

An Roinn Pobal



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Our ref: GM-1800-2020

Dr Janice Thompson Communities Committee Clerk Room 430 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX

11 November 2020

Dear Janice

COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES INFORMATION REQUEST – SUPPORT PACKAGE FOR SPORT

At the Committee for Communities meeting on 22 October, the Committee requested further details on the package of support for the sports sector that has now been approved by the Executive.

Background

The Covid-19 pandemic represents one of the biggest challenges which the Executive has ever had to respond to. Its full impact on all aspects of society has yet to be quantified but it is already clear that the sports sector has been hit hard.

Sports Governing Bodies and clubs have played a leading role in keeping citizens engaged, active and competitive in various sporting disciplines over what has been a very challenging six months. These organisations have been greatly impacted and many need financial support to ensure survival or, as a minimum, to ensure their continued viability.

The Committee will be aware that the Minister secured Executive support for an allocation of £15m to sustain the sports sector. This will provide much needed financial relief for Governing Bodies and clubs, including those operating at elite level and grassroots, who have incurred losses due to Covid restrictions.



Update

The Department is now developing a business case in accordance with Managing Public Money and NICS guidance as well as working with SportNI on a programme that will deliver a needs based scheme to ensure that the funding is distributed quickly and to those who can evidence the financial losses incurred because of the Covid restrictions.

The aim is to ensure that the sports sector, which is representative of the diverse range of interests across our communities, is sustained during the ongoing challenges that Covid is presenting. The Covid-19 Sports Sustainability Fund will support this aim by providing financial support to sports Governing Bodies and clubs by ensuring:

- A timely financial intervention to prevent the loss of 'at risk' sports Governing Bodies and clubs;
- That the allocated funding is used to mitigate against some of the serious impacts Covid has had on the sports sector and ongoing delivery of key sporting provision;
- That financial need, defined as unavoidable expenditure to sports organisations experiencing significant reductions of income, is evidenced;
- That financial interventions complement rather than duplicate other national and regional support packages;
- That appropriate processes and checks are in place to mitigate the risk of fraud and/or misuse; and
- That a transparent process is in place that ensures that the scheme manages the distribution of the funding efficiently while cognisant of the need for cost controls based on affordability constraints of £15 million of available funding.

The Committee for Communities will be kept informed on the progress of the scheme as it develops and rolls out.

I trust you find this helpful.

Yours sincerely

Dullya

Diane Mulligan Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer







NI Assembly Briefing 10th November 2020

....outlining how Sport NI plans to administer phase 2 Covid-19 grants for sporting organisations. The Committee would like details of the application criteria and a breakdown of the funds distributed to date along with a list of the - organisations that have received funds'.

- Correspondence 9th November 2020 Dr Janice Thompson



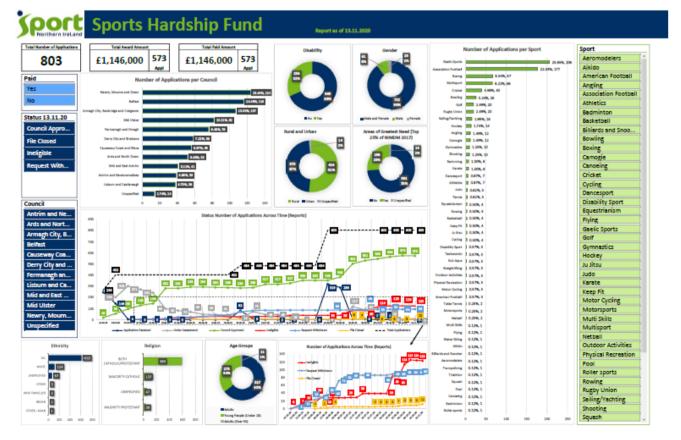
Sport NI's direct support to the sporting sector: Sports Hardship Fund £3.25M; Sustainability Fund £15M; Supporting Sport to Build Back Better £5M.

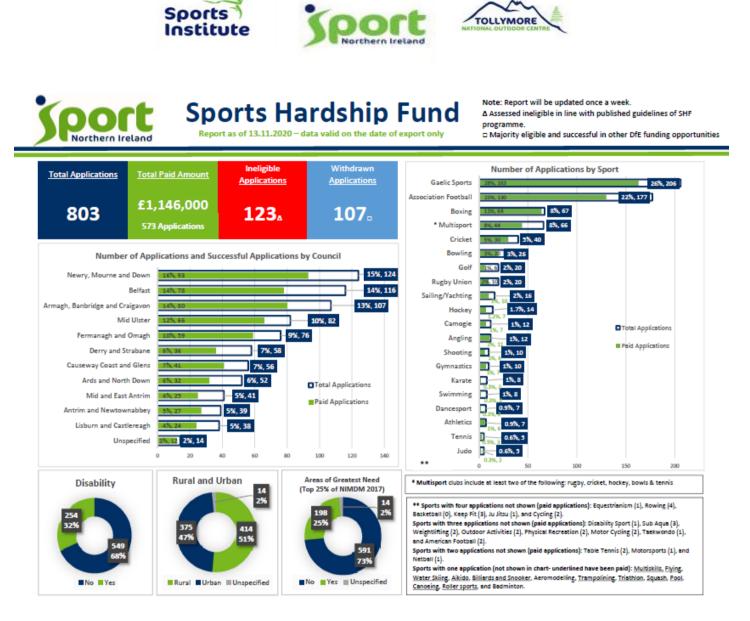
Sports Hardship Fund: budget £ 3.245M

The Sports Hardship Fund has two components; the Sports Hardship Fund small grants (budget £2.250M) and Covid Safe Sports Packs (budget £0.995m).



Sport NI has paid approximately £1.15m grant to date to 575 sports clubs. The third call has just closed on 5 November 2020 with 846 applications received (data cleansing underway). Sport NI has approximately £1.1M funding available for this third call. A summary analysis is detailed below and is available at the Sport NI website: click here



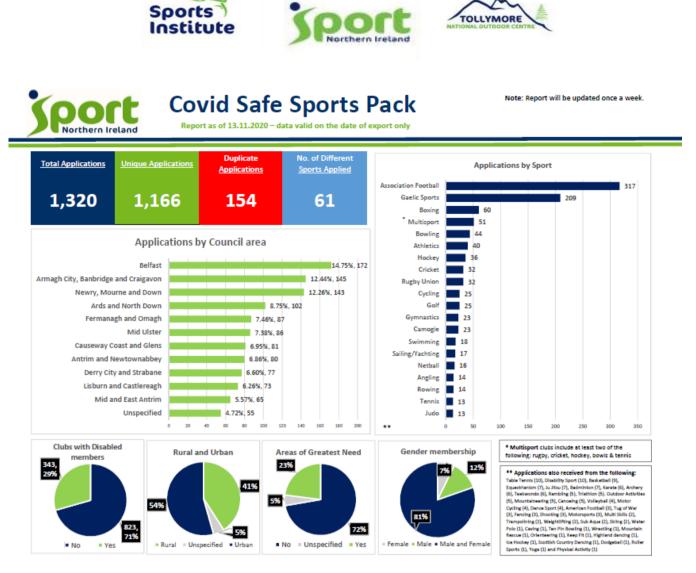


COVID Safe Sports Packs: budget £0.995M



This programme aims to provide sports clubs and community sports organisations with essential hygiene and sanitising resources to enable a safe return to sport for participants, coaches, officials and volunteers (subject to NI Executive/public health advice and Health the Protection (Coronavirus) Regulations (NI) 2020). Each CSS Pack contains essential items such as hand sanitiser & dispensing stations, disposable face masks, face shields. disposable aprons. signage, guidance and advice.

A call for expressions of interest (EOIs) closed on 2nd November and 1,320 EOIs were received. Procurement is completed, with support from CPD utilising new Dynamic Purchasing System. Logistics support (packing and distribution) has been provided by Ulster Supported Employment Limited (USEL); supporting people with disabilities or health conditions into employment. The pack distribution expected to commence December 2020. A summary dashboard is outlined next.



'Sustainability Fund': £5M

In terms of 'phase 2 Covid-19 grants for sporting organisations' referred to, we assume this relates to the Sport Stability Fund announcement: <u>https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/news/ps15-million-covid-relief-funding-sports-sector-announced</u>



On the 27 October 2020 the NI Executive agreed a £15M fund to be used to support the sports sector. The aim of the Programme is to ensure that sports sector including the the Governing Bodies and clubs remain sustainable and are in place after the Covid-19 crisis has passed. The Covid-Sports Sustainability Fund will 19 support this aim by providing financial support to the wider sector who are experiencing financial hardship and are unable to cover unavoidable costs as a result of Covid.

This investment will be underpinned by principles of diversity and inclusion, including support for the female game and those with disabilities. The Fund will complement the existing Sports Hardship Fund. A business case is currently being developed by the Department and DfC Officials are working with colleagues in SportNI to agree guiding principles and to design a scheme.



Other Sport NI COVID19 reponses:



Sport NI is rolling out a £5M National Lottery investment programme with a number of component strands to respond to the sporting sector needs, as they told us in the Club Survey (<u>click here</u>), the COVID19 Survey (<u>click here</u>) and the Build Back Better Survey (<u>click here</u>), and regular GB meetings. As part of this support, in September 2020, Sport NI Board approved investments totalling £2.1M; the Sporting Clubs 2021-22 extension provided £1,826,340 to 21 Governing Bodies, leaving £273,660 to be invested through the Governing Body Support Programme. This programme will strengthen the sports sector, improving resilience now and for the future and increasing capability within the sports sector. These are the following sub-strands:

 Governing Body Support Programme - Support to recognised Governing Bodies to engage with clubs and the workforce in Northern Ireland using tactics and innovative practice to either sustain club membership at existing levels or to grow them.

- Capability People Development: Supporting coach and volunteer learning, and assisting clubs to develop a heightened awareness of the experiences of their participants, parents, coaches and volunteers, leading to enhanced sports club experiences.
- Business Capability Support To provide capability-building learning opportunities in business-related operations areas to all sporting organisations.
- Digital Connectivity The development of a high quality digital framework to support communication and connectivity in the Northern Ireland sports sector.
- Innovation A grant programme to support the delivery of new and innovative projects designed to get people back to sport.
- Mental Health and Wellbeing Support to enhance mental health and wellbeing capacity and capability across the sector through provision of:
 - (i) Addiction Education and Awareness workshops.
 - (ii) Mental Health First Aid Training.
 - (iii) A 24 hour Telephone support line and short term counselling programme to assist people transition into statutory and voluntary service agencies.







Organisation Name

Antrim And Newtownabbey Borough Council

Antrim Amateur Boxing Club Ballyclare Comrades Football Club Ballyearl Squash Rackets & Social Club Burnside Ulster-Scots Society Chimney Corner Football Club Cliftonville Academy Cricket Club **Crumlin United FC** East Antrim Harriers AC Elite Gym Academy CIC Erins Own Gaelic Football Club Cargin **Evolution Boxing Club** Fitmoms & Kids **Glengormley Amateur Boxing Club** Golift Weightlifting Club Monkstown Amateur Boxing Club Muckamore Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club Northern Telecom Football Club (Nortel FC) Old Bleach Bowling Club **Ophir RFC** Parkview Hockey Club Polish Anglers Northern Ireland - Community Spartans Amateur Boxing Club St Comgalls GAC St Ergnats Moneyglass GAC St James GAC **Templepatrick Cricket Club** Tir-na-nÓg GAC

Ards & North Down Borough Council

1st Bangor Football Club Abbey Villa Football Club Ards Bowling Club Ards Boxing Club Ards Cricket Club Ards Football Club

Primary Sporting Activity

Boxing Association Football Squash **Association Football** Association Football Cricket **Association Football** Athletics **Gymnastics Gaelic Sports** Boxing Multisport Boxing Weightlifting Boxing Multisport Association Football Bowling **Rugby Union** Hockey Multisport Boxing Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Cricket **Gaelic Sports**

Association Football Association Football Bowling Boxing Cricket Association Football Ards Rangers Football Athletic Recreational Social Club Asylum Weightlifting Club Ltd. **Ballyholme Yacht Club** Bangor Abbey Boxing Academy **Bangor Amateur Football Club Bangor FC** Bryansburn Rangers Football Club Comber Bowling Club **Comber Boxing Club** Comber Rec FC Donaghadee Cricket Club Donaghadee Rugby Football Club Holywood Cricket Club Holywood Rugby Football and Cricket Club Holywood Yacht Club John Mitchels Ballygalget GAC **Kircubbin Sailing Club** North Down Boxing and Fitness Club North Down Hockey Club Portaferry Coastal Rowing Club Portaferry Rovers Football Club Portaferry Sailing Club Portaferry Town Sports Club Portavogie Rangers Football Club Portavogie Rangers Youth FC Rathgael Gymnastics and Tumbling Club St. Patrick's Racquets Club

Association Football Weightlifting Sailing/Yachting Boxing Association Football Association Football Association Football Bowling Boxing Association Football Cricket Rugby Union Cricket Multi Skills Sailing/Yachting Gaelic Sports Sailing/Yachting Boxing Hockey Rowing Association Football Sailing/Yachting Association Football Association Football Association Football **Gymnastics** Tennis

Armagh City, Banbridge And Craigavon Borough Council

AFC Craigavon Sports & Social Club Aghaderg GFC & Ballyvarley HC Annagh FC Youth Annagh United FC Annaghmore TKD Club Armagh City FC Association Football Gaelic Sports Association Football Association Football Taekwondo Association Football Armagh Fisheries Ltd Incorporating Armagh and **District Angling Club** Ballela GAC Ballyhegan Davitts GFC **Ballymacnab GFC** Banbridge Amateur Boxing Club Banbridge RFC Banbridge Town FC **Bourneview Mill Football Club** City of Armagh Cricket Club Clann Eireann GFC & Youth Club Clann na Banna GFC Clomore Robert Emmmets GAA Club Collegeland O'Rahillys GAC Craigavon City FC Cumann Luthchleas Gael Uladh Derrynoose Community Centre Dollingstown FC **Donacloney Football Club** Donaghcloney Mill Cricket Club Dromara Village Football Club **Dromore Amateurs Football Club** Dromore Rugby Football Club **Dunbarton Bowling Club Dynamic Gymnastics Club** Edenvilla Ltd Gilford Amateur Boxing Club **Glenavon Football Club Academy** Hanover Football Club **Highmoss Sarsfields GFC** Irish Disabled Fly Fishing Association Keady Michael Dwyers GAA Club Lagan Rivers Trust Laurelvale Cricket Club Loughbrickland Rifle & Pistol Club Loughgall FC Love Hockey Ireland Lurgan Celtic FC

Angling Camogie Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Boxing Rugby Union Association Football Association Football Cricket Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Multisport Association Football Gaelic Sports Multisport Association Football Association Football Cricket Association Football Association Football Rugby Union Bowling **Gymnastics** Multisport Boxing Association Football Association Football **Gaelic Sports** Angling Gaelic Sports Angling Cricket Multisport Association Football Roller sports Association Football Lurgan Town Football Club Association Football Mac's Boxing Academy Boxing Madden Raparees GAC Gaelic Sports Magherabeg Rural Community Association Multisport Maghery Community Gym Multisport Middletown GAA Gaelic Sports Association Football Moneyslane FC Na Piarsaigh Eanach Mór CLG (Annaghmore Pearses **Gaelic Sports** GAA) O'Donnabhain Rossa Mullabrack Gaelic Sports Association Football Oxford Sunnyside FC Portadown Boat Club Rowing Portadown Community Boxing Club Boxing Portadown Tennis Club Tennis Rathfriland Clay Pigeon Club Shooting Rathfriland Cross Community Amateur Boxing Club Boxing Rathfriland FC Association Football Association Football **Rectory Rangers Football Club Redmond O'Hanlon GAC** Gaelic Sports Association Football Seagoe FC Sean McDiarmada Maghery **Gaelic Sports** St Colmcilles Grange GFC Gaelic Sports St Jarlaths Amateur Boxing Club Blackwatertown Boxing St John's GFC (Naomh Eoin CLG) Gaelic Sports St Malachys Hurling Club Portadown **Gaelic Sports** St Mary's Camogie Club Granemore Camogie St Mary's GAC, Aghagallon Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** St Michaels Gaelic Football Club Tandragee Rovers FC Association Football The Fitzone Foundation Multisport The Lifting Room Functional Fitness Multisport Tir Na nOg GFC Gaelic Sports Association Football Trustees of Kilcluney LOL 132 Association Football **TTBS** Juniors **Tullylish Amateur Boxing Club** Boxing Tullysaran O'Connells GAC Gaelic Sports Victoria Cricket Club Cricket Waringstown Cricket Club Cricket

Belfast City Council

Ardoyne Holycross Boxing Club Athletics Northern Ireland Ballynafeigh Tennis and Squash Club **Ballysillan Swifts Belfast Aikido** Belfast Celtic C.I.C. Belfast City Marathon Ltd **Belfast Indoor Bowls Club** Belfast 'KRONK' Boxing Gym Belfast Sub Aqua Club Belfast Trojans American Football Club Brantwood FC Cairn Lodge Amateur Boxing Club City of Belfast Boxing Academy Cliftonville Bowling Club Ltd. Colin Valley Football Club Community Sports Network Community Watersports Co CIC Cooke Collegians Cricket Club Corpus Christi Amateur Boxing Club Creating Help In Local Districts t/a CHILD Training Academy Cregagh Sports Club **Dockers Amateur Boxing Club** Dundela Football & Athletic Club **Dunmurry Football & Recreation Club** Dunmurry Young Men's FC Emerald ABC Ethnic Minority Sports Organisation Northern Ireland (EMSONI) **Ewarts Bowling Club** Forthriver Bowling & Tennis Club Gleann Amateur Boxing Club **Glentoran Academy** Gortnamona Handball Greater Village Regeneration Trust -Fit4Life Centre

Boxing Athletics Multisport Gaelic Sports Aikido Association Football Athletics Bowling Boxing Sub Aqua American Football Association Football Boxing Boxing Bowling Association Football Multisport Water Skiing Cricket Boxing Multisport Multisport Boxing Association Football Association Football Association Football Boxing Multisport Bowling Bowling Boxing Association Football Gaelic Sports Multisport

Hawarden Tennis ClubTennisHoly Trinity Amateur Boxing ClubBoxingLenadoon Amateur Sports Community InterestAssociation Football
Lenadoon Amateur Sports Community Interest
Lenadoon Amateur Sports Community Interest
Company
Ligoniel Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
McCullagh's A.B.C Boxing
Midland Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
Naomh Gall CLG Gaelic Sports
Netball NI Netball
Newington Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
Norman Whiteside Sports Facility Multisport
North Belfast Play Forum Multisport
North Belfast Working Mens Club/ Bowlers section Bowling
Northern Ireland Cross Community Angling Angling
Northern Ireland Karate-Do Wado-Kai Karate
Oliver Plunkett Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
Ormeau Road Boxing Club Boxing
Ormeau Table Tennis Table Tennis
Project Africa Athletics Athletics
Rosario YFC Association Football
Shaftesbury Bowling Club Bowling
Shankill United FC Association Football
Shorts FC Association Football
Shorts Football Club Academy Association Football
Sólás Special Needs Charity Trampolining
Soul Studio- Belfast CIC Dancesport
Sport Changes Life Foundation Multisport
Springfield Star Football Club Association Football
St Agnes Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
St Brigids GAC (Belfast) Gaelic Sports
St George's Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
St James Swifts Community Football Club Association Football
St John Bosco Amateur Boxing Club, Belfast Boxing
St Michael's Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
St Pauls Amateur Boxing Club Boxing
Star ABC Boxing
Street Soccer NI Association Football

Strength Militia Studio 5 NI CIC Suffolk football club TAMHI Templemore Users Trust The Church of Ireland Young Men's Society TW Braga Ulster Men's Hockey Union Willowfield Bowling Club Woodvale Cricket & Tennis Club Woodvale Football Club

Causeway Coast And Glens Borough Council

3C's Snooker Club **Ballerin GAC** Ballycastle Bowling And Social Recreation Centre **Ballymoney Bowling Club** Ballymoney United FC Ballyspallen Cricket Club Bann Rowing Club **Bushmills And District Motorcycle Club** Carey Faughs GAC CLG An Glaic, O Connors Glack GAA **Coleraine Bowling Club Derry GAA Donegal Derry Vipers** Drummond Cricket & FC **Dungiven Celtic Youth Football Club Dunloy GAA Club** Eagle Glen Community Partnership Ltd **Errigal Amateur Boxing Club Glen Rovers GAC** Glenariffe Ossians GAA Club Gortnaghey Community Association **Greysteel Community Enterprise** Kevin Lynch Hurling Club Kilrea Golf Club Limavady Recreation Club

Physical Activity Dancesport Association Football Multisport Swimming Multisport Association Football Hockey Bowling Cricket Association Football

Disability Sport Gaelic Sports Bowling Bowling Association Football Cricket Rowing Motor Cycling Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Bowling **Gaelic Sports** American Football Association Football Association Football Gaelic Sports Multisport Boxing Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Multisport Multisport Gaelic Sports Golf

Multisport

Loughgiel Shamrocks GAC Portrush FC Youths Portrush Hockey Club Portstewart Football & Community Club Route Gun Club Ruairi Og CLG Cushendall St Brigids GAC (Cloughmills) St Canices ABC Dungiven St Colms GAC Drum St Mary's GAC (Faughanvale) St Matthew's Gaelic Athletic Club St. Canices GAA St. Marys GAC, Rasharkin St.Marys Banagher GAC Star of the Sea ABC **Triangle Judo Club** Ulster Seaplane Association Ltd

Derry City & Strabane District Council

Ardmore Cricket Club Ardmore Football Club Ardstraw Youth & Community Forum Brigade Cricket Club Burndennett Cricket Club CAD Developments Limited Castlederg St. Eugene's GAA Club Churchill United Football Club Creggan Country Park Enterprises Ltd **Dennett Anglers Association Dergview Football Club Itd** Donemana Cricket Club Eglinton Cricket Club Elite Community Fitness Gym Eoghain Rua Ui Neills Leckpatrick GFC Fox Lodge Cricket Club **Glenelly Saint Joseph's GFC** Institute FC John Mitchels GAC Claudy

Gaelic Sports Association Football Hockey Association Football Shooting Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Boxing **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Boxing Judo Flying

Cricket Association Football Association Football Cricket Cricket Multisport Gaelic Sports Association Football Multisport Angling Association Football Cricket Cricket Multisport Gaelic Sports Cricket Gaelic Sports Association Football **Gaelic Sports**

Killen Rangers FC Killyclooney Cricket Club Learmount Community Development Group Ltd Na Magha Doire GAC Naomh Eoghan GAA Newbuildings ABC Newbuildings Cricket Club Newbuildings United FC North West Cricket Union Limited Oak Leaf Amateur Boxing Club **River Faughan Anglers LTD Rochester's Amateur Boxing Club Rosemount & District Welfare Rights Group** Shooting Starz Gymnastics Community Interest Group Sion Mills Cricket Club Sion Swifts FC St Mary's Gaelic Athletic Club (GAC) Strabane Mini and Youth Rugby **Two Castles ABC Urney St.Columbas**

Fermanagh & Omagh District Council

Aghadrumsee St Macartan's GFC Altamuskin Community Association Ltd Ballinamallard Fisher Park Ballinamallard Youth Soccer Development Belcoo O'Rahilly's GAC Belnaleck Art McMurraghs Beragh Clay Target Club Beragh Swifts Community Group Brian Borus GFC Brookeborough Heber Mac Mahons GAC Camowen Community Anglers Carrickmore Handball Club Clann na nGael GAC Clogher Valley Golf Club Clogher Valley Rugby Football Club Association Football Cricket Association Football **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Boxing Cricket Association Football Cricket Boxing Angling Boxing Keep Fit **Gymnastics** Cricket Association Football Gaelic Sports **Rugby Union** Boxing **Gaelic Sports**

Gaelic Sports Multisport Association Football Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Shooting Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Angling Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports

Coa GAA Club **Gaelic Sports** Derrylin O'Connells GAA Gaelic Sports **Drumquin Wolfetones** Gaelic Sports Éire Óg An Charraig Mhór Hurling and Camogie Club Gaelic Sports Enda Dolan Foundation Athletics Enniskillen Athletic ABC Boxing Enniskillen Rangers FC Association Football **Erne Gaels GAC** Gaelic Sports Erne Paddlers Canoeing **Errigal Ciaran GAC** Gaelic Sports Eskra Emmetts GAA Club Gaelic Sports Fermanagh Scout Association **Outdoor Activities** Fr. Shields Camogie Club Camogie Greencastle Handball Club **Gaelic Sports** Greencastle St Patricks GAC Gaelic Sports Killycurragh Regeneration Group Association Football Association Football Lisnarick FC Loughmacrory & Murrins District Angling Association Angling Loughmacrory Handball Club Gaelic Sports Maguiresbridge Football Club Association Football Maguiresbridge Pitch Development and Management Association Football Committee Mountjoy United FC Association Football **Gaelic Sports** Naomh Padraig An Ghoirtin Newtownbutler First Fermanagh GFC **Gaelic Sports** NFC Kesh FC Association Football North Fermangh Cricket & Association Football Club Multisport Omagh Boxing Academy Boxing **Omagh Hockey Club** Hockey Omagh St Enda's Gaelic Athletic Club Camogie Portora Boat Club Limited Rowing Share Discovery Village Multisport St Joseph's GAC (Ederney) Gaelic Sports St Macartan's GAC Gaelic Sports St Mary's GFC (Devenish) Gaelic Sports St Molaise GFC Irvinestown Gaelic Sports St. Patrick's Hurling Club, Lisbellaw Gaelic Sports St.Marys Maguiresbridge GFC Gaelic Sports

Strathroy Harps FC Tattyreagh St Patrick's GAC Teemore Shamrocks GAA club Tempo Maguire's GAC Trillick Enterprise Leisure Ltd Tummery Athletic FC Tyrone GAA Youth Sport Omagh Ltd

Lisburn And Castlereagh City Council

Ballymacash Rangers Football Club **Ballymacash Sports Academy** Broomhedge - Maghaberry FC Canal Amateur Boxing Academy Carryduff GAC Crewe United Football And Social Club Derriaghy C C Football Club **Derriaghy Cricket Club Dolphins Sub-Aqua Club Downshire YM Football Club** Dundrod and District Motorcycle club Dungoyne Boys FC Hillsborough Boys Football Club Hillsborough Village Community Centre Ltd Lisburn Bmx Club Lisburn Cricket Club Lisburn Racquets Club Lisburn Rangers FC Naomh Pádraig - St Patrick's Gaelic Athletic Club Rainbow Gym Club C.I.C Santos Football Club St Joseph's GAC (Crumlin) **Townland Boxing Club** UB Irish Table Tennis Association

Mid & East Antrim Borough Council

All Saints Amateur Boxing Club All Saints GAC Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Multisport Association Football Gaelic Sports Multisport

Association Football Association Football Association Football Boxing Gaelic Sports Association Football Association Football Cricket Sub Aqua Association Football **Motorsports** Association Football Association Football Multisport Cycling Cricket Multisport Association Football Gaelic Sports **Gymnastics** Association Football Gaelic Sports Boxing Table Tennis

Boxing Gaelic Sports

Ballymena Bowling Club Ballymena United FC Barn United Football, Social and Recreation Club Carrick Rangers FC Carrick Rangers FC Academy Carrickfergus Boxing Academy Carrickfergus Cricket Club Carrickfergus Sailing Club Castle Boxing Club Con Magee's GAC County Antrim Yacht Club **Greenisland Football Club** Islandmagee Football Social and Recreation Club Kells Rifle And Pistol Club Larne Tech Old Boys Association Latharna Og GAC Brustin Braes Minnesota Snooker Club **Roger Casements GAC** Shane O'Neill's GAC Team Tetsu The Dojo Juniors Wellington Recreation FC Whitehead Bowling Club

Mid Ulster District Council

An Maigh Tir Na nOg GAC Ardboe O'Donovan Rossa GAC Aughintober Regeneration Ballinascreen Camogie Club Ballinderry Shamrocks G.A.C Brackaville Owen Roes GFC Brockagh Emmetts GFC Caledon Rovers Football Club CLG Naomh Colum Cille Oilean agus Cluain Clogher Eire Og GAC Clonoe Amateur Boxing Club Clonoe O'Rahilly's GFC Clonoe Rural Development Agency

Bowling Association Football Association Football Association Football Association Football Boxing Cricket Sailing/Yachting Boxing Gaelic Sports Sailing/Yachting Association Football Association Football Shooting Association Football **Gaelic Sports** Pool Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Multisport Ju Jitsu Association Football Bowling

Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Multisport Camogie Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Boxing Gaelic Sports Multisport

Coagh Sports Centre Coagh United Football Club Coalisland Fianna GFC	Multisport Association Football Gaelic Sports
Cookstown & District Motorcycle Club (Road Racing) Limited	Motor Cycling
	Gaelic Sports Association Football Cycling Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Boxing Gaelic Sports Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports
Logue's Hill CPC	Shooting
Loughshore A.B.C Loup Boxing Club	Boxing Boxing
Magherafelt Sky Blues FC Moortown St Malachys GAC Moyola Angling Association Moyola Clay Target Club Naomh Mhuire Camogie Club, An Portmor Ogra Colmcille GFC PG Performance Pomeroy District Sports and Cultural Association. Pomeroy Plunketts GAC Rainey Old Boys RFC	Association Football Gaelic Sports Angling Shooting Camogie Gaelic Sports Multisport Multisport Gaelic Sports Rugby Union
Sean O'Learys GAC (Newbridge)	Gaelic Sports

St Finbarrs Hurling Gaa Club St John's Boxing Club St Malachy's GAC St Martins GAC St Mary's GFC St McCartans GAC St Oliver Plunkett's GAC (Greenlough) St Patrick's GAC (Loup) St Patrick's GFC Donaghmore St Patrick's GFC Rock St Trea's GFC Ballymaguigan St. Columba's Camogie Club Greenlough Stewartstown Harps GAC **Tobermore United FC** Tri Limits Triathlon Club Upperlands Cross Community Football Club Watty Graham's GFC

Newry, Mourne & Down District Council

An Riocht GAC Annalong FC Annsborough handball club Ardglass GAC Ballyhornan & District Community Association **Ballykinlar GAC Ballymartin GFC** Ballynahinch Olympic FC **Ballynahinch RFC** Ballynahinch United FC Ballyvea Football Club **Belleeks GFC Bright GFC** Bryansford Amateur Boxing Club Camlough Rovers FC Carlingford Lough Yacht Club Castlewellan & Annsborough Angling Club Castlewellan Town FC Celtic Bhoys FC

Gaelic Sports Boxing Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Camogie Gaelic Sports Association Football Triathlon Association Football Gaelic Sports

Gaelic Sports Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Association Football Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Association Football **Rugby Union** Association Football Association Football Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Boxing Association Football Sailing/Yachting Angling Association Football Association Football

Clonduff GAC Craobh Rua Camlocha Crossgar Golf Club Culloville GFC Cumann Pheadair Naofa CLG Warrenpoint Damolly United FC **Dorsey Emmetts GAC** Down GAA County Board **Downpatrick Bowling Club Downpatrick Cricket Club** Dromara GAC **Drumaness Snooker Club Drumaness Super Kings Cricket Club Dundrum Cricket Club** Dundrum GAC Dunnaman Football Club East Down Athletics Club Glasdrumman GAC Glenn John Martin GAC Infinity Swim Academy Kilclief Ben Dearg GAC Kilkeel Golf Club Kilkeel Hockey Club Killough FC Killyleagh FC Killyleagh Yacht Club Kilmore Recreational Football Club Lifebuilders Gym Lissummon G.A.A. Loughinisland GAC Magheradroll Bowling Club Massford Project Association Mayobridge Golf Club Mourne All Blacks Amateur Boxing Club Newcastle Football Club Newcastle Kids Karate Club Newcastle Yacht Club Ltd Newry & Mourne Sub Aqua Club

Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Golf **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Association Football **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Bowling Cricket Gaelic Sports Billiards and Snooker Cricket Cricket Gaelic Sports Association Football Athletics Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Swimming Gaelic Sports Golf Hockey Association Football Association Football Sailing/Yachting **Outdoor Activities** Keep Fit Gaelic Sports **Gaelic Sports** Bowling Multisport Golf Boxing Association Football Karate Sailing/Yachting Sub Aqua

Newry City AFC Disability Club Newry City AFC Special Olympics Gymnastics Club Newry Mitchels GFC Newry Olympic Hockey Club Newry RFC Newry Shamrocks GAA Northern Ireland Polo Club Owenbeg Bowling Club Peadar O Doirnin GAA Club Phoenix Health & Fitness Community Gym **Quoile Yacht Club Russell Gaelic Union** Sacred Heart Boxing Club Newry Saintfield BOwling Club Saintfield Cricket Club Saintfield Sports Club Saintfield United FC Shane O'Neills GFC Shinken Shobu Ryu Silverbridge Boxing Club Sokol Gymnastics Academy Spa Golf Club St Colmans GAC Drumaness St John Bosco GAC St Killian's GFC St Michael's GAC St Monica's Boxing Club Newry St Patrick's Amateur Boxing Club St Patrick's GAC (Cullyhanna) St Patricks GAC Saul **Teconnaught GFC Thomas Davis GAC Tollymore United FC Trainors Boxing Academy Tullyvallen Rangers FC** Valley Rangers Football Club Valley Rangers Youth

Multisport **Gymnastics** Gaelic Sports Hockey Rugby Union **Gaelic Sports** Equestrianism Bowling **Gaelic Sports** Keep Fit Sailing/Yachting Gaelic Sports Boxing Bowling Cricket Multisport Association Football **Gaelic Sports** Judo Boxing Gymnastics Golf Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Boxing Boxing **Gaelic Sports** Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Gaelic Sports Association Football Boxing Association Football Association Football Multisport



From: The Minister

Level 9 Causeway Exchange 1-7 Bedford Street Belfast BT2 7EG

Telephone: (028) 9082 3476 e-mail: private.office@communities-ni.gov.uk Our ref: SUB 2228 2020 Date: 3 December 2020

Paula Bradley MLA Chairperson Communities Committee Room 430 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX

Via e-mail paula.bradley@mla.niassembly.gov.uk

Paula, a chara,

LAUNCH OF SPORTS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Following my successful bid for £25M Covid support for the sports sector, I would like to advise the Committee that I intend to launch the Sports Sustainability Fund during week commencing 30 November.

I met with the Sports Governing Bodies on Friday 27 November to discuss how my Department and Sport NI intend to deliver the Fund and to seek their support in the process. As such, the Governing Bodies have welcomed that they will play an important part in ensuring that the scheme delivers funding to those most in need and they will also provide a critical assurance check which will strengthen the governance and protect the integrity of the scheme.

I have asked that the Governing Bodies ensure that all clubs, including women and girls teams and disabled clubs, from their respective sports are aware of the scheme and how to apply.

I have also agreed that the Sports Hardship Fund will continue to be available to small clubs and organisations who have benefited from small grants to cover essential maintenance costs, unavoidable utility bills and increased venue hire costs.

The scheme will open on 4 December, with a closure date of 11 January, to allow Governing Bodies and clubs time to gather the necessary information and complete a validated application as well as collate the necessary evidence to support their

claim for assistance. It is planned that the assessment and verification phase will take place during January with payments commencing in February.

To further support the sector, SportNI will hold a number of clinics for applicants to provide advice and guidance on how to make a successful claim for financial assistance for their Covid related losses.

My Department and Sport NI will continue to engage with the sports Governing Bodies as the process moves through the different phases.

I trust you find this helpful.

Is mise le meas,

CHUNE NE CHURCH

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA Minister for Communities



COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

10 December 2020

Ms Diane Mulligan DALO Department for Communities Level 9 Causeway Exchange Belfast

Dear Diane

Request for further information on a number of matters following the Committee meeting on 10 December 2020:

Covid-19 Funding for Sports Clubs

The Committee has been made aware that sports clubs that have applied to the Covid-19 fund to cover loss of income from their bar have been advised by the Department of Finance that, as a sports club, they had to apply to the Department for Communities. There seems to be a level of confusion for sports clubs as to where to apply for such funding and members would like clarity on this issue and ask that the Department issues guidance to sports clubs to help them identify the fund they should be applying to.

Yours sincerely

Janice Thompson Clerk to the Committee



An Roinn Pobal



Private Office Level 9 Causeway Exchange 1-7 Bedford Street Belfast BT2 7EG e-mail: <u>assembly.section@communities-ni.gov.uk</u> Telephone: (028) 9051 5234 (DD 75234)

Our ref: GM-2085-2020

Dr Janice Thompson Communities Committee Clerk Room 430 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX

14 December 2020

Dear Janice

Covid-19 Funding for Sports Clubs

At the Committee meeting on 10 December, the Committee requested clarity around how sports clubs could apply for Covid-19 funding, for loss of income from sports clubs bars.

Sport NI has confirmed that the Sports Sustainability Fund application (for eligible governing bodies and their affiliated clubs and entities) includes an analysis line for hospitality, for both income and expenditure, which will consider income and expenditure from bars and food provision. This recognises that hospitality is an important income stream for many sports clubs.

However, it should be noted that a separately constituted 'social club' would not be eligible in its own right for this scheme. More details on the Sports Sustainability Fund can be found on the Sport NI website at <u>Sports Sustainability Fund | Sport NI</u>.

I trust the Committee will find this helpful.

Yours sincerely

Dullga

Diane Mulligan Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer Private Office





COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Committee for Communities Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

18 January 2021

Diane Mulligan DALO Department for Communities Level 9 Causeway Exchange Belfast BT2 7EG

Dear Diane

Sports Sustainability Fund

At its meeting on 14 January 2021 the Committee considered a Departmental response to its queries on Covid-19 funding for sports clubs.

Members are still being contacted by a range of sporting clubs who are expressing confusion in relation to the application process. The organisations initially received funding from the Department for Finance to assist with the loss of income from their bar and/or restaurant but are now being redirected to the Department for Communities to apply for funding.

The Committee asked that I write to you for clarification on the application process for such organisations, specifically to confirm which department now has responsibility for the funds that these organisations need to apply to in order to replace lost income.

Yours sincerely

Janice Thompson

Dr Janice Thompson Clerk Committee for Communities







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Dr Janice Thompson Communities Committee Clerk Room 430 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX

29 January 2021

GM-0079-2020

Dear Janice

Sports Organisations Funding During Covid.

Thank you for your letter of 18 January, on behalf of the Committee, asking for clarification on funding for sports organisations which have lost income from their bar/restaurant because of the current impact of Covid-19.

By way of background, at the end of 2020 Interim Minister Ní Chuilin secured £25M for a Sports Sustainability Fund to provide financial support to the sports sector who are experiencing financial hardship and are unable to cover unavoidable costs as a result of Covid-19.

The Sports Sustainability Fund, which was opened for applications from 4 December until 20 January, is being administered by Sport NI and was open to recognised sports governing bodies and their affiliated clubs and entities.

The scheme recognised that hospitality is an important income stream for many sports clubs. With regard to providing support for losses relating to hospitality the application form for the Fund included provision for clubs to include information relating to income and expenditure from their social club bars and food provision. However, a separately constituted 'social club' would not be eligible in its own right for this scheme.

Officials have been in regular contact with other Government Departments in relation to access to the various Covid schemes and information has been provided via SportNI and the NI Sports Forum to the sector.



With regard to the support available through the Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS) the Department of Finance has advised that the scheme covers:

- an independent business, such as a restaurant or shop, which has been restricted by the Health Regulations and which occupies part of sporting premises; and
- social clubs which are associated with or affiliated to a sports club but which are legally separate and managed independently.

The NI Business Info website sets out the five phases of the LRSS and the eligibility criteria against each phase. From Phase 3 onwards (commencing from 27 November) the eligibility criteria sets out that sports clubs are not eligible and are referred to the Sports Sustainability Fund - <u>Coronavirus: Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (nibusinessinfo.co.uk)</u>

I trust this is helpful to Members.

Yours sincerely

Dullya

Diane Mulligan Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer Private Office



COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

4 February 2021

Ms Diane Mulligan DALO Department for Communities Level 9 Causeway Exchange Belfast

Dear Diane

Sports Sustainability Fund

At its meeting on 4 February 2021 Committee discussed the Departmental reply to queries on the Sports Sustainability Fund

The fund closed to applications on 20 January 2021 and Members would like to know if there has been an underspend and, if it is available, requested a breakdown of the funding awarded.

Yours sincerely

Janice Thompson Clerk to the Committee







Private Office Level 9 Causeway Exchange 1-7 Bedford Street Belfast BT2 7EG e-mail: <u>Assembly.section@communities-ni.gov.uk</u> Telephone: (028) 9051 5234 (DD 75234)

22 February 2021

GM-0194-2020

Dr Janice Thompson Communities Committee Clerk Room 430 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX

Dear Janice

Sports Sustainability Fund

Thank you for your letter of 4 February requesting details of any underspend within the Sports Sustainability Fund and a breakdown of the funding awarded to date.

As Members will be aware, the Fund closed for applications on 20 January. A total of 38 Governing Bodies submitted applications for themselves and their registered clubs. The total value of those applications is £24.8m against the £25m allocated.

Whilst this is the current position, it is subject to change as applications are assessed and therefore the final total value of eligible claims cannot yet be confirmed.

Sport NI are working through the verification process prior to making payments to the Governing Bodies for the successful applicants. The payments element of the process should commence towards the end of February.

I hope this information will be useful to the Committee.

Yours sincerely

Diane Mulligan Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer Private Office





COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Paula Bradley MLA Chairperson Committee for Communities Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

8 February 2021

Conor Murphy MLA Minister Department of Finance Clare House 303 Airport Road Belfast BT3 9ED

Dear Minister

Sports Sustainability Fund

In recent months the Committee has been contacted by a range of sporting organisations regarding the severe financial impact that the pandemic has had on their income.

Recently I attended a Sport NI briefing to the All Party Group on Sports and Physical Recreation, which highlighted the number of clubs who do not meet the eligibility criteria for either the Department's Sports Sustainability Fund or the Department for Finance's Covid-19 Funding Programme.

Members agreed to write to the Minister for Communities asking what other financial support funds are available to sports clubs facing financial difficulties at this time, in particular, those that have lost income from their bar/restaurant.

At its meeting on 4 February, the Committee considered the enclosed response from the Minister regarding the Sports Sustainability Fund and its provisions for losses relating to hospitality.

Members noted that the fund application process provided for clubs to include information relating to income and expenditure from their social club bars and food provision. However, the Committee noted that a separately constituted 'social club' was not eligible in its own right for the scheme.

Members learned that the eligibility criteria for the support through the Department of Finance Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS), Phase 3 onwards, sets out that sports clubs are not eligible and are referred to the Sports Sustainability Fund.

The Committee are concerned that a number of clubs are falling through a gap in the schemes and agreed that I write to you to ask that the Department of Finance make funds available to any sports clubs that do not t meet the criteria for the Sports Sustainability Fund.

The Committee looks forward to a response at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

Paula Bradley Chairperson Committee for Communities Enc



From the Minister of Finance

Paula Bradley MLA Chairperson Committee for Communities Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX Private Office 2nd Floor Clare House 303 Airport Road West BELFAST BT3 9ED Tel: 028 9081 6216 Email: private.office@finance-ni.gov.uk

Your reference: Our reference: CORR-0346-2021

Date:

22nd February 2021

Dear Paula,

SPORTS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Thank you for your letter of 8 February and copy letter of 29 January regarding support for Sports Clubs from the Sports Sustainability Fund (SSF) and Local Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS).

The letter of 29 January accurately records my Department's advice regarding LRSS. Any separately constituted social club, in other words a club which is legally and managerially separate from a sports club irrespective of its position for business rates, which has not received support from the Sports Sustainability Fund, will be eligible to apply for support from LRSS.

On the issue of sports clubs who consider that they are falling through the gaps in schemes, officials from the Department for Communities and my Department are in communication on this matter to ensure that this does not happen. Clubs which have been unable to secure funding from the SSF should consider resubmitting their application to LRSS; my Department has a reconsideration process for all applicants where an application to LRSS has been turned down. This is in place for all applicants, including those who did not meet the criteria for the Sports Sustainability Fund.

I hope that this is helpful.

Is mise le meas

Conor Murphy.

CONOR MURPHY MLA MINISTER OF FINANCE



COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

11 February 2021

Ms Diane Mulligan DALO Department for Communities Level 9 Causeway Exchange Belfast

Dear Diane

Sports Organisations' Funding During Covid

At its meeting on 11 February 2021, the Committee considered a Departmental reply (GM-0079-2020) to queries on sports organisations' funding during the Covid-19 health emergency.

The Committee is not content that the response addresses its concerns in relation to the Sports Sustainability Fund and the Department of Finance's Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS).

Members have been contacted by sports clubs who have been informed that they have been successful with their applications to the LRSS only to then be advised that they were unsuccessful and that they should have applied to the Sports Sustainability Fund which had subsequently closed to applications. This has led to a great degree of frustration for sports clubs and puts their existence in danger as they have no longer have funding to continue.

The Committee urges the Department to do all it can to ensure that it bids for more Covid-19 funding from the Department of Finance to avoid a situation where money is being handed back to Treasury whilst local sports clubs are in dire need of support.

The Committee requested an urgent oral briefing by officials to address the issues outlined in this letter and I would be grateful if you could provide a date as to when this can take place.

Yours sincerely

Janice Thompson Clerk to the Committee

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Dr Janice Thompson Communities Committee Clerk Room 430 Parliament Buildings Ballymiscaw Stormont Belfast BT4 3XX

17 February 2021

GM-0221-2020

Dear Janice

SPORTS ORGANISATIONS FUNDING DURING COVID

Thank you for your letter of 11 February requesting an oral briefing from officials on the covid funding available for sports clubs through the DoF/LPS Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS) and the DfC/Sport NI Sports Sustainability Fund (SSF). The Committee have indicated that decisions relating to the administration of the LRSS fund and the SSF have caused confusion and created some significant frustration amongst sports clubs who generate income through bars and hospitality.

Officials from the Department are engaging with colleagues in Economy and Finance/Land and Property Services to ensure sports clubs have the opportunity to access covid-related financial support. Data sharing arrangements are now in place and checks will be carried out to ensure that sports clubs and social clubs, including those that are not affiliated to a Governing Body, can access an appropriate scheme.

With regard to the Sports Sustainability Fund Sport NI is currently assessing the applications and aim to commence making payments through the respective Governing Bodies from the end of February. It will be at this stage that officials will be in a position to start to provide details information on the recipients and the level of funding provided. That said the initial amount of funding requested through the Governing Bodies totals £24.9m against the allocation of £25m. This figure will change as the assessment process progresses.

Officials from the Department would welcome the opportunity to provide the Committee with an update on the progress of the SSF before the end of February but would advise that the



information will not be complete as the assessment process underway in SportNI will not be finalised.

Officials have advised that a representative from Sport NI would be available to attend the briefing to provide an update on their assessment process and the other support planned for the sector through the National Lottery Programme, if this was agreeable with the Committee.

I trust this is helpful to the Members.

Yours sincerely

Dullya

Diane Mulligan Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer Private Office



COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

01 March 2021

Ms Ciara McKay DALO Department for Finance

Dear Ciara

Sports Sustainability Fund

At its meeting on 25 February 2021, the Committee considered a response from the Minister for Finance on the Sports Sustainability Fund (SSF).

The Committee welcomed confirmation that any separately constituted social club, which had not received support from the SSF, will be eligible to apply for support from the Local Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS).

Members also welcomed that both Departments had committed to ensuring that no sports or social clubs fall through the gaps.

The Committee asked that I write to the Department of Finance to ask if there has been any directive issued to staff to ensure that they are aware of this change.

The Committee looks forward to a response at your earliest convenience.

Yours sincerely

Janice Thompson

Janice Thompson Clerk to the Committee



Ms Janice Thompson Clerk to the Committee for Communities Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX Private Office 2nd Floor Clare House 303 Airport Road West BELFAST BT3 9ED Tel: 028 9081 6216 Email: private.office@finance-ni.gov.uk

Your reference: Our reference: *GM-0170-2021*

Date: XX M

XX March 2021

Dear Janice

SPORTS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Thank you for your letter of 1 March 2021 following your Committee's consideration of the letter dated 22 February 2021 from the Minister of Finance.

As the Minister explained, officials in the two departments are in regular direct communication on the interaction of the Sports Sustainability Fund and the Localised Restrictions Support Scheme (LRSS). Land & Property Services staff who are administrating LRSS continue to be fully briefed on its operation by senior officials.

I am copying this note to the Clerk of the Finance Committee.

Yours sincerely

Andy Monaghan

ANDY MONAGHAN DEPARTMENTAL ASSEMBLY LIAISON OFFICER



COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Dr Janice Thompson Clerk Committee for Communities Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

02 April 2021

Antoinette McKeown CEO Sport NI House of Sport 2a Upper Malone Road Belfast BT9 5LA

Dear Antoinette

Breakdown of Sport Sustainability Funding

Thank you for your attendance at Committee yesterday and for the comprehensive briefing you provided on the Sport Sustainability Fund (SSF).

As you will recall from the meeting, you gave an undertaking to furnish the Committee with further information on how the £25 million fund was distributed amongst the various sporting organisations. The Committee would be grateful if you would expand on this by highlighting instances where funding was specifically provided to grassroots, disability and women's sporting organisations.

Yours sincerely

Dr Janice Thompson Clerk Committee for Communities

BRIEFING PAPER

TO:COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES, 29/04/21FROM:SPORT NORTHERN IRELANDSUBJECT:SPORTS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

Committee for Communities request for additional information (02 April 2021)

SNI & DfC attended the Committee for Communities on Thursday 1st April to provide members with an update on the Sports Sustainability Fund. During the meeting, MLAs requested that Sport NI provide additional information on:

- 1. Funding to grassroots sports organisations;
- 2. Funding to organisations with a specific focus on women/girls and people with a disability

SNI response (29 April 2021)

Introduction:

Over the course of the last 12 months, discussions around 'sport' have typically centred on two typologies – 'elite sport' and 'grassroots sport'. Within Covid-19 discussions, an 'elite sports person' is defined as anyone who (i) is derives all or the majority of their income from competing in sport, (ii) plays in a professional league or competition, (iii) is a senior representative nominated by a relevant sporting body, or (iv) is on an elite development pathway. For the purposes of the response, SNI has understood 'grassroots sport' to refer to any affiliated sports clubs or associated entities not covered by the 'elite' definition. Governing bodies of sport have also been excluded from the definition of 'grassroots sport' as they provide organisational governance & infrastructure services and support to the whole sport (grassroots and elite).

Background:

The Sports Sustainability Fund opened for applications on 4th December 2020 with an available budget (provided by the Department for Communities) of £25m. The programme closed to applications on 20 January 2021. Applications were received from 37 recognised governing bodies of sport. The total requested funding at that stage was £24.86m. SNI subsequently assessed all applications from governing bodies of sport and their affiliated clubs/entities.

Part 1: Funding to grassroots sport

At 31 March 2021, Sport NI had:

- Issued a 'Letter' of Offer to 35 governing bodies of sport and two 'Declination Letters' (table tennis & sub aqua)
- Issued Letters of Offer to a total value of £23.01m (450 awards)
 - Grassroots sport £12.80m (56%) across 407 sports clubs
 - Governing Bodies of Sport (core costs) £5.10m (22%) across 21 awards

- Elite sport £5.10m (22%) across 22 awards (inc. Belfast Giants, NIFL Premiership clubs, GAA County Boards & Ulster Rugby)
- To note ref 35 LOOs to governing bodies and 21 awards for governing body core costs some governing bodies did not seek funding for core costs and applied only for their clubs (e.g. golf)

A further analysis of the awards indicates the following:

- 92% (n=414) of all awards were <=£100,000, to an award value of <u>£9.01m</u> (39%)
- 36 awards (8% of total) were >£100,000, representing £14.00m (61%) of total investment
 - Of these, 33 (£9.32m) were awards to sport clubs
 - 13 football clubs (inc. NIFL)
 - 9 GAA clubs (inc four County Boards)
 - 9 golf clubs
 - 1 ice hockey club (Belfast Giants)
 - 1 athletics club (Belfast City Marathon)
 - 3 governing body awards Ulster Council GAA; Ulster Rugby; Irish FA representing £4.67m

Part 2: Women/girls & people with a disability

Over the last ten years (throughout the period of Sport Matters and latterly SNI's Corporate Plan 2015-20), Sport NI has worked closely with, encouraged and supported sports to work towards better inclusion, cohesion, integration, equality and diversity especially in terms of the representation of women/girls and people with a disability. For example, over the last ten years there has been a move towards integration of male/female sport within a single governing body of sport (e.g. golf & bowls). Over the same period, many governing bodies have been working to strengthened and improve support for people with a disability (e.g. football, swimming).

We recognise that whilst some progress has been achieved in relation to the inclusion of women and disabled people in sport, much more needs to be done. Our draft Corporate Plan 2020-25 is directlyaligned to the draft Executive Strategy for Sport and Physical Activity and has a clear commitment to addressing inequalities in the game. In particular, we are taking forward a Women in Sport Strategy to ensure that there is focus in this area.

The Sports Sustainability Fund provided an additional opportunity to accelerate this policy of 'mainstreaming', as <u>all</u> applicants committed to the programme principles of equality, diversity and inclusion. SSF applicants were required to ensure that the needs of all parts of their sport (or club) were taken into consideration, and treated equitably, in submitting their application. In this respect it is difficult to put a definitive figure on the amount of SSF investment provided to women/girls and people with a disability as many clubs provide opportunities for male/female participants and participants with a disability, for example through targeted programmes or specific teams.

By way of comparison, an analysis of applicants (n=1642) to SNI's Sports Hardship Fund indicates that 4% of clubs describe themselves as 'female only', 10% as 'male only' and 86% as providing opportunities for male/female participants.

Notwithstanding the above, some analysis is possible in respect of **specific** SSF investment in women/girls in the following sports:

- Association Football
- Camogie
- Hockey
- Ladies GAA
- Netball

Details of these awards are set out in the table below. 19 awards were approved for 'female sport' to a total value of £173,977.

Sport	Club	Award	
Association Football	Sion Swifts Girls & Ladies	£	8,860
Camogie	Ulster Camogie	£	23,465
Camogie	St. Brenda's Camogie Club, Ballymacnab	£	7,885
Camogie	Clonduff Camogie	£	6,678
Camogie	Loup Camogie	£	6,086
Camogie	Swatragh Camogie	£	4,253
Camogie	Mullaghbawn Camogie Club	£	3,464
Camogie	Fr Shields Camogie	£	1,538
Camogie	Armoy Camogie	£	1,133
Camogie	Derrytresk Camogie	£	796
GAA	Tyrone LGFA	£	16,151
GAA	Armagh LGFA	£	14,646
GAA	Crossmaglen Rangers Ladies	£	6,819
GAA	Rock LGFA Tyrone	£	6,494
GAA	Knockinney Gaels Derrylin & Teemore Ladies	£	4,882
GAA	Ulster Ladies Gaelic	£	2,935
GAA	Heber MacMahon Ladies Brookeborough	£	2,758
Netball	Netball NI	£	34,892
Hockey	CI Ladies HC	£	20,242

Separate to the Sports Sustainability Fund, in the early stages of the Covid-19 pandemic, SNI had protected (DfC Exchequer) funding for disability sports organisations (Special Olympics Ireland and Disability Sport Northern Ireland) in 2020-21 totalling £1,107,063.

Finally, through other SNI Covid-19 interventions such as the Sports Hardship Fund and Covid Safe Sports Packs, approximately one third (31-33%) of all clubs indicated that they provide opportunities for people with a disability. It is reasonable to assume that this level of provision would also be reflected in clubs funded through the Sports Sustainability Fund.

/ends



COMMITTEE FOR COMMUNITIES

Paula Bradley MLA Chairperson Committee for Communities Room 430 Parliament Buildings BELFAST BT4 3XX

02 April 2021

Deirdre Hargey MLA Minister Department for Communities Causeway Exchange Belfast BT2 7EG

Dear Minister

Sports Sustainability Fund (SSF) Briefing

The Committee welcomed the comprehensive discussions on the SSF with your officials and with officials from Sport NI, at its meeting on 1 April 2021.

Members are fully aware of the tremendous pressure that you and your officials have been working under for the past year.

Members agreed that I write to you to express the Committee's confidence that the SSF is being administered appropriately, and to praise officials for detailing the governance arrangements for the fund and the and subsequent due diligence that is being carried out on the SSF.

The Committee would like to assure you, and your officials, that you have their continued support during these difficult times.

Yours sincerely

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Paula Bradley Chairperson Committee for Communities



Committee for Communities

Minutes of Proceedings

Thursday 1 April 2021

Meeting Location: Room 30, Parliament Buildings, Belfast

Present:

Ms Paula Bradley MLA (Chairperson) Mr Andy Allen MLA Mr Robin Newton MLA Mr Alex Easton MLA

Present by Video or Teleconference:

Ms Kellie Armstrong MLA (Deputy Chairperson) Mr Mark Durkan MLA Ms Karen Mullan MLA Ms Sinéad Ennis MLA Mr Fra McCann MLA

In Attendance: Dr Janice Thompson (Assembly Clerk) Mr Sean McCann (Assistant Assembly Clerk)

In Attendance by Video or Teleconference:

Ms Antoinette Bowen (Clerical Supervisor)



Mr Oliver Bellew (Clerical Officer) Ms Claire McCanny (Assembly Clerk, Bill Office)

The meeting commenced at 9.18 am in open session.

1. Apologies

There were no apologies.

2. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 25 March 2021.

3. Chairperson's Business

Robin Newton joined the meeting at 9.20 am.

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had requested the Minister to brief on the Sports Sustainability Fund and that a number of days had been offered to allow for the Minister's attendance. However, due to prior diary commitments the Minister was unable to attend.

A number of Members expressed disappointment at the Minister's non-attendance.

4. Departmental/Sport NI briefing on the Sports Sustainability Fund (SSF)

Karen Mullen declared an interest as Chair of a Boxing Club.



The following Departmental Officials and Sport NI representatives joined the meeting:

Ms Kathryn Hill, Department for Communities

Mr Tony Murphy, Department for Communities

Ms Antoinette McKeown, Chief Executive Office, Sport NI

Mr John News, Interim Director of Participation & Facilities, Sport NI

The Officials briefed the Committee and took part in a question and answer session with Members.

The Chairperson thanked the Officials for their attendance.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister to ask if capacity building for smaller organisations and clubs is being considered to ensure that all individuals/groups are aware and can apply for future funding opportunities.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Minister and to Sport NI to express its confidence that the SSF is being administered correctly and to praise the Officials for outlining the governance arrangements and the due diligence that is being carried out on the SSF.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to ask if there is ongoing work with the Department for the Economy in relation to Project Stratum and on rural outreach.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to Sport NI asking that it provides a breakdown of funding under the SSF including grassroots, disability and women's sports.

The meeting was suspended at 11.22 am and restarted at 11.33 am

5. Committee Deliberations on the Clauses of the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill

Mark Durkan declared an interest as family members own licensed premises.



Andy Allen left the meeting at 11.34 am.

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee would continue its deliberations on the Licensing and Registration of Clubs (Amendment) Bill.

The following Departmental Officials joined the meeting:

Mr Liam Quinn

Ms Carol Reid

The Chairperson informed Members that they had been provided with a recent press release from the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) in relation to alcohol specific mortality in Northern Ireland.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note the press release.

The Chairperson informed Members that they had been provided with further correspondence from the Society of Independent Brewers' Association which provided details of the social and economic impacts of taprooms in Great Britain. Members had also been provided with a tabled paper from the Independent Craft Brewers of Ireland on the operation of equivalent licensing legislation in the Republic of Ireland which allows for taprooms to operate.

The Chairperson informed Members that they had been provided with several letters of concern from publicans in relation to taprooms.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to note all of the correspondence and to reconsider it during the closed session deliberations on clause 8.

The Chairperson informed Members that they had written to the Department with queries on several clauses following deliberations at the meeting on 25 March 2021.

The Chairperson informed Members that a Ministerial response had not yet been received, however the issues would be gone over again and the Departmental Officials would answer what they could today.

Clause 2: In relation to 'Permitted Hours' on Sundays

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had agreed that the Minister should now take forward an amendment to bring the legislation relating to an Article



44 'Permitted hours' (late licence) on Sundays into line with the 'Permitted Hours' for the other late nights granted for premises.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to await the Minster's response on these issues.

Clause 7: Licensed race tracks: Sunday sales

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had agreed to seek clarification from the Department as to whether this clause allowed the sale of alcohol at the venue on a Sunday if a race meeting was not taking place or if the sale was contingent on a race meeting taking place.

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had also agreed to seek clarification on whether Drumbo Park was to be classified/categorised as an outdoor stadium in the near future.

The Chairperson informed Members that S.R 2021/81 - The Licensing (Designation of Outdoor Stadia) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2021 was made by the Department on 25 March 2021 and that the Committee would consider the Rule at its meeting on 15th April 2021.

Andy Allen re-joined the meeting at 11.39 am.

The Chairperson advised Members that under this Statutory Rule the Department has designated Drumbo Park as a stadium of importance to the whole of Northern Ireland. In doing so it will allow Drumbo Park Stadium to apply to the courts for a liquor licence for the venue.

Departmental Officials confirmed that Clause 7 was contingent on a race meeting, however, Drumbo Park could avail of a restaurant licence under Article 44 and apply for an occasional licence under Article 47.

Robin Newton re-joined the meeting at 11.41 am.

Clause 8: Licence for off-sales

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had not yet reached an agreed position on clause 8 and agreed to discuss the clause further during closed session.



Clause 18: Occasional licences: conditions

The Chairperson informed Members that they had previously discussed the inclusion of a provision for an organisation to apply for an occasional licence in order to hold a festival or event without the need for an existing premises licence holder being involved.

The Chairperson informed Members that they had raised concerns that some local producers may find themselves worse off as they currently use occasional licences in order to hold occasional taproom events.

Clause 9: Requirement for Off-licence

The Chairperson informed Members that they had previously noted that the wording of the PSNI proposed amendment was not suitable and agreed to request that the Minister provides a suitably worded amendment to deal with the issue for the Committee's consideration.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to await the Minster's response on these issues.

Clauses 19 and 32: Code of Practice

The Chairperson informed Members that they had agreed to seek clarification on whether the clause as drafted allows for the existence of a number of codes of practice written by different sectors and approved by the Department.

The Departmental Officials confirmed that the Bill allows for more than one Code of Practice.

Members indicated that they were content with the Departmental Officials' response.

Clauses 12 and 28, 11 and 27: Underage Functions and Private Functions

The Chairperson informed Members that they were waiting for clarification from Counsel on the supervision of children at private functions and on the time that under 18's must leave the venue. The Officials thanked the Committee for highlighting these gaps in the Bill

Agreed: The Committee agreed to await the Minster's response on these issues.



Clause 29

The Chairperson informed Members that they had requested that the Minister make an amendment to extend the time period in 29(1) from 1st May to 30th September and the number of nights in 29(3) to "not more than three".

Agreed: The Committee agreed to await the Minster's response on these issues.

Clause 22

The Chairperson informed Members that they had previously noted that the Minister was minded to consider amendments and that the Committee had agreed to request that the Minister make amendments to address the anomaly identified between clubs and other licensed premises and to clarify 1-day memberships.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to await the Minster's response on these issues.

New Clauses

Duty to Produce Guidance:

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had agreed to request that the Minister forwards a proposed new clause for the Committee's consideration.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to await the Minster's response on these issues.

Review Clause:

The Chairperson informed Members that the Committee had agreed to request that the Minister drafts a clause which contains a review of the implementation of the provisions of the Bill and a subsequent report to the Northern Ireland Assembly by the end of three years of the Bill getting Royal Assent and, following that first review, subsequent reviews and a report should happen within five years of the previous report.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to wait for the Minster's response on this issue.



Additional Measures:

Entertainment Venues:

The Chairperson informed Members that they had previously agreed that the Assembly Bill Office would bring a proposal to the Committee regarding a potential amendment in relation to cinemas.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to consider the Assembly Bill Office proposal during the closed session.

Minimum Unit Pricing:

The Chairperson informed Members that, in closed session at the meeting on 25 March 2021, the Assembly Bill Office advised the Committee that the issue of Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP) was potentially within the scope of the Bill.

The Chairperson informed Members that they had agreed that the Assembly Bill Office would work with the Committee on a potential for an amendment.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to discuss the proposals during closed session.

The Chairperson thanked the Officials for their attendance.

6. Any Other Business

There was no other business.

7. Date, Time and Place of the next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 15 April 2021 at 9.15 a.m. in Room 29, Parliament Buildings.



The meeting moved into closed session at 11.53 am to allow the Committee to be briefed by an Official from the Northern Ireland Assembly Bill Office.

The Chairperson informed Members that they would continue on from their deliberations at the meeting on 25 March 2021.

The Assembly Bill Office Official provided Members with a draft range of amendment options for Members to consider taking forward in relation to taprooms

The Assembly Bill Office Official advised Members that the proposed amendments made proposals for local producers' produce to be sold (on-sales) on a limited basis in exchange for a guided tour, an entrance fee, cash and at craft fairs.

Kellie Armstrong left the meeting at 12.00 pm.

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed each amendment in detail, including potential unintended consequences.

A Member raised concerns regarding a number of taproom type establishments being endorsed by NI Tourist Board and any possible unintended consequences regarding the advertisement of destinations that serve alcohol.

Robin Newton left the meeting at 12.17 pm.

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed correspondence received from the Independent Craft Brewers of Ireland.

Alex Easton left the meeting at 12.33 pm.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to reconsider the options again at its meeting on 15 April 2021.

The meeting was suspended at 12.42 pm and restarted at 13.17 pm.

The Committee Chairperson sought Members' agreement to forward a copy of the draft amendments to the Department for comment.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to forward a copy of the amendments to the Department for comment.



The Assembly Bill Office Official provided Members with a draft range of options for amendments for Members to consider in relation to Drumbo Park, Licence for Cinemas, General Permitted Hours and Minimum Unit Pricing (MUP).

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed a range of options/amendments for Committee consideration in relation to Drumbo park.

Members discussed a range of issues and agreed to seek clarification from Departmental Officials during the closed session.

Licence for Cinemas:

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed a proposed amendment to include cinemas as a Place of Public entertainment to permit the serving of alcohol, similar to theatres etc.

General Permitted Hours:

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed proposed amendments to Article 42 the General Permitted Hours (Licensing Order 1996).

Members indicated that they were content with the proposed amendments.

Minimum Unit Pricing:

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed a potential amendment that would place a duty on the Minister for Health to introduce Minimum Unit Pricing within a certain timescale.

Members indicated that they were content with the proposed amendment.

Alex Easton re-joined the meeting at 1.46 pm.

Review Clause:

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed a potential amendment.

Duty to Produce Guidance:

The Assembly Bill Office Official discussed a potential amendment.



The following Departmental Officials re-joined the meeting during closed session to provide clarification on the issue of Drumbo Park:

Mr Liam Quinn

Ms Carol Reid

The Committee was content with the clarification provided by the Departmental Officials.

The meeting was adjourned at 14.44 pm.

Paula Bradley MLA Chairperson, Committee for Communities