

What they say

"Well done to all at Kent Sport – 25 years of supporting sport in the County and still going strong! I am in the very fortunate position of being the Sports Minister and have developed the Government Strategy, SPORTING FUTURE: A New Strategy for An Active Nation, to provide a new approach to the delivery of sport and physical activity across the Country. Kent Sport will be important to developing this new approach with local partners and ensuring people in the County have the opportunity to be active and participate in sport at any level they choose. Congratulations and good luck for the next 25 years!"



Tracey Crouch MP
Minister for Sport & Tourism

"I'd like to congratulate everyone at Kent Sport on their 25th anniversary. We share Kent County Council's commitment to reducing inactivity, which significantly impacts on people's quality of life and costs the County £22 million per year. Kent Sport plays an important role in this. The team is an invaluable link between a range of partners, helping to coordinate work that encourages and makes it easier for people to get active. I'm in no doubt that sport and physical activity has the power to improve lives, and am looking forward to continuing this important work with Kent Sport."



Jennie Price
Chief Executive, Sport England

"Congratulations on your 25th anniversary and thank you so much for the amazing support you have given me throughout my career. When I was starting out, your funding helped pay for travel to tournaments and buy equipment for training, which was invaluable. Your continued support means so much. Every athlete has ups and downs and to know that the support is still there even when things are not going so well is a massive boost. I am thrilled to have done everyone at Kent Sport proud in Rio."



Will Bayley
Paralympic Gold Medallist - table tennis

"Kent County Council is committed to improving the quality of residents' lives throughout the County. The Sport & Physical Activity Service has been a key part of this commitment and over all the years I have been the Cabinet Member with responsibility for sport, the team has continually provided high quality services and invaluable support to organisations and individuals throughout Kent. Our investment in the last 25 years is because the County Council recognises the impact that sport can have in improving both physical and mental health, and supporting local communities to develop and grow. With the support of agencies such as Sport England, we look forward to continuing this important work."



Mike Hill, OBE
Cabinet Member for Community Services
Kent County Council

"Many congratulations to all at Kent Sport on their 25th Anniversary. I've had a long association with the team, helping them to launch the FANS Scheme in 1998, having a reception at County Hall after the 2004 Athens Olympics which was so memorable for me, launching the first Kent School Games in 2008 and working on bringing the Commonwealth Games Queen's Baton Relay to Kent. The quality of the team's work is excellent and it is a great testament that they have stood the test of time, developing great sports opportunities for people in Kent for so long. I'm sure they will continue to do so in the future."



Dame Kelly Holmes, DBE, MBE (Mil)
Double Olympic Gold Medallist - athletics

"As an athlete you are constantly seeking support, to allow you to focus fully on your sport. It's with success that greater support becomes easier to get. However, without those backing you from the start, none of that success would be possible. This summer I competed at the Rio Olympic Games. Without Kent Sport's support I wouldn't have come close to reaching this target, let alone the targets I have for medals over the next few years. So thank you Kent Sport, here's to another 25 years of sporting success in Kent."



Tom Bosworth
Olympic race walker

Kent
Sport
25
years

1991-2016

Celebrating 25
years of changing
lives through sport

In October 2016, Kent Sport celebrates its 25th birthday! Here's a whistlestop tour of a quarter of a century of changing lives through sport and physical activity.

The early years



On your marks: the Kent Sports Development Unit was established in October 1991

Founder's club: the founding team was a gang of three - Chris Hespe, Emyr Roberts and Chris Metherell



Kent united: our objectives included coordinating sport at county level; supporting county governing bodies of sport; encouraging community use of schools for the benefit of sport

Ahead of the game: the unit was the first of its kind in England. Today County Sports Partnerships have national coverage



Lasting impact



Training for success: An estimated 27,500 people trained through the team's professional development programmes

Nurturing talent: Over 2,000 talented performers supported through FANS (Free Access for National Sportspeople) and other talented performer programmes



Sportivate

Sportivating the County's young people: over 25,000 young people involved in Sport Unlimited & Sportivate programmes

Forging links between clubs and communities: 161 Satellite Clubs established on educational sites since 2012



Investing in Kent: Approx. £72m of funding levered into sport and physical activity across Kent and Medway over the last quarter of a century

Supporting Olympians:

supported athletes to Olympic level - including Jack Green, Tom Bosworth, Millie Knight, Steve Brown, Will Bayley, Ross Wilson, Jemima Yeats-Brown



Encouraging the next generation:

over 42,000 young people participated in School Games Finals events since 2008



Empowering a county of runners:

the Run Kent programme has engaged 7,000 beginner runners; over 2,000 people run each week at 16 parkruns & 6 junior parkruns



Securing the Legacy: KCC was awarded Beacon Status & rated 'outstanding' for work in developing 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Legacy



Changing times

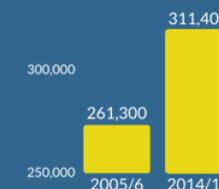


Perpetual motion: the service has never stood still, changing name twice, to evolve and remain relevant to the constantly changing sporting landscape



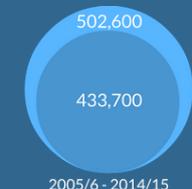
Together stronger: the County Sports Partnership has been integrated into the County Council team since 2006

Experienced heads: just a few of our projects from the last 25 years!



50,100 more people taking part in sport and active recreation at least three times a week

Source: Sport England's Active People Survey



68,900 more people taking part in sport at least once a week