

Funding Support Guide



TIPS ON APPLYING FOR FUNDING

To help increase the chances of your funding application being successful, please read the guidance below for advice on what to think about when considering sourcing funding:

- Research potential funders carefully to ensure you apply to the most appropriate fund(s).
- Plan your project carefully and be realistic.
- Read the guidance notes thoroughly to ensure your project is eligible. Ensure your application meets the key criteria.
- Check how much the funder offers and whether this meets your organisation's requirements.
- Check any elements the fund will not support and ensure these are not included within your funding request.
- Ensure you are asking for funding over the same length of time that the grant can be applied. For example, if your project asks for funding over an 18-month period but the funding must be spent within a 12-month period, the project will be rejected.
- Check the deadline(s) and allow sufficient time to thoroughly plan and prepare your application and to present it as professionally as possible. Do not underestimate how long it can take to produce a quality application.
- Have a clear understanding of what your project involves / the aims and objectives / what you require the funding for / how much you need and how this will improve or have an impact upon sport and / or wider agendas.
- Do not start work on your project until funding has been granted. Funders will not give money retrospectively.
- Think from the funder's perspective - they are likely to know very little (if anything) about your project - state the obvious.
- But be as clear and succinct as possible. For example, background information about your organisation can be helpful, but if it doesn't contribute to the funder's understanding of the project itself, you might want to consider leaving it out. Bullet points are useful.
- Clearly demonstrate how your project will help the funder meet their aims. Tailor your application for each funder you apply to.
- Budget your project accurately - do not guess or inflate figures.
- Be realistic in terms of the targets you plan to achieve and be clear about how you worked them out. Don't over promise as it may affect your ability to re-apply for future funding.
- Provide clear evidence of need / demand for your project and demonstrate the impact it will have.

- Consider and demonstrate how your project / facility will be sustained once the funding ends. Investigate opportunities for partnership funding to contribute to the project. Some funders will insist there is a cash contribution from your own organisation / another funder / partner(s).
- Consider any in kind contributions that can support the project. In kind contributions take the form of goods and services provided free of charge, where you would normally have to pay for them. For example, a school offers use of its sports hall free of charge, a builder on the club committee offers to undertake some work at no cost or a coach offers to deliver some free sessions.
- Be as specific as possible, for example:
 - the project will deliver x number of sessions to x number of people
 - we will work with x, y, and z schools (name them)
 - we have consulted with x university who stated there is a need for the project because.....
- Avoid vague statements.
- Consult with other partners / potential partners and request letters of support where possible to attach with your application. Ensure letters of support are specific to your project.
- Ensure someone else reads your draft application before sending it.
- Ensure you attach all required documentation with your application.
- If you are successful in obtaining funding ensure you provide all the monitoring information requested, within the set timelines.

COMMUNITY GRANTS AND FUNDING

Active Partnerships

There are many community funds & grants across the country. The Active Partnerships website allows you to specify your local county and have access to a greater selection of funders through the counties individual Active Partnerships. Currently there are 43 current active partnerships across England with information and access to several local funds or grants across the country.

Finding funds

The Active Partners website has an interactive map which allows you to search your local “Active Partnership” within your county.

1. Click the following link which will take you directly to the interactive map: [Active Partnerships | Active Partnerships](#)
2. Choose your region on the drop down menu or use the map.
3. Once an area has been selected it will show the local Active Partnership for your area.
4. Search your local partnership – example “Yorkshire Sport Foundation” [Yorkshire Sport | Connect, influence, provide](#)
5. On the Active partnership website use the search bar and search “funding” and this should take you to a page which has a list of funders.

Please note that not all funds will be active, you will need to look through the different links to see what ones are currently active. Not all funds will be sport related however, you will still be able to apply for some as you may still meet the criteria.

Most major funds are overprescribed which decrease the likelihood of obtaining funding. A success rate of 1 in 5 would be considered a good, if you have been unsuccessful in the past then please keep trying.

ACTIVE FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Sport England Funds - [Our funds | Sport England](#)

Sports England are a valuable source of funding however they should not be relied upon to fund an entire project. They consider themselves as a last resort of funding and will actively encourage partnership funding first before applying. Part of their application process involves demonstrating what measures have been taken to secure funding prior to applying and any project should be well known and have full support of its local community

Sport England Small Grants Funding - [Small Grants Programme | Sport England](#)

This fund aims to use sport and physical activity as a means of bringing a community together and tackling inequalities via awards of between £300 and £10,000 from a pot of £5 million of National Lottery funding.

Our priority is to support projects working with people in disadvantaged communities.

Active Together - [Active Together | Sport England](#)

Active Together is a crowdfunding initiative that can match fund, up to £10,000, successful Crowdfunder campaigns from a total pot of £7.5m.

With expert advice and guidance to support you, this will help local clubs and organisations to run their own crowdfunding campaigns, fundraising for things such as a loss of income due to the crisis, or any other coronavirus related needs.

Places and Spaces Fund - [Places and Spaces | Sport England](#)

A £7 million pot with up to £10,000 available in match funding for Crowdfunder projects, as part of a Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games package to help community sport and physical activity groups improve places and spaces across England.

Together Fund - [Together Fund | Sport England](#)

The Together Fund is another £20m fund that follows the Tackling Inequalities Fund, which helped reduce the negative impact of coronavirus and the widening of the inequalities in sport and physical activity.

We're continuing to work with Active Partnerships and selected national partners to connect funding to local community organisations, who are best placed to support our priority audiences through their extensive reach and networks.

SOCIAL SECTOR FUNDING

Social sector funding comes in two forms; grants and investment. Grants tend to come typically from organisations that are focussed primarily on delivering social objectives. Investment funding will come in the form of repayable finance, such as loans from social sector banks, charity bonds or investment from social funds and social impact bonds.

National Lottery

[Awards for All England - National Lottery Awards for All England | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)

A quick way to apply for smaller amounts of funding between £300 and £10,000. We're here to support communities with the things that are important to them, including mitigating the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and supporting them as they seek to recover, rebuild and grow following the Covid-19 pandemic.

You can apply for funding to deliver a new or existing activity or to support your organisation to change and adapt to new and future challenges.

[Reaching Communities - Reaching Communities England | The National Lottery Community Fund \(tnlcommunityfund.org.uk\)](#)

This programme offers a larger amount of funding (over £10,000) for organisations that work with their community, whether that is for people living in the same area, or people with similar interests or life experiences.

We're here to support communities with the things that are important to them, including mitigating the impact of the cost-of-living crisis and supporting them as they seek to recover, rebuild and grow following the Covid-19 pandemic.

In order to support communities, we fund projects and organisations which aim to:
build strong relationships in and across communities
improve the places and spaces that matter to communities
help more people to reach their potential, by supporting them at the earliest possible stage.

CLUB AND PROJECT FUNDING

The Aviva Community Fund - [Homepage](#) | [Aviva Community Fund](#)

The Aviva Community Fund helps local causes build stronger communities across the UK. We believe that by caring more about communities today, we can help them create a better future tomorrow. And it's about more than money – we also give causes access to volunteering and professional coaching opportunities, as well as tools and resources to help build their capabilities and achieve long-term sustainable success.

Right now, they are focussed on these two areas:

- Climate action – promoting healthy, thriving communities by preventing, preparing for and protecting against the impacts of climate change
- Financial wellbeing – helping people take control of their wellbeing by giving them the tools to be more financially independent and ready for anything.

Asda Foundation - [Foundation Grants](#) | [Asda Foundation](#)

The Asda Foundation supports small, grassroots organisations in several ways throughout the year. Working with Asda's Community Champions in store, they are able to work with a range of organisations and groups on a variety of local community projects.

Boost Charitable Trust - [Get Involved](#) — [Boost \(boostct.org\)](#)

Boost's mission is to champion the disabled and disadvantaged and to inspire them to overcome their challenges through the power of sport. They award up to £750, you can submit applications for more money but they generally give out £750 or below.

The Samworth Brothers Sport Opportunity Fund - [Sports Opportunity Fund](#) | [Samworth Brothers](#)

The Samworth Brothers Sports Opportunity Fund supports deserving community sports projects close to Samworth Brother's locations. The Fund was launched in October 2013 and has made over 200 financial awards and commitments to date, totalling over £2 million.

TRADITIONAL SOURCES

County Sports Partnership - [The County Sports Partnership Network | Community Games](#)

County Sports Partnerships (CSPs) are networks of local agencies committed to working together to increase participation in sport and physical activity. Our partners include; National Governing Bodies of Sport and their clubs, School Sport Partnerships, local authorities, sport and leisure facilities, Primary Care Trusts and many other sporting and non-sporting organisations. There are 49 CSPs across the country.

The County Sports Partnership Network (CSPN), brings together the 49 CSPs from across England and is responsible for supporting the delivery of national sports policy at a local level by shaping it to meet the needs of local communities.

The CSPN is very pleased to be continuing its partnership with the YMCA to deliver the Community Games programme and is looking forward to continuing to work together to help communities up and down the country to stage their Community Games.

