

## What is a Local Sports Partnership?

The Irish Sports Council (ISC) established the Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs) initiative as it was recognised as an excellent mechanism to delivering recreational sport to local people. Key tasks that the partnerships are involved in include:

- Increasing sport facility usage
- The creation and implementation of plans for long term local sports development at a local level
- Establishing sustainable structures to assist all those involved in local sports development, helping them to face the associated challenges – e.g. recruiting and managing volunteers, quality training, etc

## Who is Represented on the Local Sport Partnerships?

- All those statutory bodies, organisations and groups operating in local areas with a responsibility for or interest in sports development should be invited to participate in the LSP. The involvement of the Vocational Education Committees (VEC), city and county councils, Health Service Executive (HSE), FÁS, universities, colleges, Institutes of Technology, commercial companies, sports clubs, national governing bodies (NGBs) and community groups in the partnership is also important.

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# The National Network of Local Sports Partnerships

**Developing Sport & Physical Activity in your Community**



**John Treacy**  
Chief Executive  
Irish Sports Council

“The Irish Sports Council’s key strategic objective is to increase participation in sport and physical activity. The Sports Partnerships have been identified by the Council as the key delivery mechanism at local level for reaching those targets and improving the quality of sport for important population groups.”

“The Council is delighted that the Sports Partnerships will be a national network from 2007. The existing Partnerships have made an outstanding contribution to sport in their communities and we can look forward to that progress being replicated throughout the country”.



# **The Sports Partnerships, a national network from 2007, are charged with improving opportunities to participate in sport for every member of your community.**

In 2007 the Irish Sports Council will establish 13 new Sports Partnerships. This will result in a total of 32 Sports Partnerships and complete the national network.

The Sports Partnership network was created by the Irish Sports Council. The concept is that new, locally based partnerships are best placed to support efforts at community level to promote and develop sport.

**THE  
IRISH SPORTS  
COUNCIL**



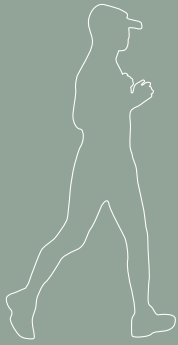
**AN CHOMHAIRLE SPÓIRT**



The Irish Sports Council will invest a total of €4.5 million in the network this year.

In addition investment totalling €2.6 million will be made available through the Partnerships for targeted programmes from Pobal (Dormant Accounts), the National Action Plan Against Racism and the Health Service Executive.

The €2 million investment from Pobal will enable the Sports Partnerships employ Sports Inclusion Development Officers. The aim of this programme is to increase participation of people with disabilities in sport and physical activity and promote inclusion in mainstream activities.



Each Sports Partnership employ staff who work to develop and coordinate sport at a local level in partnership with a range of agencies, clubs and community groups.



The health and social benefits of sport and physical activity are well established



**79%** of adults have played sport at some time in their lives

**43%** of adults have played at least once in the last year

**The majority** of non-players say they are interested in playing some sport



The Sports Partnerships have a critical role in rolling out Irish Sports Council national participation programmes such as Buntús, Buntús Start, Women in Sport, Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport and Go for Life.

### Buntús

The Sports Partnerships deliver the Buntús programmes to support teachers and childcare practitioners in introducing children to Sport, and in helping them develop their interests. Buntús Play and Multi Sport are delivered in support of the Primary School PE programme and the Buntús Start programme assists Childcare facilities in delivering physical activity sessions.



## Active Leadership Award

This award is designed to provide a panel of trained, knowledgeable and enthusiastic community based sports leaders, whose aim is to encourage more people to become and remain involved in sport and physical activity.



## Code of Ethics and Good Practice for Children's Sport

This Code is for the benefit of everyone involved in children's sport (children, parents / guardians, sports leaders, etc). By following the principles, policy and practical guidelines contained in the Code, sports leaders are playing their part in providing an enjoyable and safe environment in which children can learn and thrive.

## Women in Sport [www.womeninsport.ie](http://www.womeninsport.ie)

This Initiative is aimed at encouraging women; young and old alike into sport as participants, players, officials and administrators. It is recognised that we need to attract more women into all levels of sport, and programmes such as this provide the necessary opportunities for Irish girls and women to access sport in their communities.



## Go for Life [www.olderinireland.ie/physicalactivity/goforlife](http://www.olderinireland.ie/physicalactivity/goforlife)

Go for Life is an Age & Opportunity initiative funded by the Irish Sports Council. Go for Life is the national programme for sport and physical activity for older people. The aim of Go for Life is to involve more older adults in all aspects of sport and physical activity more often. Please check out [www.olderinireland.ie/physicalactivity/goforlife](http://www.olderinireland.ie/physicalactivity/goforlife) for further information on supports available through this programme.





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