

<b>Item No:</b> N/a	<b>Classification:</b> Open	<b>Date:</b> 13 November 2024	<b>Meeting Name:</b> Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks and Young People
<b>Report title:</b>		Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant awards – Round 5	
<b>Ward(s) or groups affected:</b>		All	
<b>From:</b>		Director of Leisure	

## RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Cabinet Member for Leisure, Parks, and Young People approves the recommendation for 10 organisations, noted in Tables 3 and 4 at paragraph 12, to be awarded a total of £182,283.00 of funding to deliver their projects under the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant to support residents to be more physically active. The recommendations are set out in paragraphs 11-15.

## 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. The creation of this fund acknowledged that an important part of encouraging people to be more active more often is having a vibrant local sport and activity sector, with an attractive offer.
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. From the £3 million capital investment fund, £2 Million was devoted to create the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant, (ASOL) and opened for the first round in November 2021. The remaining £1m was allocated to supporting investment in council sports assets for the local Southwark community.
6. The Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant is made up of four funding levels – Micro Grant, Small Grant, Medium Grant and Large Grant.

**Table 1**

Grant Size	Amount	Types of projects	Target Participants
Micro	£0 - £500	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club equipment costs to help with activity for Southwark residents</li> <li>• IT equipment to support online delivered activity sessions for shielding/isolated residents</li> </ul>	10+
Small	£500 - £10,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Equipment to help increase participant numbers in activities</li> <li>• Adaptive equipment to increase inclusion in activity.</li> </ul>	25-50
Medium	£10,000 - £50,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Installation of adapted equipment or improved access for Deaf and disabled people – ramps, hoists, signs, pool pod</li> <li>• Improving games court areas for organised community activity</li> <li>• Changes to schools building that create better community access – e.g. new entrances to the site</li> <li>• Changes to open spaces for physical activity</li> </ul>	50-250
Large	£50,000 - £150,000	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Large scale facility development that will bring residents together</li> <li>• Building developments / enhancements that benefit whole communities</li> <li>• Innovative improvements to spaces for physical activity</li> </ul>	250+

7. Southwark Council outdoor sport officers are supporting successful applicants to deliver their projects. Each successful organisation is asked to provide regular data about their projects that shows the impact of the investment on the local community in accordance with the agreed terms and conditions of their grant award.

### Round 5 assessment and recommendation

8. Round 5 opened on Wednesday 7th August 2024 and closed Wednesday 25th September 2024 , the interested applications received are summarised in the Table 2 below:

**Table 2: Numbers from Round 5**

<b>Enquires</b>	31
<b>Total number of applications</b>	16

<b>Applications that meet the criteria</b>	10
<b>Applications that do not meet the criteria</b>	6
<b>Applications meeting the criteria but need further questions/ development.</b>	2
<b>Total amount applied for</b>	£339,083.00
<b>Total amount considered for award</b>	£182,283.00

9. Three Southwark Council officers assessed the applications. This included the applicant's governance and the details of the proposed project to provide an overall score. Information was also checked with council colleagues in order to avoid duplication of funding, and to understand issues that might affect revenue budgets/maintenance.
10. Organisations were scored against the following indicators:
  - The need for the project (taking into consideration any health inequalities) and evidencing this need.
  - Increasing participation
  - Number of people their project will target (cost per head)
  - Inclusivity
  - Track record
  - Charging policy
  - Sustainability
  - How they will meet Strategy commitments.
  - Finance – is the budget realistic, is match funding in place where needed, etc.

### **Organisations recommended for funding**

11. After the panel's assessment, 10 applications met all of the criteria and are proposed to receive funding through this IDM. The total value of organisations being awarded grants is £182,283.00.
12. 6 applicants did not meet the criteria on this occasion, and they will be sent feedback in order to re-apply, or be directed to other, more relevant, grant opportunities.
13. The 10 projects recommended to be awarded a grant by this IDM report are shown in Table 3 –

**Table 3 - Applicants recommended for funding.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Project Outline</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
Southwark Tigers Rugby Club	Replacement of old equipment for youth rugby sessions and a proposal of a spectator bench.	£7,600.00
Synergy Gymnastics London	Replacement of old equipment that is deemed unsafe for youth Gymnastics club	£24,915.00
Burgess Sports	Sports equipment for Multi Sports holiday programme	£3,000
Wheels for wellbeing	New bikes to offer more opportunities for Disabled people	£9,036.00
Southwark Stars Disability Football	New football equipment to replace old equipment and add equipment to help include more participants.	£2,000
Brunswick Park Neighbourhood TRA	Brunswick Park MUGA resurface tarmac replaced with a multi sport surface.	60,000
Southwark Park Cricket Club	Southwark Park oval outfield rehabilitation	£25,000
Millwall Community Scheme	Metal sheds, goals, and equipment for St Pauls Sports ground.	£16,470.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>148,021.00</b>

**Table 4 - Applicants meeting criteria and with further information could be funded.**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Project Outline</b>	<b>Amount requested</b>
<b>OCO Connect CIC</b>	To adapt the changing facilities at a boxing club to enable a disabled toilet and additional boxing equipment to help expand sessions.	£9,262.00
<b>London All stars</b>	Basketball equipment, scoring Board ,24 Second Shot Clock, Basketballs, Indoor Basketball Hoops and Rings Lockable Basketball Cage Kits for the women and girls programme for women and girls basketball programme at Southbank University.	£25,000

14. The 6 applications that did not meet the criteria were due to:

- The application requested revenue funds, and would not have been viable with the award of capital funding.
  - Organisations could not give a specific quote or clear explanation of how their costs were calculated.
  - Project plans did not provide enough detail on how they will engage residents through their project, and how they would enable less active residents to become more active.
  - Project plans did not provide enough detail on one or more of the following the purpose of the project, evidencing the need for the project, project inclusivity, previous experience, realistic costings, sustainability, numbers targeted.
  - Their delivery approach did not match their budget proposal.
  - They were not a not for profit organisation.
  - No security of tenure for a site stated; no lease or hire agreement in place.
15. Once approval to the grants is received, officers will be writing to all applicants on the outcome of their application. Unsuccessful applicants will be notified in writing and offered telephone feedback upon request.
16. Successful applicants will be designated a monitoring officer to work with them to help progress their project to the next stage of development, ensuring they meet relevant milestones and indicators for a successful project. Delivery is expected within one year of the date of award letter.

### **Improving delivery of the grant.**

17. Each round of the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant is used to learn more about the grant application process, community need, so that improvements are introduced to future rounds.
18. This year, we successfully launched the grant programme on a newly developed IT portal. While some initial technical challenges were encountered, we have identified and are addressing these issues to ensure a smoother application process for the next round.
19. A technical issue caused grant applications to be directed to the wrong portal. By merging all applications onto the correct portal and providing an extension, we ensured that all applicants had sufficient time to complete their submissions.
20. By leveraging the Southwark Council marketing department and showcasing success stories from previous grants, we implemented a more targeted marketing approach. This resulted in an increase in applications from the previous year, with 31 expressions of interest and 16 completed submissions compared to 11 submissions the previous year.
21. Our analysis of this grant round highlights the following factors:
- This was the fifth round of the ASOLG grant programme.

- The grant coincided with the launch of other council grants, such as Cleaner Greener Safer and Neighbourhood Fund.
  - Delays in the web portal development and the addition of the revenue grant created time constraints.
22. To address these factors and further enhance the grant programme, we will:
- Meet with web developers to identify and rectify any remaining technical issues.
  - Incorporate lessons learned from previous rounds to optimise the application process.
  - Continuously evaluate and pilot innovative approaches to attract more capital grant applications from the community.
23. Officers will implement improvements from all previous rounds and will continue to evaluate and trial new ways to increase applications for capital grants from the community.

### **Conditions of Grant Funding**

24. Organisations awarded grant funding are subject to monitoring through the council's Conditions of Grant Funding (COGF). This, and associated schedules, covers the key areas of governance, finance, safeguarding, health and safety, employment practices. In addition to 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.
25. As part of this grant, all providers will collect data so that they can report on uptake in their service/activity. In addition to these conditions, organisations are required to provide a report at the times specified by the monitoring officer. The report will include:
- summary of the funded activities provided by the applicant
  - summary of the participants (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 encountered in delivering the project.
26. 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.

27. All council funded voluntary organisations have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and vulnerable adults. Whatever project they deliver, they must agree to comply with the council's safeguarding policy. See <https://safeguarding.southwark.gov.uk> for more information.

### **Community Impact statement**

28. This grant programme intends to provide support for the communities that have greater health inequalities.
29. 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.

### **Equalities (including socio-economic) impact statement**

30. The Public Sector Equality Duty has been considered and no additional consultation is required.
31. 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 amending this service identified.

### **Health impact statement**

32. This funding aims to help organisations to attract residents into sport and physical activity, and to enable them to become more active. Physical activity is 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**

33. 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**

34. This project will be funded through the council allocation of Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant.
35. Southwark Council outdoor recreation officers will be managing the grants project.
36. Each project will be allocated a designated monitoring officer to support the project and application.

## Legal implications

37. See comments from the assistant chief executive, governance and assurance at paragraphs 50 to 54.

## Financial implications

38. The total proposed cost of this IDM is £182,283.00.
39. The cabinet meeting of April 2020 approved the original budget allocation for this capital improvement grant, as referred to in Appendix 1.
40. The funding for this project is contained within the approved “Active Southwark Community Investment Fund” capital project (L-2340-0424).
41. The lifetime approved funding is £3m. This is further split into 2 distinct categories which are Capital Grants (£2m) and Capital works (£1m). In addition £275k of grant funding was received from the LTA Tennis Foundation resulting in a revised lifetime budget of £3.275m.
42. Expenditure to date (previous and current financial year) is £1,331,755 with a further £938,807 of known commitments (cumulative to Round 4). The available uncommitted funds (after this IDM is approved) are detailed in the summary table below:

<b>Category</b>	<b>Total Budget £</b>	<b>Committed £</b>	<b>Uncommitted £</b>
Capital works	1,275,370	892,695	382,675
Capital Grants	2,000,000	1,757,821	242,179
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>3,275,370</u></b>	<b><u>2,452,845</u></b>	<b><u>822,525</u></b>

43. On this basis, the forecast expenditure is affordable within the current approved budget envelope for this scheme.
44. As part of the application process, each bidding organisation provided a budget proposal showing their projected capital spend.
45. Southwark Council sport and physical activity officers will be managing the grants projects.
46. Each project will be allocated a designated monitoring officer to support the project and application process.

## Consultation



47. Throughout the process, officers have continued to liaise with the VCS and sports / community 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.
48. VCS were consulted with regarding the grant, the grant process and application.
49. Individual workshops were held for organisations requesting further detailed information.

### **Supplementary Advice from Other Officers**

#### **Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and Assurance (SB211024)**

50. This report seeks approval of funding offers to 10 organisations (listed in Tables 3 and 4 at paragraph 13) for delivering projects funded by the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant.
51. Paragraphs 2 to 7 set out the details of the grant-funded programme, which aligns with Southwark's Fairer Future commitments. Paragraphs 9 - 10 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 paragraph 24-27 confirms 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.
52. 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.
53. The decision to approve the Recommendation is one which is expressly reserved to the cabinet member under Part 3D of the council Constitution.
54. The funding allocations made to the successful applicants will be regulated by appropriate legal terms and conditions.

#### **Strategic Director of Resources (CAP24/067)**

55. This report is requesting the Cabinet member for Leisure, Parks and Young People to approve the recommendations for 10 organisations to be awarded up to £182,283.00 of funding to deliver the projects under the Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Grant scheme to support residents to be more physically active. The recommendations are set out in paragraph 13 under tables 3 and 4.
56. The Strategic Director of Resources notes that the costs of the contract will be contained within the departmental capital budgets for the "Active

Southwark Olympic Legacy/Community Fund” project allocated under the council’s capital programme, as mentioned in the financial implications section.

- 57. The total expenditure for the scheme will be monitored and reported on as part of the overall capital programme.
- 58. Staffing and any other costs such as project management connected with these recommendations are to be contained within pre-allocated and existing parks and leisure division revenue budgets.

### BACKGROUND PAPERS

Background Papers	Held At	Contact
Cabinet paper allocating capital funds to Active Southwark Olympic Legacy Fund	<a href="#">Agenda for Cabinet on Tuesday 7 April 2020, 4.30 pm - Southwark Council</a>	<a href="mailto:Jardine.Finn@southwark.gov.uk">Jardine.Finn@southwark.gov.uk</a>

### APPENDICES

None	
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## AUDIT TRAIL

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<b>Key Decision</b>	No	
<b>CONSULTATION WITH OTHER OFFICERS / DIRECTORATES / CABINET MEMBER</b>		
<b>Officer Title</b>	<b>Comments Sought</b>	<b>Comments included</b>
Assistant Chief Executive, Governance and Assurance	Yes	Yes
Strategic Director of Resources	Yes	Yes
Head of Procurement	N/a	N/a
<b>Cabinet Member</b>	Yes	Yes
<b>Date final report sent to Constitutional Team</b>	13 November 2024	