

Item No:	Classification: Open	Date: 15 March 2022	Meeting Name: Cabinet Member for Transport, Parks and Sport
Report title:		Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant awards – November 2021 application round	
Ward(s) or groups affected:		All	
From:		Director of Leisure	

RECOMMENDATION(S)

1. That the Cabinet Member for Transport, Parks and Sport approves the three organisations to be awarded £11,115 of funding to deliver their projects under the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant scheme to support residents to be more physically active. The successful organisations are set out in Table 3.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

2. The Active Southwark sport and physical activity strategy 2019-23 set out the ambition of the Council and local stakeholders to create more Active People, Places, and Communities.
3. Creating and sustaining community sport and physical activity opportunities is challenging and so the creation of this new fund acknowledges that an important part of encouraging people to be more active more often is reliant on a vibrant local sport and activity sector being able to offer sessions at attractive facilities with essential equipment.
4. A £3 million budget was approved by cabinet in April 2020 for a capital investment fund to support the delivery of the Active Southwark strategy in a year that was due to have sport at the forefront of media (with the Olympics and European Football Championship).
5. The coronavirus pandemic prevented the international events from running in 2020 and has created new challenges to the sport and physical activity sector, with over a year of restrictions and closures. This fund will now play a role in helping clubs and communities to recover from the effects of the pandemic through physical activity in the borough.
6. Southwark Council sport and physical activity officers will support successful applicants to deliver their projects. Each organization (see paragraph 17) will also provide data every 2-3 months about their projects that shows the impact of the investment on the local community in accordance with the agreed terms and conditions of the grant award.

KEY ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION

7. The applications opened on 16 November 2021 and closed on 21 December 2021. The Physical Activity team received interest from 28 organisations of whom nine applied. The grant was advertised and sent to a number of stakeholders, including Community Southwark, London Sport and an extensive database of sport and physical activity organisations – and was also shared in the November Southwark E-newsletter.
8. An eligibility criteria was set for applicants to meet and each applicant had to provide additional evidence such as their constitution/ memorandum and safeguarding policy. This is set out in Appendix 1.
9. The applications received are summarised in the table below:

Table one:

Enquires	28
Total number of applications	9
Applications that meet the criteria	3
Applications that do not meet the criteria	6
Total amount applied for	£69,251
Total amount to be rewarded	£11,115

10. London Sport and Southwark Council Sport and Physical Activity Officers assessed the applications, using the scoring system for each of the eight questions and the key bullet points in section 12. Three officers in total screened and scored the applications. Three officers, two council officers and one external colleague from London Sport, checked every application to ensure good governance and then score each application to provide an overall score.
11. Organisations were scored against the following:-
 1. The Need for the project (taking into consideration any Covid related reasons)
 2. Increasing participation
 3. Number of people their project will target (cost per head)
 4. Inclusivity
 5. Track record
 6. Charging policy
 7. Sustainability
 8. How they will meet Strategy commitments.
12. London Sport and council officers crosschecked with other departmental funding programmes, including the Neighborhoods' Fund and Leisure & Parks department, in order to avoid duplication and receive feedback from services that the project may affect.

Proposed organisations to be awarded funding

13. Five organisations out of the nine that applied were asked further clarification questions about their project, that were identified whilst screening all of the applications.
14. Three out of the five applications provided appropriate answers enabling them to be scored, thus contributing to a decision of awarding funds.
15. In addition to the responses to the application questions (noted in paragraph 11), consideration was given to the project sustainability, likelihood of delivering targets, pricing, and how well they will engage vulnerable groups.
16. The applications that were successful and awarded funding are identified in Table 3 below.

Table 3

Organisation	Amount awarded	Numbers	Level of award
Southwark Tigers Rugby (Project detail see table 2)	£3,100	100	Full
South London Renegades (Project detail see table 2)	£7,150	30	Reduced amount
Pecan (Project detail see table 2)	£865	10	Reduced amount
Total	£11,115	140	

17. The capital investment in these sessions will enable physical activity for local residents for multiple years, improving the value for money beyond one term.
18. There were reductions to some awards as the applications made requests for small revenue spend, but officers were confident that the award of funding would still enable the project objective to be delivered.
19. The other six applications received did not meet the criteria due to:
 - Applications based on needing revenue funding to start a project, and would not have been able to run with an award of capital funding.
 - Organisations could not give a clear explanation of how their costs were calculated.
 - Project plans did not provide enough detail on how they will engage new residents through their project, and how they would enable less active residents to be more active.
 - More work was needed to help the organisation attract their target audience.
 - Their delivery approach did not match their budget proposal.

The following organisations were not successful and applied for the following funding, and listed are the actions to be taken to further support their project ideas:

Table 4

Organisations	Action
Burgess park Cricket Academy	Officers will continue to work with the club to establish the resources needed to make this happen successfully, and allow resubmission when ready.
Peckham Town FC	Officers will contact the Football Foundation about funding streams for specific ground improvement.
Centre for the Advancement of Development and Human Rights (CAD-HR)	Officers will connect CAD-HR to the London Sport Tech Hub to explore the project concept and current technology landscape.
Echoes of hope	Officers will explore revenue grant opportunities that could support the concept.
Southwark African Initiative Development (SAID)	Officers will explore revenue grant opportunities that could support the concept.
Dream Believe Achieve	Officers will explore revenue grant opportunities that could support the concept.

20. Once this document is approved, officers will be writing to all applicants on the outcome of their application. Unsuccessful applicants will be offered telephone feedback upon request.

Improving delivery of the grant

21. The first round of the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant has been used to test and learn about the grant application process so that improvements can be introduced for future rounds. The next round will open in March 2022.

22. Although an explanation was included in the guidance notes that this funding was for capital items, there were still a number of applications that were based on revenue expenditure. A review of the guidance will be undertaken to explain capital and revenue funding and what can and cannot be funded through this grant.

23. The deadline closing time fell at midnight and caused confusion for applicants as to the cut off time. A different time will be used to improve understanding of the deadline.

24. The outcome options that groups choose to help demonstrate the impact of their project will be reviewed to provide clearer understanding of what they mean with a more relevant selection of options to choose from.

Conditions of Grant Funding

25. Organisations awarded grant funding are subject to monitoring through the council's Conditions of Grant Funding (COGF). Schedules to these cover the key areas of governance, finance, safeguarding, health and safety, employment practices, monitoring and information. In addition complying with these conditions, organisations are subject to a monitoring visit, and the monitoring framework includes a monitoring checklist, which assesses each of the areas covered within the COGF.
26. Projects must be delivered within 1-2 years of the grant being awarded depending on the complexity and in line with monitoring officer recommendations.
27. As part of this grant all providers will collect data and report on those accessing their service/activity. In addition to these conditions, organisations are required to provide a report in respect of financial commitments as part of a project that straddles financial years. These reports shall be provided by the time(s) specified by the Monitoring Officer and should include:
- summary of the funded activities provided by the applicant;
 - summary of the participants; both on the numbers and demographic;
 - summary of the information regarding the actual costs for delivering the project;
 - summary of the outcomes achieved based on their grant application aspirations;
 - summary about the experience gained from delivering the project; and
 - summary of any issues that the organisation has come across in delivering the project.
28. Grant funded VCS organisations are required as part of the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant to ensure all subcontractors and service providers pay workers the London Living Wage as a minimum. The council has achieved Friendly Funder Accreditation with the Living Wage Foundation. Living Wage Friendly Funders support charities to pay the real Living Wage that meets the cost of living through their grant making.
29. All Council funded voluntary organisations have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. Whatever service they provide, they must identify a child (under 18 years) or a vulnerable adult who is being harmed or neglected and must comply with the Council's safeguarding policy. See <https://safeguarding.southwark.gov.uk> for more information.

Community Impact statement

30. This grants project intends to provide support for those Communities and groups that have been affected by the Pandemic COVID-19.
31. As part of this grant all providers will collect data and report on those accessing their services and the benefits of the service to them, as stated in paragraph 27.

32. The awards demonstrate that the three organisations are providing a broad offer to benefit different community groups across the borough

Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement

33. The Public Sector Equality Duty has been considered and no additional consultation is required.

34. The specification requires the provider to report on the demographic characteristics of all participants on a quarterly basis. The specification has been revised and written in line with the Southwark Stands Together and the Health Inequalities strategies. There are no negative impacts to emending this service.

Health impact statement

35. This funding aims to help organisations to attract residents and enable them to become more active. Physical activity is been championed by Public Health/CMO as a key pillar in helping people to prevent and manage several life limiting illnesses and conditions. It also supports wider wellbeing – managing stress, making friends, increasing confidence.

Climate change implications

36. The project organisations will promote a number of programmes that will promote physical activity through active travel and specific programme design, both of which can contribute to sustainable lifestyle choices. The wide offer across the borough including online access will reduce the need to use carbon emission travel.

Resource implications

37. This project will be funded through the Southwark Council allocation for the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Fund.

38. As part of the application process, each organisation provided a budget proposal spend.

39. Southwark Council sport and physical activity officers will be managing the grants project.

Legal implications

40. See comments from the Director of Law and Governance at paragraph 45 - 49.

Financial implications

41. The cabinet meeting of April 2020 approved the original budget allocation for this Capital Improvement grant, as referred to in Appendix 2.

42. Using the grant awarded to each organisation and calculating the number of new participants that are targeted to be engaged, an average cost per head can be

calculated. This works out as £79.00 and is a competitive rate, and will be improved by subsequent years of equipment being used by residents.

Consultation

43. Throughout the COVID-19, pandemic officers have continued to liaise closely with the VCS and clubs, including funded groups, on how they have adapted their services and continued to support vulnerable people, and on patterns of need and demand for services.

44. VCS were consulted with regarding the Grant, the grant process and application.

Supplementary Advice from Other Officers

Director of Law and Governance

45. This report seeks approval of funding allocations to three organisations (listed in Table 3 at paragraph 17) for delivering their projects under the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant fund.

46. Paragraphs 2 to 6 set out the details of the grant funded programme, which aligns with Southwark's Fairer Future commitments. Paragraphs 7 to 12 explain that a transparent and robust process has been followed in order to attract and evaluate applications for funding following allocation of the grants, and paragraphs 25 - 27 confirm how the recipient organisations will be monitored and the nature of the information and data relating to service users and service outcomes that they will be required to report to the council's physical activity officers.

47. The community impact and health impact statements in this report note that the grant programme is intended to target and benefit individuals and groups within the local community that have lower levels of physical activity. This is consistent with the requirements of the council's statutory duty (the Public Sector Equality Duty) as prescribed by the Equality Act 2010.

48. The decision to approve the Recommendation is one which is expressly reserved to the Cabinet Member under Part 3D of the council Constitution.

49. The funding allocations made to the successful applicants will be regulated by appropriate legal terms and conditions.

Strategic Director of Finance and Governance (CAP21/054)

50. This report is requesting approval from the Cabinet Member for Transport, Parks and Sport to approve the recommendations for three organisations to be awarded £11,115 of funding to deliver their projects under the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant scheme to support residents to be more physically active. The recommendations are set out in paragraphs 13 – 18.

51. The Strategic director of finance and governance notes the financial implications and understands that the cost implications of this report will be contained within

the budget of the “Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Fund” capital project (L-2340-0424)

52. Staffing and any other costs connected with these recommendations are to be contained within existing departmental revenue budgets.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Active Southwark Sport and Physical Activity Strategy 2019-2023	Environment and Leisure Department 160 Tooley Street PO Box 64529 London SE1P 5LX	Jardine Finn
Southwark Sports and Physical activity Safeguarding policy	Sports and physical activity 160 Tooley Street PO Box 64529 London SE1P 5LX	Amala Poulier and Nicola Donnelly
Cabinet, 7 April 2020*: Report allocating capital funds to Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Fund Link to Cabinet Agenda - 7 April 2020 (Item 10)	Finance and Governance 160 Tooley Street PO Box 64529 London SE1P 5LX	Finance Manager
*rescheduled from 24 March 2020		

APPENDICES

No.	Title
Appendix 1	IDM approving the terms for the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Fund
Appendix 2	Eligibility criteria

AUDIT TRAIL

Lead Officer	Ashoke Chaudhry, Interim Group manager Physical activity, Environment and Leisure	
Report Author	<p>Jardine Finn Strategic Development Officer – Partnerships & Programmes, Physical Activity Team, Environment, Leisure Southwark Council Jardine.finn@southwark.gov.uk</p> <p>Nicola Donnelly: Sport and Physical activity Officer, Physical activity team, Environment and Leisure, Southwark Council: Nicola.donnelly@southwark.gov.uk</p>	
Version	Final	
Dated	24/02/2022	
Key Decision	Yes	
CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / EXECUTIVE MEMBER		
Officer Title	Comments Sought	Comments included
Director of Law and Governance	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Finance and Governance	Yes	Yes
Head of Procurement	N/A	N/A
Cabinet Member	Yes	Yes
Date final report sent to Constitutional Team	11 March 2022	