Tackling Discrimination in Sport
Evaluating National Strategies and Developing Grassroots Initiatives to Increase Equality and Inclusion for All

A Public Policy Exchange Symposium

Thursday 2nd February 2017
10:15am – 4:30pm

Central London

Public Policy Exchange holds regular interactive seminars which provide an invaluable interface for policy discussion, debate and networking. These special events offer local practitioners, civil servants and other stakeholders not only an insight into current policy thinking, but also the opportunity to feed into future development across all areas of public policy.
Tackling Discrimination in Sport
Evaluating National Strategies and Developing Grassroots Initiatives to Increase Equality and Inclusion for All

Overview

Each year, people involved in sporting activities, either as spectators or participants, witness or experience discriminatory incidents related to racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, disability and religion.

Currently, 36.7% of people from black and minority (BME) backgrounds play sport at least once a week, yet they still face racial discrimination regularly. In response, the ‘Kick it Out’ campaign aims to work together with football, education and public groups to tackle racism in the sport. The organisation has been effective in raising awareness and gaining high profile supporters. Yet, racial discrimination remains prevalent in football with high profile cases such as the Luis Suarez and Patrice Evra incident. These high profile incidences set important precedents for how we address racism in sport and are negative examples for young people participating in any sport.

Disability is another area where many people face discrimination. Specifically, 17% of disabled people play sports regularly but still face the social challenges of exclusion. Despite the implementation of the Equality Act six years ago and the success of ‘Team GB’ at the London and Rio Olympics, many disabled people encounter lack of resources and awareness, thus lowering their participation in sport. This year, Hannah Cockroft the British sprint wheelchair champion accused two large sporting brands of discrimination because they wouldn't sponsor her because she doesn't wear shoes during her races.

On homosexuality, according to a BBC survey produced in 2016, 82% of supporters would have no problem with a homosexual player in their team. Even though this survey highlights definite progress, 8% of football supporters surveyed stated they would stop supporting their team if they had homosexual player. The same report stated that 70% of gay men and 73% of lesbians either partially or fully concealed their sexuality while playing youth sport. Even though sport has made definite strides with individuals such as Gareth Thomas and Keegan Hirst coming out and showing how sport can rally around players coming out as gay, the issue remains that individuals are frightened of the impact that coming out may have on their team if they had homosexual player. This year, Hannah Cockroft the British sprint wheelchair champion accused two large sporting brands of discrimination because they wouldn't sponsor her because she doesn't wear shoes during her races.

This symposium will offer local authorities, local and national sports organisations, third sector groups and other key stakeholders the opportunity to discuss national strategies, and learn from grassroots initiatives, as well as considering progress, challenges and next steps on how to effectively tackle discrimination in sport.

Why Attend?

✓ Overcome the challenges of population participation focusing on ensuring access to resources and equipment for disabled people
✓ Learn how to identify and showcase talent, exemplifying the benefits of promoting diversity in sport
✓ Gain insights on how to promote social inclusion-Working with schools and amateur teams to promote diversity
✓ Receive guidance on how to identify and address incidences of discrimination at all levels
✓ Consider ways to increase community cohesion and utilise local sports team to promote cultural integration
✓ Discuss and understand the root causes of discrimination in sport- thus having the tools in tackling the problem
✓ Obtain the tools to empower organisations that aim to tackle discrimination in sport in their local communities
✓ Identify and develop strong leadership in your local community to help tackle all discrimination

Who Should Attend?

- UK Sport
- Sport England, Sport Northern Ireland, Sport Scotland, Sport Wales
- Sport Partnerships
- British Sports Associations
- British Sports Clubs
- Sports Academies
- Sports Coaches
- Sports Officials
- Club Managers
- Premier League Clubs, Football League Clubs and Non-League Football Clubs
- Football Association Representatives
- Professional Football Association
- Sports Development Teams
- Police and Community Safety Teams
- Supporter Associations
- Community Groups
- Grass Roots Development Organisations
- Universities and Colleges
- Student Unions
- Leisure Centres
- Head Teachers and PE Teachers
- Equality and Human Rights Organisations
- Disability Sports Organisations
- Women's Sport Organisations
- Race Equality Third Sector Organisations
- LGBT Third Sector Organisations
- Gay Football Supporters Network (GFSN)
- Inclusion And Diversity Groups

Accommodation

Through our partnership with HotelMap, we are able to offer our delegates heavily discounted hotel rates at a wide range of London hotels. To view hotel availability and rates and to book online, visit www.HotelMap.com/MSNUZ/

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Programme

09:30 Registration and Morning Refreshments
10:15 Chair’s Welcome and Introduction
10:30 Panel Session One: Promoting the National Strategy in Tackling Discrimination- Setting an Example for All
• Holding professionals to the highest standard of practice and becoming role models for youth participants
• Identifying strong leadership and learning from those who have succeeded in overcoming discrimination
• Working in partnership with local, national and social media to promote equality and diversity in sport
• Monitoring and reporting incidences of discrimination in sport and sharing information in order to achieve a national outlook of the problem.
• Ensuring funding streams continue for disabled sport – Assessing the National Lottery Fund and other revenue streams
• Discussing the narrative surrounding sport and how to reduce the ‘macho’ nature of sport
11:15 Morning Refreshments
11:30 Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel One
12:30 Networking Lunch
13:30 Panel Session Two Tackling Discrimination Locally- Education, Empowerment and Increasing Participation
• Working with amateur clubs to increase participation of individuals from BME backgrounds
• Utilising education in schools to tackle all discrimination at the grassroots level
• Providing resources for local teams to encourage participation in sport
• Using sport to promote integration- Analysing the success of the Refugee Leagues
• Providing training for coaches and teachers, setting an example for sport players
• Empowering campaigns that promote diversity and inclusion in sport on a local level
14:15 Afternoon Refreshments
14:30 Open Floor Discussion and Debate with Panel Two
15:30 Chair’s Summary and Closing Comments
15:40 Networking Reception
16:30 Close

* Please note that the programme is subject to change without notice *

Event Details

Date: Thursday 2nd February 2017
Time: 10:15am – 4:30pm
Venue: Central London

Forthcoming Events

Helping Young People to Fulfil their Ambitions: Ensuring High Quality Careers Guidance in Schools and Colleges
6th December 2016

Fulfilling Our Ambitions for End of Life Care: Delivering a Co-ordinated, Compassionate & Person Centred Approach
7th December 2016

The Role of Fire and Rescue Authorities in Building Safe and Healthy Communities: Focusing on Transformation and Collaboration
8th December 2016

Putting Community Pharmacies at the Heart of the NHS - Improving Practice and Providing Quality Care
10th January 2017

Tackling Rape, Sexual Assault and Harassment at Universities and Colleges
11th January 2017

Reflecting and Representing the Community You Serve: Increasing Diversity and Equality in Policing
12th January 2017

A New Strategy for Cancer: Improving Care, Choice and Outcomes
17th January 2017

Tackling Dangerous Dog Attacks: Reviewing the Government Strategy and Promoting Partnership in Preventing Dog Attacks
18th January 2017

Improving Our Nation’s Flood Resilience: Protecting Communities Against Increasingly Severe Flooding
19th January 2017

Assessing Local Parking Enforcement: Evaluating Implementation, Impact and Innovation
24th January 2017

Exploring the Future of Immigration and Asylum in Post-Brexit Britain
25th January 2017

Reducing Food Waste in the UK: Promoting Collaboration, Innovation and Responsibility at the National and Local Levels
26th January 2017

The Future of ‘Troubled Families’: The Next Steps for Supporting Households with Complex and Multiple Disadvantages
31st January 2017

Marketing and Exhibition Opportunities

We offer a range of opportunities to enable your organisation to raise its profile and communicate with key decision makers in the public sector.

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