



From: Tracy Meharg
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William Humphrey MBE MLA
Chairperson
Public Accounts Committee Building
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw
BELFAST
BT4 3XX
Via email: Committee.publicaccounts@niassembly.gov.uk

Dear William,

EVIDENCE SESSION – SPORTS SUSTAINABILITY FUND

I refer to your correspondence dated the 11 August which seeks further information regarding the Sports Sustainability Fund following the Public Accounts Committee evidence session on 8 July 2021.

During the evidence session the Sport NI Chief Executive provided information relating to the approval of higher value awards. To address your query regarding the number of and process for grants paid over £1m, Sport NI is required, in line with the *Sport NI Management Statement and Financial Memorandum*, to seek Departmental approval for awards of this value. Once the list of successful applicants was confirmed by Sport NI a submission was made to the DfC Minister on 25 February which, in line with DfC Engaged Communities Group delegated limits, sought Ministerial approval of four awards over £1m. This related specifically to individual awards made to the Irish Football Association (IFA), Royal County Down Golf Club, IRFU obo Ulster Rugby and Ulster GAA. Ministerial approval was provided on 1 March 2021 and Sport NI were advised by issue of a formal letter on 3 March 2021, indicating the Department's approval for payments up to the claimed amount, subject to final verification.

You have also sought information as to the reason why the £1.56m grant for Royal County Down Golf Club was not approved initially by the Department. I can confirm that this was not the case. As indicated in the paragraph above approval was given following formal submission to the Department.

In response to your question regarding the breakdown of funding I wish to advise that at the evidence hearing on the 8 July I incorrectly stated that £2.6m had been provided to other sporting clubs outside of the larger sports such as GAA, Rugby, IFA and Golf.



The correct figure is £2.2m. Please accept my apologies on this point. A breakdown of the £2.2m is outlined at **Annex A**.

Finally in relation to the breakdown of the £2.3m Sports Hardship Fund grants awarded full details can be accessed on the attached links.

[Sports Hardship Fund – Dashboard Reporting | Sport NI SHF-Successful-Applicants-02.06.21.pdf \(sportni.net\)](#)

Yours sincerely,

Tracy Meharg

TRACY MEHARG
PERMANENT SECRETARY



Annex A

Sports Sustainability Fund – Breakdown of £2.2m funding to other sports clubs outside of Football, GAA, Rugby and Golf

Sport	Club	Amount Awarded
American Football	Belfast Trojans	£9,652
Angling	Northern Ireland Cross Community Anglers	£2,796
Angling	Garrison & Lough Melvin Anglers	£3,693
Angling	Glens Angling Club	£51
Angling	Sion Mills Angling Club	£26,742
Athletics	Belfast City Marathon	£113,607
Athletics	Lagan Valley AC	£5,233
Athletics	Lisburn AC	£4,055
Athletics	Maguiresbridge RC	£1,531
Athletics	North Belfast Harriers	£11,932
Athletics	Sperrin Harriers	£8,080
Badminton	Lisburn Racquets Club	£15,706
Basketball	Belfast Star	£8,170
Basketball	Phoenix	£15,303
Basketball	UU Tigers	£13,514
Bowls	Belfast Indoor Bowls Club	£21,253
Bowls	County Antrim Indoor Bowling Club	£17,670
Bowls	Ballymoney Bowling Club	£4,088
Bowls	Coleraine Bowling Club	£6,754
Bowls	Forthriver Bowling Club	£14,459
Bowls	Limavady Recreation Club	£18,272
Boxing	Banbridge ABC	£2,820.42
Boxing	Corpus Christi ABC	£792.00
Boxing	Emerald ABC	£4,180.00
Boxing	Enniskillen ABC	£2,864.00
Boxing	Ormeau Road ABC	£8,961.00
Boxing	Rathfriland ABC	£3,062.00
Boxing	St Josephs ABC	£1,867.00
Canoeing	Belfast Canoe Club	£1,092
Canoeing	Co.Antrim Paddlesports (CAPS)	£596
Canoeing	QUB Paddlesports	£1,733
Course Fishing	Polish Anglers NI (PANI)	£994
Cricket	Ardmore	16,419
Cricket	Ballyspallen	7,569
Cricket	Bready	20,701
Cricket	Brigade	13,989
Cricket	Burndennett	14,817
Cricket	Donemana	22,435
Cricket	Drummond	15,149
Cricket	Eglinton	22,641
Cricket	Fox Lodge	11,196
Cricket	Glendermott	18,787
Cricket	Killyclooney	12,468



Sport	Club	Amount Awarded
Cricket	Maghera	4,108
Cricket	Newbuildings	16,136
Cricket	NWCU	12,439
Cricket	Carrick CC	36,606
Cricket	Cregagh CC	28,045
Cricket	CSNI CC	6,204
Cricket	Dundrum CC	6,947
Cricket	Hollywood	8,528
Cricket	Laurelvale CC	16,071
Cricket	Lisburn CC	11,731
Cricket	Templepatrick CC	1,496
Cricket	Woodvale CC	5,637
Gymnastics	Arabesque Gymnastics Club	£9,863.00
Gymnastics	Abbey Gymnastics CIC	£64,761.00
Gymnastics	Club Gymfun	£32,181.00
Gymnastics	Salto Gymnastic Centre Limited	£11,407.00
Gymnastics	Dynamic Gymnastics Club Ltd	£5,543.00
Gymnastics	Flight Gymnastics Academy CIC	£13,289.00
Gymnastics	Gym Trix Gymnastics Club	£16,438.00
Gymnastics	Mourne Gymnastics Club	£6,171.00
Gymnastics	Rainbow Gym Club CIC	£64,368.00
Gymnastics	Setanta Fitness Gymnastics Club	£12,918.00
Gymnastics	The Gymnastics and Trampoline Network CIC	£13,557.00
Gymnastics	Twist and Splits Gymnastic Academy	£16,405.00
Hockey	Antrim HC	£5,131
Hockey	Portadown HC	£2,597
Hockey	Cookstown HC	£28,003
Hockey	S. Antrim HC	£12,960
Hockey	Instonians	£12,681
Hockey	CI Ladies HC	£20,242
Hockey	NICS	£4,449
Hockey	North Down HC	£13,077
Hockey	Annadale HC	£3,853
Hockey	Randalstown HC	£822
Horse Sport	Eventing Ireland (Northern Region) Ltd.	£16,468
Horse Sport	Irish Harness Racing Association CLG	£11,820
Ice Hockey	Belfast Giants	£402,052
Ice Hockey	Belfast Junior Giants	£5,513
Ice Skating	Dundonald Ice Skating Club	£1,802
Karate	Northern Ireland Karate-Do Wado-Kai (NIKW)	£2,056
Motorsport	Coleraine & District Motor Club Ltd.	£46,799
Motorsport	Cookstown & District Motorcycle Club	£35,186
Motorsport	500 Motor Racing Club of Ireland Ltd.	£74,705
Motorsport	Maiden City Motor Club Ltd.	£8,263
Motorsport	Mid Antrim 150 Club Ltd.	£12,277
Motorsport	North Armagh Motorcycle & Car Club (Tarmac Section) Ltd.	£30,556
Motorsport	Motorcycle Racing Association (Ireland) Ltd.	£8,037
Motorsport	Larne Motor Club Ltd.	£7,769



Sport	Club	Amount Awarded
Motorsport	Ulster Automobile Club Ltd.	£3,676
Rowing	Bann Rowing Club	£10,472
Rowing	Lagan SC	£1,862
Sailing	Ballyholme Yacht Club	£49,138
Sailing	Carlingford Lough Yacht Club	£3,957
Sailing	Carrickfergus Sailing Club	£29,716
Sailing	Down Cruising Club	£35,230
Sailing	Portaferry Sailing Club	£105
Sailing	Quoile Yacht Club	£25,258
Sailing	Strangford Lough Yacht Club	£30,939
Swimming	Ards	£33,537
Swimming	Ballymena	£11,452
Swimming	Ballymoney	£6,014
Swimming	Banbridge	£18,815
Swimming	Bangor	£27,317
Swimming	Bangor Barracudas	£2,994
Swimming	Cathal Brugha	£16,652
Swimming	Cu Chulainn	£3,497
Swimming	Dungannon	£10,393
Swimming	Enniskillen	£12,240
Swimming	Kilkeel	£1,212
Swimming	Larne	£39,606
Swimming	Leander	£2,096
Swimming	Lecale	£20,899
Swimming	Lisburn	£18,330
Swimming	Lurgan	£11,569
Swimming	Riversdale Otters	£7,550
Tennis	City of Derry Tennis Club	£446
Triathlon	Olympian Triathlon Club	£14,350
Triathlon	Tri Limits Triathlon Club	£30,632
Volleyball	Ballymoney Blaze	£2,247
TOTAL		£2,197,861