



NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2020

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#B2022



...from John Crabtree

Our progress in organising the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games has continued at pace in recent weeks and we were very pleased to announce that the University of Birmingham is now a major partner for the Games.

This good news was followed by another positive announcement in October, confirming that the BBC will be the domestic broadcast rights holder for Birmingham 2022. With the BBC's fantastic track record in covering previous editions of the Games, we know we are in safe hands.

The Birmingham 2022 team has also been growing fast in recent weeks. You can read about some of the new recruits that will be useful contacts for you on page three but we were also delighted to unveil our apprenticeship programme a few weeks ago. We hope to recruit up to 40 apprentices in total.

As well as moving forward with our planning we have also continued to recognise the great work that local grassroots organisations do, by searching for '**Hometown Heroes**'. It is a campaign which has been welcomed by people and clubs across the West Midlands with more than 1,000 nominations so far.

I know that 2020 has been a very challenging year for many of us but I would like to send you all good wishes for the festive season and let's look forward to a happy and healthy 2021.

**JOHN CRABTREE OBE
CHAIRMAN,
BIRMINGHAM 2022**

WELCOME...

...from Ian Reid

It has been another exciting couple of months for Birmingham 2022 and we are delighted to be able to provide you with an update in this latest edition of our newsletter.

We've recently confirmed two more venues, unveiling two beautiful parks – West Park in Wolverhampton and St Nicholas Park in Warwick – as the start and finish locations for our two road cycling events.

We've also now published the daily schedule for the Games, which I think makes it feel more real for teams and spectators alike. Judging by the reaction that we received, there's a lot of excitement for the Games.

We were also delighted to confirm, through the publication of the medal event programme, that Birmingham 2022 will be the first major multi-sport event to award more medals to women than men.

Thank you to those CGAs who helped us to arrange for some of the legends of Commonwealth Sport, such as Anna Meares and Lady Mary Peters, to take part in our special celebration of women in sport, which marked the publication of the medal event programme. You can read more about this on page 7.

Thank you to everyone for your support and input over the last 12 months and we look forward to working with you in 2021.

**IAN REID
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
BIRMINGHAM 2022**



CGA SERVICES UPDATE

In recent weeks the Birmingham 2022 team has been growing fast and below is information about some of the new recruits.



Fran Lusack has joined as Head of Accreditation and her role is to ensure that delegations can access the Games in a safe and secure manner. Fran will deliver the accreditation programme on behalf of the CGF.



Reinis Birznieks has been appointed as Head of Sport Operations and Services and he will be overseeing the planning and delivery of the sport entries, sport equipment, sport publications, training venues and various sports services at the Commonwealth Games villages.



Ana Stratu has joined Birmingham 2022 as the Sport Entries Manager. Her role involves collecting data related to athlete numbers, sports qualification systems and eligibility criteria, coordinating the development of the sport entries system, in conjunction with the technology team, and putting together the sport entries manual.

Indicative Athlete Numbers Survey (IANS)

Thank you to all CGAs who provided IANS returns. Birmingham 2022 received a great response on its request for athlete numbers, information which is invaluable when planning for the Games. The team will now use these numbers to analyse expected athlete attendance.

Queen's Baton Relay (QBR) Regional Presentations

Birmingham 2022 is grateful for the recent opportunity to speak to all CGAs at the regional meetings. The Games team revealed its focus and themes for the QBR, as well as providing an overview of the key dates.

Birmingham 2022 looks forward to working with all CGAs on a one-to-one basis in the next few months.

HOTEL ACCOMMODATION

Birmingham 2022 has secured an allocation of hotel rooms across the West Midlands and is finalising contracts with the hotel operators. An online Accommodation Reservation System is being procured to allow each CGA to reserve rooms. A range of high quality and affordable hotels (from 2 star to 4 star), located close to the competition venues and transportation hubs, will be available. Further details will be provided in 2021.

KEY DATES

There have been a few additions, some changes and some exact dates confirmed, so please check the key dates table.

Timing	Key Dates	Information/Action Required
17 Months	February 2021	Team Size Calculator V1 due from CGAs
12 Months	July 2021	Team Size Calculator V2 due from CGAs
12 Months	July 2021	Chefs de Mission Dossier distributed
8 Months	18 November 2021	Accreditation system and manual goes live
8 Months	18 November 2021	Sport Entries Guide distributed
6 Months	27 January 2022	Team Size Calculator V3 due from CGAs
6 Months	January 2022	Entry by number submitted by CGAs
4 Months	18 March 2022	Accreditation deadline for CGA athletes and team officials
3 Months	April 2022	Pre-delegation registration meetings
3 Months	27 April 2022	Sport entry system goes live
3 Months	29 April 2022	Accreditation deadline for CGA dignitaries and guests
4 Weeks	June 2022	Entry by name submitted by CGAs
4 Weeks	29 June 2022	Team Size Calculator V4 due from CGAs
2 Weeks	July 2022	Delegation registration meetings
	22nd July 2022	Official Opening of Commonwealth Games Villages
	28th July 2022	Opening Ceremony
	8th August 2022	Closing Ceremony
	10th August 2022	Closing of Commonwealth Games Villages

PRE-GAMES TRAINING CAMPS UPDATE

Phase One of the Pre-Games Training Camps (PGTC) process has been completed and there has been unprecedented interest. More than 300 submissions have been received from cities, regions, venues and clubs across the UK, with them all interested in hosting teams ahead of Birmingham 2022. Phase two of the project, being delivered by the UK Government's Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, will begin in December, when a list of interested PGTC hosts will be shared with CGAs.

Please contact B2022trainingcamps@DCMS.gov.uk if you have any questions about this process.

DELIVERING A SAFE AND SECURE GAMES

Birmingham 2022's security team has recently recruited new members. The Director of Security, Nick Knight, who has been working on the Games for 12 months, has recently added David Hay as Head of Venue Security and Spencer Bowdler as Head of Security Operations to the team.

This organising committee team is also working in conjunction with West Midlands Police (WMP), with the two organisations working closely to deliver a safe and secure edition of the Commonwealth Games and jointly designing the security operation required for each Games venue.

To assist with the safe delivery of the Games, West Midlands Police has created a team that includes all of the services required to assess the intelligence available and make suitable judgments regarding any potential changes to the threat level in the UK at the time of the Games.

Assistant Chief Constable, Matt Ward, strategic lead for the Commonwealth Games, said:

"I'm working with a fantastic team of colleagues and officers to make sure that, when the Games come to Birmingham, it's as safe and secure and enjoyable as possible. We've integrated our policing team with other partner agencies, including the organising committee, fire, ambulance and military, to make sure we have a single team committed to delivering a safe and secure Games in 2022."

WMP is also working with all interested parties regarding the Queen's Baton Relay, to ensure appropriate police support for both the international and local routes that are planned.

The organising committee's security team is also currently procuring private contracted security and there has been a significant amount of interest expressed, with both national and local companies keen to be involved with the Games.

Birmingham 2022 will be selecting and awarding this major contract for the Games in 2021.





AQUATICS

SWIMMING
INC PARA SWIMMING
FRI 29TH JUL – WED 3RD AUG 2022

DIVING
THU 4TH – MON 8TH AUG 2022

DAILY COMPETITION SCHEDULE *CONFIRMED*

The daily schedule for the Games was released in October, confirming which sports will be held on each of the 11 days of competition.

The first day of competition is packed with action, featuring 14 different sports. This includes Basketball 3x3 at Smithfield in the centre of Birmingham, artistic gymnastics at Arena Birmingham, and hockey and squash, which will take place at the University of Birmingham.

Women's cricket T20, included in the Games for the first time, will begin at Edgbaston Stadium on Friday 29 July and the aquatics programme will start on the same day with the swimmers getting the action underway at the Sandwell Aquatics Centre.

Netball also begins at the NEC Arena on the first day of competition, with the final being held on Sunday 7 August.

The unveiling of the new schedule confirms that there will now be two full weekends of competition, a move which is hoped will allow more than one million spectators to attend the Games.

The main athletics programme at the redeveloped Alexander Stadium will begin on day five of the competition, on 2 August, therefore allowing additional recovery time for athletes who are also planning to compete at the World Athletics Championships in Oregon.

Coventry Stadium and Arena, which is set to host three sports, rugby sevens, judo and wrestling, has a packed agenda, as it will see sports action on eight out of 11 days of competition and the NEC will be even busier, with badminton and table tennis, two of the four sports occupying halls at the exhibition centre, featuring on every single day of the Games.

The daily schedule has been sent to each CGA but it can also be downloaded at www.birmingham2022.com



GYMNASTICS

ARTISTIC
FRI 29TH JUL – TUE 2ND AUG 2022

RHYTHMIC
THU 4TH – SAT 6TH AUG 2022

SIS
SHOT

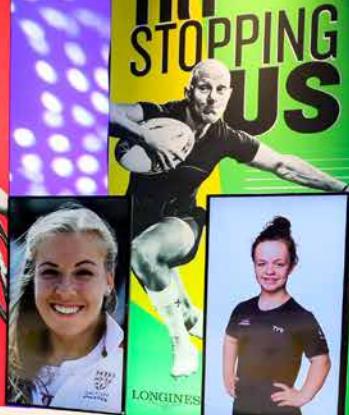
BIRMINGHAM 2022 COMMONWEALTH GAMES

CENTURIES
IN THE MAKING

IT'S
OUR
TIME

STOPPING
US

LEA



MEDAL EVENT PROGRAMME UNVEILED

The medal event programme for Birmingham 2022 has been unveiled, confirming that, for the first time ever at a major multi-sport event, more medals will be awarded to women than men.

In total there will be 136 medal events for women and 134 for men. There will also be 13 mixed events, including synchronised 3m springboard diving and synchronised 10m platform diving, swimming relays, and para athletics relays.

The Games will also feature more para sport than any previous Commonwealth Games, with wheelchair basketball 3x3 included in the integrated programme for the first time.

Para athletics events like the 100m T33/34 and para swimming events like the 100m breaststroke SB6 are added for the first time, giving some of Britain's best-known para sport stars, such as Hannah Cockcroft, the chance to compete at the Games.

Hannah, who has five Paralympic golds and 12 World Championship golds, said:

"When I heard that there was going to be an event that I can target at the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games I honestly nearly cried."

"This is such amazing news as I didn't think I was going to get this opportunity in my career and it has been the medal missing from my collection for all of these years."

The Birmingham 2022 medals milestone was marked with a day of special talks entitled "It's Our Time", broadcast on the Birmingham 2022 Facebook page featuring past, present and future stars of Commonwealth sport.

Hosted by Olympic 400m medallist Katharine Merry, the event brought together several generations of female athletes, including legends of women's sport such as multi-event pioneer Lady Mary Peters, who won Commonwealth pentathlon gold in 1970, triple jumper Ashia Hansen, who won Commonwealth gold in 1998 and 2002, and Australian track cyclist Anna Meares, who won gold medals at three editions of the Games.





WOLVERHAMPTON AND WARWICK TO HOST ROAD CYCLING

It was announced last month that two historic parks will host the start and finish of the road cycling events at the Games.

West Park in Wolverhampton will be the setting for the start and finish of the Time Trial, while the cycling Road Race will start and finish in St Nicholas Park in Warwick.

Located in Warwick town centre, St Nicholas Park is set in four acres of stunning landscape, with views of the world-famous Warwick Castle, so it will provide a picturesque backdrop for the two road race events.

The men's and women's Time Trial events will start and finish in historic West Park in Wolverhampton, 18 miles north west of Birmingham and one of England's finest Victorian parks.

Wolverhampton has strong links to road cycling, as the first mass start cycling road race was held in the city in 1942. More recently, Andy Tennant, who was born in Wolverhampton and still lives in the city, won silver in the Team Pursuit for Team

England at the 2014 Commonwealth Games in Glasgow and he welcomed the news that the Time Trial would start and finish in his home city.

Andy Tennant said:

"I am absolutely delighted that West Park has been chosen as the venue for the start and finish of the Time Trial, especially as this is a park I raced in as a young cyclist. It is a fantastic location and I am sure local people will welcome the news that the Commonwealth Games is coming to Wolverhampton. I also know that local cycling club members will be inspired by the news that the Commonwealth's best cyclists will be competing right here in our city."

The routes for both events have not yet been finalised but details will be released in the next few months.





UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

More than a century after it was established to unlock the global potential of the city, the University of Birmingham remains committed to achieving national and global influence while remaining at the heart of the city's renaissance.

Characterised by a tradition of innovation, research at the University has broken new ground and made an impact on people's lives.

The University of Birmingham was the first 'red brick' university and during its 120 year existence has opened its doors to students from more than 150 different countries.

During the Games, the University of Birmingham will host the hockey and squash competitions and it will also be the main campus village, with thousands of athletes and team officials staying on the site which is located just a few miles from Birmingham city centre.



COVENTRY STADIUM AND ARENA

Coventry Stadium and Arena is situated 17 miles from central Birmingham. It is one of the West Midlands' premier sporting venues and will play host to rugby sevens, judo, and wrestling at Birmingham 2022.

The stadium, which was completed in 2005, has a capacity of 32,500, but the facilities extend beyond this and at Games time, judo and wrestling will be hosted in the 6,000 square metre exhibition hall.

From a sporting perspective, this venue has the perfect Games pedigree, as it is the home of Wasps Rugby Union Club and Wasps Netball. It was also one of the regional stadiums chosen to host football for the London 2012 Olympics.

The venue has also hosted some of the biggest names in music – with the likes of Rihanna, The Spice Girls and Bruce Springsteen having performed there over the last 15 years.

NEW ADVERTISING CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

To further raise awareness of the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games locally, a brand-new regional advertising campaign was launched in October.

The main campaign video, which you can find on the Birmingham 2022 social channels, on the website at www.birmingham2022.com or on You Tube, features a voiceover from Birmingham rapper Lady Leshurr BEM and also includes Team England athletes and hopefuls from a number of different Commonwealth sports, including:

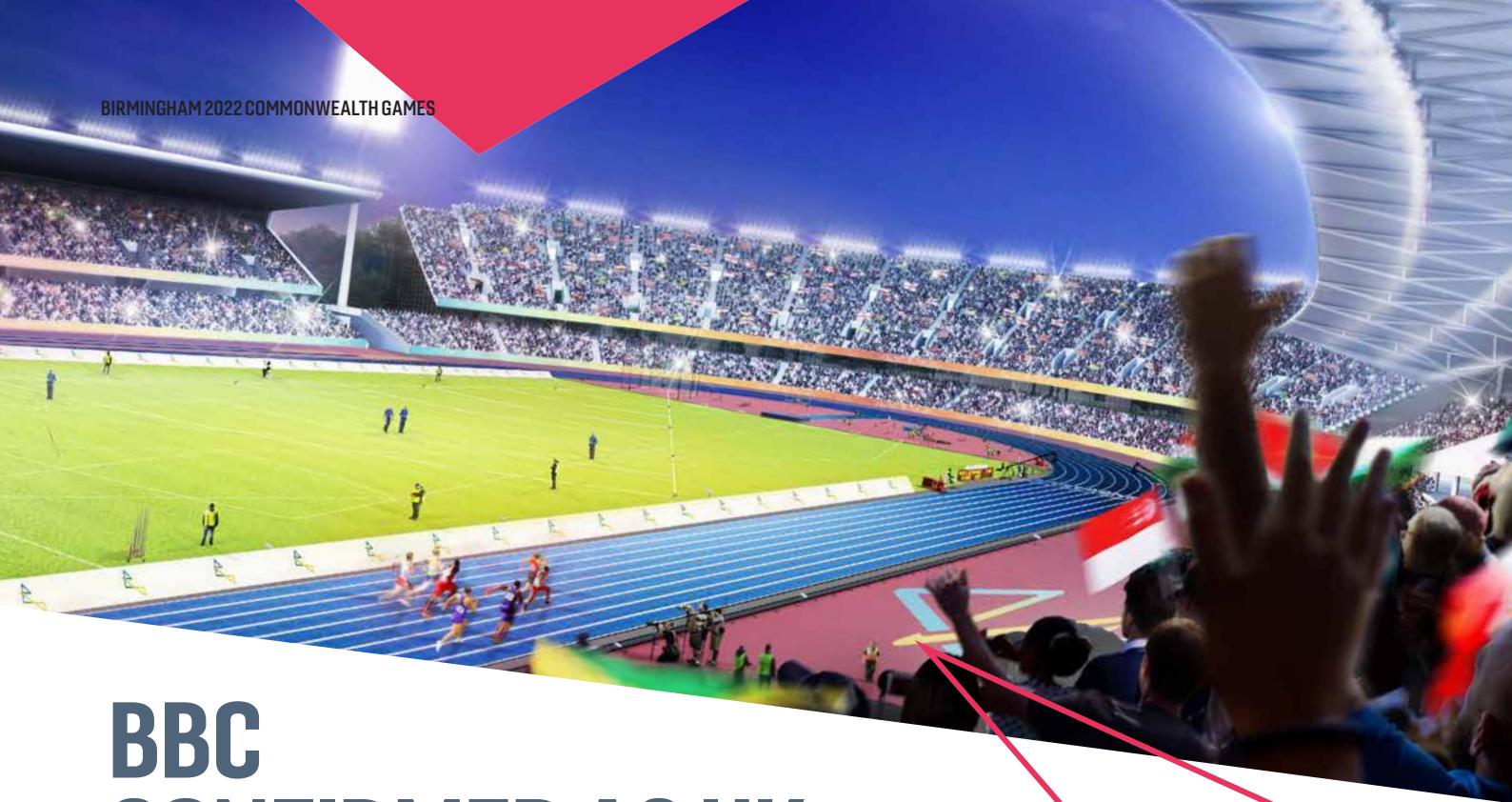
- Adam Peaty, Swimming
- Amy Jones, Cricket
- Galal Yafai, Boxing
- Siobhan Fitzpatrick, Wheelchair Basketball
- Kofi Josephs, Basketball
- Kare Adenegan, Para Athletics
- Heather Fisher, Rugby Sevens
- Jaswant Shergill, Weightlifting
- Joe Fraser, Gymnastics
- Nathaniel Brown, Wrestling

The adverts, which will be live until the end of December, use a combination of footage, stills, animations, graphics and music and represent the dynamic, youthful optimism of the Games and of the city of Birmingham.

Para athlete, Kare Adenegan, said:

"I felt really proud to be part of the campaign. Because I'm from the West Midlands, it's just even more special."





BBC CONFIRMED AS UK BROADCASTER

The BBC has signed up to be the Domestic Broadcast Rights Holder for the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games.

The deal means the corporation will broadcast Birmingham 2022 events on television and radio, as well as providing online coverage, offering unparalleled coverage of the UK's largest sporting event since the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The BBC has a long and proud association with the Commonwealth Games which dates back to 1954. The deal marks a particularly significant moment as 2022 coincides with the BBC's own centenary celebrations.

The partnership also reinforces the BBC's longstanding connection with Birmingham and the Midlands, as one of the oldest regional arms of the broadcaster.

Commonwealth Games Federation President Dame Louise Martin DBE said:

"I am delighted that the BBC has taken up the domestic rights for the Commonwealth Games."

"I believe this deal represents a huge vote of confidence in Birmingham as well as the entire Commonwealth Sport Movement."

"The BBC has demonstrated a huge commitment to women's sport and with 2022 marking their centenary, I am delighted they are partnering again with Commonwealth Sport to help us generate huge levels of excitement and anticipation in the lead up to one of the biggest sporting events the UK has ever have hosted."

Tim Davie, Director-General of the BBC, said:

"In a year when many major sport events have been postponed, this is welcome news for sports fans."

"We are delighted to be broadcasting the Commonwealth Games held in Birmingham".

UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM UNVEILED AS **OFFICIAL PARTNER** OF BIRMINGHAM 2022

The University of Birmingham has been unveiled as an official partner of Birmingham 2022, signing the most comprehensive university partnership agreement in the history of the Commonwealth Games.

Already announced as a competition venue for both hockey and squash and as the principal campus village for athletes and team officials during the Games, the University has now been confirmed as a major partner - underlining the University's commitment to the Games.

The agreement also confirms the University as an Official Partner of the Birmingham 2022 Queen's Baton Relay – International Leg, offering international promotional opportunities as the ceremonial baton travels through Commonwealth nations and territories in the run up to the Games.

Birmingham 2022 will also work closely with the University of Birmingham to offer volunteering opportunities for staff and students on campus, providing them with valuable experience of working at a major sports event and guaranteeing that the teams staying there have the support of volunteers who are extremely knowledgeable about the university site.



University of Birmingham Vice-Chancellor, Professor Sir David Eastwood said:

"Our place as both a civic University and as a global institution makes us well placed to partner with the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games and we are looking forward to playing our part in this success story for our region."

"Through this partnership we are delighted to be able to share our outstanding sports facilities and accommodation with athletes from across the globe as well as providing opportunities for our staff and students to engage with the Games through their research, through volunteering, and through participation."

The University already has strong links with the Commonwealth Games, with six students and 18 alumni taking part in the Gold Coast edition of the Games in 2018.

IT SERVICES PROVIDER APPOINTED

Glasgow-based NVT Group has been named as the Official IT Services Provider for the Games. The firm already has an impressive track record in providing IT design, technology integration and support services for a series of UK and European sporting events, including the 2014 Glasgow Commonwealth Games, the Ryder Cup at Gleneagles in 2014, the 2015 European Games in Baku and the European Championships in 2018.

NVT will deliver the IT Services for Birmingham 2022 in conjunction with a Birmingham-based partner.



CGA Newsletter, December 2020

SEARCH FOR HOMETOWN HEROES BEGINS

Birmingham 2022 has launched a search for Hometown Heroes – inspirational local stars of community sport in the West Midlands – to be the faces of an upcoming advertising campaign.

Organisers are asking people to nominate those who deserve to be recognised for making a difference to their communities by dedicating their lives to grassroots sport.

Nominees could be an inspiring coach, dedicated volunteer, courageous player or diehard supporter, or anyone who's had a real impact on their sport club, team or facility.

The campaign aims to celebrate and represent the rich diversity of the West Midlands by recognising people who go above and beyond to encourage participation in sport and exercise in the region.

Hometown Heroes can be anyone who lives and works in the West Midlands and can be connected to any sport, not just those included in the Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games programme.

Birmingham 2022 selected its first Hometown Hero to kick off the campaign, Ricardo D'Alva, a coach at City of Birmingham Rockets Basketball Club, where he coaches beginners and elite players aged from 8 to 18.

He was nominated by the club as he is inspiring the next generation of young people to realise their dreams.

Hundreds of nominations have been received and these will now be assessed, and the best will be chosen to feature on billboard adverts across the region in 2021, as the countdown to the Games begins.



BIRMINGHAM 2022 LAUNCHES APPRENTICESHIP SCHEME

The first group of apprentices will join the Birmingham 2022 team in January, after the search for candidates to fill the first few business administrator roles was launched in October.

Other apprenticeship roles in different areas of the organisation, including ticketing, venue development, procurement, workforce, sport, and security have also been announced in the last few weeks.

Birmingham 2022's search for apprentices is being supported by Official Recruiter, Gi Group, whose involvement in the Commonwealth Games was announced earlier in the year.

Together with Birmingham 2022's, recruitment and HR teams, Gi Group will also provide apprenticeship training and learning support and ensure the new recruits have a rewarding experience during their time with the company.

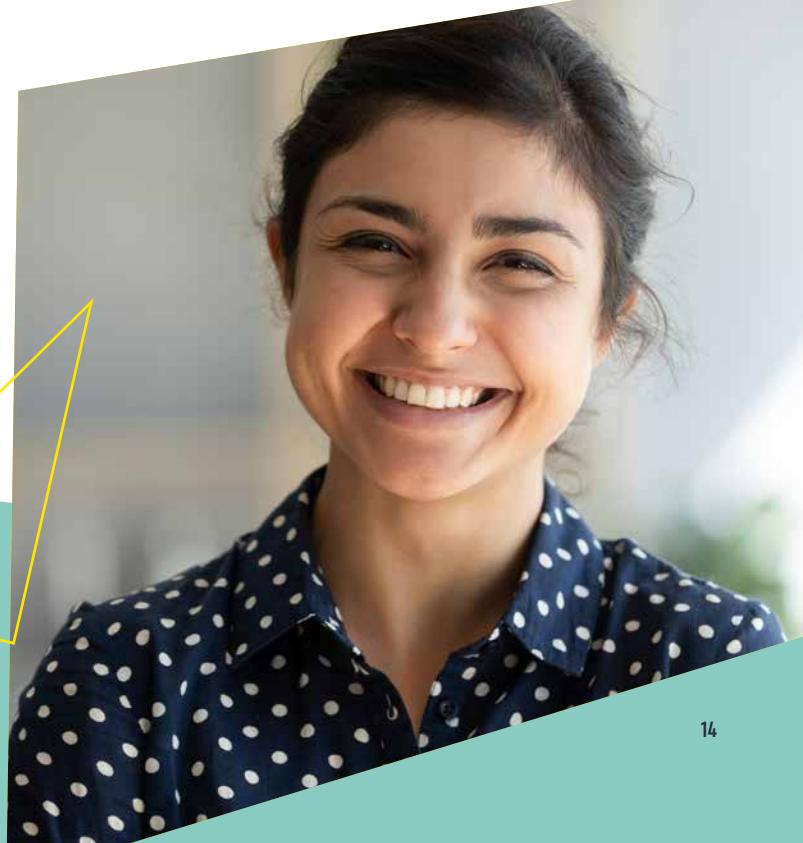
John Crabtree OBE, Chairman of Birmingham 2022, said:

"We are very pleased to be able to provide these fantastic opportunities for more people to join us in delivering Birmingham 2022 – the biggest event ever to be staged in the West Midlands.

"We're encouraging people of all ages to apply for our apprenticeship roles and support will be provided during the recruitment process and throughout each apprentice's time with the organisation.

"This first group of apprentices will be tasked with supporting and engaging with different parts of the organisation and interacting with external customers. The roles are really varied so each apprentice will develop a wide range of skills whilst they are working with us, providing them with lots of experience and helping them to become the region's next group of major event professionals."

Once the successful candidates have completed their apprenticeship, which is expected to last for a period of between 12 and 18 months, the apprentices will then continue working for Birmingham 2022 until the end of the Games in August 2022.





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