



COVID-19 SPORT ENGLAND RETURN TO PLAY FUND

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SPORT ENGLAND RETURN TO PLAY FUND

Who is it available to?

- The [Return to Play Fund](#) will support rugby clubs create coronavirus-secure settings for rugby to resume this winter.
- Sport England have created a fund chooser tool to find out which of our funds your project may be eligible for which they recommend to use. There are some simple questions they point you in the right direction and save time.
- The Return to Play Fund will **especially seek** to support those groups and organisations working with audiences we've identified as finding it more difficult to be active at this time.

What is it?

- Sport England have launched a new £21.5 million fund to give additional help to the sport and physical activity sector during the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic.
- The [Return to Play Fund](#) will support groups, rugby clubs who've been impacted by restrictions brought in to tackle the disease.

How do we access it?

[Return to Play Fund](#)
[Crowdfunder](#)

HIGHEST PRIORITY

Projects located in areas of high deprivation (decile 1-3 of the Indices of Deprivation). To see which decile your project location fits into, [you can use this postcode checker](#).

OTHER FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Organisations working with Black, Asian and minority ethnic communities, people on lower incomes, disabled people, people with long-term health conditions and people experiencing a greater burden of care because of coronavirus.
- Organisations that don't have a significant level of reserve funding available to utilise.

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The £21.5 million fund is split into three strands:

£15M RETURN TO PLAY SMALL GRANTS (open until 30/6/21)	£5M - RETURN TO PLAY: COMMUNITY ASSET FUND	£1.5M - RETURN TO PLAY: ACTIVE TOGETHER
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This will provide grants of between £300 and £10,000 to help rugby clubs and organisations respond to the immediate challenges of returning to play in a Covid-19-safe environment. It will have flexible priorities, to be able to best respond to the frequently changing challenges posed to community sport.• Organisations based in Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 1-5 can now seek support towards ongoing running costs - eg rent, utilities and insurance. This is capped at a maximum of £3,000 and will only be considered with an eligible funding request. Running costs on their own will not be supported. Please see more details in the 'what we can fund' section.• Areas where the fund could help include having to deliver rugby in smaller groups, having the correct sanitation and safety equipment, not having enough sports equipment to safely deliver activities and having the appropriate training for club volunteers to ensure you're meeting the current guidelines.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This will provide grants ranging in value from £10,001 to £50,000.• It will help local rugby clubs and organisations to adapt and open important places and spaces that can help them welcome back their local community safely.• This will include helping rugby clubs and organisations address the challenges they're facing by:<ul style="list-style-type: none">– adapting how they use space and improving ventilation– converting existing space to meet social distancing requirements, such as additional changing space– making improvements to buildings or open spaces for temporary use to get more people active by using a vacant warehouse, shop or community centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• This crowdfunding initiative will help sports clubs and organisations set up their own campaigns to help sustain them through the crisis.• It's a great alternative if they don't meet the priority groups of the other parts of the Return to Play package, and we'll match crowd funds of up to £10,000 to help cover the loss of income.• The partnership with Crowdfunder will also include advice, guidance and training to help create successful campaigns• Eligible organisations/activities in IMD 6-10 locations can apply to the crowdfunding option, to seek support towards running costs.