

Funding support available to clubs

The region have tried to pull together some details on different funding pots that you may find useful at this current time.

The first section of this information is around the Government and Sport England funds that have been made available.

There are also a number of Community Foundations who administer a range of different grant programmes for organisations such as charities, community groups and individuals and we have included the links to those foundations across the West Midlands.

We have also included the links to Active Partnerships (formerly called County Sport Partnerships) which also provide lists of different grant programmes and funding search tools for specific geographical areas usually where you live or where the club activity take place.

Sport England

Sport England has announced a £195 million package to help sport and physical activity through Coronavirus. This package consists of:

- A new £20 million Community Emergency Fund, which is open now for local club and community organisations to bid for grants between £300 and £10,000.
- A new £5 million fund for existing Sport England partners facing specific and immediate financial difficulty.
- £55 million put aside to support the sector during an ongoing period of restrictions; to fund new and innovative ways to keep people active and then, when it is over, to help organisations get back to business and adjust to a different environment.

Below are the links to the Sport England, Government and Charity support available at present but we have highlighted specific detail for the new £20 million fund released this week;

1. Sport England – Community Emergency Fund, £300 - £10,000

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-emergency-fund>

The Community Emergency Fund is likely to be of most interest to clubs. The details, eligibility criteria and application process can be found at the link above. This £20 million fund is designed to complement other sources of funding from the government, such as funds targeted at small businesses. Clubs should consider the funding support that the government has made available before they apply to this fund.

A summary of the main points of this fund are outlined;

- Aims to deliver immediate funding to those most in need, short term financial hardship fund for sports clubs facing ongoing costs, and also for regional and county level organisations or leagues that have already paid out funds for activities that are now cancelled / not able to claim funds elsewhere
- Designed to complement other sources of funding from the government (as above)

- Will support fixed costs no longer supported with revenue owing to COVID-19 i.e. rent, utility costs, insurances, facility hire, core staffing costs (including casual workers) that cannot be met elsewhere by other government funds, retrospective losses from 1st March 2020
- Cannot fund individuals either employed or self employed
- Cannot be used for activities or costs covered by other government funding, new activities or events, capital works, costs beyond July 2020
- Awards between £300 and £10,000

Four main criteria:

1. What is your audience / reach – prioritises organisations whose work does one or more of following: delivers activity in disadvantaged areas, works with one or more of priority groups (women, girls, disabled, lower socio economic groups, BME, LGBT+, Older people, those with long term health conditions), organisations that are maintaining an element of self-employed workforce not covered by other funding
 2. The role you play – have delivered or enabled community sport in the last 12 months and is proactively staying in touch with participants in this period
 3. Your financial Need – must demonstrate clear financial need, set out financial impact over next 3 months, declare minimum expenditure you will have to meet while activity not happening, any available unrestricted funds in reserve
 4. What is the impact of not receiving funding – consequences of not receiving funding, how impacts on the organisation's ability to deliver
- Assessment will take 10 working days
 - Sport England funding must be the last option
 - You are unable to save the application form online, so everything must be inputted as you move through the application form

2. Government Self-employment Income Support Scheme

<https://www.businesssupport.gov.uk/self-employment-income-support-scheme/>

3. Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19/covid-19-support-for-businesses>

4. Charities Aid Foundation – Coronavirus emergency fund

<https://www.cafonline.org/charities/grantmaking/caf-coronavirus-emergency-fund>

5. Business Support – Sport & Recreation Alliance FAQ

<https://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk/news/politics/covid-19-business-support-measures-faqs>

6. Active Partnerships

- a. Active Cornwall - <http://www.activecornwall.org/>
- b. Active Devon - <http://www.activedevon.org/>
- c. Active Dorset - <http://www.activedorset.org/>
- d. Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership (SASP) - <http://www.sasp.co.uk/>
- e. Wiltshire & Swindon Sport - <http://www.wiltssport.org/>
- f. Wesport - <http://www.wesport.org.uk/>
- g. Active Gloucestershire - <http://www.activegloucestershire.org/>