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Our ref: AQW 9250/22-27

Date: 16 May 2024

Claire Sugden MLA
Parliament Buildings
Ballymiscaw, Stomont
Belfast
BT4 3XX

Dear Claire,

AQW 9250/22-27 – (i) the amount of funding provided to each amateur boxing club in East Londonderry in each of the last five years; (ii) how clubs apply for funding; and (iii) the amount of funding available for small community sports clubs

You recently submitted an Assembly Written Question AQW 9250/22-27, requesting the amount of funding granted to sports clubs by my department in each of the last five years, broken down by sport.

As outlined in my response, and due to the large volume of detail required to provide an answer, I have arranged for this information to be placed in the Assembly Library.

Yours sincerely

**Gordon Lyons MLA
Minister for Communities**

Funding provided to each amateur boxing club in East Londonderry in each of the last five years provided by the Department for Communities and Sport Northern Ireland; how clubs apply for funding; and the amount of funding available for small community sports clubs as per AQW 9250/22-27

As this issue is an operational matter for Sport NI, I have sought the requested information from the Chief Executive, who has advised me as follows:-

1. “The amount of funding provided to each amateur boxing club in East Londonderry in each of the last five years.

“2020/21 Funding to Amateur Boxing Clubs in East Londonderry

Organization	Type	Fund	Programme	Grant Amount
<i>Churchlands Golden Gloves ABC Coleraine</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Covid Safe Sport Pack</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Errigal Amateur Boxing Club</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Sports Hardship Fund</i>	<i>3,000.00</i>
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<i>St Canices ABC Dungiven</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Covid Safe Sport Pack</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>St Canices ABC Dungiven</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Sports Hardship Fund</i>	<i>3,000.00</i>
<i>Star of the Sea ABC</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Covid Safe Sport Pack</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Star of the Sea ABC</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Sports Hardship Fund</i>	<i>3,000.00</i>
<i>The Skerries ABC</i>	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Exchequer</i>	<i>Sports Hardship Fund</i>	<i>2,000.00</i>

“No funding has been provided to amateur boxing clubs in East Londonderry in 2019/20.

“No funding has been provided to amateur boxing clubs in East Londonderry in 2021/22.

“No funding has been provided to amateur boxing clubs in East Londonderry in 2022/23.

“No funding has been provided to amateur boxing clubs in East Londonderry in 2023/24.

2. “How clubs apply for funding

“Sport Northern Ireland is dedicated to developing people in sport and providing facilities for people of every age group and ability to be able to participate, enjoy and perform sport and physical activity.

“To sustain and increase participation, and improve performances in sport, Sport Northern Ireland invests in a range of projects throughout Northern Ireland through the development of funding programmes with specific objectives aligned to Sport NI’s Corporate Plan and the Department for Communities Active Living, the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy for Northern Ireland. These funding programmes will have eligibility criteria which will be explained through programme guidance issued at the outset of any funding programme. Clubs can assess their eligibility through the programme guidance and follow the application process.

3. “The amount of funding available for small community clubs

“Sport NI currently has no open capital funding opportunities. However, Sport NI has bid for funding to deliver further capital investment in 2024/25 through the Renewable Energy Fund, which will be subject to budget availability. In addition, Sport NI are currently exploring options for a new Lottery Investment programme, aimed at developing infrastructure which increases participation in sport and physical activity.

“Sport NI currently has no open revenue funding opportunities. However, the Crowdfunder funding investment is a £1.6m three-year investment programme due to open in Spring 2024. Crowdfunder offers match-funding support of up to 75% to a maximum of £5,000 from Sport NI through the Crowdfunder platform. Crowdfunder has a focus on creating opportunities to ‘level the playing field’, so that accessibility and inclusion is felt and experienced by those who have been traditionally excluded from not only participating in sport but playing an active role within the club.

“The Crowdfunder investment aims to Support the following priority groups of people (each group eligible for up to 75% funding):

- *Women & girls*
- *People with disabilities*
- *Children & young people – especially those aged between 11-18 years.*
- *Older people aged over 65.*
- *Ethnically diverse communities*
- *LGBTQ+ Community*
- *People living in areas of greatest need (quartile1 - based on NISRA NI Multiple Deprivation Measures)*
- *People living in rural areas (based on NISRA NI urban/rural classification)*

“Those projects not delivering to the targeted groups above can expect a maximum contribution of 50%.”