



Environmental Sustainability and Funding Webinar for Sports Clubs

The Funding Workshop will cover;



What is Environmental Sustainability and what is the impact on sport



Ideas of what Sports Clubs can do to be more Environmentally Sustainable



Case Study examples of Sports Clubs receiving funding to improve their clubs/facilities whilst incorporating environmental sustainability into their planning and development



Funding Streams that might support Environmental Sustainability for sports clubs and organisations



What is Environmental Sustainability and what is the impact on sport

What is Environmental Sustainability?

Environmental sustainability is the responsibility to conserve natural resources and protect global ecosystems to support health and wellbeing, now and in the future.

So, what is the impact on sport?



- Cricket Climate Crisis: <https://youtu.be/VvZmkTdwPFU>
- Sport 2050 Climatecast – a weather forecast for the future: <https://www.bbc.co.uk/sport/56972367>
- Buddle: Tackling Climate Change – Sustainable Sport: <https://youtu.be/8tZwEbWRduU>



Cancellations due to extreme weather conditions e.g.,

- Flooding - waterlogged pitches due to heavy rain or flooding making pitches and facilities unusable.
- Heat - high temperatures making it unsafe to play. Drought can't canoe/sail
- Cold - cancellations due to frozen pitches.
- Wind - storms and high winds damaging roofs, large pieces of equipment and facilities,

Not just outdoor sports, but indoor sports to:

- High cost of fossil fuel energy sources making the cost of utilities unaffordable.
- Increases in venue hire and the knock-on effects on memberships or the cost to play.

Also, Events, Races, Tournaments, Open Day's and Gala's

- Energy use – from generators and in facilities (gas and electricity)
- Waste – temporary nature of events means lots of single use, convenience products
- Transport – event and logistics vehicles, supplier vehicles, participant and spectator transport, staff and volunteer transport
- Materials – signage, branding, merchandise, kit, equipment
- Food & drink – for athletes, staff, participants, spectators and fans
- Water – for drinking, catering, toilets, irrigation, cleaning, cooling
- Nature – impacts on habitat and biodiversity from disturbance, trampling and pollution

Sports and physical activity sector

Environmental Sustainability Consultation 2023



**SPORT
ENGLAND**

sportscotland

*sportwales
chwaraeon cymru*

usefulprojects

Executive Summary

Survey: Headline Findings

475



survey respondents from across GB

82%



want their organisations to be **ambitious** on environmental sustainability

58%



said **energy consumption** is a key environmental challenge, irrespective of whether they own their own facilities

76



different sports and activities represented

58%



consider **reliance on cars** as their organisation's greatest environmental impact

56%



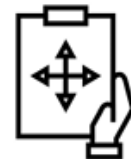
said **moral and ethical reasons** are the strongest drivers for action, closely followed by business resilience and saving money

86%



of respondents believe their organisations are either somewhat or very **knowledgeable** on sustainability issues

25%



of organisations have never tried to access **sustainability advice**

55%



of organisations see **lack of funding** as the greatest **barrier** to acting on environmental sustainability

Focus areas for support

The key environmental challenges that the sector would like support to tackle are:

- **Travel:** Reducing carbon emissions associated with travel to/from the places where sports and physical activity takes place (training/competitions etc).
- **Buildings:** Reducing energy consumption and carbon emissions from buildings.
- **Circular economy:** reducing consumption and waste associated with kit, equipment and general operations.
- **Water quality and use:** improving water quality (rivers/lakes/sea), managing rising water costs, managing flooding and drought on outdoor pitches and urban green spaces.
- **Adapting to climate change and extreme weather events:** to maintain the sector's ability to participate in sport and physical activity, now and in the future.



Ideas of what Sports Clubs can do to be more Environmentally Sustainable

10 Top Tips to help your club be more environmentally Friendly



1. START MAKING SIMPLE ENERGY-SAVING CHANGES

Simple things like turning down your heating a notch, adding thermostats to radiators, draught proofing and turning off appliances at the socket all help us to save energy and save money!

You can also be savvy with your lighting, replacing your light bulbs with energy efficient LED ones, while motion sensor lights in changing rooms, hallways, and toilets can also be a good idea. Meanwhile, eco-shower heads can help save energy and water and cost as little as £15.

2. MAKE YOUR FACILITIES MORE ENERGY EFFICIENT

- Swapping old energy-intensive floodlights for modern LED floodlights
- Switching to solar energy.
- Better insulation,
- a more modern boiler

3. TRAVEL IN A GREEN WAY

Travel to training and competitions all adds up and impacts on our environment. One way of reducing fuel emissions is to encourage club members to walk, cycle or catch public transport to your training sessions and matches, whenever possible. Or if they do really need to use a car then they could share lifts instead of driving solo.

4. REDUCE YOUR PLASTIC WASTE

Changing your club's culture around the use of plastic can have a big impact e.g., refusing to sell bottled water and provide easy access to drinking water instead, encouraging people to refill their own water bottles.

5. MAKE YOUR SPORTS GROUNDS ECO-FRIENDLY

Chemical fertilisers and pesticides pollute the local water supply and endanger local wildlife. However, more and more companies now offer greener alternatives to help you maintain an organic sports pitch.

Try harvesting your rainwater to help with watering in the summer months and composting your grass clippings. In the off season, leave the grass to grow to attract wildlife.

6. LET NATURE THRIVE

If you have outdoor space, think about areas where you can leave the grass grow long to help create a busy wildlife habitat. Dandelions, buttercups, and clover are all great sources of food for pollinators – so don't be tempted to weed them out.

7. SWITCH YOUR CLUB'S CURRENT ACCOUNT TO AN ETHICAL BANK

Deciding where to bank can, surprisingly, have a big impact on the environment as many invest in fossil fuel companies. To help you decide whether to switch, take a look at [Ethical Consumer](#) which rates the ethical and environmental record of 31 UK current accounts.

8. SWITCH TO A GREEN ENERGY SUPPLIER

Consider switching/taking a look at green tariffs.

Green energy suppliers get their energy from renewable sources such as hydro, solar, wave or wind power so it's a great way to reduce your carbon footprint.

9. GENERATOR USE

Use HVO fuel in generators rather than diesel or use battery or hybrid.

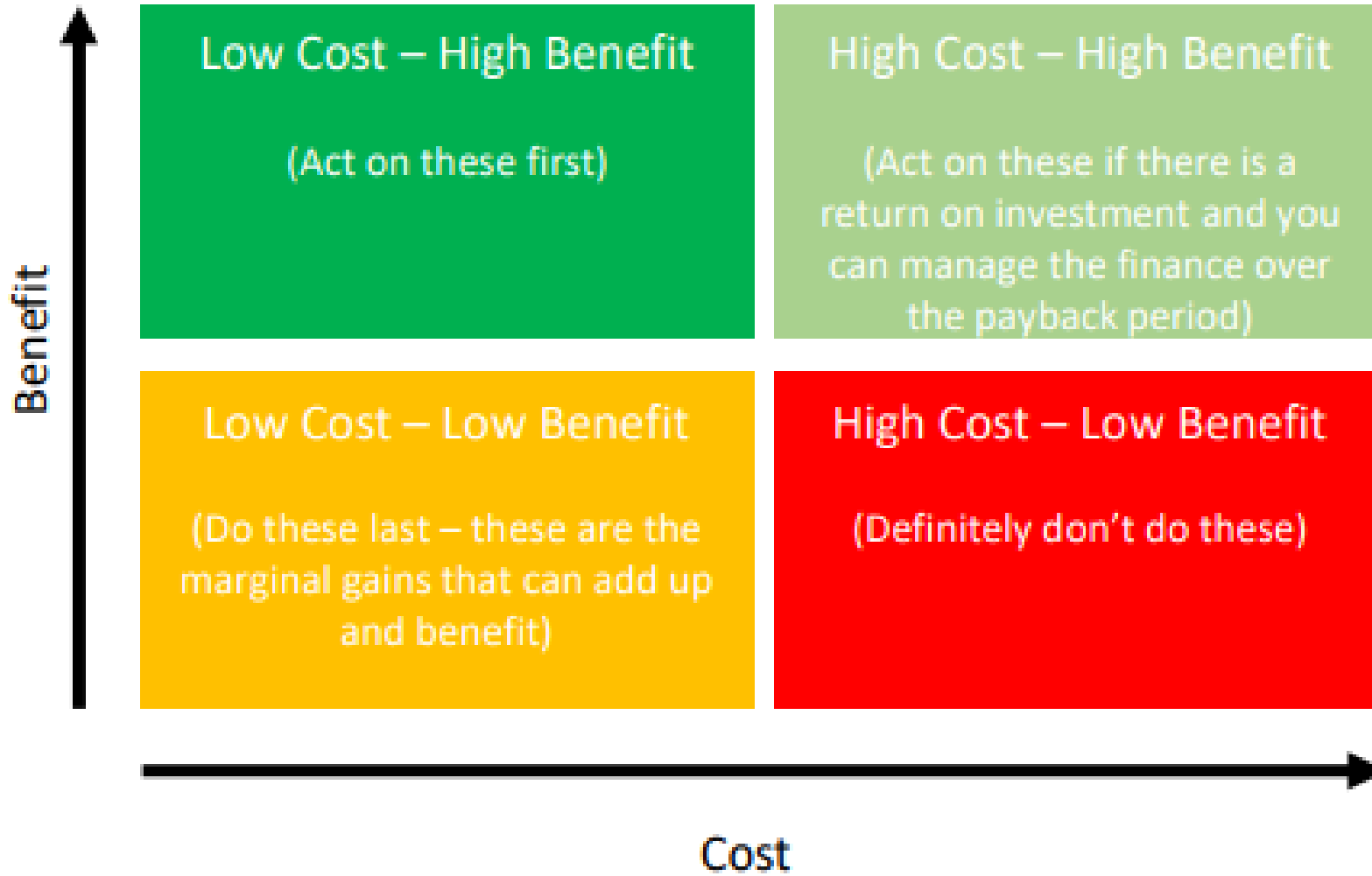
10. RECYCLE AND REUSE

Get as much life as possible out of sports kit by passing it on to younger members. And encourage members to think about passing on or selling equipment, such as cycling shoes or football boots once they've outgrown it.

Make sure you have clearly labelled recycling bins and make use of your local recycling services for things like furniture, electrical items and batteries.

Here are a few potential partners....

- Buying & donating pre-loved sports kit - [Graasboots](#)
- Swimming pools (recycling scheme) - [Leisure Loop](#)
- Recycle your sports shoes - [Jog on again](#)



Low Cost - High Benefit, Fundable Items

1. INSTALL ENERGY SAVING DEVICES & CONTROLS

Adding thermostats, energy efficient LED light bulbs, smart meters, motion sensor lights and eco-shower heads.

2. INSULATE YOUR HOT WATER SYSTEM AND FIX LEAKS

Insulating your hot water tank and pipes, and fixing dripping taps can save 17-18% of your energy costs and help to save water too.

3. INSULATE YOUR LOFT OR ROOF SPACE

Adding 270 mm of insulation to an uninsulated loft can cut energy bills by nearly a third!

4. DRAUGHT PROOFING

Draught-proofing is one of the cheapest and most effective ways to save energy and money in any type of building.

5. REPLACE EXISTING APPLIANCES WITH ENERGY EFFICIENT NEW MODELS

Do this as part of your replacement cycle for appliances and equipment.

6. INSULATING WALLS AND FLOORS

Up to a third of heat can escape through poorly insulated walls and floors.

7. INSTALLING NEW WINDOWS AND DOORS

Replacing single glazing and poorly insulated doors can cut energy consumption by up to 10%

8. REPLACE YOUR OLD BOILER WITH A MORE EFFICIENT ONE

Replacing a G-rated (low efficiency) boiler with a new A-rated (high efficiency) boiler can reduce energy consumption by 22%.

9. INSTALL AN AIR-SOURCE HEAT PUMP

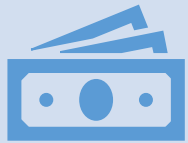
An air source heat pump transfers heat from outside air to water to heat your building and water tank.

10. INSTALL SOLAR-PV PANELS

In the right conditions, solar photovoltaic (PV) panels can save you having to buy electricity from the grid.

Useful links to helpful hints, tips and guidance specifically for Sports Club to be more Environmentally Sustainable

- Sport England: [Sustainability | Sport England](#)
- ECB: [England and Wales Cricket Board \(ECB\) - The Official Website of the ECB](#)
- The Football Foundation: <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/energy-saving-hints-tips>
- LTA: [Become a more sustainable venue | LTA](#)
- Herts Sports & Physical Activity Partnership (HSP) – Designing & delivering sustainable sports events webinar: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Uk_dTxqGadE
- HSP: <https://sportinherts.org.uk/Supporting-Sustainable-Sport-in-Hertfordshire>



Case Study examples of Sports Clubs receiving funding to improve their clubs/facilities whilst incorporating environmental sustainability into their planning and development

At Corbridge CC, Northumberland, the changing pavilion was flood proofed by design and the new social pavilion was built above flood level.



Photo credit: Corbridge CC, Northumberland.



*The club before external insulation was fitted.
Photo credit: Carnforth CC, Lancashire.*

At Carnforth CC, Lancashire, new cladding, doors and windows were installed to create a better insulated building, reducing energy consumption and operating costs. It also gave the club a more modern and welcoming look and feel.



Addington CC in Kent installed a rainwater harvesting system that collects rainwater from the roofs of buildings on site and stores this in a tank underground.



CASE STUDY

Fillongley Cricket Club in Warwickshire have partnered with their local Woodland and Wildlife Trusts to enhance their natural environment and encourage biodiversity. Fillongley were recognised as national winners of the inaugural Tackling Climate Change award at the ECB Grassroots Cricket Awards in 2022.

Case Study Keswick FC

Total project cost – £962,971

Keswick FC is located within the conservation area of the Lakes National Park. The changing rooms serve both football and cricket and the traditional pavilion style was sensitively designed to meet stringent planning conditions including locally quarried Lakeland slate for the roof.

In addition to the four team changing rooms plus officials' facilities, the building also included a dual use meeting/function room meaning that the building would be in constant use. For this reason it was decided to install a sustainable energy supply and included under-floor heating from a ground source heat pump.



Case Study Hemyock Parish Council

Total project cost – £289,215

Hemyock and the surrounding villages in Devon had inadequate sports facilities to serve its two football clubs, a tennis club and two primary schools. The new changing rooms will serve new pitches that had been developed from pastureland. The building incorporates many environmentally sustainable features including a ground source heat pump providing hot water and under floor heating, solar panels to supplement the hot water system, a well insulated sedum roof that reduces rainwater run-off, and sun tubes providing lighting to the changing rooms in-lieu of external windows.



CLIENT

St Mary's RFU

SECTOR

Leisure & Tourism

TECHNOLOGY

Solar panels and
battery storage

SYSTEM SIZE

42kWp

PAYBACK PERIOD

4 years

25-YEAR SAVINGS

£360,000

ESTIMATED ANNUAL OUTPUT

39,177kWh

ANNUAL CO2 SAVINGS

8.32 tonnes



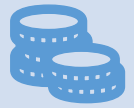
Purley Bury Tennis Club switched to LED and minimise light pollution and save money



Sport Wales has announced nearly a million pounds of funding from their Energy Savings Grant that will be used to improve energy efficiency and sustainability at community sports clubs across Wales. Examples include:

- Hawarden Golf Club will use their £22,996 grant to install a new system to capture and recycle rainwater so that it can be used to wash down various machinery used at the golf club such as tractors, grass cutters and buggies. This will greatly reduce the club's reliance on mains water.
- At Stow Park Lawn Tennis Club in Newport, heat is currently escaping their clubhouse faster than a Novak Djokovic serve. Thanks to their maximum £25,000 grant, they'll upgrade their windows and doors, replace their lighting with energy efficient LEDs, buy a new hot water heater, and install solar panels together with battery storage.

- Rhyl Rugby Club, who received a £20,473 grant to install solar panels which are expected to save the club approximately £4,500 per year while also reducing their carbon footprint.
- The tennis club at Cowbridge and District Athletics Club will use their grant of £2,261 to install a contactless INTEC reader system that allows club members to pay for the court floodlights by debit or credit card to prevent floodlights being used unnecessarily or left on when not needed.
- Monmouth Rowing Club received £2,634 of funding will be used to install new LED lighting and motion sensors at the club's boat house.
- Hay St Mary's FC received £22,356 of funding which will go towards the sustainable construction of a single-storey, timber-framed clubhouse at Hay St Mary's FC, including insulation and energy efficient heating.



Funding Streams that might support Environmental Sustainability for sports clubs and organisations

Funding support available for flood-damaged facilities

Sport England through periods of extreme weather accept applications from organisations who have impacted by recent storms and flooding. This is done through their Small Grants Programme.

The available funding focuses on areas worst affected by recent storms and they highlight these on their website. They also prioritise sports and activities that need to return quickly.

You can find out more about this here: <https://www.sportengland.org/support-available-flood-damaged-facilities>

National Lottery's Awards for All

Amount you can apply for: £300 - £20,000

8-to-10-week turnaround of your application.

No deadline

Funding Priorities

- Bring people together and build strong relationships in and across communities
- Improve the places and spaces that matter to communities
- Enable more people to fulfil their potential by working to address issues at the earliest possible stage
- Support people, communities and organisations facing more demands and challenges because of the cost-of-living crisis.

What they've funded that fits the Environmentally Sustainable Agenda

- New roofs and insulation
- Installing new window and doors
- Replacing older boilers and heating systems
- Installing new toilets and taps
- New Kitchen including replacing existing appliances with energy efficient new models
- New Hot Water Systems
- Replacing new plumbing and electricity including thermostats, energy efficient LED light bulbs, and motion sensor lights.

What won't they fund?

- Routine repairs and maintenance
- Existing activities and repeat or regular events
- Day-to-day running costs
- Projects or activities that the state has a legal obligation to provide e.g. Council should provide this
- Larger equipment
- Fundraising activities
- Solar panels

Projects where the main purpose is to increase participation in sport, arts or heritage

Awards for All Advice Line: 0345 4102 30

Email: general.enquiries@tnlcommunityfund.org.uk

Website;

www.tnlcommunityfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/national-lottery-awards-for-all-england

Landfill Funding

- FCC Community Action Fund; <https://fcccommunitiesfoundation.org.uk/apply/caf>
- Biffa: <http://www.biffa-award.org/recreation/>
- Valencia Community Fund: <https://www.valenciacommunitiesfund.co.uk/>
- Veolia: [http://www.veoliatrust.org/funding/index.php?page=Postcode Checker 1](http://www.veoliatrust.org/funding/index.php?page=Postcode%20Checker%201)
- Suez: <https://grantscape.org.uk/fund/suez-communities-fund/postcodechecker/>



A tax credit scheme enabling operators of landfill sites to contribute money to organisations enrolled with ENTRUST as Environmental Bodies (EBs). In turn, EBs are keen to fund community projects that help to improve open spaces, recreation grounds and sports facilities near landfill sites. This is capital funding only.

The amount they fund tend to vary per landfill funder but on overage they range from between £10,000 - £75,000.

Your sports club/organisation needs to be in an eligible area, which depending on the landfill funder tends to range between a 5-and 10-mile radius from the club to the landfill site. You can use the postcode checker from the previous slide to check if you are in an eligible area.

Work could include physical improvements to a facility, i.e. new windows, access improvements, refurbishment work or landscaping.

Physical improvements cover a wide range of work. Examples of projects eligible for funding that using the right materials etc., could support environmental sustainability include:

- Replacement walls, floors, doors and windows including draught proofing as part of this
- Installation of water control measures, drainage works and ditching
- Kitchens and Toilets including hot water systems linked to this.
- Installing an air-source heat pump
- Heating e.g., replace your old boiler with a more efficient one, including renewable energy technology such as install energy saving devices & controls,
- Lighting
- Some (not all) support Solar Panels.

VCSE Energy Efficiency Scheme

£25.5 million scheme to help voluntary and community organisations in England improve their energy efficiency.

The first part of the scheme focuses on the cost and delivery of an independent energy assessment and is open for applications until August 2024.

The second part of the scheme, which focuses on the installation of energy efficiency measures to those with energy assessments closed on the 29th February 2024, but there are two more rounds which will open in April and July 2024.



This part of the funding are for eligible installations, backed by an Independent Energy Assessment (IEA), include (and therefore ideal for Sports Clubs):

- Building insulation enhancements (insulation, draft-proofing, glazing and thermal doors)
- Space and water heating measures (efficient boilers, heating controls, etc.)
- Lighting upgrades (light fittings and lighting controls)
- Renewable energy measures that reduce energy costs

All projects funded by Capital Grants must be completed by March 2025.

To find out more click here: <https://www.groundwork.org.uk/vcseenergyefficiency-capital/>

Planning Gain Monies: Section 106 Monies / Community Infrastructure Levy

Funding for Outdoor Sport and Play using section 106 housing developer contributions based on the loss of green space due to changes in land use mainly for the development of housing.

Funding varies based on the value and size of the land being built on, and the funding is for capital items only e.g. sporting and recreational facilities, where a local organisation is looking to develop or improve facilities, it needs to include appropriate arrangements for wider community use.

ECB County Grant Fund

One of the funds prioritise is 'Tackling Climate Change.' This covers:

- Flood Resilience – building protection/targeted drainage/ ditch or culvert clearance
- Drought Resilience – rainwater harvesting/bore holes/irrigation
- Energy Saving – Insulation/LED lighting/Solar PV/Solar Thermal/energy-efficient heating systems/double or triple glazing/EV Chargers
- Water Management – Water-saving sanitaryware/greywater recycling /efficient appliances
- Electric mower or roller (maximum grant of 25% of costs only)

Clubs can apply for between £1,000 (minimum) and £10,000 (maximum per application)

Find out more on the fund here: [England and Wales Cricket Board \(ECB\) - The Official Website of the ECB](#)

See funding guidance here: [P647 County-Grant-Funds-Guidance-2023-V11.pdf \(ecb.co.uk\)](#)

Football Foundation – Energy Support Programme

Last year the Football Foundation opened a new £6M Programme providing support for clubs and organisations to become more energy-efficient.

They did this through 2 funds which are currently closed: The Energy Fund and The Floodlight Fund.

Although both of these funds are currently closed for Expression of Interest, it is hoped they will open back up again at a later date.

Find out more on the fund here: <https://footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/energy-support-programme>

Sport England Active Together: 'Crowdfunding'

Active Together is a Sport England crowdfunding initiative that can match fund, up to £10,000.

This investment aims to help community sport and physical activity organisations fund sports projects.

With expert advice and guidance to support you, this will help local clubs and organisations to run their own crowdfunding campaigns, fundraising

They offer free 1-2-1 coaching by experts, advice and guidance on campaign improvements, access to free online courses and free monthly 30-minute webinars.

Pledge Criteria

If your application is approved, you'll get match funding of up to 50% towards your initial crowdfunding target, up to a maximum of £10,000.

To receive a pledge, you will need to do two things (the 'pledge conditions'):

- 1) raise at least 25% of your initial target,
- 2) raise this from a minimum number of supporters

Following receipt of a pledge you will also need to reach 100% of your initial funding target to receive the funds from Sport England.

You can find out more here; <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/funds/active-together>

Other possible smaller Funds Include:

- Aviva Community Fund (crowdfunding): <https://www.avivacommunityfund.co.uk/>
- Co-op Local Community Fund: <https://causes.coop.co.uk/>
- Asda Foundation; <https://www.asdafoundation.org/>
- Persimmon Homes: <https://www.persimmonhomes.com/building-futures>
- Tesco Community Grants: <https://tescobagsofhelp.org.uk/>

Other Avenues e.g Fundraising platforms:

GiveToLocal - <https://www.givetolocal.com/>

Easyfundraising - <https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/>

JustGiving - <https://www.justgiving.com/>

SNAP Sponsorship - <https://www.snapsponsorship.com/>

Funding 4 Sport

Funding 4 Sport is a sports funding consultancy which provides a range of services to support those seeking sports funding.

The main areas funding support we offer include;

- Free Funding Advice – 1.1 over the phone or groups via Zoom/Microsoft Teams
- Looking over written bids for free
- Funding Bid Writing Service – ‘No Win, No Fee’
- Funding 4 Sport Website – www.funding4sport.co.uk

- Free 1-1 Bid Writing Service for Sport & Physical Activity Projects that improve Environmentally Sustainability in Hertfordshire
- Please click [here](#) for more detail about the offer and to register your interest.

Free 1-1 bid writing service for projects improving environmental sustainability

We will support up to 10 sport and physical activity projects contributing to environmental sustainability.



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Receive the latest funding opportunities

Contact Information

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Questions