

Suffolk 2012 Volunteering Legacy Project An Information Update (Winter 2010/11)



What is the project?

The project is a jointly funded initiative between the Suffolk County Council, Suffolk Sport, Young Suffolk and the Suffolk Volunteering Federation. It is designed to maximise the benefit for Suffolk, of the increased interest in volunteering within sport and cultural activities as a result of the 2012 Games and to further advocate the benefits of volunteering.

The project is co-ordinated by the *Suffolk 2012 Volunteering Legacy Officer*, based in Ipswich.

Timescale for the project

The project began formally in February 2010 and will run for three years. However, it is a legacy project and as such it is planned that the outcomes from the project will continue long after the three year period is completed.

What are the specific aims for the project?

Specific targets include:

- ✚ Increase the number of volunteering opportunities within sport and culture in Suffolk
- ✚ Support sports and cultural organisations in further developing good practice in terms of volunteering
- ✚ Attract new volunteers to the sport and cultural sector particularly from currently under-represented sections of the population across the county
- ✚ Liaise with and support the role of the brokers for new volunteers particularly *Volunteer Centres* throughout the county
- ✚ Establish a calendar of sport and cultural events in Suffolk that provide volunteering opportunities
- ✚ Establish, train and support a county wide *County Events Team*
- ✚ Encourage and facilitate potential 'Games Time' volunteers from Suffolk at the London 2012 Olympics

Who is the project working with?

As a jointly funded project that has a county wide brief, this project is already linking with a variety of other organisations and initiatives. In addition to the key funding partners these include:

- Volunteer Centres throughout Suffolk
- Team East for Skills
- Suffolk Museums Group
- Optua
- Suffolk 2012
- The Great East Swim

County Events Team (CET)

Volunteers are registering on line at www.suffolkvolunteeringlegacy.org.uk as members of the CET. By doing this they are joining a network of people who are '2012 inspired' and who are keen to get involved as volunteers, in local sport and cultural events. Registered volunteers are also offered training opportunities through the 'Events Calendar' on the same website.

As well as recruiting new volunteers, the project is also working with sport and cultural organisations within Suffolk, to discuss their needs in terms of volunteering and linking with the organisers of key events in the county to discuss a potential role for the County Events Team.

So who is this project for?

This project is for you if you are:

- ✓ A current or potential volunteer in sport/culture in Suffolk
- ✓ Interested in volunteering at the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games
- ✓ Inspired by the 2012 Games to get involved in volunteering locally
- ✓ A sport or cultural organisation looking for new volunteers or looking to improve the experience of your current volunteers
- ✓ A sport or cultural organisation that is looking to get more 'hooked into' the rest of the volunteering sector or
- ✓ An organiser of a current sporting or cultural event in the county

To find out more about how this project may be able to help you, please contact **Mike McCarthy** on 01473 275196 or by e-mail at

2012legacy@volunteeringsuffolk.org.uk

