

sportswales  
chwaraeoncymsu

# ***NEW INVESTMENT APPROACH***

***A BRIEF GUIDE***

# ***INVESTING PRECIOUS RESOURCES BETTER***

In order to achieve the new vision for sport in Wales, and with public funds more precious than ever, Sport Wales has developed a bold new investment approach.

The new approach will affect how National Governing Bodies, local authorities and other national partners such as Street Games, Urdd Gobaith Cymru, and the Youth Sport Trust are funded.

The approach has been designed with the objectives of Sport Wales' new strategy at its core, and funding decisions will be based on three key components:

- Capability
- Insight, information and data
- Accountability



# ***PHASING IN THE NEW INVESTMENT APPROACH***

The new approach will be introduced in 2021/22, but some of the key principles will be phased in during the 2020/21 partner agreement process.

The new investment approach may result in financial changes to partners that have received Sport Wales funding previously.

A phased transition will be adopted with these partners to ensure that they are supported through any funding increases or decreases.



# CAPABILITY TO RECEIVE FUNDING

To ensure that public money is invested appropriately, and so that Sport Wales has confidence in the partners it works with, all organisations must demonstrate their capability to receive funding.

A new Capability Framework – which is aligned to the refreshed Governance and Leadership Framework for Wales – will support partners to continuously improve so that they are best prepared to achieve their potential.

To be eligible for funding, organisations needed to meet some essential requirements by April 2020 which covered basic governance, safeguarding, financial and legal obligations, board diversity, equality and insurance.

Further requirements which support a partner's continuous improvement will need to be met by April 2021.



# **INSIGHT, INFORMATION AND DATA**

As well as taking into account how capable an organisation is, the second important factor involved in partner funding will be insight, information and data.

## **DATA-DRIVEN INVESTMENT**

Where official data is available for a partner, this will be used to determine a maximum investment level. The National Survey for Wales and School Sport Survey data showing current participation levels, and demand, will be used when making funding decisions for national governing bodies as will a suite of objective performance criteria.

For regional partners – such as local authorities and the new regional sports partnerships which are under development – the population data covering the numbers of under 16s and 16+, BAME residents, disability population and rurality will all be considered by Sport Wales when allocating funding.



Weighting – which will be in line with Sport Wales' new strategy – will be applied to the criteria to arrive at an overall 'score' which will determine the funding that partners receive. To make the process as transparent as possible, a full explanation of how and why various criteria are used will be made available to partners.

### ***APPLICATION-DRIVEN INVESTMENT***

National data isn't available for all partners. These partners will apply for funding by demonstrating either:

- The scale of the impact they can have nationally on sport or physical activity, or;
- How they can build capacity and capability within other funded organisations to work together to provide excellent sporting opportunities.

Each application will be assessed by a mixed panel of experts.



# OPEN AND ACCOUNTABLE

The third important aspect of the new investment approach is that it puts a greater emphasis on accountability, with partners encouraged to give an honest account of their actions and how they will drive improvement within their organisation and across the sector.

Partners will be asked to demonstrate learning and progress using a set of accountability statements. For example, to what extent are they offering inclusive opportunities and how do they know that these provide a great experience for those involved?

More capable, insight-led, accountable organisations will be far stronger prospects to other potential funders.



# **RESULT: MORE FLEXIBILITY TO TARGET WHAT REALLY MATTERS**

The new approach will enable greater flexibility for partners to be innovative and determine where funding is best spent in line with Sport Wales' strategic intents.

Accepting the differing needs of varying sports, partners and regions, the new approach will strengthen the ability of partners to make improvements in priority areas such as female, BAME and disability participation, and participation in deprived areas.

The effective use of insight and stronger partnership working will be more important than ever.

