

Play, Active Recreation and Sport Recovery Package

Wave One



As part of Budget 2020, Minister for Sport and Recreation Grant Robertson announced a \$265m package to assist the sector recover from the downturn caused by COVID-19. The package targets three areas:

- Recover and Rebuild - short-term support to help sport and recreation organisations at all levels get through the initial impact of Covid-19.
- Strengthen and Adapt - to help the sector rebuild in the medium term. This includes helping national and regional organisations make changes to operate successfully and support new operating models and more collaboration.
- Different and Better - to modernise the sector by finding innovative ways to delivering play, active recreation and sport by using new technology and research.

The Minister has announced the first wave of support from this package. A second wave of support will be informed through engagement with the sector and is under consideration.

The first wave is worth a combined \$80 million, which will be invested over the next four years, with \$54 million of that over the 2020/2021 financial year for organisations from the community level through to the elite level.

This first release of funding from the Sector Recovery Package includes:

- \$68 million over four years for an activation fund named Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa to provide physical activity opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi. This will provide quality opportunities in play, active recreation and sport for young people who are missing out, particularly in higher deprivation areas (\$34 million of the fund is from the Sector Recovery Package with the remaining \$34 million from existing Sport NZ baselines).
- \$10 million continuation of the Sport NZ Community Resilience Fund to provide further immediate support to a broader range of eligible community based organisations.
- \$3 million to support and assist individuals and whanau experiencing significant financial hardship who, for a range of reasons are unable to access play, active recreation and sport opportunities.
- \$25.4 million investment for the first wave of Sport NZ's existing investment partners (active recreation and sport) to accelerate the strengthening and future-proof planning for their organisation and network. This includes \$4.9 million in funding for 12 national partners like Basketball NZ and Hockey NZ to help run their premier national leagues
- An initial \$7.3 million investment to improve sporting facilities. This includes the upgrading of hosting stadia and training facilities for the world cups for women. \$400,000 has also been invested to upgrade the national snow sports training facilities to improve their daily training environment ahead of the 2022 Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Tū Manawa Active Aotearoa

This four-year fund will be distributed by Regional Sports Trusts and builds on the long-standing support previously offered through the Kiwisport Regional Partnership fund. The fund aims to support the provision of, and access to, quality play, active recreation and sport opportunities for tamariki and rangatahi with an emphasis on those who are missing out.

Identification of priority population groups will be informed by Sport NZ's research over time and may change – for the next year these will include those most impacted by COVID-19, in particular 18-24 year olds, Māori, girls and young women, disabled young people as well as tamariki and rangatahi and whānau living in high deprivation communities.

Sport NZ is working with Regional Sports Trusts on the funding guidelines, with the aim of having the fund ready for applications from the community by the end of August 2020.

Community Resilience Fund

An expanded Community Resilience Fund (CRF) will provide short-term assistance to a broader range of local and regional organisations across the play, active recreation and sport sector.

It has been developed following the first phase of the Community Resilience Fund which saw \$6.5 million in support paid to over 2000 community and regional organisations.

We learnt a lot from that fund and that's why we're adjusting the criteria for this period, to ensure we're further reaching those in need. For example, organisations that are not affiliated to Sport NZ national partner, such as Sports Hubs Partnerships and others that align to RST strategic priorities, will now be considered. More detail will be provided when the fund opens.

Another key change will be the ability to claim assistance for a broader range of costs (including wages and some operational costs) over a new time period. Assistance for operational funding will mean more organisations will be eligible for support.

The fund will once again be administered by Regional Sports Trusts.

The Community Resilience Fund will specifically target support towards local and regional organisations to help them meet their operating costs for the period of July–September 2020, including partial replacement for the wage subsidy once it expires.

The maximum grant will be \$25,000 per organisation and applicants will need to demonstrate the impact that Covid-19 has had on their organisation.

National Partner Support

National partner support will be tailored to the needs of each partner and will support them where there is a clearly identified need. It will minimise the costs that would be an issue with a more rigid 'one-size-fits-all' funding approach.

National league support is capped at \$300,000 on initial investment. We have approved \$4.9m in support for 12 sports whose national leagues have been impacted in some way by COVID-19. This is to ensure their national leagues can continue in 2020, albeit in a modified form for some.

Some of those sports have asked for a few days to let their stakeholders know the good news. A full list of sports, their national leagues and the amounts provided will be published on our website in the coming days.

All National Sporting Organisations were engaged in a discussion ahead of the allocations being made.

World Cup Ready Accessible Facilities

This project has three main parts:

- Parts 1 and 2 relate to providing upgraded fit-for-purpose and gender-neutral facilities at venues to be used in Rugby World Cup 2021 with a cost of \$5.563 million (detailed plans and costs have already been developed)
- Part 3 provides funding for the investigation, support and scoping of any additional upgrades that may be required for venues to be used in the women's cricket and football world cups

The World Cup Accessible facilities concept was developed by NZ Rugby with strong collaboration across a range of partners including venue owners and operators. The proposal has the full support of Auckland Council, Whangarei District Council and Far North District Council.

The project is directly aligned with Sport NZ's Women and Girls in Sports and Active Recreation Strategy 2020-2024. Ultimately, the aim is to have an enduring legacy of inclusive, equitable, facilities.

The project will set a much needed benchmark and leave a legacy by leading the way in providing appropriate standard facilities for not just participating female rugby teams in RWC 2021 but also participants in future women's and girls' cricket and football matches at those match and training venues to be upgraded.

These are the facilities that will receive upgraded amenities in Part One of the project:

- Eden Park - West and South Stadium changing room
- Waitakere Stadium (The Trusts Arena)
- Northland Events Centre (Semenoff Stadium)

Part Two of the project will be to upgrade the community changing room facilities at the training grounds that the teams will use in the Auckland and Whangarei regions.

Part Three of the project is to scope what may be required for the Cricket and Football World Cups.

Individual Hardship

We know that cost is a barrier to participation. COVID-19 has exacerbated this for many whanau and made it harder for individuals and families to stay active.

We are investing \$3m to support and assist individuals and whanau experiencing significant financial hardship who, for a range of reasons are unable to access play, active recreation and sport opportunities.

This could cover equipment, transport and fees. We're going to try something different and we're in discussions with potential delivery agencies who work in the Social Development/delivery area to explore a partnership approach.

We'll let you know more on this once it has been further developed.