

Meet the funder: Sport England

The Movement Fund and Environmental Sustainability

11 September 2025



Introduction

Session Overview and Agenda



Agenda

1. Introduction (5 mins)
2. An overview of 'Every Move' & our small grant Investment Priorities (10 mins)
3. Movement Fund and what we want to see in an application (10 mins)
4. Real life projects – Hear from Nuneaton Tennis Club and British Rowing (10 mins)
5. Illustrative Examples and Q&A (20 mins)
6. Further opportunities (5 mins)

What you've told us:

- 73% of community groups consider environmental sustainability a priority
- This is our 2nd most popular webinar – ever!
- 39% want support – funding, education, dialogue, facilities
- 31% have been impacted by climate change within a six-month period in 2024
- Common issues reported:
 - o Flooded or waterlogged venues/pitches, excessive heat, lack of indoor spaces
 - o Adverse weather affecting travel, participation, activities and outcomes
- What have we done with this information?
 - o Shared widely with the sector
 - o Updated Hub
 - o Webinars and an Award
 - o Funding opportunities



participation

inequalities

climate change

Every Move

Vision and Mission

A 2050 vision for the sector

Active design

- Walking, cycling and low-emission travel through nature-rich corridors is the norm.
- Physical activity and sustainability principles underpin the design of our community spaces.

Zero carbon and climate resilience

- Sports facilities generate renewable energy for the local community and showcase circular and sustainable build methods.
- Facilities and sports are adapted to our changing climate (e.g. flood resistant).

Nature thriving

- Everyone has access to clean green and blue spaces to enjoy, play and relax in.
- These spaces are biodiversity and wildlife-rich.

Community hubs

- Sports facilities and events are community orientated and co-located with health and other essential services.
- Clubs regenerate and transform local communities through sustainable and inclusive practices.



Our vision for the sector

A positive and regenerative sport and physical activity sector championing environmental sustainability with every move.



Sport England's Sustainability Mission

Sport England will lead, inspire and support the sector to become environmentally sustainable, enabling greater opportunity for all people to participate in sport and physical activity, now and in the future.



Our priority themes

Just transition:
inequalities,
inclusion and
participation

Carbon
emissions:
travel and
facilities

Circular economy:
supply chains,
products and
waste

Blue-green
environment
quality and use

Biodiversity

Adapting to
climate change
and extreme
weather events



Our levers for change

Our Operations

Support and Capability
Building

Leveraging
Our Investment

Advocacy

Influencing the Natural
and Built Environment



Every Move

Our investment priorities

June 2025

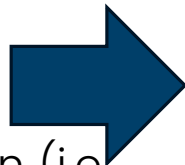
Our Every Move Investment Priorities

[See our Investment Guide
for more details](#)

Improving both environmental sustainability and physical activity opportunities for the people and communities who need it the most.

Usually, both these criteria overlap, because those who are least active and most deprived will be most susceptible to the increasingly negative effects of climate change.

We're looking for projects that:



- Show how they benefit participation (i.e. physical activity in your community)
- Support a priority audience / place with high need
- Show how they will improve environmental sustainability in one of our key areas

Improving Participation

- *reducing costs / extending opening hours to enable more community delivery*
- *preventing cancelled opportunities due to extreme weather,*
- *Reusing equipment and kit that enables greater participation*
- *creating environments that encourage more walking and cycling*
- *Enhancing environments for activity (e.g. tree planting to create shade and improve air quality).*

Our Key Sustainability Areas

Reducing energy & water use

LEDs, sensors for lights & taps, electric batteries, sprinklers & rainwater collection, solar panels

Nature & biodiversity

Improving the quality of blue and green spaces where activity takes place – reducing chemicals use, rewilding, creating shade, enhancing environments for local species and encouraging more active travel

Reuse and repurpose kit & equipment

Reducing waste, single use plastics and redistributing kit to those who need it most

Adaptation

Actions that reduce the severity or likelihood of cancelled opportunities due to extreme weather effects – e.g. native tree planting and other nature-based solutions to reduce flooding and reduce temperatures



Movement Fund

Key details, our priority groups, where to go for more information

The Movement Fund – Key Information

Awards £300 –
£15,000

Not-for-profit
organisations

Awards to
challenge
inactivity &
inequalities

Support for
projects over 12-
month period

Decision
timeframe 3 –
6 weeks

This may increase if we have an
influx of applications

Ongoing
programme

Priority Groups

We want to support organisations who are working with our priority groups.

People Living on low incomes

Disable people or those living with long-term health conditions

Older People aged 65 or older

People from culturally diverse communities

Pregnant women and parents with very young children

Girls aged 5-16

LGBTQ+ people

People who are in foster care

People who provide care without pay



Further information about the Movement Fund



Sport England Resources

Not sure if a project meets the criteria for the Movement Fund?

Funding Helpline

- 03458 508508
- funding@sportengland.org
- www.sportengland.org

We can't fund everything and sometimes some projects and groups are just not eligible for this fund



Movement Fund Sported Webinar



Movement fund webinar

Catch up with this webinar on Sport England's Movement Fund



Your Application

Tell us your story – who will benefit, what will you do, and how does this benefit participation

Your Application



Participation Benefits



Environmental Sustainability Action

Tell us your story – don't assume we know about your community;
Attach more details if you're word constrained

- 1 Who will benefit (your priority audience[s])
- 2 Why is this needed (barriers to activity)
- 3 How will you make it happen (who, what, when)
- 4 How have you involved your community
- 5 How will the outcomes be sustained

- 1 Which element of every Move does this link to
- 2 Why is this action important to you & what are the benefits to your community
- 3 Provide a detailed breakdown of how you will spend the funds

Pledge or Grant – We can advise on ideas better suited to a Crowdfunding Pledge (perhaps because we've seen successful raises for this project type, ineligibility of some costs, or to show community support for the idea)



Real Life Projects

Jonathan Rudland –
Nuneaton Tennis Club

Rachel Dulai – British Rowing



Illustrative Examples and Q&A

Your opportunity for
reflections and questions

GET OUT!

- Based in Tower Hamlets, IMD 4
- Support young people from underrepresented communities
- Theory of change: improving activity for physical and mental health and inspiring young people to be environmental advocates
- A new monthly club in answer to feedback from the young people they work with. The club will:
 - o Break down barriers to paddleboarding
 - o Connect participants directly with environmental protection: river cleans, ecological surveys
 - o Provide pathways for further opportunities: junior leadership, trainings
- Proven track record: partnership with a local organisation



Camborne and Redruth Amateur Boxing Club

- Based in Cornwall, IMD 2
- Support young people from underrepresented communities
- Affiliated club, volunteer run
- Redeveloping current premises: green roof, PV/Solar panels, air/ground source heat pumps, rainwater harvesting
- Ensuring they meet local authority sustainability guidelines
- Open to the community and will provide alternative space for groups affected by extreme weather conditions
- Cost savings for themselves and other groups
- Reduction in carbon emissions by centralising activities
 - o Lots of requests for funding for: Installation of solar panels, switching to LED lighting, boiler replacements





Other Opportunities

Further opportunities

- [National Lottery Awards for All – England – environment](#)
 - Blended finance models (grant + loan) such as [Key Fund](#): various funds with different restrictions
 - [Landfill Communities Fund](#): Most projects need to be within 10 miles of a landfill site to apply
 - Renewable energy companies
 - Local authority initiatives
 - Active Partnerships: provide support and local context and insight
 - Sported: signposting and application assistance
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- [We need your help with ARI8 | Sport England](#): deadline 19 Sept
 - How climate change impacts participation in sport and physical activity at grassroots level. Specifically, the impact on:
 - participants
 - those providing sport and physical activity opportunities (i.e. the workforce)
 - the places and spaces where people are active.



Thank you