



ACTIVE FUTURES: CO-CREATING HEALTH AND JUSTICE OUTCOMES THROUGH YOUTH CLUBS AND SPORT

WORKSHOP PROGRAMME

28 JULY 2026



UNIVERSITY OF
SURREY



OUR SPONSOR



The Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) at the University of Surrey sponsors workshops and Fellowships at the 'cutting edge' of science, engineering, social science and the humanities. Through this scheme the Institute fosters interdisciplinary collaborations and encourages a flow of international scholars to visit, enjoy their stay at Surrey and leave behind excellent ideas and innovations.

ias.surrey.ac.uk

Workshop Organiser:

Dr Hannah Hammond, School of Psychology

Administrative support:

Olivia Hanagan, University of Surrey

Louise Jones, Institute of Advanced Studies, University of Surrey

INTRODUCTION

Active Futures is a full-day workshop exploring how sport-based positive youth development (PYD) programmes can improve health and support desistance from crime among young people from marginalised communities. Building on Dr Hammond's Levelling the Playing Field research with the Alliance of Sport in Criminal Justice, the Youth Justice Board (YJB) and partner organisations, the event brings together evidence, lived experience and practice to shape a forward-looking research and impact agenda.

The workshop convenes young co-researchers, academics, practitioners, third sector organisations and statutory partners to examine how programmes influence mental and social wellbeing, psychosocial outcomes and pathways away from crime, and to highlight what works to engage diverse, marginalised youth. A morning session of speaker perspectives will be followed by a youth-led, co-produced agenda-setting session in the afternoon, culminating in a follow-up webinar to share key insights, refine priorities and extend the conversation with a wider range of stakeholders.



PROGRAMME

TUESDAY 28 JULY

INNOVATION FOR HEALTH BUILDING, ROOM 02 IFH 01

(BST)

09.30 - 10.00	Arrival & Registration
10.00 - 10.05	Introduction and Welcome
10.05 - 10.20	The Role of Sport in Youth Justice Keith Fraser, Former Chair of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales
10.20 - 10.50	Youth Sport for Justice and Wellbeing: Insights from Levelling the Playing Field Dr Hannah Hammond, University of Surrey
10.50 - 11.00	Building Stronger Communities Kelly Smith, Access Sport
11.00 - 11.15	Coffee Break
11.15 - 11.40	Partnership Working in Youth Sport and Justice Chelsea Piggott, StreetGames and Loughborough University
11.40 - 12.10	Youth Voices on Sport: Lived Experience, Challenges, and Hopes for the Future Jason, Angel, Bert & Olivia, St Matthews Project
12.10 - 12.30	The Power of Place: Creating Safer, Healthier Futures for Young People Through Sport and Physical Activity Mandana Mehran Pour; CEO, Active Surrey Nic Fraser & Matt Maguire; Strategic Place Programme, Active Surrey



12.30 - 13.30	Lunch Break
13.30 - 14.45	World Café Discussions
14.45 - 15.00	Coffee Break
15.00 - 15.45	World Café Feedback
15.45 - 16.00	Closing Remarks Dr Hannah Hammond, University of Surrey
From 18.30	Workshop Dinner Sir Ronald Wates Pub, University of Surrey



SPEAKERS

KEITH FRASER



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Keith Fraser is a former British police officer and Chair of the Youth Justice Board for England and Wales, known for over three decades of service and his work tackling racial disparities in the justice system. The only serving Black Superintendent in West Midlands Police at his 2017 retirement, he authored the 2016–19 Preventing Gang Involvement strategy for the City of Wolverhampton and has held national advisory roles on youth engagement, diversity, and community safety.

DR HANNAH HAMMOND



University of Surrey

KELLY SMITH



Access Sport



CHELSEA PIGGOTT



StreetGames and Loughborough University

ST MATTHEWS PROJECT



Jason, Angel, Bert & Olivia

MANDANA MEHRAN POUR



CEO, Active Surrey

NIC FRASER



Strategic Place Programme, Active Surrey



MATT MAGUIRE



Strategic Place Programme, Active
Surrey



ABSTRACTS

Youth Sport for Justice and Wellbeing: Insights from Levelling the Playing Field

Hannah Hammond, Lecturer in Health Psychology, University of Surrey

This talk will explore why youth, sport and health are critical issues right now, particularly in the context of widening inequalities, mental health pressures, and concerns about safety and opportunity for young people. The talk will introduce the LtPF project, including what we learned, and the how young people's experiences of sport and physical activity are shaped by identity, trust, and the creation of safe and accessible places. The aim is for these findings to directly inform the aims and structure of the Active Futures workshop – from the questions we are asking to the activities we will use – so that the session is grounded in real evidence rather than abstract theory.

Building Stronger Communities

Kelly Smith, Monitoring & Evaluation Lead, Access Sport

This talk will provide an introduction to Access Sport and their recent work in Surrey. Drawing on the Building stronger Communities [summary report](#) and [playbook](#).

Partnership Working in Youth Sport and Justice

Chelsea Piggot, Sport and Violence Impact Manager, Thames Valley, StreetGames

This talk explores the critical role of partnership working in harnessing sport as a tool for youth justice and violence prevention, drawing on both applied practice at StreetGames and insights from doctoral research at Loughborough University. It examines how cross-sector collaboration between community organisations, criminal justice agencies, local authorities, and grassroots sports providers can create meaningful and sustained impact for vulnerable young people.

The session will highlight key principles of effective partnership working, including shared goals, trust-building, data-informed decision making, and co-designed interventions. It will also address common challenges such as differing organisational priorities and resource constraints, offering practical strategies to overcome them. Through real-world examples, the talk will demonstrate how sport can act as a catalyst for engagement, diversion, and positive behaviour change when embedded within strong, coordinated partnerships.



Youth Voices on Sport: Lived Experience, Challenges, and Hopes for the Future

Jason, Angel, Bert & Olivia, Young Coaches, St Matthews Project

This talk will centre the voices of young coaches from the St Matthew's Project, exploring their lived experiences of sport and physical activity – what helps, what gets in the way, and what they hope for in the future. By sharing real stories about coaching, community, safety, and opportunity, the session will highlight both the challenges young people face and the power of sport to create connection, confidence and change. The aim is to set the tone for the rest of the workshop: keeping young people's voices at the heart of our conversations, decisions and ideas throughout the day.

The Power of Place: Creating Safer, Healthier Futures for Young People Through Sport and Physical Activity

Nic Fraser & Matt Maguire, Strategic Place Programme, Active Surrey

Introduced by: Mandana Mehran Pour, CEO, Active Surrey

This session explores how “place” – the local environment, community relationships, and perceptions of safety – shapes young people's ability to be active. Using the Stanwell project, where safety is the main barrier to physical activity, Nic and Matt will show how Active Surrey's work has evolved from traditional sport development into a place-based, public health and community safety approach. They will connect past, current, and future initiatives to demonstrate how sport and physical activity can be used as powerful tools to improve health, build trust and belonging, and contribute to safer communities for young people across Surrey.



UNIVERSITY OF
SURREY

surrey.ac.uk