

Active Wellbeing Grant 2026-27

Guidance Notes

The Forest of Dean District Council offers sports clubs, activity providers and individual instructors the opportunity to apply for one off funding to help develop and maintain sport and physical activity opportunities across the district (For example, through training and development, kit/equipment, room hire, coaching fees)

Applicants need to identify:

- Who benefits from the project or activity (e.g. club members, wider community, staff etc)
- How the grant will support maintaining delivery or facilities and preferably how the activity will develop or enable more people to participate
- Any connections to other clubs/ providers in the area & who they are – partnership working
- How the project helps to build community capacity and increases or maintains participation levels
- How the project will continue to deliver benefits after the funding has ended

Total level of funding available in 2026-27 is £500 per club, group or individual provider as a one-off seed fund. Speak to the team about available match funding opportunities to maximise this award.

Funding Priorities and Criteria for 2026-27:

PRIORITIES:

- Projects which support, strengthen and empower communities to support increased physical activity participation
- Activities which help to reduce social isolation and improve people's feelings of wellbeing (all ages)
- Projects which enable and establish inclusive activities (this may also be funding to support an existing activity to become more inclusive)
- Projects which engage and support volunteering locally
- Projects which increase participation opportunities and support the growth of clubs, sports and activities to reach wider audiences
- Physical activities for people with long term health conditions and disabilities

Who may apply:

All applicants must be:

- Clubs/ Groups/ Providers who can offer specific physical activity opportunities and support to people in the Forest of Dean.
- Show a commitment to accessible activities and facilities.
- Be able to demonstrate the extent to which there is a need/demand for their proposed project and or how it will maintain provision.
- Demonstrate a commitment to safeguarding with appropriate DBS certifications.
- If applying to use the grant for training - Give details of the training course they are applying for, demonstrating that it is appropriate as well as outlining the cost.
- Applicants need to evidence that they have sufficient match funding to cover the remaining costs
- Have a bank account in the name of the club or organisation / individual provider.
- Be an organisation or a group of individuals living or with a local base in the Forest of Dean District and the project must be directly beneficial to the **residents of the Forest of Dean**.

Who may not apply:

- Statutory bodies
- Parish and Town Councils
- Previous applicants of a FODDC Grant who have *not* returned a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation form
- Previous applicants or funded projects applying for the same project work or activity
- Projects for the advancement of religious or political activities
- Organisations requiring deficit funding
- Organisations requiring 'core' funding unless there is clear explanation and evidence to show that future funding is secured for continued delivery.
- National organisations with no specific **local** brief or organisations whose principle activity is outside the district and whose aims and objectives are not specifically directed at the residents of the Forest of Dean
- Lead Applicants under the age of 18 years old

What we will not fund:

- Retrospective requests. We cannot support applications for activities or purchases that have taken place before a formal grant offer has been made
- On-going maintenance costs
- Loan payments or endowments
- Items that will only benefit individuals, for example scholarships or bursaries
- Trips and day trips – *Note: Costs to attend competition or assessment fees would be considered*

Please ensure that you get an *acknowledgement of receipt* of your application once submitted.

Application Timeline	
Friday 4 th December (4pm)	- Closing date for applications <i>(Late submissions will not be accepted)</i>
W/C 14 th December 2026	- Notification of result of application

What happens after applications have been completed?

- Applications made will be assessed by a panel of Elected Members and Officers of the District Council's Community Wellbeing Team.
- All applications will be assessed and scored against the same set of priorities, as identified in these guidance notes. Those applications with the highest points will be put forward for a successful award.
- Feedback will be given by the Active Wellbeing Lead to applicants who wish to request it.

Other Information

- Every project is expected to complete a follow up/evaluation report. This could be either in the form of a video clip/link or by replying to evaluation questions, either by phone, email or evaluation visit as agreed with the Active Wellbeing Lead.
- A visit to your project may be made in later years by the Council to follow up on the progress of your project
- Copies of invoices will be required as evidence of how the grant was spent appropriately, and this **MUST** be as agreed in the award and as requested through the application form.
- Please can you also attach a scan or photo of a document from your bank that shows the account name, account number, and sort code. This will help issue payments more quickly if you are successful. Feel free to blank any non-relevant information.
- We will hold the applications on a secure server to reference in case of future applications unless we receive a request for the information to be destroyed.

Please contact the Active Wellbeing Lead for any questions you have regarding this process on 01594 812447 or email community.wellbeing@fdean.gov.uk