

Charity CEO calls for more sporting opportunities (From This Is Local London)

Tottenham Hotspur Foundation CEO calls for more sporting opportunities



Spurs Foundation CEO Grant Cornwell believes young people should be able to take part in sport where they live and learn

First published Monday 9 February 2015 in [News](#)

Last updated 14:12 Wednesday 11 February 2015 by [John Toner](#), Reporter

The leader of a sporting foundation called for sport to be taken to young people.

Tottenham Hotspur Foundation CEO Grant Cornwell was among sporting heroes and business executives calling for more accessible sports and physical activities in schools at the second Andrew Reed Debate.

The debate, held at London's Guildhall in partnership with the Tessa Sanderson Foundation & Academy, Tottenham Hotspur Foundation and Harlequins Foundation, included panel members such as Tim Henman and Tessa Sanderson-White, and David Stalker, chief executive of not-for-profit health body uactive.

Mr Cornwell said: "We need to find ways to engage with young people and providing facilities alone is not the answer. You have to take sport to where the children are – council estates, parks, and schools. You need coaches who understand their backgrounds, can talk to them and act as role models.

"Lots of our coaches have lived on these estates and can motivate the children. And it's about building relationships over the long term – a six-week course isn't enough.

"Tottenham Hotspur Foundation has been working in some of these estates for seven years. We must build relationships and trust.

"What some young people lack is an opportunity. At Tottenham Hotspur Foundation, our motto is 'Creating Opportunities that Change Lives' and sport has a massive role to play in making a change for good in the whole of society."