Appendix D – Summary of regional stakeholder consultation and research

East

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	ACER (the Association of Colleges in the East Region) was formed by Colleges in the East Region in 1993 and therefore pre-dates AoC nationally. Like EMFEC in the East Midlands, ACER is an independent company, limited by guarantee and a registered charity. Over 20 staff work for the company. ACER run over 30 networks from Principals groups to curriculum groups. The networks provide opportunities for staff in colleges to share information and best practice. In addition, ACER takes on the role of delivering projects funded by a range of organisations including the European Social Fund and the Regional Development Agency. Several major projects related to sports provision have been led by ACER and Skills Active in the past few years (see previous reports, below).
BCS	24 of the 33 colleges in the East are affiliated to BCS, with an additional 8 or so from North London. The Regional committee is strong, with active volunteer Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. The post of Competitions Secretary, previously voluntary, has just been expanded to incorporate a range of roles including links to other organisations. This post has now been advertised and filled, on a part time basis, and the post holder will commence duties in February / March 2010.
Regional and sub regional Networks	There are 6 CSPs in the East region and a range of existing forums and networks exist. It is widely suggested that the counties are stronger than the region in the East, and therefore many networks operate at a county rather than regional level. There are 6 county workforce development plans. ACER project specific money is often devolved to the CSPs and the lead FE partner colleges.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The Skills Active RDM in the East works closely with ACER, acting as project officer and having worked on several regional, European funded projects relating to skills and links to employers in the region. This gives him a strong understanding of the capacity of each college within the region.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	Four of the 6 CSPs in the East region had the FESCo contact details, however only three had been in contact with the FESCos. These three areas (Norfolk, Herts, Beds & Luton) also contain a sub regional FESCo network. In the remaining three CSP areas (Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex communication with FESCos ad hoc and on an individual basis or through the PDMs. In Bedfordshire and Luton, the CSP has a 16-19 Development Officer who drives the FESCo network, whereas in the other two CSP areas where a network this is organised and hosted on a rotation basis. FESCos are engaging in Sport Unlimited in all areas and in Step into Sport in all areas except Essex.

Previous studies and reports	A European Social Fund project "On Your Marks" was undertaken by ACER from 2006 to 2008. The project focussed on developing skills in the sport and leisure sector. Evaluation of this project reported that 658 learners had registered for courses and 478 had achieved a qualification. The project successfully developed County Hubs and lead partner colleges in each region. The Leading the Field project in 2009 followed On Your Marks, targeting 1,400 people to develop skills.

East Midlands

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	AoC in the East Midlands is co-ordinated by EMFEC, an independent company, limited by guarantee with charitable status. EMFEC fulfils the core services of AoC as well as a range of other training, support, accreditation and consultancy services. The Chief Executive of EMFEC acts at the Regional Director of AoC East Midlands, supported by an office team and associate trainers and inspectors. In the mid 2000s, college Principals in the region, through the support provided by EMFEC, produced a regional sport strategy and decided to fund a strategy co-ordinating post in the region. This post has now been in place for over 2 years and the colleges recently indicated their support for the role by voting to extend it until 2013. The work also includes the development of an AoC sports hub website (http://www.emsportshub.com) which provides support, contacts, good practice examples and a range of other information for the 27 colleges and external organisations in the region.
BCS	There are 27 affiliated members on the national membership list for 09-10. This includes some colleges (e.g. Northampton) counted twice because they have affiliated two separate sites. It also includes an HE site (University of Derby, Buxton site, which houses the FE courses). BCS in the region comprises a regional committee including a Chair, Vice Chair, Strategy officer (now taken by the AoC regional post), fixtures and championships co-ordinator and lead posts for various sports (all voluntary). The region is host to the National Championships (at Loughborough). The BCS committee includes a strategy post, which is now filled by the AoC strategic co-ordinator.
Regional and sub regional Networks	There are 5 CSPs in the East Midlands supporting a network of CSNs (LSAs in Leicestershire). The CSPs generally have good relationships with the FE colleges, with some (e.g. Lincoln College) represented on the Board or other governance structures of the CSP.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The Regional Skills Active Development Manager is the specialist advisor on skills and qualifications in Sport & Active Leisure in the region. This includes leading industry research on the needs of employers in the field. Skills Active Regional Officers influence and lobby for funding for the

	Sport & Active Leisure sector. Other priorities for the Skills Active region are the introduction of the National Skills Academy for the sector.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	All CSPs are aware of the FESCos and contribute to a sub regional forum. There appears to be strong links between the CSPs and the regional AoC FE Sports Co-ordinator, with joint management of sub regional groups. FESCos are all involved in Sport Unlimited and Step into Sport, and Recruit into Coaching in participating CSPs.
Previous studies and reports	2005: An audit of sports provision in HE/FE (commissioned by Sport England and UCS and undertaken by PMP) 2006: Maximising the impact of HE/FE in the sports delivery system (Commissioned by Sport England/AoC and undertaken by Prospects4Sport) – this study recommended a new regional structure and the strategy officer post 2007: Implementation and 5 County Action Plans (undertaken by Prospects4Sport)

Greater London

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	The AoC in the region has a small dedicated team of 2.4 FTE staff. The core purpose of the London AoC team is that of a lobbying and influencing role for academic activity. The remit is changing and it needs to be recognised that London is slightly different from other areas and complex in many ways. The Skills Strategy in the region is going to have a big impact on what the priorities for AoC in the region will be in the future.
BCS	BCS in Greater London is amalgamated with the South East and this happened in the late 1990s. Despite the joint approach across London and the South East, it is apparent that colleges north of the Thames are playing in the East region and those south of the Thames are playing in the SE region. There are 15 colleges out of 53 in Greater London who are members of BCS this academic year (09/10). Structurally BCS in the region replicates the national model of a Sports Specific Group and a Strategic Group. Representatives on these groups are volunteers, with further support given “in kind” by colleges such as Kingston College where the Chair and the fixtures secretary are based. A further resource supporting BCS activity across London and the SE is through a Sports Development Officer / competitions role funded via the individual colleges contributing £500 towards the salary.
Regional and sub regional Networks	There is currently no Curriculum or Heads of Sport network in Greater London. There is a review into which would be the most appropriate forum to introduce, whether this be a Sector Skills Group or a Curriculum Group. The AoC are unclear at this stage what the priority for London should be. The engagement by FE in sport and physical activity in London has been driven by the London 2012 Games agenda. A small 2012 network with

	representation across 5 London boroughs closest to the Games' venues and has been led by Ian Ashman, Principal at Hackney Community College. Other networks supported by Skills Active include The South London Lifelong Learning Network; The Linking London Lifelong Learning Network; and The London Work Based Alliance. There are five CSPs in the Greater London area, the PRO-ACTIVE partnerships. These support a network of Community Sport and Physical Activity Networks (CSPANs). Other networks in Greater London include the London Physical Activity Network.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The RDM is a specialist Advisor on skills and qualifications in Sport & Active Leisure. The Skills Active RDM has identified good examples of colleges in London which are linking in and delivering sport and physical activity skills agenda, including: City of Westminster; Croydon College; Lewisham; Kensington and Chelsea College; City of Islington; and Newham College.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have since changed)	All five CSPs in Greater London are in contact with their FESCos, with four of the CSPs having a sub-regional FESCo network (Pro-Active West London is the exception). The CSPs were instrumental in setting up these networks, often in partnership with a local Partnership Development Manager (PDM). Many of the CSPs in Greater London have also engaged with the colleges through the CSPANs. Examples of their support include supporting colleges with consulting with young people to determine sport and physical activity demand. There is generally good engagement by CSPs with Sport Unlimited, Step into Sport and Recruit into Coaching.

North East

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	The AoC regional office in the North East is one of the smallest in the country, with a regional director and part time support staff. The AoC facilitate a Regional committee of Principals and around 6 other regional networks, and are potentially expanding in 2010 with additional staff and a small office base. The role of the AoC in the region is seen as a catalyst, identifying others within the region who can take issues forward as a champion on behalf of colleges, then stepping back to allow the groups to become self sustaining.
BCS	BCS in the region is amalgamated with the Yorkshire and Humberside region, with the main BCS representatives based in the NE. There are 21 colleges in the North East Region, 15 of which are also members of BCS joint region.
Regional and sub regional Networks	There is a Sport and Active Leisure Learning Provider Forum which includes representation from FE Colleges together with other providers such as NGBS, HE, and funding agencies. This links to a parallel Sport

	and Active Leisure Workforce Forum, which is employer (demand) led. Both the employer and provider forums will provide the drive for National Skills Academy roll out and help with its delivery. The CSP network is strong, with four CSPs in the region regularly sharing views and best practice at a variety of levels. Each of the four CSPs manage their own partnership networks, including CSNs, SSP groups and FESCo networks.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The Skills Active RDM provides facilitation of meetings through the chair, and acts as secretariat for the groups. The RDM also provides a link between the provider forum and the employer led workforce forum. It is also part of the role to disseminate information relating to skills and workforce to NGBs, CSP and physical activity networks.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos {N.B. information taken from Summer 2009 so needs updating}	Three of the CSPs (Northumberland Sport, Tyne and Wear Sport and Tees Valley Sport) know the FESCos but the fourth CSP (County Durham Sport) does not. There are no sub regional networks of FESCos and only Northumberland and Tees Valley have contacted all the FESCos in their areas. Without sub regional network groups, the CSPs contact the FESCOs through a variety of means, e.g. in Northumberland there is only one college so the CSP has 1-1 meetings and a good working relationship. Elsewhere, communication is through the SSP network, the CSN networks and through email newsletters. FESCos are involved in Sport Unlimited in all areas except County Durham. They are engaged in Step into Sport in Tees Valley and Tyne and Wear.
Previous studies and reports	**FE Mapping Report 2008:** this study was funded by Sport England in the North East, with the aim of understanding the current picture within FE and identifying areas of gaps or weaknesses. The restructure of Sport England later that year meant that the findings were not followed up on a regional basis; however there is no doubt that some of the colleges found the recommendations helpful and acted upon them.

North West

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	The AoC in the north west has nearly 100% membership, with 5 very strong sub-regions which has influenced how the AoC operates in the region. The AoC NW acts in a lobbying and influencing capacity for academic activity and focuses on the remit set nationally by AoC. The small team of two, based in Chorley, also provide individual support to the institutions.
BCS	There are 33 affiliated colleges out of 55 in the North West. The aims of the BCS North West Region are: • To promote fellowship, goodwill and enjoyment throughout participation and competitive sport in Further Education. • To improve sporting opportunities and facilities for students in

	Further Education. • To identify and secure recognition for those students to excel at national and international levels. The region offers competition in the form of leagues and regional tournaments which feeds to the BCS national competition. The BCS region also organises non league activity and has a committee for disability sport. Four out of the five sub-regions engage well with the BCS. Cumbria is the exception but this is largely due to its geography. Since the introduction of FESCos, BSC has seen an increase in membership as these posts have raised awareness of sport and the BCS to those colleges historically not involved in sport. Several colleges have not rejoined the BCS this academic year for a variety of reasons e.g. Trafford, Hugh Baird, Tameside and Sir John Deane's Colleges.
BUCS	The north west region is unique that it has a BUCS officer responsible for FE, in addition to HE, in the form of a FE/HE Sports Manager. The two key tasks of this post with regards FE engagement were 1) to work with the CSPs in the region to establish FESCo networks and 2) to seek to establish a Strategic Network Group for Principals and Heads of Sport. To date the officer has been in post a year and has focused on the FESCo networks and supporting the FESCos in their roles.
Regional and sub regional Networks	The AoC has a regional committee which has 2 Principals who sit on it with an interest in sport – from Warrington and Trafford Colleges. There have been discussions in the past regarding setting up a support network for the Heads of Sport. Approximately 60% of colleges responded positively to the suggestion, then the FESCos were appointed and many colleges felt that this superseded the need for a Heads of Sport Network. There are a series of FESCo networks in place across the sub regions. BCS has a 3 x year network meetings for Heads of Sport who are BCS members, and a BUCS network is also in place. There are 5 CSPs across the region supporting an active network of CSNs.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	Led by the Skills Active NW Regional Development Manager the North West has established a Sport and Active Leisure Sector Skills and Productivity Alliance (SALSPA), which provides key information on: • the employment growth of the sector • the skills and training needs of businesses and their workforce • the role of existing sectors and the support they would welcome in the future • the experience of training providers of trying to deliver learning to the sector. An integral part of the region's work has been to undertake a Labour Market Assessment exercise in the summer of 2009 which has resulted in a regional action plan to take forward this aspect of the sector. The remit

	of the Regional Development Manager will now incorporate closer partnership working with NGBs to address workforce development within the individual sports.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	Of the four CSPs that responded (no response from Greater Sport) all know about the FESCos in their area. Each of these four sub-regions have a FESCo network in place. These networks were initially established by the CSPs in Merseyside and Lancashire, and by one of the FESCos in Cumbria and Cheshire & Warrington. Engagement of FESCos in Sport Unlimited is high in all areas, and this is the same picture for Step into Sport with the exception of Merseyside.

South East

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	AoSEC is the regional organisation representing all FE colleges in the south east. It was established in 2000 through a merger between The Southern Regional Council for Education and Training and the Association of South East Colleges. It is an independent company limited by guarantee. The membership comprises of 62 FE, Sixth Form and Specialist Colleges. AoSEC organises 19 network groups including a Sport and Leisure Network. Members pay a subscription of £275 per year to join this network.
BCS	The geographical boundaries of BCS in the South East incorporate the administrative boundaries of the Greater South East plus the whole of Greater London, making it the largest BCS region in terms of numbers of colleges. In practice, however, colleges in North London tend to affiliate to BCS in the East Region, whilst colleges in South London affiliate to the South East. There are around 23 colleges which affiliate to the South East region (out of a total of 113 colleges in the combined London/South East region). The regional committee comprises a Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer and Competitions Secretary / development officer (a part time post funded through college affiliations – see London region description).
Regional and sub regional Networks	Colleges in the South East have the opportunity to join sub regional networks such as FE Sussex (acting somewhat like a local branch of the AoC Region). FE Sussex is a separate limited company to which member colleges pay a separate subscription. It undertakes a range of functions including network groups, consultancy and projects. FE Sussex also holds a contract with Brighton and Hove Albion FC to oversee their stepping stones into employment project. There are similar groups in other sub regional areas such as Surrey, Kent and for the Thames Valley. These groups provide a mechanism for Principals and others within colleges to get together and discuss issues which are more local to them, as well as feed questions or issues up to the AoC region. At the moment these sub regional groupings have no formal link to the CSPs in the region. Such a link, if developed, could provide a mechanism

	for sporting organisations to work more closely with FE on a sub regional level. There are 7 CSPs in the region, making it one of the largest in the country. Many of these CSPs incorporate local CSN networks.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The Regional Skills Active Development Manager is the specialist advisor on skills and qualifications in Sport & Active Leisure in the region. This includes leading industry research on the needs of employers in the field. As part of the work in 2008, Skills Active were funded by the LSC to undertake some work on college facility developments, and as a result some strong relationships were formed with colleges working on AASE, the NSA and the links between colleges and LAs, CSPs and NGBs.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	Of the six CSPs that responded to a Sport England consultation exercise (excludes Active Surrey); all are aware of their FESCos and have been in contact with them. However, there are only two sub regional FESCo networks, in Kent and Hampshire & Isle of Wight. This has been established by the CSP in Kent and by a PDM in Hampshire. The other CSPs in the region contact their FESCos through email newsletters, the PDM network and through individual meetings with FESCos. There is generally good engagement across the region with Sport Unlimited and Step into Sport, and the Recruit into Coaching in participating CSPs (Kent and Sussex).
Previous studies and reports	LSC funded work on capital build programmes and plans across the South East, 2008-09

South West

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	AoC South West comprises a small team based in Bridgwater, Somerset. It represents colleges on numerous strategic forums and facilitates 10 different network groups for Principals, Governors, curriculum leaders and others. There are five staff in the regional office and it has recently expanded its role to introduce four thematic groups. One of the officers in the South West AoC office has a particular responsibility for sport, (two days per week) and has been working to establish a Head of Sport and FESCo network across the region in order to plan strategically for developments in the sector.
BCS	The South West region of BCS is one of the strongest regions in the country. Membership is high, with 27 out of 30 colleges affiliating. The national offices are based in the region and the national Chair of BCS is the Principal of Richard Huish College in Taunton. The Regional Committee comprises a Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Secretary / Competitions Secretary (this last post is funded three days per week, paid for from college affiliations.) The BCS South West Region also run an annual meeting on curriculum developments, where curriculum leaders are invited to discuss relevant developments. This meeting is usually held

	on the same day as the AGM.
Regional and sub regional Networks	There are 7 CSPs in the region supporting a network of well established CSNs throughout most of the CSP areas. Active Devon has played an active role in chairing a county group of college Heads of Sport. As mentioned above, the AoC SW office has initiated a sport and leisure network, which brings together curriculum leaders and some Principals. This has been done in partnership with the BCS national office, and the last meeting was planned to coincide with the BCS regional AGM.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The Regional Skills Active Development Manager is the specialist advisor on skills and qualifications in Sport & Active Leisure in the region. This includes leading industry research on the needs of employers in the field. Skills Active Regional Officers influence and lobby for funding for the Sport & Active Leisure sector. Other priorities for the Skills Active region are the introduction of the National Skills Academy for the sector.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	All 7 CSPs in the region are aware of their FESCos and all except Dorset and Wesport have been in contact with them all. There are sub regional FESCo network groups in Cornwall, Devon, Gloucestershire, and Wiltshire, with the meetings in Cornwall, Devon and Gloucestershire established and driven by the CSP, and the Wiltshire group by the FESCos themselves. Wiltshire, Wesport and Dorset CSPs have not attended FESCo meetings and engagement with FESCOs is sporadic, or on a 1-1 basis. FESCos are generally engaged with Sport Unlimited and Step into Sport Programmes, with few exceptions.
Previous studies and reports	RELAYS (Regional Educational Legacy in Arts and Youth Sport) was established to create a positive legacy from 2012, and the initiative involves partnerships with universities across the South West, the AoC SW office (the sports post within the AoC emerged from this funding), and a number of other partners including the Eden Project and South West Tourism. The project is jointly funded by the Legacy Trust and the Higher Education Funding Council.

West Midlands

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	AoC in the West Midlands comprise a team of two; a Regional Director and Regional Office Manager employed by AoC nationally. They see their role as a lobbying and influencing role for academic activity. They are also there to support the individual institutions. They have not undertaken any activity with regards to promoting sport or pulling a Heads of Sport together for a network to date.

BCS	BCS in the region was dormant for many years but a full committee structure is now in place. However, in the past four years, BCS has become one of the drivers for increasing participation in sport across the West Midlands. BCS representatives feel they mirror what BUCS do for the HE sector and that they have been radical in their approach to development. Their structures replicate the national BCS structures. 29 out of the 44 colleges are members of BCS in the region in this academic year (09-10)
Regional and sub regional Networks	The LSC set up a Tourism and Leisure Specialist Provider Network (SPN) for hospitality, tourism and leisure – with sport featuring under this umbrella. A 2012 Education and Skills Group was established representative of HE, FE, Advantage West Midlands (AWM), Government Office, CSPs and the Sector Skills Gain, however this group seems to have been superseded by the 2012 Inspiration Group. There are 6 West Midland CSPs, all of which support a series of SPAAs in the sub-regions. Many of these SPAAs have FE representation on them but it was felt there has been little development with regards sport in FE.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	There are two part-time Skills Active Regional Managers whose roles are to influence and lobby for funding for the Sport & Active Leisure sector. In the West Midlands specifically the two officers are leading and implementing the Sport & Active Leisure Skills Plan and introducing the National Skills Academy for the sector.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	All 6 CSPs in the West Midlands are aware of their FESCos and all except Birmingham and Staffordshire have contacted them. There are FESCo sub regional networks in four of the areas (none in Black Country or Shropshire, although a group is being developed in the Black Country). Of the four groups in existence, two were established by the CSP and two by PDMs. Hereford and Worcestershire CSP and Coventry, Solihull and Warwick CSP are the most active in leading and driving the FESCo networks. Black Country CSP has an established HE/FE network which feeds into the CSP Board as part of their governance structure. FESCo engagement in Sport Unlimited, Step into Sport and Recruit into Coaching is good in all areas.

Yorkshire and Humberside

Organisation	Brief description and role
AoC	The Association of Colleges Yorkshire and Humberside (AoC Y&H) supports colleges and contributes to the region's social and economic agenda. One of its key roles is to represent colleges in arenas of politics, media and to other national organisations. The main focus of the region's work includes raising awareness of the sector, influencing education and skills policy and to support members through information, advice and events. The region has taken on a facilitation role to support the development of a

	number of sustainable College Networks and Forums which enable colleges to share information and good practice. These networks are across a range of sectors including business development, press and marketing and senior curriculum managers etc. To date there has not been a network established for the sport and physical activity sector.
BCS	BCS in the region is currently amalgamated with the north east, with the main BCS representatives based in the NE. There are 36 colleges in the Yorkshire and Humberside region, of which 26 affiliate to the BCS joint Yorks / NE region.
Regional and sub regional Networks	There are a number of college networks in the region organised by AoC Y&H, however there are currently no specific networks in the region to support sport in FE. The main networks supporting sport in colleges are the CSPANs where the colleges have engaged with them. There are four CSPs in the region; each playing a support role with regards the network of CSNs. There are some strong and well established CSNs in the region including Sport Leeds and Sport Keighley.
Skills Active Regional Development Manager	The Regional Skills Active Development Manager is the specialist advisor on skills and qualifications in Sport & Active Leisure in the region. This includes leading industry research on the needs of employers in the field. Skills Active Regional Managers influence and lobby for funding for the Sport & Active Leisure sector. Other priorities for the Skills Active region are the introduction of the National Skills Academy for the sector.
CSPs and support for FE and FESCos (information from summer 09 and may have changed)	Of the three CSPs that have been consulted (excludes South Yorkshire Sport), only one of the CSPs, Humberside Sports Partnership has been in contact with the FESCos. This CSP has met with FESCos and is contributing to the FESCo network which is organised on a rotational basis by the FESCos. West Yorkshire Sport is seeking to establish a network group. Communication is patchy within North Yorkshire where some FESCos are not yet in post. In North Yorkshire, FESCos are not engaging in Sport Unlimited or SiS but they are in the other two CSP areas.
Previous studies and reports	In 2008 Sport England and University Colleges Sport undertook an FE survey in the Yorkshire and Humberside region. The purpose of the work was to understand sports participation in FE, numbers of clubs, teams, inter and intra- competition, coaches, volunteers, courses, partnerships, placements, academies and facilities. The factual findings of this data were distributed but it is unclear if any recommendations or further action emerged as a result.