

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (Deadline for submission 5pm, 2 April 2026)

AMATEUR AND GRASSROOTS SPORTING ORGANISATIONS

1. General Information

Please read through the guidance notes before completing the application.

Name of Group:

Name of Main Contact:

Role:

Main Contact Mobile Number:

Main Contact Email Address:

2. Eligible Criteria (Please click the box)

- The organisation currently owns or rents a sporting facility. (Min 10year lease)

Address:

- The minimum value of the project is £10,000.
- The applicant can demonstrate that the project can be completed by 31 March 2028.
- The application can provide detailed plans of what it seeks to achieve.
- Match funding can be in place at time of full application.
- The organisation does not have significant cash reserves to fund the entire project.
- The organisation can demonstrate that the project will have significant benefits and impact.
- The organisation is a legally constituted group.
- The Organisation is a sporting organisation currently engaging in competitive sport

All these boxes must be ticked for the Expression of Interest to be reviewed.

3. Project Details

Outline of Proposed Project:

Objectives.

The objectives of the programme are:

- To support the creation of additional facilities to accommodate increased sporting activities.
- To enhance sporting standards through investment in sporting facilities.
- To encourage greater engagement in sporting activity by minority and underrepresented groups.

Tell us how the project meets the Objectives of the programme

What is the Full Cost of the proposed project: £.....

What are these costs based upon?

Are the costs linked to a bigger project?

Yes or No (Delete)

If yes, please give details

4. Project Funding

Amount of Funding Requested from Council: £
Minimum Award is £5,000 and Max £50,000

Has the remaining funding been secured?

Yes or No (Delete)

Identify the organisation/s providing the additional funding and amounts:

Note: This cannot include operating reserves in the organisation's bank account.

| Funder | Amount | Secured/Awaiting |
|-------------------------|--------|------------------|
| <i>The organisation</i> | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | Total | |

5. Permissions

Note it is important that you do not assume that planning permission is not required, and we suggest applicants contact planning directly or seek professional advice

Is Planning Permission Required?

Yes or No (Delete)

If yes tell us if it has been awarded or details of conversations with planning to support the development.

Is Building Control Permission Required?

Yes or No (Delete)

Is the investment to take place at property owned/leased by the Organisation

Yes or No (Delete)

Does the Organisation have permission to deliver the project from the property owner

Yes or No (Delete)

Are there other permissions required to enable the project to proceed?

6. Timescale

Can the project be completed by 31 March 2028?

Yes or No (Delete)

| (Must be completed) | Target Date |
|--|-------------|
| Design completed | |
| Planning and permissions obtained | |
| Procurement of contractors or obtaining quotes for capital items | |
| Purchase of capital items or building work has commenced | |
| Building work completed or capital items delivered | |
| Project completion date | |

Note: The timelines submitted will be checked and only projects that provide clear evidence that their projects can be delivered before the 31 March 2028, will be considered.

7. Capacity to Deliver

Please outline measures which your organisation will put in place to ensure the successful delivery of the proposal e.g., Management of finances, project management.

8. Benefits and Impact

Outline the main benefits and impacts of the project:

9. Support for underrepresented groups

Will the project engage with and support underrepresented groups Yes /No (Delete)

If Yes describe how the project will support underrepresented groups

I confirm that the information that has been provided is accurate and I understand that the Expression of Interest is not a guarantee of funding being offered to the organisation to support the proposed project.

I understand that if any questions are not answered, the EOI will be rejected.

Signed: _____ Print Name: _____

Role: _____ Dated: _____

On Behalf of: _____ (Organisation Name): _____

Completed EOI's to be sent to regenerationgrants@midandeastantrim.gov.uk before,
5pm, 20 April 2026

Applications received after 5pm,20 April 2026 will not be accepted.

Guidance notes for completing the Expression of Interest

1. General Information

Simply state the details of the main contact and contact details.

2. Eligible Criteria

Tick the boxes. If any of the criteria cannot be met the process will stop and further information will not be reviewed.

3. Project Details

Clearly and concisely, tell us about the project, what do you want to do, why is it taking place, how do you intend to deliver it and what will it achieve. We only can evaluate what you can tell us in the form, and we advise you include with the Expression of Interest copies of plans, permissions and images of the proposal.

Clearly state how your project meets the objectives of the programme below,

- To support the creation of additional facilities to accommodate increased sporting activities.
- To enhance sporting standards through investment in sporting facilities.
- To encourage greater engagement in sporting activity by minority and underrepresented groups.

What is the full cost of the project including vat?

Provide details of how you obtained the costs e.g. a procurement exercise, a quote from a builder or from an architect.

4. Project Funding

We want to clearly know what funding is involved in the delivery of the project.

Is the application part of a larger scheme?

The table should be completed with all the funding involved clearly defined.

| Identify the organisation/s providing the additional funding and amounts: | | |
|---|---------|--------------------|
| Funder | Amount | Secured / Awaiting |
| Anywhere fc | £35,000 | Secured |
| Council Grant | £20,000 | Awaiting |
| Donation from a local business | £5,000 | Secured |
| Total | £60,000 | |

In some cases, you may be in the process of applying for another grant and waiting for a decision which is acceptable.

5. Permissions

As a statutory funder, the Council can only support capital projects that have statutory permissions in place and permission from the landowner if applicable. This includes planning permission, building control consent and permission from the owner of the property.

6. Timescale

Time scales are important to provide clear evidence that the project can be delivered before the 31 March 2026. These will be checked for accuracy and must be realistic and achievable.

| Can the project be completed by 31 March 2026? | | Yes or No-(delete) |
|---|--------------|----------------------------|
| Design completed. | Target Date | Already completed Dev 2024 |
| Planning and permissions obtained. | Not required | |
| Procurement of contractors or obtaining quotes for capital items. | March 2025 | |
| Purchase of capital items or building work has commenced. | June 2025 | |
| Building work completed or capital items delivered. | Nov 2025 | |
| Project completion date | Dec 2025 | |

7. Capacity to Deliver

We want you to provide details about who is involved in the delivery of the project. Has an architect been commissioned, are there members on the committee with the necessary experience to support delivery, how are the finances being managed. The response should include how the group supports management of finances, procurement and project delivery.

8. Benefits and Impact

Officers appraising the project’s Expression of Interest need you to tell them what the benefits and impact will be because of the project. This could include,

- Who will benefit and in what way
- What new events will take place
- How will the quality of sporting engagement increase
- What would happen if the support was not available
- Details of supporting specific groups such as people with additional needs, women in sport, working with at risk adults, supporting disability sports groups.

9. Support for underrepresented groups

Officers appraising the project’s Expression of Interest need you to tell them if the project impacts underrepresented groups.

Sport NI define these as women & girls, people with disabilities, children & young people (11-18), older people (50+), ethnically diverse, people living in areas of greatest need - NISRA quartile 1, and people in rural areas - NISRA.

If the answer is no we will still consider the application

Please return the completed form to regenerationgrants@midandeantrim.gov.uk.

Notes.

Any sports clubs or activity to be eligible to apply for a grant must fall into one of the categories defined by Sport NI as a sport. Sports activities by any group must also fall into one of the categories defined by Sport NI as a sport. A list of recognised sports for the purposes of this policy is available at <http://www.sportni.net/wp-content/uploads/2024/01/Recognition-NGBs-Master-List-January-2024.pdf>

Under-represented groups are explained in the Sport NI corporate plan and based on evidence relevant to its work.

[sSportNI-Corporate-Plan-2021-26-2 compressed.pdf](#)

“Challenges remain for people with a disability, women and girls, older people, carers, ethnically diverse communities and those from the LGBTQ+ community. Whilst we have seen an increase in the support for, and the profile of, women in sport and those with a disability, there is much still to do which we aim to address through this corporate plan”.