Northumberland

HOTSPOT UPDATE

DECEMBER 25

Sorry for the gap in updates post world cup, we made some changes in September around the clubs we would be working with for this project. Clubs for the 25/26 season;

- Novo's (but only around facilities)
- Ashington
- Gosforth
- Wallsend
- Northern

Clubs we have removed from this project- North Shields. This doesn't remove them from all support just the focused Impact 25 work.

Player numbers update;

Club	current girl's numbers	+/-	current women's numbers	+/-
Novo's	**18**	**-16**	**80**	**-6**
Ashington	**28**	**0**	**3**	**-5**
Gosfoth	**6**	**+6**	**0**	**0**
Wallsend	**11**	**+2**	**47**	**+47**
Northern	**108**	**+5**	**0**	**0**

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Schools Rugby Managers; (RFU staff- Jess Laidler and Liam Nicholls

A full report has been sent to the county via Andrew Soutar which includes focus clubs and schools.

SRM Name:	Katherine Ginns
Deployed through:	Youth Sport Trust
Started SRM role:	September 2024 (note Katherine took over role from North of the Tyne SRM in Summer 25)
Non-SRM time:	PE advisor for Newcastle
Focus area:	Newcastle

SRM Name:	Harry Rickard
Deployed through:	RGS Newcastle
Started SRM role:	September 2024 (note: Harry starts on 1st Jan and replaces Charlie Maddison who left in Oct 25)
Non-SRM time:	RGS coach
Focus area:	Newcastle

Coaching; RFU Staff- Ash Smith and Kat Cook

A female only ERCA was held at Novo's and had close to 50 women book onto the course via our free voucher system. Ash Smith and Kat Cook delivered the event, we had around a 70% attendance on the day.

Competitions; RFU staff- Matt Dent

Inner Warrior league continues to see an increase of games played.
U18 league continues with positive feedback.
The new U16 league is running well with games getting played.

Facilities; RFU staff- Matt Coglan and Max Pridemore

Novo's are reaching the end of their social space and changing room development.
Gosforth are exploring the social space support and have had the visit by the consultant designer.

General;

We continue to get zero engagement with Novo's around anything other than facilities. We are worried about their continued drop in girls numbers. But as discussed last season, we have reached out to them so many times its now on the club to connect with Liam and our support.

Wallsend women's recruitment has gone really well and North Shields still have a strong section, so there doesn't appear to be any negative affect of Wallsend setting up a women's team.