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# Activate Your Space – Sport England’s Extra Funding Scheme for Enhancing Community Facilities & Spaces

## Introduction

This investment aims to help community organisations crowdfunding for **capital** (building or refurbishment) works that will enhance spaces within their local area, to enable people within their community to become more physically active.

Our investment match, of up to £10,000, is targeted at community groups and organisations that have identified an issue, consulted their community on what the solution may be and is seeking investment to get their project moving forwards.

This is not a fund for traditional sports clubs seeking to invest in their own club facilities for the sole use of their members but targeted at organisations that perhaps don’t see themselves as a ‘traditional sports organisation’ that is looking to create a genuine community facility.

## Eligibility Criteria

This match funding is designed to help community groups deliver a project to create, enhance or redevelop a space that will enable members of their community to be more physically active.

**To be eligible to apply, organisations must be:**

- Charities, community, voluntary and social enterprise sector not-for-profit organisations that deliver sport and/or physical activity in their community, including organisations that are not solely or primarily sports organisations,
- For the benefit of people residing in England,
- Seeking investment for internal or external building / modernisation works,
- Involving the local community in the development and delivery of their project.

**The following are not eligible for funding:**

- Individuals or sole traders,
- For profit businesses or partnerships,
- Schools, colleges and universities,
- Commercial sport and physical activity providers, e.g. private gyms,
- Leisure operators.

## Priorities

Priority will be given to projects that are in the most deprived communities to ensure that our match investment reaches those most in need. This will be organisations that do one or both of the following:

- Deliver activity in areas experiencing social and economic deprivation, including rural communities,
- Work with one or more of the following groups as a main focus:
  - disabled people,
  - lower socio-economic groups
  - Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) groups

We will still support projects which do not meet these priorities, however we may reduce the level of match funding offered. Match funding will usually be in the range of 30-50% of the project target.

## Exclusions

There are some things that we're not able to fund, these primarily being:

- Projects which do not benefit people living in England
- Organisations without a trustee board/management committee (with 3 people minimum)
- Applications from individuals, or which are for the benefit of one individual
- Projects promoting religion
- Organisations seeking to distribute grants on our behalf
- For work that has already happened
- Vehicles, including minibuses
- Revenue-only projects (i.e. staff and travel costs, venue hire, non-fixed equipment)
- Routine maintenance and repairs resulting from wear and tear
- Children's playgrounds and play equipment
- Projects intended for private gain
- Projects we've funded in the past
- Football-only projects
- Small-scale cricket projects
- Campaigns that focus only on existing members and/or supporters, including campaigns offering prize draws as Rewards
- Campaigns only offering Rewards in the form of membership fees or subscriptions
- Closed or Always On campaigns on Crowdfunder

**We are also unlikely to support applications:**

- Where organisations are in serious financial deficit
- From large national charities which enjoy widespread support

## Pledge Criteria

If your application is approved, you'll get match funding of up to 50% towards your initial crowdfunding target, up to a maximum of £10,000. This offer will be valid for 4 weeks after the date of notification, if you do not launch your crowdfunding campaign within 4 weeks of notification the offer will be rescinded.

Following approval for funding, if you wish to make any changes to your campaign target, or any significant changes to your rewards or other page content you must notify us.

To receive a pledge, you will need to do two things (the 'pledge conditions'):

1. raise at least 25% of your initial target,
2. raise this from a minimum number of unique Supporters. To verify whether Supporters are unique we will take account of information including, but not limited to: name, address, email addresses and payment card used.

The minimum number of unique Supporters required is:

- 25 unique Supporters if your target is up to £5,000
- 50 unique Supporters if your target is between £5,001 and £10,000
- 75 unique Supporters if your target is between £10,001 and £15,000
- 100 unique Supporters if your target is between £15,001 and £20,000

If either of these conditions are not met, the pledge will be withheld until both have been met.

If these two conditions are met, Sport England will pledge up to 50% of your target (unless your target is over £20,000), which means your campaign will then be at 75%. You must then raise the remaining 25% from your crowd, to achieve 100% of your funding target and receive the Sport England funds.

**If the project fails to reach 100% of the target the Sport England pledge will be cancelled.** The Project owner will be encouraged to review what went wrong and, if appropriate, to attempt to crowdfund again.

**Note – Sport England reserve the right to vary these pledge criteria; projects will be notified if their pledge criteria will vary from the stated terms above.**

## Additional requirements

You will be ineligible for funding from Sport England if, at Sport England's sole discretion, it is not satisfied that all the Supporter pledges on your project are genuine pledges.

Where projects or pledges are identified as fraudulent, potentially fraudulent, or demonstrative of manipulating the pledging on a project in order to obtain match funding, this

is taken very seriously. Where appropriate, the police or other relevant authorities will be informed. In addition:

- Your application for funding will be refused and any existing commitment for funding will be withdrawn.
- Your Crowdfunding project may be cancelled and you will be ineligible for future applications or projects.
- Action will be taken to recover funding which has been paid out.

All funded projects are required to agree to the [Sport England Activate Your Space Grant Conditions](#)

You should download and retain a copy of this document and the Grant Conditions.