

GRAND OPENING OF HALLGARTH'S MULTI USE GAMES AREA

South Lakeland District Council, working in partnership with South Lakes Housing and Bramall Construction officially opened the South Lakeland Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) Project at the Hallgarth MUGA in Kendal.



The event, took place on Thursday 20th December at 10.30am, and started with an official ribbon cutting ceremony by Mayor Gwen Murfin and local MP Tim Farron, followed by a 5-a-side football tournament between four teams from local school, St Thomas CE Primary. South Lakes Housing and Bramall Construction also entered teams for the competition.

The MUGAs are now completed on two sites at Hallgarth and Sandylands, with another smaller version available for use at Kirkbarrow.

The purpose of these outdoor games facilities is to provide a focal point for the community and to engage youths in a more structured past time. When strategically placed, they have the potential to reduce costs to the community by deterring vandalism and help to promote a healthy lifestyle in the younger generation.



Richard Foster, South Lakeland District Council's Sport and Recreation Manager and Chair of the MUGA Steering Group said: " South Lakeland District Council are pleased to be partners in the MUGA project. These facilities are part of a 5-year plan to install 5 MUGAs across South Lakeland.

We believe they will provide excellent opportunities for our local communities, with emphasis on provision for young people through coaching and youth work sessions.”

Peter Thomas, Chief Executive South Lakes Housing said “we are delighted to have the new MUGA’s ready for use, just in time for the school Christmas holidays. Today is a result of extensive consultation with local people who have helped shape and design the MUGA’s. It was very important to us to obtain the views of local residents and particularly the children and young people who will use them”.

Sean Canny, Project Manager from Bramall Construction is very clear about the benefits of safe play areas for young children,“ The Decent Homes initiative is not just about improving property, its about improving the lives of local residents and children in the area. We are constantly hearing about the sedentary lifestyle of today’s children. At Bramalls we want to make sure that young people have the opportunity to enjoy fresh air, exercise and imaginative play in a protected and purpose built environment.”