



# Millwall Community Trust

A presentation to LB Lewisham's Overview and Scrutiny  
Committee

22<sup>nd</sup> January 2018

# Millwall Community Trust (MCT)

## Agenda

- Introduction - the development of MCT
- Millwall Community Trust goals
- Successes to Date – Lewisham and Southwark
- Impact
- The Lions Centre history
- Lions Centre key programmes
- MCT and LB Lewisham future initiatives
- MCT and Millwall Football Club – a special relationship
- The importance of MCT to Millwall Football Club

## Questions?

'Our vision is to use the unique passion of Millwall to connect and inspire the club's communities.'



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## Introduction

MCT works not just in schools coaching and sports participation but makes a significant contribution to community development, health improvement, education, employability and community cohesion, as well as managing facilities such as the Lions Centre for the benefit of the community.

**The establishment of Millwall Community Trust and early successes**  
The Millwall Community Trust was established by Millwall Football Club over 30 years ago and is one of the most successful football-related community initiatives in the country.

Mr. Peter Walsh  
Chair of Trustees  
Millwall Community Trust



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## Millwall Community Trust - Goals:

MCT's work focuses on people who find it difficult to participate in sport and those disadvantaged in life. This includes young people who have lost interest in education or who are at risk of substance abuse, young offenders, and those with mental health issues.

## The Team:

- Education and Employability
- Schools Coaching and Sports Participation
- Community Development and Health Improvement
- Community Cohesion and Celebration of Diversity
- The Lions Centre
- St Paul's Community Sports Ground, Rotherhithe

Peter Walsh  
Chair of Trustees  
Millwall Community Trust

Steve Bradshaw  
Chief Executive Officer  
Millwall Community Trust



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### MCT: Successes to Date

MCT has access to groups that other mainstream agencies might struggle to engage with, such as Kicks. This allows the Trust to work with some of the most disadvantaged young people in the area. This allows MCT to add value where many other agencies have been unable to deliver.

Key statistics include:

- Over 7,000 people per year benefit from MCT's activities
- MCT can demonstrate an interaction with a wide demographic ranging from primary school to young people, teens, adults with learning disabilities and the over 50's
- The Schools Coaching programme delivers to primary schools across Lewisham raising standards in physical education, numeracy and literacy. Secondary schools also take advantage of the Trust's multi sport schools programme delivery
- Young people with emotional and behavioural difficulties are provided with sporting, competitive opportunities through the Health Improvement programme
- 50% of participants who engage with the Trust live in neighbourhoods amongst the top 20% most deprived in the UK and 77% live in the top 30%.

Steve Bradshaw  
Chief Executive Officer  
Millwall Community Trust



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## Millwall Community Trust - delivery:

- Premier League Primary Stars schools programme, Kinder Move and Learn (health) and Kick into Education (literacy) programmes in Lewisham schools;
- An alternative education programme for young people excluded from schools;
- Traineeship programmes for NEET Young People in sport and in construction;
- Millwall Lions programme for those with complex mental health challenges (SLAM);
- Walking sports programme for people suffering from dementia and Alzheimer's;
- 1:1 interventions and mentoring young offenders to reduce the risk of re-offending and help them back into education or employment.....
  
- As well as an urban football development pathway for boys and girls living in Lewisham



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## Impact

Manchester based research group Substance conducted an extensive report examining the impact and value of Millwall Community Trust (MCT). Substance assessed what difference the Trust made to the lives of children young people and young adults in the two London Boroughs of Lewisham and Southwark. Based on the research carried out during the period from 1st January 2015 to 31st December 2015 it was found that:

- The minimum value of the Trust's community work was £7,156,449.50 in cost savings to society with the biggest impact on substance abuse, crime, education, health, behaviour and NEET status (young person Not in Education, Employment or Training).
- Therefore, for every £1 spent to deliver the Millwall Community Trust's programmes during 2015, more than £7 is generated in cost savings.
- The Trust's programme works with approximately 7,000 individuals every year and with recent delivery expansion and improved recording of data, MCT is now confident the impact of its work is now even greater.



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## The Lions Centre

MCT operates from the Lions Centre, next door to The Den, and benefits from excellent facilities, a peppercorn rent and close ties with Millwall Football Club. This allows MCT to deliver programmes for some of the most vulnerable residents and communities in the locality.





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## Lions Centre key programmes

Programmes include:

- Education and Employability
- Schools Coaching and Sports Participation
- Community Development
- Health Improvement
- Disability Sport



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## MCT and Lewisham future initiatives

- Riverside Youth Club – a Premier League Club Hub
- Employment Pathways projects (lowest paid / ex-service personnel)
- Building a Stronger Britain Together – Home Office



*'We exist, using the power of Millwall, to improve the lives of people through engagement  
in sport'*



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### MCT and Millwall Football Club – a special relationship

MCT must look to secure its long term future as part of the Millwall Football family acknowledging the nature and importance of the close ties that exist between Football Club and Community Trust:

- MCT and Millwall FC are constitutionally independent but intrinsically linked. In this respect, MCT must work in the communities that the club is located in, wherever that may be.
- MFC appoint three 3 Trustees via SLA between both parties, which also provides for use of brand and club assets
- MCT is financially underwritten by the Club
- Substantial funding is accessed through the Premier League and Football Family, due to existence of the SLA
- MCT in its form and current shape would not exist without Millwall FC as it depends on Millwall brand – without this, MCT would lack profile and the opportunity to engage with a range of stakeholders.

Steve Bradshaw  
Chief Executive Officer  
Millwall Community Trust



Steve Kavanagh  
Chief Executive Officer  
Millwall Football Club



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## The importance stadium-led regeneration to MCT and Millwall FC

The MCT and Millwall Football Club have always been strong supporters of the plan to develop the Surrey Canal Triangle but always believed that Millwall would actively participate in, and benefit from, this urban regeneration programme.

The Surrey Canal Triangle regeneration project includes removing the Millwall Community Trust from the Lions Centre to a new location. The timetable for these changes is unclear, but Lewisham Council has formally notified us that it proposes to take back our lease. We have been notified by the council that if we do not surrender the lease a Compulsory Purchase Order will commence. We are also aware of Millwall Football Club's plans to develop the land attached to its stadium, which includes the Lions Centre.

Our long-term existence can only be ensured in partnership with Millwall Football Club. We enjoy the benefits of being closely linked and aligned to the Football Club which created us and we would be unable to continue to operate as we have done in the past without the Club's support and full involvement in the future.

We hope that arrangements can be agreed between all parties to achieve a stadium-led regeneration plan which will extend the role of the Millwall Community Trust and transform this deprived area of inner-London.

Mr. Steve Kavanagh  
Chief Executive Officer  
Millwall Football Club



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Last year, thousands of people from Lewisham and Southwark benefited from sporting, educational, personal development and health improvement opportunities presented to them by MCT!



**WALKING SPORTS**  
Our Walking Sports provide an opportunity for those over 35 years old in Lewisham & Southwark to stay active, meet new people and have fun.

It's just what we do.



#ITSWHATWEDO  
[www.millwallcommunity.org.uk](http://www.millwallcommunity.org.uk)

