

To: Councillor Ivan Henderson, Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism & Councillor Mick Barry, Portfolio Holder for Leisure & Public Realm

From: Charlie Colwell, Community Sport and Activity Manager

Cc: Lee Heley, Deputy Chief Executive & Corporate Director, Place and Wellbeing

Cc: Mike Carran, Assistant Director Sport, Culture & Health Management Team

Cc: Kieran Charles, Head of Sport and Leisure

Date: 08/09/2025

Dear Councillor Henderson,

The purpose of this information is to inform you of the background and details set out in the Executive Decision which allocated **£7,505** to the *Sport and Widening Participation Grant* of the UKSPF.

UK Shared Prosperity Funding

Further to the report dated 21st February 2025 [Decision - Cabinet Members' Items - Report of the Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism Portfolio Holder - A.3 - UK Shared Prosperity Fund Transition Year 2025/26](#), open calls were made available for suggested projects across the 3 themes for Shared Prosperity Fund (SPF) in spring 2025:

- People & Skills
- Supporting Local Business
- Communities & Place

On 18th August 2025 the panel discussed the independent scores, and agreed on the final projects listed below.

Sports and Widening Participation Grants:

1. Developing a Coastal Sport and Activity Events Programme
2. Inclusive Access to Sport Clubs
3. Enhancing Sport & Activity Provision in Local Schools

Allocation for theme: £7,505 – Proposed spend as below: £

Applicant	Grant	Proposed Grant Award	Project in Brief (as per applicant summary)	Score
Harwich and Dovercourt Cricket Club	Grant 1	£500	In 2024 Harwich & Dovercourt entered our first youth team (U11s) into the cricket league for over five years. In 2025 we have entered two age group teams in the league (U13s and U11s) as well as giving kids the opportunity to play in kwik cricket tournament we have 3 adult senior	75.2%

			teams since reforming the youth section we have provided female players to North Essex Girls teams and also the MCCF Foundation, for state school aspiring cricketers. We have 72 junior members for 2025 and we feel with increased school engagement and running a free summer holiday cricket camp throughout August at our club, we could further increase our numbers and have more kids playing cricket. We would then look to keep this going by using the sports hall at Harwich secondary school during the winter, after schools, as a club night for local kids.	
Tendring Netball Club	Grant 1	£1,000	We are the only netball club in the Tendring area. The club was originally set up by a local resident with just one adult team and has grown to now include around 40 adult members. Due to local demand, a couple of years ago the club expanded to include a junior section and now has around 45 youth members across school years 6-11 from local schools as well as those who are home schooled. Juniors train outside, term time only, once per week. These sessions are split by school years 6-8 and 9-11. This past season we entered 5 teams into the Colchester Youth League and teams play competitive matches once per week. A level 2 Qualified England Netball Coach is required to be present at each training session with the assistance of volunteers/Level 1 Qualified coaches.	74.4%
Tendring Technology College	Grant 1	£1,000	Lift Tendring is a large secondary school serving Frinton, Walton, Clacton, Jaywick, and the wider Tendring area. We are committed to improving student wellbeing through sport and physical activity, with a focus on inclusion and equity. This project will be delivered in partnership with established community clubs, including Tendring Netball Club, a local football club, and a local dance provider. These new after-school clubs are designed to engage students from low-income backgrounds who are currently underrepresented in extra-curricular sport. We have identified a trend among students—particularly both boys and girls—who are reluctant to attend after-school clubs when they are run by their PE teachers. These clubs are often viewed as “an extension of the school day” or “just another PE lesson.” By working with external coaches from community clubs, this initiative aims to reframe after-school sport as something new, fresh, and enjoyable, separate from the school day. We hope this will re-engage students who have previously opted out and encourage regular participation.	82.4%

Flexfit Yoga CIC	Grant 2	£500	FlexfitYoga CIC is a non-profit Community Interest Company dedicated to fostering inclusive well-being within our community. Through community-funded initiatives, we offer accessible yoga and well-being activity sessions. Our focus is on supporting marginalized community groups and adults living with specific health needs, learning disabilities, and neurological conditions, including stroke, brain injury, and dementia. Your well-being is at the heart of our mission. As a not-for-profit Community Interest Company, the Flexfityoga Community Group is committed to providing inclusive and subsidised Hatha yoga, chair yoga, fitness and wellbeing sessions. These sessions are specifically designed to be accessible and inclusive for older adults, individuals with specific health needs, learning disabilities, and those with neurological conditions like stroke, brain injury, and dementia. Our dedicated team of activity providers is DBS checked, and we operate under robust Safeguarding and Equal Opportunity policies. Our commitment is to foster a supportive environment for individuals facing unique challenges, promoting holistic well-being through tailored sessions.	79.2%
Holland Haven Primary School	Grant 1	£1000	The After-School Club will be run by the Colchester Utd Community Foudation - they will be providing Multi Skills sessions. We would like to offer Multi Skills sessions that allow the children to develop their basic fundamental movement skills. The sessions would allow me the children to grow in confidence and improve their social and team work skills in a friendly, competitive environment. The sessions will start at 3:15 and finish at 4:15. We would like to provide 10-12 weekly sessions over the Autumn term (depending on funding). The sessions would inclusive of all students that would be interested in attending but would have to capped at a number deemed fit by Colchester Utd in accordance with their current policy. The coaches qualifications can be requested upon approval of the sessions.	70.4%
Clacton County High School	Grant 1	£1000	Clacton County High School is a mixed comprehensive high school, part of the Sigma Trust. It has approximately 1600 students. We are continuously looking to develop the opportunities that our students have in order to develop lifelong participation in a chosen activity. We have noticed a significant decline in the amount of racket sports that students play outside of lessons, and memberships to local clubs are at their lowest post-pandemic. Working with local coach Chris Vine of C & SV Consultancy to develop the amount of squash, tennis and badminton played recreationally and	79.2%

			competitively amongst the 11-18 year old category.	
Spring Meadow Primary School	Grant 1	£500	We are hoping to introduce new, structured after-school netball sessions for our pupils. The sessions will be delivered by a qualified and experienced netball coach, Natalie Daines. The sessions we propose will be entirely new to the school and will run weekly after school, targeting Key Stage 2 pupils (Years 3–6). We aim to engage up to 20–25 pupils per session, offering opportunities to children who may not currently take part in structured sports clubs outside of school. This initiative will promote healthy lifestyles, improve coordination and fitness, and support the development of skills specific to netball, including passing, movement, and tactical awareness. This funding will also support the replacement of our current netball posts, which are no longer fit for purpose, ensuring a safe and professional-standard environment for children to learn and play.	77.6%
Essex Professional Coaching	Grant 1	£1000	Essex Professional Coaching (EPC) is a children's activity and education provider committed to creating a healthier, happier, and more active Essex. Our programmes inspire over 500 children across the Tendring district every term through curriculum PE, after-school clubs, and holiday provision. We're proud to work in partnership with schools such as Whitehall Academy, Tendring Primary, Holland Haven, and Bradfield Primary, where we've sustained and expanded extra-curricular activity over the last five years. Our delivery is inclusive, engaging, and led by qualified educators who specialise in creating positive first experiences of sport. We're passionate about removing barriers to participation and strive to make physical activity accessible, enjoyable, and meaningful for every child. Our 'Ultimate Activity Club' will run for 10 weeks during the Spring Term (Jan - March 2026), ideally on Monday afternoons from 3:15 - 4:15pm. The club will feature inclusive, high-impact activities such as Archery, NERF Gun Games, and Golf carefully selected to engage less active or disengaged children and provide them with a fun, non-traditional sporting experience. Each session will be delivered by two members of our expert team: • A lead coach with a minimum NGB Level 2 qualification. • A trained support staff member to guarantee consistent delivery in the event of absence — part of our Cover Guarantee. Both staff members are DBS checked, hold appropriate insurance, and receive termly in-situ support visits from our education leadership team. All EPC educators complete a minimum of 10 hours CPD per	95%

			year and operate under our comprehensive Safeguarding Policy and Quality Assurance Framework.	
Essex Cricket	Grant 2	£500	We would like to offer a Beach Sport Festival that builds upon previous beach cricket festivals to provide an opportunity to experience new sports in a fun and relaxed environment. We will be using the offer of a multi-sport festival as a way of encouraging more teenage girls from Tendring to become active. In the past Essex Cricket have delivered a beach cricket event and we have worked with Essex Rebels to include volleyball as part of the offer. We would like to expand this to include football with Colchester United and rugby with Colchester Rugby Club. The funding would be used to cover the increase in associated coaching delivery costs, equipment for the new sports and administration of the event. The festival will be a single day event held at Martello beach and will run for approximately four hours, depending on the tides. Up to four sports will be available for teams to take part in throughout the day and we anticipate between 60 – 80 girls attending this event. The event will be invitation only, working through the School Games Organisers and our existing relationships with schools in the district to promote and encourage teenage girls to attend the event. We will ensure the event is fully accessible and inclusive by working with schools to identify the students whose health and wellbeing will be most impacted on by attending. Each activity will have a minimum of two qualified level 2 coaches supervising. These coaches would have completed safeguarding training and be DBS assured. The event and coaching staff will be covered by Essex Cricket public liability insurance.	81.6%

Harwich & Dovercourt Cricket Club	Grant 3	£300	We as a club have a strong belief in ensuring fully inclusivity at our club and supporting one of our girls progression is hugely important to our club. Rhiannon is diagnosed with ADHD and Autism and cricket is her release. She has a huge love for the game and playing the game breeds confidence so as a club we want her to flourish in an area she has so much potential at. Funding inclusive clubs isn't easy and this funding will allow her to learn skills locally as most other training incurs travel etc. We hope for a bright future for Rhiannon and this grant would be hugely supportive.	90.7%
Great Bentley Cricket Club	Grant 3	£205	Ethan has been attending Great Bentley Cricket Club (GBCC) for 3 year as a junior 'soft ball' player. He is now transitioning to 'Hardball'. This transition requires various items of protective equipment at significant expense. In some circumstances this equipment can prove prohibitive to a child's progress. Ethan is a talented and enthusiastic young player. GBCC is keen to ensure he continues on his cricket journey.	89.3%

If you could, by way of a completed form (below) or by return email, indicate your consent to proceed with the proposed projects, we would be most grateful. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us to discuss any aspect further before granting your consent, on any of the above outlined proposals.

Kind regards,

Charlie Colwell

Community Sport & Activity Manager

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Dear Charlie,

Thank you for your memorandum 08/09/2025 requesting approval for suggested UKSPF projects, after an open call for projects in spring 2025 and work to progress project ideas which meet the committed to outputs & outcomes of SPF.

I agree/ do not agree with the outlined process.

Kind regards,

Cllr Ivan Henderson

Deputy Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holder for Economic Growth, Regeneration & Tourism