

Dear Clerk

FREE Roving Play Sessions

Action in Rural Sussex has been contracted by Rother District Council to hold **FREE** play sessions for 8 – 16 year olds throughout Rother, particularly in those rural areas where there is currently no organised provision for older children or young people.

The 3 – 4 hour sessions will take place on a Saturday over the next 18 months and will consist of sports activities, informal play, games, and/or arts and crafts depending on whether an outdoor or indoor space is available. The sessions will be part of a wider programme funded primarily through the Big Lottery Fund and also through a contribution from the NHS Hastings and Rother.

Starting in the New Year, the sessions will incorporate the use of available open spaces and fixed facilities and will be held in sympathy with other events and activities. Ideally we would like to hold an average of 3 per month in various areas.

The lack of 'things to do' for children and young people is an issue affecting many communities in our district. We are keen to work with you and other groups in your community to deliver this programme in partnership and ensure that it contributes to addressing this issue. If your Council would be interested in providing us with a space (playing field, hall etc) either free of charge or for a reduced rate to benefit the young people in your village, please contact me as soon as possible. .

We would also welcome the opportunity to discuss other ways in which you may be able to support the programme, for example through assistance with promoting sessions and advising us of other events that are planned in your area which we might be able to link in to.

We are also looking for additional sessional workers to join our team. One of our aims is to increase the capacity of local people to provide play opportunities in their communities in the future and provision for training has been made within the project budget. If you are aware of people in your area that whom this might benefit, please encourage them to contact me,

Please feel free to contact me regarding the programme. I can be contacted on **01424 777980** or at liz.bates@ruralsussex.org.uk.