

Locally Led Approach

2020 EVALUATION HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The Locally Led Approach

The Locally Led Approach is a way of working with people, groups and communities to understand and acknowledge their strengths, co-create solutions and learn as you go.

This report highlights the value of the Locally Led Approach for Sport NZ, Regional Sports Trusts (RSTs) and groups or communities with low participation in play, active recreation, and sport for the final year of the three-year evaluation period.

The evaluation found that in 2020:

RSTs highly valued the Locally Led Approach and were more confident in using it than in 2019.

RSTs are advocating for the Locally Led Approach and using it more with their partners: Territorial Authorities, Regional Sport Organisations (RSOs), National Sport Organisations (NSOs).

RSTs are changing the structure of their organisations to support the use of the Locally Led Approach.

RSTs acknowledge that adopting the Locally Led Approach is a process of ongoing learning.

"We'd probably never consider not operating in this way. We're just huge advocates of this way of operating, so we think it's really cool." *RST*

"Part of embedding the Locally Led Approach is also imparting that philosophy to some of the key stakeholders." *RST*

"One of the golden moments is just seeing the lines between our teams blur a bit more. **Now it is so much more interwoven."**

"We are still learning. I believe we have the right intentions to keep it community led, but....it is bit of a journey. We are on the right path in being able to do it better." *RST*



Regional Sports Trusts value the Locally Led Approach and potential to strengthen communities

The 'reach' of the Locally Led Approach remains similar

RSTs report that they are working with the same number of groups and communities in 2020 as in 2019, but that the number of initiatives has increased. A range of Locally Led initiatives are being implemented, which reflects the diversity of communities and their aspirations, strengths and priorities.

Sport Northland

11 communities
TPG: Māori, children, youth, families, sport orgs, high-dep

Sport Waikato

10 communities
TPG: Māori, young women, children, rural

Sport Taranaki

6 communities
TPG: Māori, rural, children, youth, women, high dep

Sport Whanganui

6 communities
TPG: families, youth, Māori, special needs, sport orgs, high dep

Sport Tasman

13 communities
TPG: youth, children, rural, sport orgs

Sport Southland

6 communities
TPG: Māori, Pasifika, children, youth

Sport Auckland

4 communities
TPG: Māori, Pasifika, Asian, women, children, families

Harbour Sport

11 communities
TPG: Asian, Pasifika, youth, children, families, sport orgs, high dep

CLM Community Sport

5 communities
TPG: Pasifika, Māori, children, youth, women, families, churches, high dep

Sport Waitākere

5 communities
TPG: Samoan, Indian, Māori, Chinese, youth, families, high dep

Sport Bay of Plenty

4 communities
TPG: Māori, young women, older people

Sport Gisborne Tairāwhiti

5 communities
TPG: Māori, young families, children, youth, rural, sport orgs, high dep

Sport Hawke's Bay

Communities – NA
TPG: Māori, children, families, high dep

Sport Manawatu

7 communities
TPG: Māori, Pasifika, rural, children, young women, high dep

Nuku Ora

2 communities
TPG: Māori, Pasifika, youth, children, families, older people, high dep

Sport Canterbury

7 communities
TPG: Māori, Asian, Pasifika, recent migrants, children, young women, families

Sport Otago

6 communities
TPG: Māori, children, families, sport orgs

Legend

TPG: Target participant group
high-dep: high deprivation

Sport orgs: sport organisations (RSOs, NSOs, Sports hub, community based around a sport or physical activity, e.g. cycling)

NA: not available

Data source: RST case study reports, year 3 (2019-20)

The Locally Led Approach is contributing to positive community change

RSTs report that adopting the Locally Led Approach is contributing to:

New and better community connections on multiple levels, including within neighbourhoods, between community organisations and groups, and with whānau Māori and marae.

Communities and groups identifying and acting on their aspirations.

Supporting champions and collectives.

Different participation opportunities for groups and communities that reflect their preferences

Groups and communities coming together to celebrate their skills and to share their knowledge.

“Over the three years, some of the relationships we have formed are quite different to the ones we have had in the past.” RST

“It gave them power, it gave them autonomy, it made them realise that, hey, as a community, we can achieve a lot of other things.” Community

“We have realised exercise comes in different forms, like Hip Hop Dance, cultural dance. It doesn’t matter how old you are, or what your level of fitness is, anyone can take part.” Community

“There are a lot more defenders of things. There’s a lot more community pride and community spirit.” Community

Refining the Locally Led Approach is an ongoing process

RSTs and Sport NZ want to better understand:

How to ensure community initiatives are sustainable.

How the Locally Led Approach can give effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and the Treaty principles of Partnership, Protection and Participation.

What the Locally Led Approach means for other stakeholders (e.g. NSOs).

Impact of COVID-19

COVID-19 had a varied impact on RSTs and their communities. For some, sport was pushed to the back of the queue and the number one priority was finding jobs. For other communities, getting back into sport was the number one priority.

In some cases:

Locally Led initiatives laid the foundation for a collective community response to the COVID-19 lockdown.

COVID-19 challenges created an environment that influenced RSTs and NSOs to be more open to working together.

“COVID brought everyone together. [RSTs] started talking about working together for fair change.” RST

What could have gone better?

In 2020, RSTs felt:

Less confident that Sport NZ was working in a way that is consistent with the Locally Led Approach than in 2019.

Support from Sport NZ to implement the Locally Led Approach has varied over the last three years.

The conditions attached to some of Sport NZ’s funding during COVID-19 lockdown undermined the application of the Locally Led Approach.

“At the beginning, there were a lot of national hui around the Approach... Then it kind of went away.” RST

What next?

The lessons learnt over the last three years can help Sport NZ strengthen the Locally Led Approach in the future. To sustain this adaptive and community-led approach, Sport NZ needs to support on-going work and development in this area. Suggested actions include:

Create a ‘Community of Practice’ to share learning and refine the Locally Led Approach.

Provide support to RSTs to advocate to other organisations to adopt the Locally Led Approach.

Explore the relationship between Te Tiriti o Waitangi principles and the Locally Led Approach.



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