

The Impact of Small Grant Funding on Sports Clubs and Community Groups

The following projects received grants of between £2,000 and £5,000, through different pots of funding, all to deliver activities aiming to achieve specific social outcomes through sport.

Mental Health

“The Building Stronger Communities Fund has enabled our team in Manchester to support young people who were profoundly impacted by the pandemic to lead healthier, happier lives. With over 95% of our young people now experiencing two or more mental health needs this support is vitally important.”

“The core costs have supported us to manage the delivery of our ‘Reset & Grow’ programmes through collaboration with local schools and community groups across Essex. We have reached 200+ young people ranging from 9 – 19 years of age, male / female and from different communities. The beneficiaries have learnt how to make positive changes that benefit both mind and body, discovering how sport can improve overall health and wellbeing, as well as confidence and fitness. The programmes encourage a growth mindset, improved self-esteem along with coping mechanisms and skills to face future challenges.”

“The majority of people in the community have been negatively impacted by the pandemic due to isolation etc. The grant enabled our organisation run activities for members of the community to come together, exercise and provide them with support and engagement to keep them mentally and physically healthy.”

Inequalities in Participation

“The Building Stronger Communities Fund has allowed us to continue to deliver innovative career training to disenfranchised young people who were disproportionately affected by the pandemic. The grant will also help to offer new activities to young people that would have otherwise been inaccessible and break down barriers to participation.”

Crime and ASB

“Police are reporting the positive influence that we are having. Parents are also telling us how the project is having a positive influence on their children”.

“The funding has helped get the Bus back out into our community this Summer - we are now able to use sporting activities at the bus in order to engage youngsters, meeting them in their space, to tackle and educate on the dangers of County Lines.”

Safe Spaces

“The Building Stronger Communities Fund has helped us to continue to deliver rugby sessions and safe, supportive spaces for vulnerable young people who are at risk of exclusion. These sessions are so important as they provide our young people with something to look forward to during their week and a place they know they will not be judged.”

‘The Building Stronger Communities Fund has allowed us to continue embedding life skills in young people through sports. The grant helped us to tap into the wider community and offer services to many young people in need of a safe and welcoming space post-covid.’

Community Cohesion

“The Building Stronger Communities Fund has helped us to support our school twinning programme, which involves pairing a predominantly Catholic school with a predominantly Protestant school. We have been able to invite the Lord Mayor of Belfast to visit a school to see the basketball sessions in action which was a fantastic opportunity to have a community leader inspiring the young people of a newly formed cross community group.”

“The community have a safe space that young people can attend, improve their wellbeing and learn about issues and topics that maybe affecting the community”

“We provided employability skills training and social sports to our members on a weekly basis, resulting in: 70% of participants on the project continue to further education after the project. 90% of participants on the project have more confidence in communicating and networking with other participants, feeling free and confident to participate in job interviews, online radio/TV activities as a direct impact of the funds, with GVI's impact, specifically felt by these group.”

Life Skills

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