

Sources of capital funding

6.1 Areas for improvement identified through the consultation and site visits may require either capital or revenue expenditure (or both). There are several potential sources of financial aid. These include:

- Football Foundation
- Sport England Community Investment Fund
- Rugby Football Foundation
- Community Club Development Fund
- National Lottery Funding.

Football Foundation

6.2 The Foundation is dedicated to revitalising the grass roots of the game, constructing modern football infrastructure creating facilities that are fit for the game in the 21st century. The maximum grant for a capital project is £1 million. Grants of this size will only be awarded in exceptional circumstances. The percentage level of support is typically around 50% but in exceptional circumstances could reach 90%.

- (See <http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/> for more information)

Sport England Community Investment Fund

6.3 The Sport England Community Investment Fund (http://www.sportengland.org/text/cif_guidance_notes.pdf) is used for funding applications over £5000. Projects that are eligible for funding are assessed against the priorities of the national framework for sport. However, decisions regarding funds are actually made by the nine regional sports boards and applications must also fit in with the regional funding criteria.

6.4 Sport England's mission is to increase participation in sport and active recreation by 1% every year to 2020. It is committed to investing in a coherent system for community sport and promoting a consistent framework for how sport is organised at a local level. County Sports Partnerships have responsibility for achieving increases in participation within their area and it is therefore important that discussions about each project are held with the CSP.

6.5 Projects must:

- directly increase participation in priority groups
- have secured or have strong indication of securing significant levels of partnership funding
- come from areas of social deprivation and that particularly benefit isolated rural communities
- develop more than one sport or activity.

(See <http://www.sportengland.org/> for more information)

Rugby Football Foundation

6.6 In January 2003, the Rugby Football Union (RFU) announced the commencement of this fund. Community rugby clubs can apply for grants and/or interest-free loans to fund capital facility projects which contribute to the recruitment and retention of players. This funding is available to clubs participating at Level 5 or below.

6.7 There are two different elements to the fund:

- Ground Match Grant Scheme: this provides easy-to-access grant funding for capital playing projects which contribute to the recruitment and retention of players. A list of projects that qualify for a grant will be sent to clubs on request as part of the application pack. All projects that qualify for a grant also qualify for the loan (see below). At present, clubs can apply for between £1,500 and £5,000, which they must equally match (i.e. 50:50). Clubs may only apply for one grant per project.
- Interest-free loan schemes: the interest-free loan scheme provides loans to clubs to help finance capital projects which contribute to the recruitment and retention of players. The key features of the scheme are:
 - loans will be interest-free (though if a club defaults on a capital payment, the whole loan will be subject to interest until the outstanding amounts are paid)
 - the maximum loan available is £100,000
 - the maximum loan period will be 15 years, including an initial two-year capital holiday
 - security will be required for the loan scheme in the form of either a charge over property or personal guarantees.

6.8 Clubs may apply for both a grant and a loan for the same project (providing that the appropriate conditions are met). A club could, therefore, apply for a maximum grant of £5,000 (providing it matches it with £5,000 of other funding) and a maximum loan of £100,000. Grants and loans will be awarded by the Trustees of the Rugby Football Foundation.

The Big Lottery Fund

6.9 The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) hands out half the good causes money from the National Lottery. It is committed to bringing real improvements to communities and the lives of people most in need. There is a range of grants available. Listed below are some of them that are most applicable to funding sports projects and improvements to outdoor sports facilities and voluntary sports clubs. For more information on the programme visit the website at <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/index/>

Awards for All

6.10 The Lottery Small Grants Scheme offers Awards for All grants of between £500 and £10,000 for small projects which involve people in their community. The Council could not directly apply for such funds but could work with clubs in order for them to apply.

Parks for People

- 6.11 This fund is committing £90 million over the next three years to parks and gardens in England. It aims to improve local environments and quality of life as well as making a lasting impact on the lives of local people and the places where they live.
- 6.12 Grants will range from £250,000 to £5m however the main aim is for improvements to a green space used for informal recreation and enjoyment. 25% of the project costs would need to be raised by the Council themselves, including at least 5% cash from the Council's own resources.

Reaching Communities

- 6.13 This lottery fund is about responding to the needs identified by communities, funding projects that help those most in need including people or groups who are hard to reach. It is a three-year programme that will give grants of more than £10,000 and up to £500,000, including a maximum of £50,000 for capital grants. The fund hopes to bring about the following changes:
- people having better chances in life, including being able to get better access to training and development to improve their life skills
 - strong communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems
 - improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy
 - healthier and more active people and communities.
- 6.14 Reaching Communities has proven to be a very popular and highly competitive programme. Competition for funds is very high, and difficult decisions have to be made, often resulting in very good projects not being funded. For more information visit http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_reaching_communities.htm?regioncode=-uk&progStatus=open&status=theProg&title=Reaching%20Communities

Landfill Tax Credit Scheme

- 6.15 The landfill tax credit scheme (LTCS) was introduced with the landfill tax in October 1996 and enables landfill site operators to donate up to 6.0 per cent of their landfill tax liability to environmental projects in return for a 90 per cent tax credit. The LTCS was designed to help mitigate the effects of landfill upon local communities. It encourages partnerships between landfill operators, their local communities and the voluntary and public sectors.
- 6.16 Landfill tax credits must be spent in compliance with the landfill tax regulations, which set the following objects for the LTCS:
- projects that involve reclaiming land, the use of which has been prevented by some previous activity
 - projects that reduce or prevent pollution on land
 - projects that provide or maintain public amenities or parks within 10 miles of a landfill site

- delivery of biodiversity conservation for UK species habitats
- projects to restore or repair buildings for religious worship, or of architectural or historical interest within 10 miles of a landfill site
- projects fund the cost of administrative, financial or other similar services, supplied to other enrolled environmental bodies.

6.17 For further information on this scheme go to the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme website <http://www.ltcs.org.uk/default.asp>

Young People's Fund

6.18 A further lottery funded programme is the Young People's Fund. This is designed to support projects which provide opportunities for young people in deprived areas. The projects must show that they are contributing towards keeping young people active, healthy, safe, enjoying activities and making a positive contribution to the community.

6.19 Applicants to the Young People's fund can be either young individuals, voluntary or community organisations. Grants between £250 and £5,000 are available to individuals aged between 11 and 25 years old. Community and voluntary organisations have been provided with a total of £40 million, to be divided into grants between £5,000 and £150,000 over a three-year period.

Sportsmatch

6.20 The Sportsmatch scheme is government funded and designed to match pound for pound funds raised. Funding is aimed at projects which aim to increase participation in sport at the grass root level and/or improve basic skills. Capital projects under £5,000 are considered but most of the annual £3.6 million pounds are aimed at revenue based projects. The maximum amount available is £50,000.

Lord Taverners

6.21 The Lord Taverners distribute funding for cricket projects through various County Cricket Boards. Grants of up to £6,000 are available for the installation and of non-turf pitches and practice ends. The Council cannot apply for funds directly but could work with other local organizations to prepare such a bid.

Barclays Spaces for Sport

6.22 The Barclays Spaces for Sports scheme is an exciting new partnership between Barclays, Groundwork and the Football Foundation, providing £30 million over three years to create or improve sports facilities in communities across the UK.

6.23 Seven flagship sites per year will be delivered with matched funding from the Football Foundation. A further number of smaller sites will also be created, offering basketball, netball, tennis through to skateboard and BMX tracks.

6.24 Every site will be supplied with sports equipment with further support available to help the community get the most out of the new facilities.

6.25 In terms of site selection, Barclays Spaces for Sports is a closed Scheme, which means the general public are not being asked to send in applications for the sites. Instead, Barclays will use and build upon the existing local networks of Groundwork and Football Foundation to identify potential sites.

Foundation for Sports and the Arts

6.26 The foundation for sports and the arts distribute monies collected by the football pools companies. The aim of the charity is to:

“increase participation in sports and the arts, especially amongst young people and those with more ability than resources”

6.27 Awards up to £100,000 have been awarded in the past, though such levels are unusual. It is not currently possible to make applications for football based projects.

Community Club Development Fund

6.28 This fund is distributed by Sport England but is actually funded directly from central government. £20 million was released to clubs in the period 2004 to 2006 and it is expected that further monies will be made available from March 2007.

6.29 The criteria for successfully applying for funding includes:

- projects which provide enhanced facilities for sports at clubs with inadequate existing provision
- projects which are demonstrably linked to other NGB priority development work e.g. volunteering, coaching talent development and club/school links
- projects serving clusters (e.g. through a Beacon club infrastructure) meeting the needs of several clubs/sports
- clubs able to provide the greatest sporting and community benefit in terms of contributing to improved health, community cohesion, crime prevention etc
- clubs in areas of both sporting and greatest social deprivation.

Developers

6.30 Through Section 106 agreements (see earlier in this Section).

6.31 It is assumed that sufficient financial resources will not be available immediately to meet all the identified needs. To ensure strategic development of all the potential projects in the city it is necessary to:

- give all partners, providers and users the opportunity to add to this long list of projects and ensure that it evolves as necessary throughout the course of this strategy
- develop a set of criteria against which projects can be judged, in order to assess which of the potential projects should be developed first
- make priorities against this criteria.

The Disability Discrimination Act (DDA)

6.32 The DDA aims to end the discrimination that many people with disabilities face. This act gives people with disabilities rights in the areas of:

- employment
- access to goods, facilities and services
- buying or renting land or property.

- 6.33 On 1 October 2004 the final stages of the goods, facilities and services provisions of Part III of the DDA came into force. The new duties will apply to all providers of services to the public where physical features make access to their services impossible or unreasonably difficult for people with disabilities.
- 6.34 The Disability Rights Commission (DRC) published the revised Code of Practice on this subject in February 2002. This statutory code, agreed by Parliament, provides detailed advice on the way the law will work, together with practical examples. This document can be obtained from www.drc-gb.org.
- the DRC list 18 types of services and facilities that are covered by the DDA, one of which is sport and leisure. Therefore, the Council should ensure that all their facilities comply with the DDA requirements. Some funding opportunities to help ensure facilities comply are shown below.

Children in Need

- 6.35 The BBC Children in Need Appeal gives grants to organisations with disadvantaged children and young people living in the United Kingdom. Applicants must be from properly constituted non-for-profit organisations, for example:
- self-help groups
 - voluntary organisations
 - registered charities.
- 6.36 This would make it unlikely that the Council could directly approach the fund, however it can encourage and assist disability groups in the area to apply to the fund. It should be noted that any application for funds must be for a project that starts within 12 months of the application date.

LloydsTSB foundation for England and Wales

- 6.37 The mission of this trust is:
- “to support and work in partnership with charitable organisation which help people, especially those who are disadvantaged or disabled, to play a fuller role in communities throughout England and Wales”*
- 6.38 The trust does not fund Councils directly and any application would be best served through a sports club or charitable organisation. Grants can be between £500 and £10,000.

Peter Harrison Foundation

- 6.39 The foundation runs a nationwide programme entitled “opportunities through sport” and only accepts application from organisations that are:
- registered charities – or
 - friendly societies or industrial provident societies – or
 - organisations whose charitable status is recognised by the Inland Revenue in Scotland or Northern Ireland.
- 6.40 The organisation will not fund projects that directly replace statutory funding or activities that are primarily the responsibility of central or local government.

Applicants can apply for up to a maximum of 3 years of revenue support and projects that are likely to be successful should include a high degree of community.

Developing a local standard

- 6.41 An important outcome from a Playing Pitch Strategy is the development of local standards of provision, in accordance with national planning policy. This is particularly important in light of significant development across Swindon borough. Such standards will:
- underpin negotiations with developers over their contributions towards new pitch provision to meet the needs of new residential developments
 - provide an additional overview of the general supply of pitches/level of provision
 - assist in protecting land in playing field use
 - assist in benchmarking with other areas/authorities.
- 6.42 The NPFA's Six Acre Standard states that for every 1,000 people, 1.2 hectares of playing pitches should be provided. However, this is a national benchmark and has little value at a local level as local standards can be as low as 0.4 or 0.5 in urban areas. Therefore local factors are of *vital importance* when establishing a local standard.
- 6.43 PPG17 advocates the development of local standards that consider the local population and local community needs. This playing pitch standard reflects local demand for football, cricket and rugby pitches in the borough.
- 6.44 The existing and future local standard has been calculated in Table 6.11 overleaf. The existing standard is based upon the current supply of pitches (measured in area) in each analysis area, divided by the population in that analysis area. The current level of provision is therefore equivalent to 0.66ha per 1000 population.
- 6.45 Playing pitch methodology calculations outline where current shortfalls and surpluses exist for each type of sport, and suggest potential solutions to ensure that provision meets the needs of the community.
- 6.46 The future local standard calculation is based upon the findings of this report for 2011. It takes into account the additional (or surplus) pitches identified within this report in 2011 and calculates the required area per thousand population, which is 0.70 ha. The current level of provision required is higher than the existing standard, highlighting the additional pitches required to meet demand in the future. This additional demand will result from both the projected population increases and likely increases in participation. This considers a minimum level of provision only and does not take into account the recommended strategic reserve.
- 6.47 In addition to providing pitches to meet a minimum quantity standard, it is important to allow for the rest and recovery of sites. It is therefore suggested that an additional 10% is added onto the standard to allow for this (this links to the recommendation regarding strategic reserve). It is therefore recommended that the local standard is set at 0.77ha per 1000 population.

Table 6.10: Development of a local standard

Developing a local standard for Swindon Borough Council							
(a) Current situation 2006							
Hectares per 1,000 population of accessible pitches							
Central Cluster sub-area	=	0.30	hectares per 1,000 population				
East Cluster sub-area	=	0.61	hectares per 1,000 population				
North Cluster sub-area	=	0.31	hectares per 1,000 population				
Rural sub-area	=	1.83	hectares per 1,000 population				
South Cluster sub-area	=	0.55	hectares per 1,000 population				
West Cluster sub-area	=	0.72	hectares per 1,000 population				
Swindon Borough Council	=	0.66	hectares per 1,000 population				
(b) Additional pitches needed by 2011							
Sub-area	adult football pitches	junior football pitches	mini football pitches	cricket pitches	adult rugby pitches	junior rugby pitches	artificial hockey pitches
Central Cluster	-1	0.3	4.2	5.5	0	0	0
East Cluster	-8.7	4.5	-1.9	-0.1	0	5	0
North Cluster	-1.5	-1.5	0	-0.5	0	0	0
Rural	-8.2	14.3	22.5	-0.8	-1	0	0
South Cluster	-4.2	6.3	6.3	3.1	0.3	-0.5	0
West Cluster	-2.1	5.7	10.6	0.9	0.5	0	0
Total	-25.7	29.6	41.7	8.1	-0.2	4.5	0
Total Additional Pitch Area required for Swindon Borough Council					17.37 hectares		
(c) Recommended new standard for 2011							
<small>(taking into account additional needs and increases in population)</small>							
Central Cluster	=	0.55	hectares per 1,000 population				
East Cluster	=	0.55	hectares per 1,000 population				
North Cluster	=	0.20	hectares per 1,000 population				
Rural	=	1.58	hectares per 1,000 population				
South Cluster	=	0.68	hectares per 1,000 population				
West Cluster	=	0.85	hectares per 1,000 population				
Swindon Borough Council	=	0.70	hectares per 1,000 population				

6.48 The local standard should be used in order to ascertain the level of input from developers as it states the required amount of land per 1000 population. For example, a development providing housing for 1000 people would be expected to provide sufficient funding for 0.77 hectares of playing pitch provision. The most appropriate type of provision (i.e. the sport where there is the highest need) should then be determined using the results of the playing pitch methodology. In some cases where there are no deficiencies it may be appropriate to fund the enhancement of existing pitches. A developer should only be asked to fund the additional shortfalls their development will create. They cannot be asked to make up existing deficiencies.