

# SOMERSET CRICKET FOUNDATION



The Somerset Cricket Foundation exists to support, grow and diversify grassroots cricket as well as to use the power of cricket to develop communities and make a positive difference to people's lives.

"I enjoyed the coaching which has improved my self confidence to play in the social matches and it was nice to meet other friends..."



## Project Overview

Somerset Cricket Foundation were funded to work with CHARIS Refugees and North Petherton Cricket Club to deliver a Maqbul cricket project (acceptance/inclusion) to refugees and asylum seekers living in Bridgwater. The project focussed on: team creation and training, team fixtures, mentoring/coaching to develop lead volunteers, and sign posting to clubs.



## Impact

- Increased community cohesion
- New friendships
- Improved mental health
- More active with family

## Recommendations when working with refugees and asylum seekers

- 1. Be warm and welcoming.** Provide a safe space for people to come and join.
- 2. Offer family sessions.** Create space for people to bring the whole family, so everyone can enjoy the activity and not feel isolated
- 3. Create opportunities for community cohesion.** allow access to facilities for training, coaching, social fixtures, community engagement days

"I really enjoyed the programme. It is nice to get outside for our health and well being. I enjoyed the coaching and the matches. I also enjoyed having fun time with my son."



## Next Steps

Somerset Cricket Foundation, CHARIS Refugees and North Petherton Cricket Club are all aware of the success of the programme, and are currently looking at ways to maintain momentum and continue to engage with their community.

