

Information

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for County Councillors

From:	Lewis Andrews Commissioning Officer Community Infrastructure Commissioning Team
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To:	All County Councillors
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Community Asset Fund

Sport England has this week opened its £7.5m 'Community Asset Fund' which is designed to enhance community spaces that provide people with an opportunity to be active.

If members are aware of an organisation that wishes to take over a sports facility; a club that wishes to expand or just something missing in a community, it might be worth considering this fund which will provide capital grants of between £5,000 and £150,000.

The Fund is not just about facilities, and doesn't have to be based around a traditional sport, but really anything that promotes activity and wellbeing. Sport England say they "want to hear from all kinds of community organisations and social enterprises that have a great idea that'll get people moving".

It is likely that priority will be afforded to those organisations that have not received Sport England funding or a lottery award previously.

There are certain exemptions in place, such as children's play equipment; maintenance of existing facilities and football-only projects (the latter being catered for by the Football Foundation).

While local authorities and schools can bid for funds (albeit on a match-funding basis), as the name suggests, this funding is being geared towards supporting grass roots initiatives in the community.

There is no deadline for bid submissions although Sport England plan to start making awards from April.

The author can provide further details to members who may be interested.

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