**Funding assessment and scoring system**

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| 1. Likelihood of increasing participation/improving performance | Demonstrating how the project will increase active participation in sport (in particular female participation and participation amongst persons with disabilities) and/or improve standards of sports performance in line with clearly stated priorities. Priority is given to facilities likely to increase actual participation in sport. Bar facilities, landscaping and car parks will not be funded under the Programme.  The highest marks under the criteria are likely to be only awarded to projects in disadvantaged areas (based on the POBAL index of disadvantage) and those that specifically target people with disabilities or with mental health issues. |
| 1. Sharing of facilities | Applicants can score marks under the Sharing of Facilities criterion only if they submit licence agreements demonstrating the sharing of facilities with other groups. Letters of support do not count and will not result in additional marks being awarded.  Further marks will be given to those who can highlight their facility will be widely used by other sports (but these will not be needed as formal agreements) |
| 1. Level of socio-economic disadvantage in the area | It is likely that the funder will again prioritise facilities in disadvantaged areas. The score is allocated in accordance with the Pobal Deprivation Index <https://www.pobal.ie/> for the project location. If details are provided in the application setting out how disadvantaged groups from outside the immediate vicinity will use the facility, these will also be considered. |
| 1. Technical merits of the project | Marks are usually awarded for providing evidence of a planning application, planning permission or evidence that you do not need planning permission and for the quality of the quotations provided.  It is likely that bonus points will be awarded to applications which do not require the “second chance” facility ie… if you can ensure all technical aspects and requirements of the project are confirmed at the first hurdle then you will receive more marks. |
| 1. Level of own funding available | Local Authorities are required to contribute 30% towards the cost of the project. All other applicants are required to contribute at least 5% towards the cost of the project.  Additional marks are likely to be awarded where the applicant is contributing a higher proportion of own funding. In contrast to previous rounds, any own funding committed by the club will be reduced from the maximum valid grant awarded.  Accordingly, applicants should only include the amount of own funding that they are willing to commit to the project in the “amount of own funding” box on the application form. Projects in disadvantaged areas are likely to require a lesser level of own funding to achieve the maximum marks available under this criterion. However, the mark will be diminished where the own funding is primarily based on loans. |
| 1. Level of SCEP funding received in the past 10 years | Preference is usually given to applicants who have not received significant grants under the scheme in the last 10 years.  Applicants with more than €100,000 outstanding for 4 years or more may have their marks under this criterion reduced. |
| 1. Evidence of environmental initiatives & climate adaptation | For the 2023 round, marks may also be awarded for providing evidence of environmental initiatives and/or biodiversity protection and restoration measures in place, the utilisation of sustainable methods and/or products.  Details of these measures should be included in the application form (page 3 of form, Site Management and Facilities segment) and supporting documentation provided, where applicable, as referenced previously in the Guide. |
| 1. Population growth and level of existing facilities | For the 2023 round, marks may also be awarded to applications from areas witnessing significant population growth.  In particular, the level of existing facilities in an area will continue to be a factor when scoring applications. |