



# Youth Innovation

Conference

# Cruyff Foundation, Creating Space

Simon Wood



# JOHAN CRUYFF FOUNDATION

CREATING SPACE FOR CHILDREN





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CREATING SPACE FOR CHILDREN



# 21 COUNTRIES





# HEALTH



YEAR 6 CHILDREN:

**31.3%**

are living with obesity in  
the most deprived areas



YEAR 6 CHILDREN:

**13.5%**

are living with obesity in  
the least deprived areas

Source: National Child Measurement Programme,  
England, 2021/22 school year

# SOCIAL COHESION



1 OUT OF 4 CHILDREN  
(AGED 4-12) IN THE UK  
GROWS  
UP IN POVERTY.

Source: Centre for Research in Social Policy





# PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT



53% OF THE CHILDREN  
IN THE UK DO  
NOT COMPLY WITH THE  
EXERCISE GUIDELINES

Source: Sport England



# PARTICIPATION



3 OUT OF 4 CHILDREN  
WITH A DISABILITY DO NOT  
PLAY SPORTS.

Source: The Activity Alliance UK





# SCHOOLYARD14



16 Schoolyard14  
6 Schoolyard14 in 2025



# CRUYFF COURT

16 Community Cruyff  
Courts  
6 new Cruyff Court in  
2025







OPENING OF THE FIRST CRUYFF  
COURT IN THE UK  
IN 2008





# SPECIAL CRUYFF COURT

17 Special Cruyff Courts  
8 new Special Cruyff Courts  
in 2025







OPENING OF THE CRUYFF  
COURT AARON RAMSEY IN  
2023

# End of 2024

## Special Courts

- Dorothy Goodman
- Virgil van Dijk
- Jackie Groenen
- Ashbrooke
- Dylan Thomas
- Cedar House
- Kelly Smith
- Ysgol Hendrefelin
- Oversands
- Hartwell
- St Christophers
- Aaron Ramsey
- The Hive
- Chilworth
- Lakeside
- Bescot Hall
- Castlefell

## Community Courts

- Dennis Bergkamp
- Tottenham Hotspur
- Liverpool
- Denis Law
- Everton
- Alex Neil
- St Matthew's
- Neale Cooper
- Brentford Towers
- New Parks
- Penyfan
- Yorkshire Main
- Parson Cross
- Normanton Park
- Willie Miller
- Class of 92





## End of 2025

- 22 Community Courts
- 25 Special Courts
- Northern Ireland



# UK CHALLENGES

- Funding
  - 1 in 2 Councils expected to run out of money in next 5 yrs
  - 1 in 3 cutting leisure and parks
- Planning Approvals

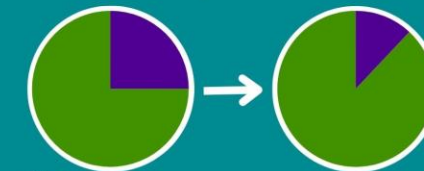


THE ENGLISH COUNCILS THAT HAVE GONE 'BANKRUPT'



Our government grant funding has more than halved

In 2014 it was 25% of our income, now it's just 12%



North Somerset Council



# SOCIAL SPORTS PROGRAM



- Cruyff Legacy Course
  - 5 Courses
  - 2 of the new format
  - Deliver the course over 60 Coaches
- Heroes of the Cruyff Courts
  - Always linked to 6vs6
- 2025
  - Deliver for 3 Coach Courses
  - 30 Heroes project





# CONNECTED COURTS<sup>UK</sup>



JACKIE  
GROENEN



KELLY  
SMITH



AARON  
RAMSEY



VIRGIL  
VAN DIJK



WILLIE  
MILLER



DENIS  
LAW



CLASS OF '92



DENNIS  
BERGKAMP



# PARTNERS



PPL



REECH SPORTS  
AND PLAY



WITHERSLACK  
GROUP



POSSIBLE  
FUTURE  
PARTNERS







What could it look like for you?

1. Who needs to be involved?
2. What are the challenges?
3. What are the next steps?



# CREATIVE CRUYFF COURT



We built 3 Creative Cruyff Courts  
Barcelona, Rotterdam, London



WE  
CONTINUE  
WHAT  
JOHAN  
STARTED



QUESTIONS?

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