leisure Services Department (CLS) to deliver activities.	Activities are delivered by volunteers.	This is a volunteer programme supported by staff from Venture Scotland.
Target groups	Young boys and girls; adults and families.	Boys and girls; adults females.	Residents of Red Road, particularly children and young people.	Focus on BME, although activity is open to all. All ages; male and female.	16-25 year olds at a turning point in their lives – homeless, leaving care, addiction, asylum, mental health, sexual orientation and education.
Funding	Funding provided through Scottish Executive; Scottish Refugee Integration Forum (£1,300 for two football teams); Centre's own budget.	Network budget plus additional support through Community Action Team and Glasgow Housing Association.	Multiple funding sources – Scottish Executive Widening Access Programme; Scottish Executive Local Action Funding; Scottish Refugee Integration Forum; CLS Mainline Youth Services; CLS Community Club; Glasgow Housing Association. Funding for Operation Reclaim is secured through to March 2005.	Grant aid from Glasgow City Council.	Unemployed Volunteer Action Fund; Scottish Refugee Council (now withdrawn); Children in need; Big Lottery; Community Fund.
Additional information		Some female residents have gone swimming independently and have obtained leisure cards.	The presence of police officers has provided a secure environment in which the residents feel safe.	Approximately 300-400 people per week participate in SASA sponsored activities.	

Strategic Interviews

In addition to the case study interviews, face-to-face and telephone interviews were undertaken with representatives of a range of organisations that have a more strategic role in supporting services for asylum seekers and refugees. Interviews were undertaken with representatives from: the Scottish Executive; Glasgow City Council's Cultural and Leisure Services Department; Scottish Refugee Council; Volunteer Centre Glasgow; and the Central Registered Body in Scotland.

Workshop

In support of the case studies and strategic interviews, a one-day workshop was held in Glasgow. The purpose of the workshop was to:

- Share interim findings of the research;
- Clarify understanding of the issues identified;
- Identify the importance and priority of issues identified; and
- Extend the consultation process.

Invitations to the workshop were extended to organisations involved in the study and to relevant organisations not involved previously.

Chapter Structure

This chapter is presented in five main sections. Section 6.3 presents details of the overall impact of the work undertaken by the case study organisations. It provides insight into the positive impact of sport on issues of social exclusion and the integration of asylum seekers and refugees into local communities. However, it should be noted that the evidence presented is mostly anecdotal in nature.

Section 6.4 will examine the main issues affecting the delivery of sport to asylum seekers and refugees. These are:

- Personal safety
- Funding
- Staffing and recruitment of volunteers
- Facilities
- Planning, performance measurement, monitoring and evaluation

Section 6.5 will explore issues concerning the needs, priorities and attitudes of asylum seekers and refugees.

Finally, Section 6.6 will present a summary and conclusion.

6.3 Sport for Asylum Seekers and Refugees and its Impact

It is important to understand the context in which sports activity is being provided to asylum seekers and refugees.

The study findings suggest that the provision of sport to asylum seekers and refugees was not a high priority, both within sport organisations and organisations supporting asylum seekers and refugees. For example:

- A senior officer with a strategic role in the delivery of sport indicated that until attending the workshop, they had not considered the issue of sport for asylum seekers and refugees.

- A lot of the sports opportunities targeted at asylum seekers and refugees are provided for by non-sport based organisations. These organisations' main areas of concern are welcoming asylum seekers and refugees to their new communities, supporting and providing advice on welfare issues such as housing, health, education, and work. Consequently, sport for these organisations is a lower priority issue.
- The provision of services to asylum seekers and refugees in Glasgow is still in its infancy. Many asylum seekers and refugees have arrived in Glasgow during the last two years, and organisations providing services (many of them voluntary organisations) are still in the process of building their capacity to provide services. Consequently, because sport is a low priority among some organisations, the provision of sport is still in its early stages of development.

Available Sport Opportunities

There are a number of sports activities being organised in Glasgow that are primarily aimed at the asylum seeker and refugee communities. These included opportunities to take part in aerobics, aqua aerobics, badminton, basketball, cricket, ethnic dance, football, netball, swimming, tri-golf, yoga, and a range of countryside activities (including walking, climbing abseiling, raft-building).

Despite this range of opportunities, these sports are not available to asylum seekers and refugees in all areas of the city. The activities are usually available to a limited number of people in specific areas and the activities are usually targeted at specific age groups (mostly children and young people). Organised sport opportunities for adult asylum seekers and refugees are very limited.

None of the activities provided by the case study organisations are solely for asylum seekers and refugees. All the activities are open to anyone that would like to take part. For example, in the case of Kingsway Court, the Maryhill Integration Network and Operation Reclaim, the activities are targeted at local residents. However, most of the participants in the activities are from the 'new communities', and in some cases none of the participants were indigenous Scots.

Attracting Asylum Seekers and Refugees to Sport Activities

Many interviewees were satisfied with the number of participants taking part in activities and the ethnic mix of the groups, including indigenous Scots. However, organisers indicated that it was much easier to attract younger participants (about 10-12 years of age) than older participants (those 14 years of age or over). Furthermore, organisers had greater success in attracting boys compared to girls.

There was a common view that, due to cultural differences, many parents may be reluctant to allow their daughters to take part in sport, hence the lack of female participants.

Some thought that a broader range of sports needs to be offered (other than traditional team sports such as football and basketball) if sport is to appeal to older participants and females.

Organisers

The activities were provided by a range of organisations. They included statutory service organisations (Cultural and Leisure Services Department of Glasgow City

Council) voluntary sports organisations (Scottish Asian Sports Association), other non-sport voluntary organisations (Kingsway Court Health and Wellbeing Centre; Maryhill Integration Network; Venture Scotland) and commercial organisations (Hitsport; Scottish Rocks).

Some of these organisations are not sport-based - sport is just one of a number of welfare services that they provide to residents in their areas, many of whom are asylum seekers or refugees.

Reasons for Providing Sports Activities

Interviewees offered a number of reasons for providing sports activities. In addition to direct benefits of participation in sport (e.g. health, fun), one interviewee commented that, “sport is hook that allows other things to happen”.

Venture Scotland use countryside activities for formal educational purposes – the activities are used as tools to develop the self-confidence and self-awareness of young people and as a way of helping participants to develop an appreciation of the outdoors.

Interviewees from Operation Reclaim indicated that sport was used for diversionary purposes – to keep young people away from gang cultures and drugs. However, most interviewees considered sport as a useful vehicle for bringing people together and making friends. This was considered to be of great importance in trying to find ways of allowing asylum seekers and refugees to integrate, particularly with people from other cultures. Some interviewees were aware of the concept of social capital and supported the idea that sport could contribute to bridging gaps between communities, both within the asylum seeker/refugee communities (e.g. African, Middle East, Eastern Europe communities), and between the asylum seeker/refugee community and the indigenous Scottish population. Examples of these outcomes are presented below.

Finally, most interviewees regarded sport as a fun activity that children and young people should have the opportunity in which to participate.

Although a range of reasons were offered for providing sport, few organisations had established any systematic approach to assessing if the activities had a positive impact on participants or the local community. Most were satisfied with anecdotal stories of the impact from participants and those involved in delivering activity.

Benefits of Sport in Addressing the Issue of Social Inclusion

There was widespread belief among interviewees that sport acts as a positive vehicle for addressing issues of social inclusion for asylum seekers and refugees. In each case study, anecdotal stories were provided about how the activities have had a positive impact on participants. These include:

- Breaking down barriers between asylum seekers and refugees and indigenous white population.
- Improving relationships between asylum seekers and refugees from different ethnic backgrounds.
- Providing opportunities to build self-esteem and self-confidence of asylum seekers and refugees.

Many interviewees offered the view that sport has the capacity to bring people together from different cultural backgrounds. Table 6.2 below shows the country of

origin of participants in a basketball session for children in Operation Reclaim. It is claimed that this diversity demonstrates the ability of sport to bring people together from different national and cultural backgrounds. These sessions include participants from the Middle East, Africa and Eastern Europe, with approximately one quarter of participants from Scotland.

Table 6.2: Diversity of nationalities in a basketball session at Red Road

• Afghanistan (2)	• Estonia (1)	• Scotland (11)
• Albania (3)	• Iran (2)	• Somalia (4)
• Algeria	• Kosovo (5)	• South Africa (1)
• Chechnya (1)	• Lebanon (3)	• Turkey
• Eritrea (3)	• Pakistan (1)	• Yemen (1)

Note: The number in parentheses denotes the number of participants from that country

Such levels of national diversity in sports activities were not uncommon. A football squad of 20 players, supported by the Scottish Asian Sports Association, was reported to have representation from 15 different countries, including players from Ukraine, Afghanistan, Congo, Bosnia and Croatia.

Although some interviewees indicated that there could sometimes be friction between individuals from different countries or cultural backgrounds, this was often no greater than would be expected in a session consisting of only Scottish players. However, there have been occasions when differences have resulted in groups choosing not to participate. In one basketball group there are no Scottish girls participating, because they did not get on with the asylum seekers and refugees.

In general, interviewees were confident that, over a period of time, the participants would begin to bond and develop mutual respect for one another. Interviewees at Operation Reclaim were proud of the impact the initiative had had on a 17 year-old Scot who was charged with racially aggravated assault two years previously. Following involvement in organised sport, the young Scot became friendly with asylum seekers and refugees with whom he now played football. His attitude to asylum seekers and refugees had changed because he got to know them personally.

Interviewees also provided examples where sport had brought people together. A 16-team mini world cup five-a-side football competition, organised by the Scottish Asian Sports Association, was considered to be a success in bringing together people from different national and cultural backgrounds. Furthermore, the event fostered positive attitudes towards different countries. Each team in the competition was randomly given a country to represent. The countries were from non-traditional football countries including China, Congo, Iran, Iraq and Pakistan. During the event indigenous white players and supporters cheered on Pakistan. The interviewee described this as a positive development.

One interviewee suggested that positive benefits of sport do not happen just because people from different cultural backgrounds are brought together. For sport to be successful in dealing with issues of racism and integration, “adults need to challenge young people on their behaviour that is unacceptable”. If unacceptable behaviour is not challenged, the opportunities for children and young people to develop positive attitudes towards people from other cultures is undermined. This comment led to criticism of the lack of race awareness training available to those providing sports (including leisure professionals, coaches, and referees). Furthermore, football referees and the Scottish Football Association were criticised for not taking a tougher stance on on-field racism, including action on racist comments. There was concern that referees sometimes chose to ignore racist incidents that should be challenged.

Despite these concerns, few interviewees experienced any serious problems when working with mixed-culture groups. It is clear from the case studies that organisers managed to bring together people from different countries and cultures (see Table 6.2). One coach indicated that people participating in sport would usually arrive at the activity in small, same community, groups. However, after a short period of time, and appropriate coaching (designing the session to ensure integration of all participants) the divisions would not be noticeable with everyone interacting.

Although most of the interviewees believed that sport has a positive impact on dealing with issues of social inclusion, some were of the opinion that it is *team* sport that offers the greatest chance of having a positive impact. One commented that "...team sport crashes through barriers". However the same interviewee was aware that in contact sports tensions can run high and conflict can arise.

Many interviewees believed that the ability of sport to contribute to social inclusion is because of its international appeal - an 'international language'. Although the interviewees acknowledged that this view was somewhat of a cliché and even though language differences may make verbal communication difficult, people can participate and interact.

Evidence of the Benefit of Sport

Despite the common agreement that sport might be an important tool in breaking down barriers and addressing issues of social inclusion, little substantial evidence was available. Few of the activities provided by organisations were the focus of any systematic monitoring or evaluation. However, it should be recognised that many of the organisations had low operating budgets and the sports activities they provided were a small part of their overall portfolio of services to residents and asylum seekers and refugees.

Many of the interviewees establish the success or failure of the activity through meeting with those delivering activity (e.g. coaches, leaders) and participants. They consider the feedback they receive sufficient to make decisions without using limited and valuable resources (staff time and funding) to undertake formal monitoring and evaluation.

6. 4 Factors Affecting the Delivery of Sport to Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Although the findings above suggest that the organisers are satisfied with the outcome of the sports activity, the study identified a number of issues that affect an organisation's ability to deliver sports activity to asylum seekers and refugees. The issues explored in this section are:

- Personal safety of asylum seekers and refugees
- Funding
- Staffing and recruitment of volunteers
- Access to sports facilities
- Planning, performance measurement, monitoring and evaluation

Personal Safety of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Safety is a key issue affecting asylum seekers' and refugees' participation in sport in several areas of the city. Interviewees and media reports indicate that many of them are concerned about their personal safety while living in Glasgow. This concern

follows a number of serious incidents, including the murder of a Turkish Kurd in the Sighthill area of Glasgow in 2001 and numerous other reports of serious assaults on asylum seekers and refugees. These reports include the stabbing of an Iranian asylum seeker in 2001, and another attack on an Iranian by a group of ten people in 2002, in which the man was stabbed and hit over the head with a bottle.

Along with the reporting of such incidents in the media, a recent Audit Scotland report showed an increase in the number of racially motivated incidents reported to police (Audit Scotland, 2004). Since 2000/01, there has been a 40 per cent increase in the number of reported racist incidents, while in Strathclyde there was a 48 per cent increase in reported incidents (see Table 6.3).

Table 6.3: Number of racist incidents in Scotland and Strathclyde

	2000/01	2001/02	2002/03	2003/04
Strathclyde	1,241	1,495	1,616	1,833
Scotland	2,705	3,115	3,338	3,787

Source: Audit Scotland (2004) Police and Fire Performance Indicators 2003/04, Edinburgh, Audit Scotland

Although the number of reported incidents has increased over recent years, the Scottish police forces actively encourage the reporting of racist incidents (a recommendation of the Macpherson report into the death of Stephen Lawrence). It is expected that for a few years the number of reports will increase, although this may not necessarily represent an increase in the number of actual incidents.

Operation Reclaim and the Personal Safety of Asylum seekers and Refugees

The Red Road area in north Glasgow was the scene of numerous attacks on asylum seekers and refugees and the location of fighting between gangs from rival housing estates. The frequency of disorder, which could be seen clearly by residents of the Red Road flats, resulted in many asylum seekers and refugees fearing for their safety.

In a consultation exercise undertaken by the police, young asylum seekers and refugees indicated that it was not possible for them to play football on the nearby playing pitches without attracting attention of indigenous white youth. Invariably this led to confrontations, denying asylum seekers and refugees the opportunity to play safely in their neighbourhood. The police were made aware that, due to the lack of facilities and safety concerns, some asylum seekers and refugees chose to travel across the city to Victoria Park to play basketball.

It is important to note that the issue of safety is not only a concern of asylum seekers and refugees living in this area. One interviewee, who was once a resident in the Red Road area, indicated that for many years the issue of 'territorialism' had been a problem. To avoid the risk of assault, he would try to avoid going into areas that were not considered his neighbourhood, especially at night.

In response to concerns about safety, Operation Reclaim – a partnership between a number of organisations, including the police and Glasgow City Council – was initiated.

The Impact of Operation Reclaim

The presence of police officers has helped to reclaim the area for residents' use. Up to 120 young people were involved in activity each evening during the summer evenings, although the numbers have declined since the clocks changed and the arrival of dark winter evenings.

Since the introduction of Operation Reclaim, the number of reported incidents have declined by 37 per cent. Furthermore, a police officer indicated that the area was now 'dead', with the police no longer required to deal with routine calls every night of the week. Furthermore, anecdotal evidence from police suggests that the impact has been wider than those taking part in sport. Police on duty during 6-9pm have reported that more of the residents, mostly asylum seekers and refugees, have used the public areas around the flats while the police presence is there – this includes parents playing with children and adults reading books and playing chess.

Although the reduction in crime, and the use of the recreation area by residents, suggests that Operation Reclaim has been a success, the model may not be appropriate for other areas where there are concerns about safety. The geography of Red Road (e.g. an open recreation area adjacent to housing, where police and residents can observe the whole area), makes it particularly suitable for two officers to police. In other areas, where housing is more spread out, or where the recreation area is not as open or adjacent to housing, the model may not be suitable. However, senior police officers have taken notice of the success of Operation Reclaim and there is a possibility of this approach being used in other areas of the city.

Impact of the Concerns about Safety on Sports Programming

The concerns about safety, not only affect asylum seekers' and refugees' participation in sport, they have a direct impact on the quality and cost of sports programmes. To address concerns about the safety of participants, in some cases, organisers feel it is important to provide transport to and from sports facilities. This means that participants are more likely to take part and parents are more likely to allow their children to participate - even where the journey time to the venue may be a few minutes walk. Providing transport results in additional costs for the organisers, money they feel could be spent on providing more, or better quality, activity.

An alternative solution to providing transport is to use facilities immediately next to the housing. This reduces the amount of travelling required and consequently saves on transport costs, and potentially on facility costs. However, this sometimes means compromising on the quality of facilities and the activity.

In both the workshop discussion groups, safety was identified as the single most important factor preventing many asylum seekers and refugees taking part in sport.

Media

Interviewees suggested that the often negative reporting on asylum seekers and refugees in the media was a factor impacting negatively on safety. It was a common view that the media, particularly the tabloid press, fuelled negative attitudes towards asylum seekers and refugees and that this was a contributing factor to the type of harassment and discrimination. Many interviewees suggested that addressing the issue of negative and misinformed reporting would have a positive impact on the lives of asylum seekers and refugees and could have a positive impact on participation in sport.

Funding

A lack of funding was limiting organisations' ability to provide sports opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees. At the workshop, funding was identified as the second most important issue affecting asylum seekers and refugees' participation in sport. However, funding was less of an issue for some of the statutory services (police, local authority sport and leisure services), and more of an issue to the voluntary services.

Statutory Services and Funding

In general, interviewees from the statutory services were satisfied with the funding available for sport. Furthermore, they acknowledged that funding was available from a number of different sources and that they had a degree of flexibility with their budgets that permitted them to adapt to changing circumstances.

Sources through which funding was available, included:

- Scottish Executive;
- Scottish Refugee Integration Forum (SRIF);
- Cultural and Leisure Services Department (Community Action Team budgets, Youth Services);
- Various Lottery funding sources (Awards for All, The Big Lottery Fund, **sportscotland**); and
- Glasgow Housing Association.

Although the statutory services are ineligible to apply for funding from some of these sources - the funding is aimed at voluntary organisations - through working with voluntary organisations, they can support applications from voluntary groups and target financial resources to areas in need. Voluntary organisations chances of accessing some of these funds is enhanced if they have the support of statutory service organisations.

The statutory services also have the opportunity to pool resources from different budgets. For example, in Operation Reclaim, the involvement of a number of different local authority teams (Youth Services; Community Action Team; Community Club) has resulted in funds from different budgets being brought into a single initiative. This pooling of funding highlights one of the benefits of team/partnership working, as it is unlikely that one team/organisation has the resources, or flexibility within, its budget to deliver activity of this scale.

Although interviewees from statutory services indicated that funding was not a major barrier, there were concerns that if the services they were providing currently had to be extended to other areas of Glasgow, more funding would be required, but it was not known from where this additional funding would come.

Voluntary Services and Funding

For the voluntary sector, access to sufficient funding is a perpetual problem. Many of the interviewees suggested that they could provide more and better sports opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees if more funding was available. For example, one organisation had to curtail its sports activity to direct funding to a men's health group because this had a higher priority.

Interviewees from voluntary organisations were aware that many sources of funding are available (e.g. The Big Lottery Fund, **sportscotland**, Scottish Refugee Integration Forum). However, some, such as the Scottish Asian Sports Association, claim they do not have the staff, time or expertise to prepare detailed funding bids.

It is clear, however, that the difficulties experienced by voluntary organisations in accessing funds are reduced when relationships are established with those in the statutory sector. For example, the Maryhill Integration Network received support from the local authority's Community Action Team to pay for a sports coach, and the Scottish Asian Sports Association receive grant funding from Glasgow City Council annually.

Voluntary organisations lack some of the flexibility of the statutory services. Voluntary organisations have to be vigilant about their use of funding. One interviewee explained that although they had received notification they were to receive a grant from a funding body, they had to wait until the money was in their bank account before spending any of the grant. However, a delay in receiving the grant cheque resulted in the proposed activity being delayed. The interviewee pointed out that voluntary groups risk serious financial difficulties by spending money promised to them, but not yet received.

Asylum Seeker Income

The low levels of income of asylum seekers and many refugees compound the problems of funding. A single adult asylum seeker receives £37.77 per week income, in addition to accommodation and utilities - this is 30 per cent below what is considered an acceptable minimum standard of living (Oxfam). This means that organisers have to cover the full cost of participation, including facility hire, equipment and transport to and from the activity. These costs mean that providing sport for asylum seekers and refugees is more expensive than for many other target groups. This supports one interviewee's assertion that providing sport for asylum seekers and refugees is resource intensive.

For some of the organisations providing sporting opportunities, there is a need to try to make a low operating budget go as far as possible. For example, to save money during the summer months some groups use open space next to the housing, even though it may not be ideal for sport. This conserves money to pay for facilities when needed during the winter months. The use of local space provides the added benefit of saving on transport costs.

Short-term Funding and Short-term Priorities

Of concern to many providers is the short-term nature of the funding received. In most cases, the financial support represents a single grant award that will keep activity running for a specific period of time. Once the grant is spent, the organisers need to find further sources of funding. Few funding sources are available for long-term projects or programmes. The need to seek further sources of funding means that staff spend a lot of time preparing applications and bids – time that they feel could be spent building on existing activity.

There is often a presumption that projects should become self-sustaining. However, interviewees pointed out that it was unlikely that this could be achieved, due to the low levels of income of asylum seekers and refugees.

One interviewee from the statutory services indicated that future funding for sport opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees is at risk, due to the ever changing nature of social and political agendas. For example, the financial investment in Operation Reclaim is unlikely to be sustained indefinitely. It is likely that some other issue will become more immediate and will draw focus away from the Red Road flats and result in the funding being invested elsewhere. The interviewee suggested that sustained investment is required if problems in areas like Red Road are to be addressed properly.

Despite a lack of funding in some areas, increased funding would not necessarily solve all the issues about a lack of participation in sport among asylum seekers and refugees. A lack of paid staff and volunteers also limits opportunities to take part in sport.

Staffing and Volunteering

Staffing and volunteering issues present organisations with a number of difficulties in their ability to provide sports opportunities. These included:

- Lack of paid staff
- Lack of volunteers
- Difficulties recruiting staff and volunteers

Staff

Interviewees from voluntary organisations indicated that a lack of paid staff affected their ability provide sports opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees. This included a lack of full-time or part-time permanent staff, and sessional paid coaches/leaders. These organisations find themselves in a catch-22 position – they lack the funding to pay for permanent staff, but they need the services of permanent staff to compile applications for funding and bids to generate income.

One organisation has experienced difficulties in recruiting a coach/leader to lead activity despite the availability of funding. Two coaches had been appointed to a vacant post but both were unable to sustain their involvement – one coach attended only two out of eight sessions due to other commitments.

Despite this example, many of the people delivering sport to asylum seekers and refugees were being paid to do so. For example, the activity at Operation Reclaim was being delivered by two commercial sports organisations (Hitsport and Scottish Rocks), while activity at Kingsway Court, and through the Maryhill Integration Network, was supported by paid coaches/leaders. These delivery models differ from the voluntary basis of more typical sports clubs/groups, such as the Scottish Asian Sports Association, that rely on greater levels of support from volunteers.

Volunteers

Although paid staff are used to deliver activity in some of the case studies, volunteers are responsible for delivering much of the activity open to asylum seekers and refugees. However, many of the interviewees indicated that they experienced difficulties in recruiting, training and retaining volunteers – both indigenous Scottish and asylum seeker and refugee volunteers.

Similar to the difficulties in retaining paid coaching staff, some sport activities have been disrupted because volunteers have been unable to commit their time, due to other commitments or because they moved away. Organisers recognise that people will move on, however, this can cause disruption to existing activity and it often takes time to recruit new people.

An interviewee indicated that the difficulty experienced in recruiting coaches may be partly due to the fact that they are not working in traditional sport networks. Traditional sports clubs often recruit coaches from their existing membership – this means that they may be better placed to fill coaching gaps. However, for the non-sports based organisation (e.g. Kingsway Court; Maryhill Integration Network) this membership base does not exist. Hence, when a coach/leader leaves, the activity often has to stop until another coach/leader can be found.

Voluntary organisations can obtain support through the Volunteer Centre Glasgow. The organisation supports voluntary organisations with all aspects of voluntary work, including advertising volunteer positions through its website (www.volunteerglasgow.org.uk). Although the centre places advertisements for

sport/outdoor activity positions, this is not regarded as a well known, or widely used, recruitment tool for sports clubs/organisations. However, the recent appointment of a volunteer co-ordinator for sport covering Glasgow may raise the profile of Volunteers Centre within sport networks.

A factor that appeared to restrict recruitment of volunteers was an uncertainty among many interviewees about the laws concerning the recruitment of volunteers to work with children – particularly for the recruitment of people from other countries. In one case study, staff were acting in an extremely cautious manner over the recruitment of an asylum seeker to work with children. The organisation was not willing to allow the person take on volunteer coaching duties until the Scottish Criminal Record Office check on the individual is complete, and until the person had undertaken accredited coaching education training from the Scottish governing body of sport. Even when the check has been completed and the training undertaken, the staff will still be concerned about using the individual, because it is not possible to check the criminal background of the person from their country of origin.

Despite this cautious approach, the same organisations was using the services of an asylum seeker as a volunteer coach. This coach has been resident in Glasgow for 4/5 years and has been through the formal SCRO check procedure. The services of the coach are highly valued by staff because he is perceived to be a fine role model for younger boys, for both asylum seekers and refugees and indigenous youth.

Recruitment of Asylum Seekers and Refugees as Volunteers

A representative from the Volunteer Centre, Glasgow, indicated that many people are concerned about the recruitment of volunteers – particularly in relation to child protection issues and the law. There was recognition that organisations face additional difficulties facing when trying to recruit from asylum seeker and refugee communities. The Volunteer Centre recommends that organisations adopt a recruitment process that uses a staged approach to ensure that reasonable steps are taken to check the background of potential volunteers. The Centre recommends that this process should include the following steps:

- Interview with potential volunteer;
- Completion of an application form;
- Applicant to give a self-disclosure;
- Seek references from two referees;
- Complete Scottish Criminal Record Office check;
- Provide induction training; and
- Supervision.

The process of recruiting asylum seekers and refugees to volunteer positions is complicated because it is unlikely that a check of the applicant's criminal record from their country of origin is possible. However, providing that appropriate action is taken to assess the suitability of an individual, this means that asylum seekers or refugees should not be denied the opportunity to volunteer.

It was clear from the case studies that there is a desire to recruit more asylum seekers as volunteers to deliver sporting opportunities for people from new communities. Some interviewees thought this presents the best way of providing opportunities for sports that are not considered popular in Scotland, and where there is likely to be a lack of coaches (cricket was suggested as an example). Although there has been a link between the activity at Red Road and the West of Scotland Cricket Club, some interviewees consider the best way to provide opportunities is through the asylum seeker and refugee communities.

A representative from the Scottish Refugee Council indicated that organisations may experience difficulties recruiting asylum seekers and volunteers, particularly those from African nations. As the concept of volunteering will be unfamiliar to some, it will be necessary for organisations to provide clear guidance about what the position entails and what are the expectations of the organisation and the volunteer. The Scottish Refugee Council is in the process of developing a *Volunteer Service Framework of Delivery* (see below for further details) that will ensure the needs of both the volunteer and the recruiting organisation are addressed.

Strategic Support to Volunteering

Organisations with a strategic role for supporting asylum seekers and refugees (Scottish Refugee Council), and for the development of sport (Cultural and Leisure Services Department), are in the process of developing frameworks/strategies that will assist organisations with the recruitment, training and support of volunteers. However, it should be noted that the Scottish Refugee Council framework will not mention the recruitment of volunteers to sports positions, nor will the Cultural and Leisure Services Department strategy refer to the recruitment of asylum seeker and refugees. However, those responsible for developing the strategy/framework were of the opinion that these developments can support sports volunteering for asylum seekers and refugees.

More specific to the development of sporting opportunities, the Scottish Asian Sports Association is awaiting receipt of a £25,000 grant from the Home Office for the implementation of a programme that will enable between 60-70 asylum seekers and refugees to receive sports coaching training. It is anticipated that this project will commence around February/March 2005. The purpose of the programme will be to provide training opportunities for members of the 'new communities' to train to become sports coaches/leaders. It is anticipated that the training provided will increase opportunities for people to take part in sport and to provide opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees to find work opportunities. However, some interviewees in a partner organisation were unaware that the project was due to start.

Facilities

Access to facilities was identified by most interviewees as an issue that had an impact on the scale and quality of the sports activity that they could provide.

Availability and Quality of Sports Facilities

As previously reported (see Section 6.4), safety concerns and the cost of access to sports facilities have a direct impact of the planning of sports activity. Many of the interviewees indicated that the sports programmes being offered are provided on a low budget. Consequently, organisers need to consider the cost of facilities when planning their programmes. In some locations, organisers are prepared to sacrifice the use of better quality facilities by choosing to use free open space, despite the generally poorer quality of these facilities. In addition, casual sports activity also takes place on open ground. For example, at Kingsway Court and Red Road some asylum seekers and refugees play cricket on grassed areas that was not ideal for such a sport. Interviewees indicated that there was demand from asylum seekers and refugees for cricket, however, facilities for cricket are limited.

Although basketball was identified as an activity that is particularly attractive to many asylum seekers and refugees, access to basketball nets was identified as restricted. Until basketball nets were installed at Red Road as part of Operation Reclaim, some asylum seekers chose to travel across Glasgow to free facilities at Victoria Park.

Some limited criticism was directed at the local authority about access to sports centres and community halls. One interviewee had experienced difficulty in booking facilities at a sports centre for a multi-cultural group. The organiser indicated that staff did not make the group welcome. With regard to Council staff attitudes towards black and minority ethnic groups in general, another interviewee felt that Council staff needed to be provided with race awareness training. Another interviewee criticised the service provided through community halls across Glasgow. Because these facilities are not staffed permanently, there was difficulty in securing access.

Despite these criticisms, workshop delegates did not regard facilities as a factor seriously limiting sporting opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees. Although facilities can affect the quality of provision, issues concerning public safety, funding, media and planning were all regarded as more important than facilities.

Planning, Performance Measurement, Monitoring and Evaluation

Although the findings from the case studies suggest that the provision of sport to asylum seekers and refugees has had positive outcomes (Section 6.3), there is a lack of co-ordinated planning for sports activities and a lack of monitoring and evaluation of the activity and its impact. Most of the activity provided appears to be opportunistic in nature, rather than the outcome of systematic planning. In the case of Operation Reclaim, Cultural and Leisure Services was not involved until the latter stages of planning. This resulted in a 'cocktail' of deliverers providing a range of services with 'no detailed strategy or plan' guiding the work.

One interviewee explained that for the activity provided for Operation Reclaim, there were no written plans and no delivery targets. However, they had set a notional target of trying to establish a team to compete in a tournament and take part in a city wide league.

In the absence of measurable outcomes, an interviewee suggested that organisations probably pursue their own aims and objectives. This could result in organisations duplicating activity, or seeking to achieve outcomes that are incompatible or conflicting.

Workshop delegates indicated that greater attention needs to be placed on planning sporting opportunities, particularly by organisations at a strategic level. One of the workshop discussion groups identified a need for greater emphasis on planning and consultation if there is a desire to increase the number of asylum seekers and refugees participating in sport.

Planning and Consultation

Despite the apparent lack of strategic planning, it is clear that consultation was used by case study organisations, albeit on a rather small scale and in an ad hoc manner. Organisers would speak to asylum seekers and refugees in order to establish what opportunities to provide. However, it is clear from the descriptions of these processes that the discussions tended to be with people whom the organisations already had contact. These ad hoc consultations appear to ensure that the opportunities provided are desired by some asylum seekers, but they do not necessarily establish the needs or desires of wider communities.

An opportunity exists for engaging in a more formal consultation process initiated by the Scottish Refugee Council's *Framework for Dialogue*. A Scottish Asian Sports Association representative expressed an interest in engaging in this consultation

process, as it presents an excellent opportunity for identifying, in a more formal way, the sports and recreation needs of the asylum seeker and refugee community.

Framework for Dialogue

Framework for Dialogue (Scottish Refugee Council, 2003 ongoing) is a Scottish Refugee Council initiative that aims to identify the needs of asylum seekers and refugees through a planned process of consultation. The initiative initially involved consultation with asylum seekers and refugees in five areas of Glasgow, although a further two pilots have recently been included. Consultation meetings have attracted up to 150 asylum seekers and refugees and have been considered a success. The meetings rely heavily on support from translators, but a series of common issues have been identified and it is anticipated that the findings will help to improve services and assist with the process of integration.

Sport has not yet been identified as a significant issue either by the team running Framework for Dialogue, or by participants in the consultation process. Currently the process is focussing on core issues such as the asylum seekers' experiences of applying for asylum, benefits, training for work and housing. A Scottish Refugee Council representative suggested that the process is currently focusing on the 'lower order needs' as identified by Maslow's 'hierarchy of needs' – such as physiological and safety needs. The 'higher order needs' (belonging, esteem, self-actualisation) are not important until the lower needs are satisfied. However, there is an expectation that as the Framework for Dialogue progresses, and services are improved and developed, attention may switch to topics such as leisure and recreation, including sport.

The Framework for Dialogue process was identified by one interviewee as an appropriate vehicle through which the sporting needs of asylum seekers and refugees can be identified. This approach is supported by the Scottish Refugee Council and may become a feature of the consultation process.

A report of the first phase of the Framework for Dialogue process will be available in February 2005.

Performance Measurement

Due to the lack of strategic planning, there is a lack of performance measures to enable organisations to identify if their services are succeeding in achieving presumed outcomes. As indicated in Section 6.3, organisations identified a range of reasons why they were providing sports activities, although few indicated how they would know when they achieved their aims.

The police working in association with Operation Reclaim were one of the few organisations that were able to provide an estimate of the impact of the initiative. The police indicated that the reported incidents from the area declined by 37 per cent during the summer months. However, this measure is concerned more with community safety issues and provides no indication of what contribution sport can make to integrating communities.

Some interviewees were able to provide estimates of the number of people attending the activities. However, no formal monitoring procedures recorded the number of participants.

At Red Road, interviewees commented that some sessions would attract between 100-120 participants. Most seemed pleased with this number of participants.

However, there were no targets against which these figures could be assessed. Furthermore, there are claimed to be in the region of 3,000 asylum seekers and refugees living in the Red Road area, excluding the indigenous population. Taking into account these figures, there is no indication whether this represents an acceptable impact on the resident population.

In addition, little data are available to establish to what extent the sports activities are helping local communities to integrate. Table 6.2 gives an indication of the ethnic mix that can be achieved, but the collection of this data appeared to come from a development officer who was curious about the ethnic mix, rather than from a planned monitoring process.

Future Assessment

Despite a current lack of performance measures and monitoring and evaluation processes, some organisations are preparing to include more analysis in their programmes. For example, as a result of its Best Value Review, Cultural and Leisure Services Department has identified the need to increase participation in sport among disadvantaged groups in Glasgow. It has identified the need to increase the proportion of black and minority ethnic people attending Glasgow City Council leisure facilities (Glasgow City Council, 2002: 61). In order to assess its level of success, greater care will be taken to establish what impact its services are having on intended targets. As well as impacting on data collection across Glasgow at local authority run facilities, this desire to monitor progress and impact will also include Cultural and Leisure Services local delivery teams.

Future Planning for Sport for Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Although strategic planning does not appear to have been a common feature of the work undertaken in recent years, work being undertaken currently by a number of strategic organisations may potentially have an impact on the provision of sport for asylum seekers and refugees.

As mentioned previously, the Scottish Refugee Council and the local authority's Cultural Leisure Services Department are in the process of developing strategies/frameworks for the recruitment and support of volunteers. These include:

- Cultural and Leisure Services is launching in the spring on 2005, a club and volunteering strategy to strengthen the voluntary sports sector in Glasgow.
- The Scottish Refugee Council (SRC) is drafting a Framework for Volunteering. This document will act as a guide to assist the SRC and other voluntary organisations to recruit asylum seekers and refugees into voluntary positions and provide ongoing support. The SRC has identified the need to recruit 23 volunteers to support its work, but it is not yet known what impact this framework will have on other voluntary organisations.
- Recent developments through Sport 21, Scotland's National Strategy for Sport, have resulted in the appointment of a new Sport Volunteer Co-ordinator to cover the Glasgow area. Working in conjunction with the Volunteer Centre Glasgow, the co-ordinator will support organisations in recruiting volunteers to support and deliver sport opportunities.

These developments have the potential to support the provision of sport opportunities for asylum seekers and refugees across Glasgow. However, sport is unlikely to be identified as a specific area to be addressed. The Scottish Refugee Council

framework is unlikely to refer to sport, or sport organisations, directly. However, organisations providing sport opportunities through volunteers could benefit from the support being provided by the Scottish Refugee Council.

Furthermore, asylum seekers and refugees are unlikely to be identified as a specific target group in the Cultural and Leisure Services club and volunteer strategy. However, it is clear that organisations providing sport opportunities to asylum seekers will be eligible for support through the strategy.

Workshop delegates welcomed the development of these strategies/ frameworks. However, there was concern that the likely absence of reference to sport for asylum seekers and refugees may mean that organisations providing sport to them may miss out on resources available to support the strategies/frameworks.

6.5 Needs, Attitudes and Priorities of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

The study highlighted a number of issues relating to the needs of asylum seekers and refugees, their priorities and attitudes. Through the course of the study, it was evident that a number of issues about the character and background of asylum seekers and refugees affected the provision of sports activities to this target group.

Asylum Seekers and Refugees – A Homogeneous Group?

People providing services presented different perspectives on the asylum seeker and refugee community. Many interviewees supported the view that they "...should not be viewed as a generic group of people". Interviewees talked of the many differences that exist between the people from different continents, countries and cultures, and that these differences should be celebrated. The Sighthill Festival for example is presented as an opportunity to celebrate and promote diversity. In addition, the Scottish Refugee Council supports Refugee Week, a UK event that is described as "a celebration of the contribution refugees make to British society". However, although organisations such as the Scottish Refugee Council seek to promote diversity, some recognise that these differences can lead to tensions between groups. For example, one interviewee suggested that the relationship between people from African countries and those from Eastern European countries was often poor. In addition, tensions can exist even between people from the same country (e.g. Lebanese Christians and Lebanese Arabs).

Despite these differences, few interviewees experienced any serious problems in providing sport to mixed-culture groups (See Section 6.3). However, it should be noted that most of the activity was for children and young people. Some thought that a lack of integration between communities may exist more within the adult population. Children, particularly younger children, were considered to be less aware, or less concerned, about race issues, compared to older children and adults. Furthermore, language difficulties were considered less of a problem among young people compared to adults.

In contrast to the views expressed above, an interviewee indicated that their status as either asylum seekers or refugees did provide them with "a common bond ...displacement from their own country". It is this bond that may allow such diverse groups of people to come together in a social context and interact.

Sport and Recreation Needs of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Interviewees suggested that, although many asylum seekers and refugees had to flee their country, sometimes in the most difficult circumstances, it was clear that their sport and recreation needs are generally no greater than that of the general Scottish population. The only cultural specific need identified by interviewees was the need for segregated sports opportunities for Muslim women – particularly for swimming. Essentially their sport and recreation needs are for:

- Safe environments in which to participate;
- A range of activities from which to choose; and
- Affordable opportunities.

As was illustrated in Section 6.4, asylum seekers and refugees need to be assured of having a safe sporting environment. However, as Operation Reclaim has shown, it may be necessary for the authorities to take explicit measures to provide a safe environment. Although this may be a resource intensive exercise, those involved with Operation Reclaim are convinced that asylum seekers and refugees will take part in sports activity if it is provided.

Most interviewees suggested there was a need to provide a range of sports if all members of a community are to be encouraged to take part. Many would like to extend the range of activities they provide, however, they were restricted by financial constraints. The sports identified as having the potential to attract participants from the asylum seeker and refugee community were cricket, basketball and netball (particularly for the African female population).

In addition to a range of activities, one asylum seeker indicated that a choice about when, and with whom, they took part in sport was important. Most of the activities reviewed in the case studies were organised and led by a coach/leader. However, having been involved in organised sport in their home country, the interviewee was not interested in organised activity and chose to take part in activities (including swimming, badminton) with friends at a local sports centre. Cost was a consideration in the frequency in which they would do some activities, but as they only wanted to take part about once per month, the cost of the activity was not considered a major problem. Cost would have been more of an issue if they wanted to go once per week or more.

Attitudes and Priorities of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

Many of those involved in delivering activities, commented positively on their experience of working with asylum seekers and refugees, and highlighted differences between the attitudes of young asylum seekers and refugees and young indigenous white people. Almost all of those interviewed indicated that asylum seekers and refugees demonstrated very positive attitudes towards work and education, compared to indigenous white youths who generally showed negative attitudes toward education and work. This led a number of interviewees to indicate that working with asylum seekers and refugees was very enjoyable and rewarding.

This positive attitude towards work was illustrated at the Maryhill Integration Network, which organised a range of health and fitness activities (including massage, line dancing) for women through one of their five drop-in centres. However, soon after the programme started, it clashed with a computing course and all of the women dropped the health and fitness classes in order to attend the computing class,

because it was work-orientated. A member of the Network Committee regarded this as being both positive and negative. It was considered disappointing because the computing course was not particularly well suited to the needs of the women, therefore the learning outcomes were not fulfilled. However, as one of the aims of the Maryhill Integration Network is to provide a range of opportunities and choice, the decision of the women to choose an alternative option was considered as positive.

This example highlighted the need for greater co-ordination of activities available through the Network, as it would have been better to enable the women to both programmes.

Although many asylum seekers and refugees were living in poverty - low incomes and in many of the poorest housing areas in Scotland - it would appear that they do not suffer a poverty of aspiration.

6.6 Summary and Conclusion

As indicated in section 3 of this report, the Glasgow case studies were undertaken with a primary focus on the perspective of the providers of services rather than on the refugee groups perceptions of such services. The cases provide evidence of a number of problems facing providers and provide a useful foil to the focus and conclusions of the two previous sections of this report.

The conclusions to be drawn can be summarised under six headings

(i) Sport has a low priority for those providing other services.

In organisations for which sporting activity is not a primary focus, but which provide other services to refugees and asylum seekers, sport has a relatively low priority. This partly reflects the professional background of those providing the services and partly reflects also the importance and sometimes urgency of other needs (housing, security, economic survival etc.).

(ii) Sport for asylum seekers and refugees is a low priority among some sports professionals

While the use of sport in combating exclusion has become much more widely evident than had previously been the case, nevertheless for some sports professionals the targeting of such groups as refugees and asylum seekers is still not a priority. Again this may be a reflection of the lack of training and knowledge in relation to this target group, as well as a related primary professional focus on sporting provision and sports development for sporting rather than social welfare reasons.

(iii) Lack of links with traditional sport networks

Allied to the previous point, it was clear that even where sporting provision for refugees and asylum seekers existed, they were too often forms of provision isolated from the mainstream sports system. This might result in the trivialisation of sporting performance (and some refugee and asylum seeker groups incorporate talented sports performers) or even the 'ghettoisation' of such sporting provision, with poorer facilities, or provision seen as 'special', isolated from the kinds of activities offered to other groups in the city.

(iv) Provision for refugees and asylum seekers as a developing area – services learning and building capacity

While there clearly are limitations to what is currently provided it is nevertheless the case that this is a new service area, and one in which individuals and organisations are developing knowledge and building capacity. There is a manifest need to develop

training resources to stimulate further the skills and capacities in the system to meet the sporting and sport-related community development needs of refugees and asylum seekers.

(v) Improved planning required

Because sports provision for these groups has the tendency to fall between several 'stools' – as we have indicated provision of sport is not a primary concern of providers of support for refugees and asylum seekers, while targeting these groups has not been a priority for sporting providers – there is a need to ensure that some formal planning of service provision is undertaken. If this is not the case provision will be patchy and the lessons of good and bad practice will go unmonitored.

(vi) Anecdotal evidence – more robust evidence required

Finally, demonstrating the value of sporting provision is clearly important if resources are to be attracted. However, there has been little attempt to evaluate in a systematic fashion the worth of such services and of different approaches to provision for these groups. This report provides some evidence of the nature of the satisfactions and of some of the frustrations of refugee and asylum seeker groups with sporting provision. However there is little evidence of the impact of such provision in terms of manifest outcomes (e.g. reductions in local tensions between groups, lower levels of anti-social behaviour, greater levels of self-esteem on the part of refugee and asylum seeker groups etc.). The development of robust evidence could significantly aid the case in arguing for additional resources for this area of work.

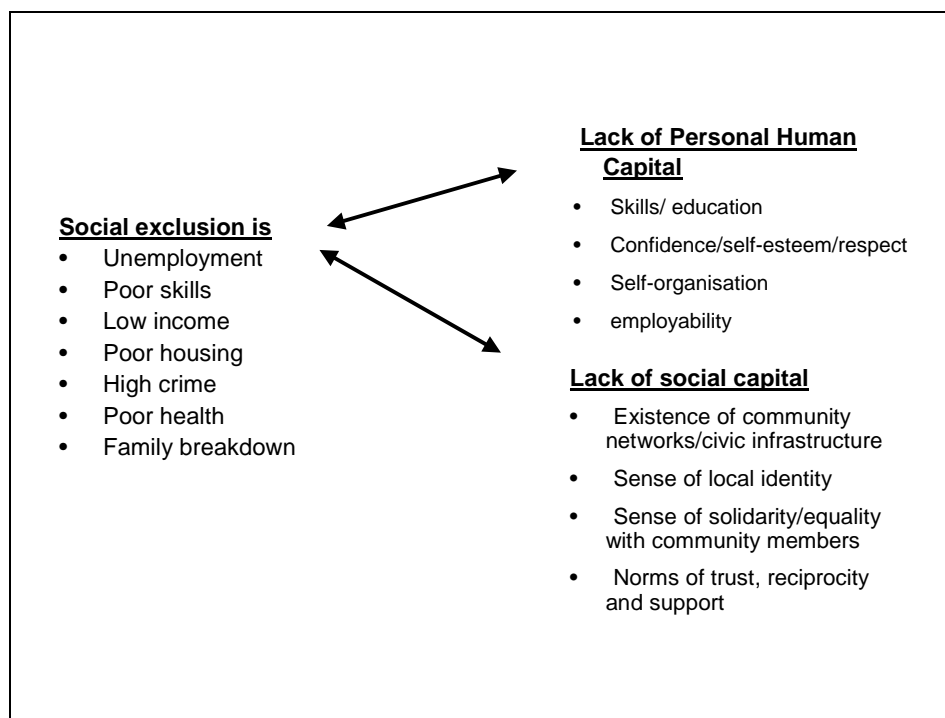
7. Conclusions and Policy Implications

7.1 Social inclusion and Sports Participation

The goals of this project were to address the roles which sport can play in tackling social exclusion among refugees and asylum seekers, and the cases that we have investigated in the three regional contexts provide ample material to illustrate the use of sport for such purposes, of the experiences (positive and negative) of refugees and asylum seekers in respect of such projects, and of the perceptions of policy makers in terms of policy rationales and positive and negative evaluations of projects. The evidence rehearsed is largely in terms of stakeholder perceptions of the projects in operation rather than of quantitative evaluations of policy outputs. Nevertheless we would argue that valuable insights have been gained in relation to an under-researched area of policy.

The link between sport and social inclusion is regularly asserted but perhaps less well understood. Coalter *et al.* (2000) provide one of the few detailed attempts to spell out such links (see Figure 7.1). The authors highlight, for example, that the compound problems of exclusion range across unemployment, poor skills, low income, poor health and housing, family breakdown and high crime environments.

Figure 7.1: Dimensions of Social Exclusion (adapted from Coalter *et al.* 2000)



Sport can have an impact on some of these problems at a variety of levels. As Coalter *et al.* point out, sport is claimed to provide benefits at variety of levels from the individual to the social psychological to the societal level. At the level of human capital of the individual sport can aid fitness and foster health, enhance mental health and well being (e.g. dealing with stress and anxiety); in relation to personality development sports participation is claimed to enhance self-concept/self esteem/confidence; in social psychological terms sport is said to have the potential to foster empathy, tolerance, cooperation, social skills and team work; while at the societal

level promotion of community identity, coherence and integration are also claims made on behalf of sport.

In terms of the benefits cited in relation to the projects we have reviewed most if not all of these levels of benefit are cited.

- (i) Physical health gains are a feature of most of the active physical recreation projects, though the pattern of exercise may not be such as to maximise the health benefits by promoting the required levels to achieve satisfactory health benefits.
- (ii) Mental health gains are also evident in the claims of some individuals such as the Congolese asylum seeker, a football player with the Algerian Association in Nottingham, whose comments cited in section 4 are worth repeating in this context:

'There is a need for sport...sport can help to break the isolation of refugees and asylum seekers even some of their family members...if there is within the community a team playing every Sunday ...let me waste my time instead of sitting alone ...meeting other people , playing around ...try to break up the isolation, and the misery that you going through for that particular time...sport is very important , particularly for people who are going through stress...' (Congolese asylum seeker)

- (iii) Personality development: the promotion of self concept and feelings of self worth are evident in the claims of members of the Derby Bosnia Herzegovina Community Centre who, despite some problems in playing in local leagues, reported positively on being valued by some groups within the host society because of their superior skills in basketball (a game played to a generally much higher standard in Bosnia than in the UK). The Venture Scotland project also sought to use outdoor activities to build self-confidence in participants, develop greater self-esteem and create friendship groups. Its success, however, in working with refugees and asylum seekers was seen to be limited by virtue of their inclusion with other groups (e.g. drug and alcohol dependency groups) whose presence is deemed by some of the refugee groups to 'stigmatise' them as problems which required 'treatment'.
- (iv) Social Psychological gains for both host communities and refugee and asylum seeker groups are claimed for example in the multi-national Global All-Stars football team operating under Sports Link in Charnwood. This team incorporates players from eight different counties including refugees and asylum seekers and aims at promoting tolerance through interaction in a field of mutual interest. The importance of mixing teams in terms of national origin is emphasised in the context of sporting activities such as invasion games and combat sports in particular where competition can spill over into negative behaviour.
- (v) Societal gains are claimed also in terms of social integration and community identity and this is evident in a range of the projects particularly for example the cases of the Zimbabwean Association football team and the Swansea All-stars. The former uses sport as a medium of bringing together disparate ethnic and political groups from within the Zimbabwean community, while the latter seeks to 'normalise' the identity of a team of refugees and asylum seekers in the eyes of the host

community by presenting itself as a competitive team in a local league, literally by 'playing the host community a its own game'.

7.2 Sport and Social Capital: Bonding, Bridging and Linking Capital

Many of the problems alluded to above, whether at the individual or the societal level, are mutually reinforcing and individuals and groups - especially groups such as refugees and asylum seekers – will suffer from multiple problems. The occurrence of such interrelated difficulties is seen as a feature of the lack of social networks or 'connectedness' to wider society which would allow individuals the resources by which to tackle them. Thus the role of sport in promoting social networks and active citizenship is potentially important. Research suggests that people actively involved in sport are more likely to play an active role in the community in other ways and thus sport, it is argued, can be used as an appropriate tool for community building. Among the sporting schemes reviewed are good examples of such development of social capital.

Social capital has become a key element in the building of local policy responses to problems of social exclusion. As a concept social capital is often referred to in terms of a three fold typology of such capital, namely 'bonding', 'bridging', and 'linking' capital.

- **'Bonding' social capital** refers to the informal realm, the close ties that help people to get by. These are usually with family, friends and neighbours, or more broadly within the context of refugees and asylum seekers in a foreign context, with members of the same national group. The use of sport to develop bonding capital is evident especially in examples such as the Derby Bosnia Herzegovina Community Association, and the Zimbabwean Association football team, in that bonding has overcome (at least as reported by respondents) some of the ethnic, political and religious cleavages which were endemic in the country of origin. Sporting involvement thus can play an important part in internal cohesion. However, as reported in the case of the Algerian Association in Nottingham, this was not always the case and in some instances sporting contest was the spark which would re-ignite problems between groups which had been previously evident in Algeria.
- **'Bridging' Social capital** refers to the civic realm, and involves the development of weaker ties with networks of different groups (e.g. multicultural groups), building bridges between refugee and asylum seeker groups and other bodies in civil society. Thus for example the Scottish Asian Sports Association's recent inclusion of provision for refugee and asylum seeker groups has sought to build bridges between existing ethnic minority groups in Glasgow and the new arrivals, while the Madeley Youth and Community Centre Project in Derby sought to build bridges between the local 'host' British Asian community and the Kurdish refugees and asylum seekers who had recently moved into the area. Similarly the Swansea World Stars football team constituted itself as a competitive sporting team in a formal domestic league in Swansea with a view to building links with other sporting entities (local teams) in the Swansea area rather than simply playing football within the group.
- **'Linking' Social Capital** refers to the institutional realm, building links to organisations and systems that can help people gain resources and bring about broader change. Examples include the Sport Link project in Charnwood which sought in some of its activities to develop links between refugee and

asylum seeker groups and other institutions through sports. Thus it ran GP Referral exercise schemes for women linking groups with both medial institutions (GP practices and Health Centres) and local government institutions (leisure centres running the exercise programmes), and fostered opportunities for young refugees to have access to sports facilities in the local university, providing through sport an insight into the university as a local education provider with a view to fostering educational aspirations. Similarly Kingsway Court health and Well-being Centre sought to link the provision of sport and physical recreation opportunities to other services for refugee and asylum seekers groups, notably information and advice on men's health and women's health, community development, ESOL classes, child care.

Though little has been done in the way of formal evaluation on these schemes this typology does suggest some ways in which the goals of such projects may be stated, and thus their effectiveness evaluated by reference to their success in bonding, bridging and linking refugee and asylum seeker groups. In particular the building of linking capital in the development of 'vertical links' between institutions and the refugee and asylum seeker groups provide good examples of how the development of such forms of linking capital represents an opportunity for the kind of 'joined up policy' approaches advocated by the Labour government to address such multifaceted policy problems.

7.3 Funding issues in Sport and Social Inclusion of Refugees and Asylum Seekers

In many instances the viability of policy initiatives in sport for these groups hinges on the availability of financial resources. Refugee associations or organisations serving the interests, or acting on behalf, of refugees in the UK are facing a real dilemma when it comes to applying for funding to organise sport activities aimed at the social inclusion of refugees. A first concern is the perception of sport among refugee and asylum seeker groups. Sport for different cultural, socio-economic or policy reasons, may not be considered as a priority for refugees, particularly during their first years of residence in the host society. This is true for refugees themselves and organisations dealing with refugees matters. Most of the refugees and asylum seekers are from countries and cultures where the notion of leisure time as it is understood (as time spent free of obligation and necessity) and commodified in the western societies, is absent. Moreover, the socio-economic conditions under which refugees are living prevent them from qualitatively transforming their free time into leisure activity. Most of them are obliged, at least in their first years in the host country, to take on the unskilled jobs of earlier generations of labour migrants in order to meet their day to day expenses. Sport activities here may be seen as a risk, for example as a potential source of injury which could prevent them from undertaking their day to day (largely manual) jobs, rather than as a form of amusement.

The second issue to consider is the status of refugees in the host society. Refugees are categorised as newly established minorities, culturally they may share the same origin or religious identities as other British ethnic minorities, although they have a different and recent history of (forced) migration, and as a result different needs and aspirations. Some refugee communities may refuse to be marked in public as refugees since they wish to be completely, culturally or politically, assimilated as British ethnic minorities.

What do these factors imply in relation to funding and resourcing?

- a) Refugees or 'newly established minorities' may be seen by the British minorities as competitors or rivals in accessing the available funding schemes usually directed towards the social inclusion of British ethnic minorities.
- b) Because of the absence of political representation at local levels, cultural fragmentation, a lack of socio-economic networking and of political weight in the host community, refugee communities may not be seen as a high priority in the hierarchy of target groups for social inclusion.

Consequently, when it comes to targeting funding programmes for social integration in general and funding schemes aiming at the use of sport for the social inclusion of refugees in particular, we can detect four main strategies to be adopted:

- Funding schemes aiming at community cohesion, social inclusion, integration and Neighbourhood renewal. For instance Social exclusion and Neighbourhood Renewal Units Schemes.
- Funding schemes aiming specifically at the integration of refugees in general. For instance Barclays and Lloyds TSB foundations; Home Office Refugee Integration Challenge Fund; Refugee Community Development Fund .
- Funding schemes aiming at using sport for social inclusion, community cohesion, and fostering multi-cultural dialogue. For instance funding programmes for social integration of ethnic minorities from Sport England; UK Sport; Football foundation and Foundation for Sport and Art.
- Funding schemes aiming at the use of sport for the social inclusion of refugees. For instance Comic Relief; kick it out.

For Asylum seekers the situation is more complex in relation to resourcing than for refugees. An asylum seeker does not have citizenship status and therefore cannot access the same funding programmes that newly established minorities and British Ethnic minorities would normally benefit from. The other difficulty concerns the administrative limits linked to the restricted civil rights of asylum seekers. A case in point is the opening of a bank account, which is required for the formal establishing of a sporting or cultural association and which may not be possible for an asylum seeker. The second issue is that of asylum seekers who have been given Protection on Humanitarian Grounds or Discretionary Leave in the UK and for whom the time restriction (temporary residence) in the host country means that the concern with integration is more focused on 'basic' needs (e.g. housing, employment).

In both situations the practice of sport and leisure, if any, should be aiming at health and psychological rehabilitation rather than social inclusion per se, since the relation with the host country is more that of a temporary, rather than permanent, resident. In this context applications for funding are usually made on behalf of asylum seekers by governmental bodies (NASS), local authorities (sport and community development officers) or non-governmental organisations (Commission for Racial Equality, local and regional organisations for asylum seekers) and is usually aimed at short term funding schemes. Under this category we can cite the Home Office Purposeful Activities For Asylum Seekers Fund which "gives individuals the chance to develop basic skills that will be useful whether they are ultimately given status in the UK or asked to return to their country of origin. Activities may take place at any time during the year, and may last for between 4 and 12 months".

It should be noted however that in the actual context of economic recession and problems of unemployment in Europe asylum seekers are negotiating their integration attended by two political discourses, which may have an impact on the nature and amount of the funding they receive. The first is an official discourse, informed by humanist values, which sees in the reception of 'newcomers' as an occasion to celebrate the long tradition of European tolerance toward those who have been persecuted for their religious, or cultural identities and/or their political opinion. The second is a non-official discourse, informed by the economic variables and general immigration policy, which seeks to discourage more people from asking for asylum in the country, as a way to reduce the financial burden that the flow of illegal immigrants and 'non genuine' asylum seekers may cause for the country. In this case providing resources for the practice of sport or for leisure purposes may be seen as inappropriate or problematic by politicians and the general public.

7.4 Conclusions: Management and Policy Implications

As indicated in the concluding section to the previous chapter there are significant gaps in the appreciation of the role that sport can play on the part of those staffing organisations which deal with the generic needs of refugees and asylum seekers, and a general lack of appreciation of the situation and needs of refugees and asylum seekers on the part of those working in the sports domain.. This is not universally true and there are oases of good practice. Nevertheless there is a real need to invest in sensitising professionals from the respective camps as to the roles which sport can play in tackling social exclusion of these groups.

A major limitation of the majority of the projects reviewed was that there was an implicit or de facto emphasis on provision for male refugees and asylum seekers, and indeed many of the projects which purported to target meeting the needs of refugee and asylum seeker community 'X' were actually targeting only the needs of the male population. The fine balance between respecting cultural sensitivities through a multicultural approach while having a concern with gender equity is one which will require careful consideration on the part of policy advocates and implementers.

It is worth reemphasizing also that ,while some of the claims which are made in this document in relation to the projects reviewed may not be amenable to detailed, quantitative, generalisable evaluation, nevertheless there is a need to build a body of evidence on which to evaluate current and future practice.

Finally, it is worth noting that the proposed amendments to the Immigration and Asylum regulations announced by the British Government in February 2005 and which are intended to limit the number of asylum seekers and their length of stay in this country will invariably also have an impact on the level and nature of demand for provision of services in this field. Such changes in legislation and in the global politico-economic system are likely to have an ongoing impact on the size and nature of response that will be required to service the needs of such groups.

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Appendix A: The Programme of Activities for the East Midlands / Cardiff and Glasgow Workshops

Programme for Workshop Seminar - 6 December 2004 East Midlands / Cardiff

The Roles of Sport in the Social Inclusion of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

10.15 – 10.30

Arrival at Loughborough University

10.30 – 10.45

Welcome, introduction and opening discussion on the goals of the workshop

10.45 - 11.30

Summary of research project findings

Speakers: Prof. Ian Henry, Dr. Mahfoud Amara, Dawn Aquilina (ISLP)

11.30 - 12.10

Group discussion of aspects of good and bad practice

12.10 – 12.30

Reporting back on group discussions and identifying policy issues for future consideration

12.30 – 14.00

Sandwich Lunch provided

14.00 – 15.00

Thematic session: Resourcing

Speakers drawn from a range of sectors will be asked to make brief statements about the resources from their sector which may be relevant to the needs of refugee and asylum seeker groups, and how these might be accessed. Representatives from the following sectors have been invited to participate:

- Central Government
 - Regional bodies (e.g. Sports England)
 - Local Community representative
 - Local Authority Officer
 - Commercial representative
 - Neighbourhood renewal/Social Exclusion Officer
-
-

15.00 – 15.15

Coffee Break

15.15 – 16.30

Q & A session

Review Progress

Plan of action

Chair: Prof. Fred Coalter

Programme for Workshop - Thursday 9th December 2004 Glasgow

The Use of Sport for the Social Inclusion of Asylum Seekers and Refugees

10.15 – 10.30

Arrival and Coffee

10.30 – 10.45

Welcome, introduction and opening discussion on the goals of the workshop

10.45 - 11.30

Summary of research project findings

Speakers: John Taylor, University of Stirling

11.30 - 12.10

Group discussions of issues identified during the research

12.10 – 12.30

Reporting back on group discussions and identifying policy issues for further consideration

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch provided

13.30 – 15.00

Thematic session: Volunteering and the Development of Transferable Skills

- Louise Holmes, Advice Guidance and Compliance Officer, **Central Registered Body in Scotland**
- Speaker TBC, **Glasgow City Council**
- Speaker TBC, **Scottish Executive**
- Jennifer Kibagendi, Volunteering and Interpreting Co-ordinator, **Scottish Refugee Council**
- Speaker TBC, **Volunteer Development Scotland**

15.00 – 15.15

Coffee Break

15.15 – 16.30

Q & A session

Review Progress

Plan of action

Chair: Prof. Ian Henry

Appendix B: Organisational Representatives at the East Midlands / Cardiff and Glasgow Workshops

List of organisational representatives for the East Midlands/Cardiff Workshop 6 Dec. 2004

Liz Clery (Home Office)
Victoria Southwell (Sport Relief)
Piara Powar (Kick it Out)
Beth Crosland (Information Centre about Asylum and Refugees, ICAR)
Helen Everett (East Midlands Consortium for Asylum and Refugee Support)
Balraj Johal (VOICE Nottingham)
Nik Trivedi (VOICE East Midlands)
Rashid Kaddour (Algerian Association)
Rachel Booth (Nottingham City Council)
Terry Humphries (Nottingham City Council)
Ferid Kevric (Derby Bosnia Herzegovina Community Association)
Cheddi Gore (Racial Equality Leicester)
Kwaku Amponah (Voluntary Action Leicester)
Brian Booi (Voluntary Action Leicester)
Mehdi Barghchi (Amity Project–Leicester)
Cath Morton (Sports Link –Charnwood Arts)
Andrew Lake (Dreamers Youth Project Officer)
Khaled Fazal (Madeley Youth Centre, Derby)
Richard Williams (Derby City council)
Tanvir Akram (Derby City Council)
Banire Sy Savane (captain of World stars football team)
Themba Moyo (Zimbabwean Association - Cardiff)
Anza Dube (Zimbabwean Association - Cardiff)

Organisations represented at the Glasgow Workshop 9 Dec. 2004

The Big Lottery Fund
Castlemilk Churches Together Refugee Centre
Central Registered Body in Scotland
Children 1st
Crossroads Youth and Community Group
COSLA
Glasgow Alliance
Glasgow Anti- Racist Alliance
Glasgow City Council, Cultural and Leisure Services
Greater Govan Asylum Seekers Support Group
Hitsport
Kingsway Court Health and Wellbeing Centre
Maryhill Community Health Project
Maryhill Integration Network
Paths to Health
Red Road Women's Centre
Scottish Asian Sports Association
Scottish Asylum Seekers Consortium
Scottish Executive
Scottish Refugee Council
Scottish Rocks

sportscotland
Strathclyde Police
Toryglen Information Station
Venture Scotland
Volunteer Centre Glasgow
Volunteer Development Scotland
Woodlands Youth Initiative

Appendix C: Notes on Potential Funding Sources Distributed to the Organisations represented at the East Midlands / Cardiff

I. National Level

1.1 The Abbey Charitable Trust priorities for 2004

History and Purpose

Abbey's Charitable Trust was set up in 1990 to provide a focus for our activities with the voluntary sector. The Trust is funded partly from annual grants from Abbey and partly from income from endowment funds given by the company to the Trust.

To date the Trust has given more than £15 million to charity.

New priorities for 2004

The Trustees are committed to supporting local communities, particularly in those areas where Abbey has a significant presence, by supporting disadvantaged people through:

education and training

This may lead to a recognised qualification or be part of lifelong learning for disadvantaged people. Charities will need to demonstrate how this training will make a lasting contribution to their local community.

local regeneration projects which encourage cross community partnerships.

To meet this priority different parts of the community need to work together to help regenerate their local area. The aim is to encourage community networks, partnerships and shared resources. This would include intergenerational work, inclusion of disadvantaged people, cross community projects, encouraging diversity or networks of people from different ethnic groups to work together.

financial advice which helps them manage their money.

Helping disadvantaged people to take control of their money and to develop the confidence to make informed choices about their finances. This would include budgeting skills and advice about managing the financial challenges that arise from unemployment, disability and ill health.

The organisation can only support organisations with charitable status.

It prefers to fund a complete project rather than make a partial donation to a fund-raising campaign. Requests should be for something that is suitable for one off funding.

1.2 Trust donation programmes

All of these donations are allocated in accordance with the priorities agreed by the Trustees.

The Trust however receives many more applications for priority support than can be met from available funds.

The organisation will be focusing its support in those places where we have a Community Partnership Group. Outside of these areas the maximum donation that will be considered is £2,500.

Community Partnership Groups in:

Camden

Glasgow

Bradford

Milton Keynes

Sheffield

Northern Ireland

Teesside

Norfolk

East London

Donations in these areas can range from £250 to a maximum of £20,000.

For more information see www.abbeynational.com/home/comm_inv/comm_inv-trust.htm

1.3 Awards for All

Awards for All is a Lottery grants scheme aimed at local communities, awarding grants of between £500 and £5,000 in a simple and straightforward way.

It can fund projects that enable people to take part in art, sport, heritage and community activities, as well as projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community.

Applications can be made at any time

- The application form is short and simple
- There are links to guidance notes and sources of help
- You will be told if you are successful or not within 3 months

If you are planning a project and you need between £500 and £5,000 then Awards for All may be able to help you. Sometimes quite small sums of money can have a big impact.

Website: www.awardsforall.org.uk see also : <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/>

Community Fund: one of the bodies set up by Parliament to distribute money raised by the National Lottery to support charitable or voluntary groups.

<http://www.community-fund.org.uk/>

New Opportunities Fund (NOF) : a Lottery distributor created to award grants to health, education and environment projects throughout the UK.

Web: <http://www.nof.org.uk/>

1.4 Barclays Social Responsibility Programme

Barclay's generally look to fund projects between £1,000 and £25,000 on a local or regional basis, although they will consider larger grants for national projects, or for local projects that will benefit significant numbers of people, or that will have a substantial positive impact. They currently focus their financial support on five areas: Education, the Environment, the Arts, People with Disabilities and Social Inclusion. Below are some examples of the types of projects they will consider – many will cut across two or more of the five main areas of support.

Education - Local schools

- initiatives that provide additional amenities or facilities (e.g. a sensory room or a woodland garden) rather than capital projects
- Projects such as literacy or numeracy work, which might carry the support of the Education Business Partnerships; Childcare, after school care, crèches and nursery projects; Initiatives, which through education, prevent addiction to drink and drugs;
- Initiatives promoting the welfare and development of young people.

The Environment

- Environmental regeneration projects: Helping community groups to improve their local environment; Environmental organisations; Projects involving recycling of materials or resources.

The Arts

Arts organisations which have a local community impact.

People with Disabilities

- Advice and training of people with disabilities and their careers: Initiatives which encourage the education and employment of people with disabilities.

Social Inclusion

- Children, particularly those from deprived backgrounds: Families in need or under stress; Homelessness; Unemployed people – especially education and training; Frail and less well-off older people

Staff involvement - They also actively encourage their staff to get involved in community activities, and therefore look to fund projects that offer opportunities for our people to do just that.

For further information visit: www.barclays.co.uk/socialresponsibility

1.5 Barclays Spaces for Sports

Barclays Spaces for Sports is the single biggest investment in grassroots sport by a private company ever in the UK. It focuses on regeneration and sports, creating

sustainable sports sites for people to engage in sport and physical activities in areas without such facilities.

They will make a lasting difference to our UK communities, bringing them closer together and making a positive impact and a genuine contribution. This is part of our commitment to invest 1% of our UK pretax profits in the community, and complements our three year commercial sponsorship of the Barclays Premiership.

They have a history of investing in community sport and regeneration. For instance, they have over nine years experience in creating new community spaces with our previous investment of £8 million with Groundwork transforming derelict and underused land into over 800 vibrant spaces for the community.

Three years ago they developed Barclaycard Free Kicks in partnership with The Football Foundation investing £4 million in grassroots football. They provided kit and equipment to over 1200 deserving teams and groups, and supported the FA Premier League clubs' community projects, which involved 120,000 young people.

Building on the success of these programmes, Barclays Spaces for Sports will fund the development of sporting facilities and ensure that they are maintained and enjoyed by all for years to come.

With their charity partners and in consultation with local communities, they'll identify over 100 spaces for funding from Barclays Spaces for Sports every year.

They'll help local communities transform neglected land into the sporting facilities they want - from a skateboard park to a football pitch or multi use games area. They'll also provide initial revenue funds, supply equipment and offer expert assistance to groups to establish sporting activity on these sites. Most importantly they will ensure they get expert guidance on building sustainability plans for the site. This will give each project the kick start it needs and ongoing support to ensure local people benefit from the space well into the future.

But it's not just about creating new facilities. they will continue our help to the young teams in most need of our support across the country by providing them with a Barclays Spaces for Sports coaching kit worth £750. This kit has everything a team needs for coaching, from t-shirts and fleeces to cones and whistles.

Together with The Football Foundation and Groundwork, they're already working with communities to identify areas and projects that can benefit from Barclays Spaces for Sports.

Once these sites are approved from December 2004 onwards, you can find out more details about their locations and how you can get involved - so watch this space. Their charity partners will identify and select all the spaces for sports. Websites: www.footballfoundation.org.uk; www.groundwork.org.uk; www.barclays.co.uk/spacesforsports

1.6 Comic Relief - UK Grants

The UK grants programme aims to tackle poverty and promote social justice by helping people make lasting, positive changes in their lives and their communities.

Their aims are to: reach the poorest and most disadvantaged people; help people find solutions to the problems they face; help groups who face discrimination get their views heard and their needs met; support groups which are user-led, or which can show they want to move towards users running the service; make the public more aware of the needs, hopes and rights of the disadvantaged people they support; and support work which influences social policy at national, regional and local levels.

During 2003-2005 they will give funding to five specific areas: Supporting Young People; Fighting for Justice; Domestic Abuse; Refugees and Asylum Seekers; Local Communities Working For Change. See website for more details of each of these programmes at: www.comicrelief.com

Comic Relief, 5th Floor, 89 Albert Embankment, London SE1 7TP or download it off the Comic Relief web-site: <http://comicrelief.com/entry.shtml> or contact Comic Relief via: Tel: 020 7820 5555 Fax: 020 7820 5500 , Textphone: 020 7820 5579 or E-mail: ukgrants@comicrelief.org.uk .

1.7 Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation is one of the largest independent grant-making foundations in the UK.

They make grants to organisations which aim to improve the quality of life for people and communities in the UK, both now and in the future.

They like to consider work which others may find hard to fund, perhaps because it breaks new ground, appears too risky, requires core funding, or needs a more unusual form of financial help such as a loan.

They also take initiatives themselves where new thinking is required or where they believe there are important unexplored opportunities.

This information is taken from the relevant pages of their application guidelines. Please read the guidelines in full before contacting them to discuss making an application.

Arts programme - The Arts programme has two main areas of interest: Serving Audiences and Supporting Artists. They welcome proposals that fit the aims of both of these, particularly proposals that benefit audiences and artists outside Greater London.

The Foundation's Education programme covers two broad areas of interest: New approaches to education and Hard-to-reach learners. They look to support imaginative and flexible approaches to learning that are unlikely to be funded through statutory education sources. Where appropriate, they will support the costs of professional and curriculum development, research and evaluation.

New approaches to education aims to improve the quality, breadth and relevance of learning for young people (0-16) in pre-school and statutory education by testing new approaches to teaching and learning.

In this category, they will only consider work that is likely to have a lasting influence on education policy and/or practice.

Environment programme - Many environmental impacts are a consequence of growing resource consumption created by the global spread of industrialisation and affluence. Environmental improvement is therefore dependent on changes in public opinion and lifestyle choices.

Their Environment programme seeks to support projects that prevent environmental degradation whilst recognising legitimate aspirations for housing, goods, transport and leisure activities.

They welcome applications under the following headings: Biodiversity and Marine Conservation; Business, Consumers and Investors; Community Living; Sustainable Food Systems.

Social Development programme - The Social Development programme aims to improve the lives of people and communities facing disadvantage. They prioritise those at greatest need, including those living in or on the edge of poverty.

They want to invest in organisations which change people's lives. They will support community-based work which enables individuals to progress; enterprising activities; and initiatives which tackle more entrenched, structural problems.

You will find further information in Applying for a grant on their website.

Esmée Fairbairn Foundation, 11 Park Place, London SW1A 1LP Tel: 020 7297 4700
Fax: 020 7297 4701 Email: info@esmeefairbairn.org.uk Website:
www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk

1.8 The Football Foundation

The Football Foundation, the UK's largest sports charity, has secured a new long term funding package. An annual package of £45m has now been finalised by the Foundation's funding partners, Sport England, the FA Premier League and the Football Association. Since the Foundation's launch in 2000, over 1,000 projects worth a total of £250m have been funded. With investment now secure for another three years, the Foundation is set to build on this success by creating even more new facilities and opportunities for thousands of communities throughout the country. The Football Foundation is a unique partnership funded by the FA Premier League, The FA, Sport England and the Government. The Foundation is the UK's largest sports charity. With grants ranging from £100 to £1m, the Foundation can provide funding for changing rooms, pitches, community and educational projects, floodlights, pitch drainage, or football kits and equipment for junior teams. In addition, the Foundation and the New Opportunities Fund have made a £30m commitment to school football facilities. Grants of up to £1m are available to over 20,000 primary and secondary schools across England, to build or modernise football pitches, changing rooms, floodlights or multi use games areas, providing new opportunities for extending sporting provision for pupils and communities. Additional revenue funding is also available for equipment, maintenance machinery and grounds staff.

Particularly tackle poor football facilities in schools situated in disadvantaged areas, with funding targeted at most deprived wards in the country. Fast track small grant schemes are also available up to £10,000 for both grass roots projects and community schemes. Grants of up to £250,000 over 5 years are also available through the Community and Education scheme for projects using the power of football as a force for good within communities. These include healthy living initiatives, projects to cut crime anti social behaviour, promote education and tackle racism and prejudice. Community and Education Small Grants Scheme - The aim of the Small Grants Scheme (SGS) is to encourage applications to promote coach education, volunteering programmes and creating opportunities for community groups, clubs and local organisations. Under the SGS, funding (of up to 90%) is available for projects with costs of less than £10,000 and to groups who are supporting young people aged under 25 years. The Foundation encourages applications from community groups whose income is less than £15,000 per annum. There is no age limit for disabled groups. Free Kit! - Junior Kit Scheme - Grants are available for under 16 teams for the value of £300 which can be used for the purchase of football kit. The grant will be given in the form of a voucher, which can be exchanged with our nominated supplier. Clubs/schools may only receive one grant every three years. The Football Foundation, 25 Soho Square, London W1D 4FF Tel: 020 7534 4210. As part of the Foundation's new partnership with Barclays called 'Spaces for Sports' 1,200 sets of coaching kit and equipment are also available to

teams and groups with the greatest need to help them get started. To obtain an application form Email: enquiries@spacesforsports.org.uk or Tel: 0800 027 4221

Fax: 020 7287 0459 Help Desk 0800 0277766 Email:

enquiries@footballfoundation.org.uk Website: www.footballfoundation.org.uk

1.9 Foundation for Sport and the Arts

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts was established in 1991. They channel money donated by the Football Pools company, Littlewoods Gaming into a wide range of sporting and artistic causes. They look to support a wide range of activities where there is clear beneficial impact across the community. Their particular goal at this time is to encourage active participation by young people.

Apart from football and horse racing, most socially inclusive sport is considered. Support for the arts covers the widest spectrum of activity.

They try hard to make the application process as straightforward as possible. All applications should be made on the Questionnaire accessible via their website, which you can print out, complete and post to them, with all relevant associated documents.

Please ensure that you download and read the Guidelines relating to applications before completing the paperwork, to ensure that: Your application is for an activity they are able to support; They can process your application as quickly as possible; They undertake to keep you informed at all stages of the application process.

Alternatively, you can contact them and they will post the Questionnaire and Guidelines to you.

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts, PO Box 20 Liverpool L13 1HB Tel: 0151 259 5505 Fax: 0151 230 0664 Email: contact@thefsa.net - Website: www.thefsa.net

1.10 High Peak Community Fund

The High Peak Community Fund is a grant aid scheme available to voluntary organisations and community groups. These should provide services, facilities and activities that improve the quality of life for the residents of the High Peak

The key aim of the Fund is to assist in the development, promotion and co-ordination of sporting, artistic, cultural, community, environmental, educational and development initiatives within the Borough.

Applications to the grant scheme must reflect the strategic priorities of the council (*Improving the High Peak: Priorities for action 2003-2008*) these are:

Supporting people

Creating jobs and prosperity

Protecting the environment

Improving the council

Constituted voluntary/community (non profit-making) groups can apply for a grant from the Community Fund.

If you require any advice and/or assistance with your application contact High Peak Borough Council on Telephone: 0845 129 7777 or access our website at: www.highpeakgov.uk

1.11 Lloyds TSB Foundation's 2004 Guidelines for Applicants

The Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales has published its new guidelines for charities applying for a grant during 2004. Grants are given to charities which help disadvantaged and disabled people to play a fuller role in the community.

The majority of the Foundation's grants fall under the 'Community Programme' - 89% of funds distributed in 2003 were under this programme. The average donation in the East Midlands in 2003 was £6,189.

The guidelines also give details of the Collaborative Programme, which encourages 'joined up' working within the voluntary sector and with public agencies. This accounted for 7% of funds in 2003. The remainder of last year's funds went to new initiatives that were innovative and could demonstrate a clear intention to roll out pilot projects across England and Wales. These type of projects will continue to be funded in 2004.

Each of the Foundation's nine English regions has its own funding priorities based on local need. Priorities for the East Midlands include:

organisations working with disadvantaged and disabled people;

infrastructure support for black and ethnic communities;

support for rural groups; and

support for initiatives enabling charities to diversify income.

Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales

3rd Floor

4 St. Dunstan's Hill

London EC3R8UL

0870 411 1223

0870 411 1224 (Please post application forms)

Guidelines@lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

1.12 Local Network Fund

The Local Network Fund is a pot of money from the DfES to fund projects and activities for children and young people up to the age of 19. The aim of the fund is to enable local voluntary and community groups to meet the needs and make a difference to the lives of youngsters in this age group.

Grants of between £250 and £7000 are available to any 'small' local voluntary and community groups with an annual turnover of under £100,000. The fund will support new projects and activities, and extensions of service which meet one of its four themes. These are

- **Aspiration and Experience:** enabling children and young people who would otherwise miss out on certain childhood experiences to enjoy activities and achieve goals that others take for granted
- **Economic disadvantage:** schemes to help families improve their living standards and cope with difficulties that come from being on a low income
- **Isolation and Access:** support and opportunities for children and young people who may feel isolated or alone, or have difficulty accessing services that are available to other young people.

- Children's Voices: giving youngsters the chance to express their opinions and give advice on matters that concern them

Local Network Fund contact the national call centre on 0845 113 0161 (local rate call). Alternatively, if you would like more information about the fund, or to discuss whether the project you have in mind would meet the fund's criteria, you can contact Derbyshire Community Foundation on 01332 592050

1.13 Sport England - new funding process

Sport England invests in projects which help people start, stay and succeed in sport. There are two funding streams - community and national. Community investment - If you are looking for a grant of between £500 and £5000, you should apply to the Awards for All grants programme.

Decisions about grants over £5000 are made locally by the nine regional sports boards. Eligible projects will be assessed against the priorities laid out in each region's sports plan and the National Framework for Sport which can be downloaded from their website.

Sport England Lottery Fund Application packs, advice and fund details Tel: 08458 508 508, Monday-Friday, 8am to 6pm Website: www.sportengland.org

1.14 Tudor Trust latest priorities

In April 2004 The Tudor Trust updated their funding priorities. Tudor aims to help break cycles of disadvantage and dependency. Preventing people from being drawn into these cycles is crucially important too. They are therefore interested in supporting projects that increase people's capacity to cope, build their confidence and vision and give them greater control over their future

The Trustees particularly want to work with smaller, under-resourced organisations which are people centred and provide direct services

Relevant areas:

Youth - encouraging confident participation

Young people who are: aged between 9-25; at risk. Projects involving: Detached youth work; centres and meeting places with a strong involvement of young people; peer education and peer mentoring; support for disaffected young men; youth organisations who offer counselling for young people.

Community - renewing the social fabric

People who are: living in disadvantaged communities; Projects involving: living in marginalized areas. Projects involving: community resources and centres set up and run by local people; community managed green spaces in urban areas; Gypsy/Traveller communities; support for refugees recently granted leave to stay.

Full guidelines can be downloaded from their website or contact: The Tudor Trust, 7 Ladbrooke Grove, London W11 3BD Tel: 020 7727 8522 Fax: 020 7221 8522

Website: www.tudortrust.org.uk

1.15 British Sports Trust

To provide courses and training programmes to assist and encourage leadership, coaching and the organisation of sport and physical recreation

Total Funds: £0.92m

Total Investments£0.58m

Address: Central Council of Physical Recreation

Francis House

Francis St, London

SW1P 1DE

Tel:020 7828 3163

Fax:020 7630 7046

CC registration: 299810.

Internet: www.thebritishsportstrust.org.uk

1.16 National Coaching Foundation

Sports Coach UK.

The education of sports coaches and others engaged in the teaching of sporting skills like physiology, biomechanics, psychology and other sports related subjects. The provision of technical advice, study programmes, membership services and public relations activity.

Address: 114 Cardigan Road

Headingley

Leeds

LS6 3BJ

Tel: 0113 274 4802

Fax: 0113 275 5019

CC registration: 327354.

Internet: www.sportscoachuk.org

Total Funds£0.95m

1.17 National Association of Clubs for Young People

The second largest non-uniformed voluntary youth organisation in the country. It has some 2,800 affiliated youth clubs and helps 400,000 young men and women each year, many from the toughest areas of the country. The largest supplier of youth sports across the country, with events ranging from cross-country and athletics, through football to include even pool and angling. Acutely aware of the issues of child protection and publishes a number of items of good practice for those working with young people

- Providing member organisations and clubs with practical tools to deliver high quality youth work
- Delivering and promoting national and regional youth programmes with a wide variety of partners

- Working with Government and other statutory and voluntary bodies to develop leading edge policy and practice to improve opportunities for young people throughout the United Kingdom

Address : 371, Kennington Lane, London, SE11 5QY

Telephone : 0207 793 0787

Fax : 0207 820 9815

Email : office@nacyp.org.uk

Total Funds:£2.73m

Total Investments:£2.31m

Internet: www.nacyp.org.uk

1.20 National Council of Young Men's Christian Associations YMCA England.

The YMCA movement in England is a Christian charity committed to helping young people, particularly at times of need, regardless of gender, race, ability or faith, by the provision of high quality programmes in the following integrated areas: housing, training, personal and social development, sport, exercise and fitness, international work

Address: 640 Forest Road

Walthamstow

London

E17 3DZ

Tel: 020 8520 5599

Fax: 020 8509 3190

CC registration: 212810.

Internet: www.ymca.org.uk

Total Funds: £10.8m

Total Investments: £4.40m

II. Regional Levels: East Midland and South Wales

2.1 The Catalyst Fund

The Catalyst Fund is a fund for the East Midlands to provide grants of up to £6000 to unemployed people and community groups to run activities that benefit the target community.

The Catalyst Fund can be spent on the running costs (day to day expenses such as rent, bills and travel costs) but not on capital costs (single items over £1000).

It can be used for activities which bring people together, such as a festival or self-help group activities which increase skills, such as mechanical skills or IT training small business start up for unemployed applicants

Phase 4 of the Catalyst Programme is targeting the following areas:

- Nottingham Radford & Hyson Green (NDC area) ~ excluded young people aged 13-15 and disadvantaged people aged 16-25
- North Nottinghamshire (13 wards - Worksop South East, Worksop South, Bilsthorpe, Clipstone, Blidworth, Forest Town, Sherwood, Broom Hill, Sutton North, Sutton West, Woodhouse, Selston, Jacksdale) ~ excluded young people aged 13-15 and disadvantaged young people aged 16-19
- Nottinghamshire ~ Hucknall & Selston
- Northamptonshire ~ Black and minority ethnic communities in Wellingborough
- Northampton ~ excluded young people aged 13-15 and disadvantaged young people aged 16-19
- Derbyshire ~ Ashbourne, Bakewell & Buxton

Funding will be available for up to three years depending on the area for projects lasting up to 6 months

Catalyst Programme is based at

CEFET

114 Mansfield Road, Nottingham, NG1 3HL

0115 9110466

catalyst@cefet.org.uk

www.catalystfund.org.uk

2.2 The East Midlands Funders Forum (<http://www.emfunders.org.uk/>)

is a partnership of public, private and charitable funder's of the voluntary and community sector in the East Midlands. The EMFF is supported by [Regeneration East Midlands](http://www.regenerationem.co.uk) (<http://www.regenerationem.co.uk>) who provide the organisational and administrative support through their Funding Executive. The EMFF has relationships with regional voluntary sector umbrella bodies such as [Voice](http://www.voice-em.org.uk/sports/index.asp) (<http://www.voice-em.org.uk/sports/index.asp>) and [Engage](http://www.engage-em.org.uk) (<http://www.engage-em.org.uk>), and has also developed valuable relationships with other important strategic regional organisations including the [Regional Assembly](http://www.emrlga.gov.uk) and the [Regional Local Government Association](http://www.emrlga.gov.uk). (<http://www.emrlga.gov.uk>) comprises responsibility for managing the regional consortium for [Asylum and Refugee Support](#)

2.3 Lloyds TSB Foundation for England & Wales

"The large black and minority ethnic (BME) communities in inner cities often mirror areas of deprivation. Organisational capacity and cultural issues mean many of these communities have difficulties accessing sources of support and finance. For this reason they remain a focus of our work".

"The East Midlands is home to 8% of refugees and asylum seekers across the UK. This represents 4,500 people settling in a strange land and having to absorb a new culture. These people should be supported to assimilate into the community and for this reason they are a priority for the East Midlands".

East Midlands Regional Office

Manager, East Midlands: Gary Beharrell

Administration Assistant, East Midlands: Ann Sturgess

Lloyds TSB Bank
PO Box 510
11 Low Pavement
Nottingham NG1 7DF
Tel:0115 958 8745
Fax:0115 950 6472
Email:gary.beharrell@lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

South West Regional Office

Lloyds TSB Bank
Sedgemoor House, Deangate Avenue
Taunton TA1 2UF
Tel: 01823 444032
Fax: 01823 444034
Email:rodney.thorne@lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

Objectives for 2004

To provide leisure opportunities for children living in poverty through the identification and funding of holiday activity projects

- To encourage the establishment of voluntary sector forums
- To assist with assimilation of refugees and asylum seekers in the region
- To support the establishment of a South West Funders Forum

2.5 The HBOS Foundation

The HBOS Foundation was established in May 2002, following the merger of Halifax and Bank of Scotland to create HBOS plc. The HBOS Foundation operates as an independent company and works with charitable and not-for-profit organisations across the UK, supporting people and their local communities.

The Foundation provides local grants to support a diverse range of projects - from funding equipment at a special needs school to supporting a debt advice service in an economically deprived area.

Developing and improving local communities - the HBOS Foundation wants to help people and agencies in the voluntary sector to improve communities and the lives of individuals. For example:

- Social Inclusion. Projects that bring people back into the community who have been excluded, e.g. the disabled, the elderly and ethnic minorities.
- Life Long Learning. Enhancing learning opportunities across all age groups and sectors e.g. mainstream education, second chance education, special needs provisions, life skills training etc.

For further information please call the HBOS Foundation Helpline on 0845 673 2005.

Midlands & East Anglia Regional

Office

Sandra Wensley
Regional Office
Halifax plc
8th Floor Civic House
Queensway
Birmingham B3 3AH

South Wales & West

Regional Office
Christine Ramsay-Wade
Halifax plc
12th Floor Castlemead
Lower Castle Street
Bristol BS1 3AH

2.4 Wales Communities First

Communities First is the Welsh Assembly Government's major programme for tackling poverty and deprivation in most deprived communities across Wales. Under the programme each eligible area will establish a Communities First Partnership who will develop a Community Action Plan to drive renewal and regeneration in their area.

Funding of £64.92 between 2001-2004 has been allocated to the programme. One of the aims of Communities First Partnerships will be to tie in other funding streams.

Further information for all Communities First initiatives can be obtained from:

Mary Davies

Communities First Unit

Welsh Assembly Government

Cathays Park

Cardiff

CF10 3NQ

Tel: 02920 823677

[E-mail: mary.davies1@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:mary.davies1@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

2.5 Wales Local Regeneration Fund - Contacts

North & Mid Wales

Contact: John Davies - Machynlleth Office

Tel: 01654 704904

[E-mail: john.davies2@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:john.davies2@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

South East Wales

Contact: Nigel Jarvis - Cathays Park Office

Tel: 029 2082 3343

[E-mail: nigel.jarvis@wales.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:nigel.jarvis@wales.gsi.gov.uk)

South West Wales

Contact: Ian Watson - Carmarthen Office

Tel: 01267 225487

[E-mail](mailto:ian.watson@wales.gsi.gov.uk): ian.watson@wales.gsi.gov.uk

2.6 Welsh European Funding Office Contacts

Local & Communities North Wales

Contact: Karl James - Colwyn Bay Office

Tel: 01492 542609

[E-mail](mailto:Karl.James@Wales.gsi.gov.uk): Karl.James@Wales.gsi.gov.uk

Local & Communities South East Wales

Contact: Lesley Chang Kee - Cathays Park Office

Tel: 029 2082 5467

[E-mail](mailto:lesley.chang-kee@wales.gsi.gov.uk): lesley.chang-kee@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Local & Communities South West Wales

Contact: Ian Watson - Camarthen Office

Tel: 01267 225 487

[E-mail](mailto:ian.watson@wales.gsi.gov.uk): ian.watson@wales.gsi.gov.uk

2.7 The Sports Council of Wales

(SCW) is the national body for Sport in Wales. SCW distributes public money from the Welsh Assembly Government and the lottery to sportsmen and sports organisations.

SCW also commissions new work, conducts research, provides advice and information and develops awareness and support for the arts.

Contact :

SCW

Sophia Gardens

Cardiff

CF11 9SW

Tel: 029 2030 0500

Fax: 029 2030 0600

[e-mail](mailto:scw@scw.co.uk): scw@scw.co.uk

www.sports-council-wales.co.uk

Regional offices are at Carmarthen, Deeside and Plas Menai

2.8 Sports Council for Wales Trust:

Cyngor Chwaraeon Cymru; Lottery Sports Fund for Wales

Preserving and safeguarding the physical and mental health of the community through physical recreation (including sport) and the education in relation thereto; the provision of facilities for physical recreation which shall be available to members of the public at large

Address: National Sports Centre for Wales

Sophia Gardens
Cardiff
CF10 9SW

Tel: 029 2030 0564

Fax: 029 2030 0612

CC registration : 524477.

Internet: www.sports-council-wales.co.uk

Total Funds: £15.6m

III. Regeneration

[Renewal.net](http://www.renewal.net/) (<http://www.renewal.net/>): Online guide to what works in neighbourhood renewal. Documents on the site include how-to guides, case studies, project summaries and much more.

[Cabinet Office](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/index.asp) (<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/index.asp>): providing support to Government strategy, particularly in the priority areas of education, health, transport and crime and asylum.

[Community Development Foundation](http://www.cdf.org.uk/index.html) (<http://www.cdf.org.uk/index.html>): a public body that aims to pioneer, study and promote new forms of community development, and strengthen communities by ensuring the effective participation of people in determining the conditions which affect their lives.

[East Midlands Development Agency \(emda\)](http://www.emda.org.uk/main/) (<http://www.emda.org.uk/main/>): one of nine regional agencies, created to mark the most significant ever devolution of power from central Government. The agency's brief includes job creation, skills improvement, increasing competitiveness and attacking social exclusion.

[Government Office for the East Midlands \(GOEM\)](http://www.go-em.gov.uk/index.php) (<http://www.go-em.gov.uk/index.php>): one of nine Government Offices delivering central government programmes in the English regions. Based in Nottingham, the office brings staff from many government departments together under one roof to act as the voice of the Government.

[LGAnet](http://www.lga.gov.uk/) –(<http://www.lga.gov.uk/>) news and information from the Local Government Association

[Neighbourhood Renewal Unit](http://www.neighbourhood.gov.uk/) (<http://www.neighbourhood.gov.uk/>): part of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister responsible for narrowing the gap between deprived neighbourhoods and the rest of the country.

[Social Exclusion Unit](http://www.socialexclusionunit.gov.uk/) (<http://www.socialexclusionunit.gov.uk/>): set up by the Prime Minister to work on specific projects that aim to tackle social exclusion.

