

Funding opportunities, Partners and Programmes

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Recommendation 6.7.1 – Fitzpatrick's Review:

- Commitment of continued funding: the existing LSPs should be given a commitment of continued funding for a period of three years, after which it is envisaged that a minimum of 50% of core costs would be provided by local agencies

Timeframe

- 3 years from final agreement with Department.
- Structure in place by the end of 2009.

Key Points

- The new structure should not be seen as a reduction of current funding levels.
- It is “in addition to” annual ISC grant by way of matching funding.
- Calculations can be made on the basis of all LSP activities, projects & programmes.
- Greater emphasis on the “*value & importance*” of the Partner Agencies, local stakeholders & other interests incl. commercial
- Contributions to the Partnership are much more diverse and varied than just financial.

Questions to ask!

- What Agencies/Groups/Volunteers are represented on the Board, and how can we put a value on this time? Agreed % figure!
- What agency staff, help with other aspects of our work?
- Is our Partnership accommodated by one of the Partners, and if so what other services do we benefit from? Eg: photocopying, printing, postage, telephones, meeting rooms, etc
- What are the arrangements for storage in particular for Buntus equipment?
- What funding do we receive from any source including the Irish Sports Council which is separate to our annual LSP grant?
 - » State Sector eg: Dormant Accounts, Justice Equality & Law Reform
 - » Partner Agencies eg: Local Authority, HSE, FAS,
 - » Non Partner Agencies
 - » Sponsorship/Commercial Sector
- Does your Partnership benefit from direct Sponsorship?
- Do you have media sponsors who provide regular access to promotion of events and LSP programmes?

- Is your Partnership involved in any research projects either directly or indirectly?
- What facilities do we use for our courses/programmes which are provided at a reduced or no cost?

General LSP Grant Information

In 2008, the Irish Sports Council (ISC) will be providing support to the Local Sport Partnerships (LSP) on the basis of the conditions and criteria outlined in this documentation.

Applications will be assessed on the basis of their response to the action items identified in the Local Sports Strategy submitted by the partnerships to the ISC. Applications will also be considered in relation to the size and population of the operational area, the administrative structure in place, the support and involvement of partner agencies, the funding secured by the LSP from other sources, previous ISC funding and progress to date

Funding will be paid out in two instalments of 75% and 25%.

The first payment of 75% will be paid on compliance with the following conditions: -

- Receipt of application form
- Organisation compliance with terms and conditions of the ISC if funded in the previous year
- Signed grant recipient agreement form on file (see end of application form)
- Adherence to ISC Code of Ethics policies
- A current Tax Clearance Certificate on file (applicable to Limited Companies only)

The second payment of 25% will only be paid following receipt of: -

- Audited Accounts for the previous year
- Mid year report
- Notes from the most recent AGM including annual report by Local Sports Coordinator
- A current Tax Clearance Certificate (applicable to Limited Companies only)

This information should be submitted as soon as they become available to the partnership

Income from sources other than the ISC should be **CLEARLY** highlighted in the accounts e.g. cross border funding, contributions from partner agencies, EU funding, sponsorship, etc

Local Sports Partnership Application Form

In the funding application process, LSPs will be asked to provide details in relation to the following areas: -

Partnership Details

1. Partnership Details

- Contact details for the LSP including email address (es) and website address.
- Board Member details such as Chairperson, Treasurer, Secretary, etc
- Staff details, employer details and end date if applicable (e.g. student placement for certain period, specific term contract staff).
- Company/Structure details

Any changes of these details should be notified to the ISC immediately and recorded in the administration/information section of the following mid year report.

Local Sports Partnership Core Funding Measure

1. Strategic Planning

LSPs will be asked to give an update on their Strategic Planning process covering the following:

- Current stage of planning process
- Main outcomes achieved in previous year in relation to Strategic Plan (if the strategic plan is completed)
- If the Partnership has a different format for reporting on its strategic objectives/actions, this can be submitted instead of this section of the form.

2. Core Funding – Projected Budget 2008

Income

Income from sources other than the ISC should be **CLEARLY** highlighted in these accounts e.g. cross border funding, contributions from partner agencies, EU funding, sponsorship, etc.

Expenditure

Core funding will be made available under the following headings:

Administration

Staff – Salaries, Employer PRSI costs for core staff (LSP Coordinator and Administrator), Pension contributions, and Recruitment costs (for new LSPs)

Non-staff – Office (rental and bills), Equipment, Stationary and printing (generic and branded stationary), Postage and telephone, Travel and subsistence, Health and safety, Audit/Accountancy, Legal, and Insurance

Strategic Planning

Consultancy/Facilitator fees, Consultation meeting expenses and research, Publication, and Launch costs

Communications Plan

Coordination, information and awareness activities such as Marketing and PR, Public meetings and road shows, Printing and design of publications (excluding strategic plan), the production of a Sports directory or database, and the development/production, etc of a website

Recommendations for all applications for under Core Funding

Core funding will be based on the following: -

- Stage of development of organisation's strategic plan
- Record to date of LSP in planning for and achieving set goals and targets (progress to date)
- Goals and targets for the forthcoming year, especially having regard to national policy priorities
- Structure of the Partnership and its capacity to deliver
- Annual income from other sources
- Historic and projected costs
- Satisfactory annual report and audited accounts
- Previous funding allocations under the relevant headings
- Overall level of funds available to the ISC for the purpose of assisting LSPs

PLEASE NOTE:

Extensive guidance for preparing budgets relating to Core funding is included in the **STRATEGIC FINANCIAL GUIDELINES**, which have been circulated to all LSPs.

Irish Sports Council National Programmes, Education and Training Funding Measure

Section A

ISC Programmes Funding (Participation)

Funding for ISC programmes Buntús and Buntús Start will be provided. Further details including a breakdown of costs envisaged for tutor fees, venue rentals, resource materials and monitoring and evaluation etc. will be required

Section B

Education & Training for Partnership, Volunteers and Clubs

Education and training activities for the Code of Ethics, the Board and LSP staff, Club/community training, coaching courses, Club development grants, Sport for older people workshops, Active Leadership workshops, and other. Further details including a breakdown of costs envisaged for tutor fees, venue rentals, resource materials, equipment etc. will be required.

Recommendations for funding to be linked to topics/subjects identified at local level through consultation and planning process. ISC priorities here include training attached to existing programmes such as ISC programmes and the National Coaching Development Programme. Funding for education & training of the staff will not be considered unless it relates directly to their role in the Partnership.

Criteria for club development/support grants must be included and should reflect current Irish Sports Council policy, with particular regard to promoting programmes that target areas of social and economic disadvantage. Grants will not be allocated without specified criteria being in place. Please note that **Club Development Grants will be up to a maximum of €25,000 per LSP. Please note that this maximum amount will reduce in 2009.** The ISC expect that funding under this measure will be strategically focused.

ISC Programme Funding Measure

Please note the maximum funding available under this measure is €15,000 per project. Each project must demonstrate partnership funding (in kind and/or cash)

Programme Funding will be made available for **specific, high priority targeted** initiatives identified and promoted by LSPs.

Only those LSPs who have completed their strategy or submitted an advanced draft to the ISC will be eligible for programme funding in 2008. Initiatives will only be funded if they are directly linked to goals and objectives set out by the LSP in its strategic plan for the relevant strategic year. Please reference this in your application.

Applications may be made jointly by LSPs. Each proposal will be reviewed on an individual basis.

Proposed programmes should: -

- Be **innovative** with clearly stated **aims**
- Include a **firm indication of costs** envisaged in their implementation
- Include information on key **actions** that should be taken and expected **outcomes**
- Indicate the method by which it is proposed to **monitor and evaluate** the implementation and outcomes of the project.

Programme funding will not be made available for the following: -

- Employment of additional staff by the Partnership
- Refurbishment or development of a sports facility/ground
- Substantial equipment costs (procurement or rental) for a programme/initiative
- Initiatives which are outside the remit of the Partnership (e.g. Play initiatives, quality assuring programmes/clubs)
- Initiatives which are covered in the Core Funding section of the application (e.g. coach education)

courses, volunteer education courses, workshops and seminars)

- Existing award schemes/nights which are not attached to a programme or initiative of the Partnership
- Initiatives which are against the ethos of ISC policies and programmes (e.g. provision of qualified coaches to coach primary school children during school time – against ethos of Buntús)
- Initiatives which receive support either by direct or indirect provision by the ISC under an alternative scheme (e.g. ISC Carding scheme, Irish Heart Foundation, Go for Life).
- Initiative which the ISC considers will not meet the objectives as set out.

Programme funding applications will be evaluated in relation to: -

- LSP's **infrastructure**
- LSP's **capacity to deliver**
- LSP's capacity to generate **matching resources**
- Commitment of support agencies to the initiative
- LSP's **strategic plan** or its current status (if not yet finalised)
- Irish Sports Council's stated **policy priorities**
- Overall level of funds available to the ISC for the purpose of assisting LSPs

Women In Sport Funding Measure

Please note the maximum funding available under this measure is €30,000 per project. Each project must demonstrate partnership funding (in kind and/or cash)

Project Criteria

1. LSP must be able to produce baseline data and evidence and needs base in relation to their proposed projects e.g. number of female participants, age profile, etc.
2. Project must be focused on encouraging greater participation of girls and women, particular preference will be given to projects focusing on teenage girls, for example projects such as Girls Active / Activate and projects focused on older sedentary women increasing participation, for example in walking activities.
3. Disadvantaged areas are a particular priority for this round of funding.
4. Project must be a new initiative or the expansion of a successful pilot project (evidence must be provided of evaluation of pilots).
5. LSP/ partner agencies must have sufficient in-house resources in relation to personnel and infrastructure to deliver the project.
6. Project must be sustainable on a long-term basis without the need for ongoing grant aid.

7. LSP must outline the way in which the project will be monitored and identify timelines and targets.
8. LSP must clearly identify the outcomes of the project and the evaluation criteria against which these will be judged.
9. LSP must include detailed costing for support sought in 2008.
10. Projects that target under 18s must have due regard to the Code of Ethics & Good Practice for Children's Sport.
11. Projects must be initiated before the end of the current year (2008).

Overall Conditions of Funding

If your LSP is successful in making an application for funding you must agree to the following conditions to release grant aid:

- Allow ISC members to visit the project for evaluation purposes and use it for the purposes of publicity (TV, print, etc.)
- Ensure that the ISC receives proper recognition in respect of grant aid and agree to provide material on the project for inclusion in ISC publications and on the website
- The CoOrdinator is required to attend a minimum of 2 LSP National Network meetings per year.
- Provide a year-end report on the project to the ISC with a clear indication of where the funding allocated was expended
- Follow procedures within the Code of Ethics for example, coaches be recruited appropriately and signed up to the relevant Code of Conduct

Please note ISC Grant Applications not submitted within the deadlines set might incur a penalty which could impact on your Local Sports Partnership funding.

Dormant Accounts Fund

Following the enactment of the Dormant Accounts (Amendment) Act 2005, responsibility for overseeing the disbursement of dormant accounts now rests with Government.

The Department of Community, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs is the lead Department with responsibility for the roll-out and allocation of Dormant Accounts funding. It is working with other relevant Government Departments to deliver this funding programme.

The main objectives in disbursing funding from the Dormant Accounts Fund are:

- To improve the quality of life and reduce isolation for people who are economically or socially disadvantaged;
- To improve opportunities for individuals who are economically or socially disadvantaged to overcome the impediments arising from such disadvantage through deriving appropriate benefit from education;
- To enhance the potential for persons with a disability to play a more active role in society and increase their level of independence.

Disbursements from the Dormant Accounts Fund target three broad categories of persons:

- Those affected by economic and social disadvantage;
- Those affected by educational disadvantage;
- Persons with a disability.

The ISC has this in recent time successfully negotiated 2 major projects at National Level with the Dormant Accounts fund. These are the:

- Sports grants scheme for disadvantaged youth
- Funding to employ a network of Sports Inclusion Development Officers.

Given that this approach has worked very well and in particular now that the LSP is a National Network we would envisage further cooperation and developments in this area, targeting specific initiatives within the LSP network and supporting joint applications to the fund.

What is Corporate Responsibility?

It is about doing business in a responsible way – its about doing the right thing and doing it the right way, for example companies are:

- looking at the green agenda, so environment is important.
- Other areas we also consider important are how they treat their employees – companies want to be in the top places to work list.
- Customer service, all thing being equal a company with a good customer service is the one that you will opt for
- Community and this is the focus of todays workshop, CCI – this involves business dialoguing with the local community and actively supporting activities where staff devote time, skills, expertise to areas of identified need, along with other resources such as cash, in kind donations and lending of resources.

Why might your project enlist the support of business?

Resources:

- A new source of volunteers
- Access to skills and expertise
- Access to materials, services and resources

Enhance Public Awareness:

- Increase public awareness of local issues and needs
- Promote the work of your organisation

Positive Impact:

- Make a difference to the people and causes that you support
- Influencing tool

Why might a business engage with your project?

Company benefits:

- Improve reputation
- Improve links with local community
- Seen as a good neighbour
- Helps maintain a healthy community essential to business

Employee Benefits:

- Morale
- Develop existing skills or learn new ones
- Build teamwork

What can a Company offer? When we ask this question we should think in very broad terms, eg: Time, Skills & Resources

Time	Skills	Resources
Once Off	Financial	Meeting Rooms
Regular	HR	Training
Secondments	Marketing	Facilities
	IT	Products
	Planning	Financial

Steps to Engaging Business Support:

Each of the above steps is explained in detail in the BITC publication “Communities and Business Working Together” and will assist you in developing and maintaining that local business partnership. The Irish Sports Council has already engaged with BITC in terms of providing support and training to the National Network of Sports Partnerships and will continue to develop and expand this relationship.

Useful Contacts

<http://www.carmichaelcentre.ie/trainingandsupport/index.htm>

<http://www.chambers.ie/chambers.php>

http://www.enterpriseboards.ie/Your_Local_CCEB_map.aspx

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