

Sport Birmingham

Active Birmingham - Place Deepening Programme Background Information and Guidance for Applicants September 2026

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1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Thank you for your interest in the Sport England Place Deepening Programme. Local funding for this programme is administered by Sport Birmingham, which has a responsibility for ensuring that grant funding is distributed for the agreed purpose and that funded organisations use it appropriately to support the vision, aims and intended outcomes of the programme.
- 1.2 This is a single-stage process, all interested and eligible organisations should submit a full response following the requirements set out in this document.
- 1.3 This document provides an overview and background to the programme, including key objectives, and guidance for completing the application form. Please read this before completing the form, which is a separate document and can be downloaded on the Sport Birmingham website at: <https://sportbirmingham.org/active-birmingham-place-deepening/>
- 1.4 If you have any queries about your application, please contact the Active Birmingham team at grants@sportbirmingham.org. Applications will **close on Monday 19th October 2026 at 5:00pm**. Applications received after the closing deadline will not be accepted, please ensure that all documentation required is included in your application, failure to do so will result in your application being rejected.
- 1.5 Sport Birmingham will publish a set of FAQs on its website and will answer any questions until a week before the closure of applications, the final opportunity to ask questions will be **Monday 12th October 2026 at 5:00pm**.
- 1.6 Successful applicants will be notified during the week beginning **Monday 26th October 2026**, at which point the next steps will be discussed.

2.0 Background to the Fund

- 2.1 The Place Deepening Programme represents a continuing move, by Sport England and its local Active Partnerships to see physical activity in terms of wellbeing, personal development, social, community and economic engagement. Over the past decade Sport England has shifted from funding sport participation and activity sessions to investing in place based, community led approaches, which look to tackle the barriers stopping people from becoming active. Funding is now increasingly focused on systems change, local leadership, developing and supporting grassroots organisations.
- 2.2 The narrative below explains the shift by Sport England from commissioning sporting activity and interventions to taking a local place-based approach to tackling inactivity in communities.
- 2.3 In 2015 the Government published Sporting Future – A New Strategy for an Active Nation placing emphasis on overcoming inactivity and tackling the barriers that individuals and communities face in becoming active and healthier. [Sporting Future - A New Strategy for an Active Nation - GOV.UK](#)

2.4 Following on from this report, in 2016, and responding to the Government's statement, Sport England published two papers; the first, Towards an Active Nation, introduced a much stronger focus on inactive people and communities with an emphasis on local delivery and geography, [New strategy to tackle inactivity | Sport England](#). The second paper, Tackling Inactivity: A guide to Sport England's Approach to Investment, described how this strategy would translate into investment and support for organisations and communities to work with inactive people, not just to deliver more sporting activity and sessions. [Tackling inactivity investment guide | Sport England](#)

2.5 In 2017 Sport England launched Local Delivery Pilots, these are now referred to as Local Place Partnerships. The core principles of its "place based" approaches were:

Focusing on inactivity and inequality – Funding was channelled to inactive communities where demographics showed high levels of inactivity and low incomes and poverty created high barriers to physical activity.

Bottom - Up Design - Pilots were to be led by local community needs, focusing on what can support communities to become active, rather than prescribing traditional sporting interventions.

Systems Change – To encourage a more joined up approach to tackling inactivity, looking at how local systems can co-operate rather than compete, it is about changing the conditions around people and communities and not just delivering more activities.

2.6 Twelve areas were eventually selected, of which Birmingham and Solihull were one. The Local Place Partnerships concentrated on six areas, these were:

Area 1: Handsworth, Aston, Birchfield, Holyhead, Lozells, Newtown, Perry Barr, Soho & Jewellery Quarter

Area 2: Balsall Heath West, Bordesley & Highgate, Ladywood, Nechells, North Edgbaston

Area 3: Erdington, Gravelly Hill, Kingstanding, Perry Common, Stockland Green

Area 4: Alum Rock, Bordesley Green, Heartlands, Small Heath, South Yardley, Sparkbrook & Balsall Heath East, Tyseley & Hay Mills, Ward End, Yardley West & Stechford

Area 5: Glebe Farm & Tile Cross, Shard End

Area 6: Billesley, Brandwood & Kings Heath, Druids Heath & Monyhull, Highter's Heath

2.7 Delivery began in 2018 and was administered by The Active Wellbeing Society on behalf of Birmingham City Council: <https://theaws.co.uk/active-communities-programme-learning/>

2.8 In 2021 Sport England published People and Places: The story of doing it differently. [People-and-Places-The-story-of-doing-it-differently.pdf](#) The report reflected on the early

years of the Local Delivery Partnerships and published the main lessons learned, reflecting on how to do things differently to support inactive citizens and communities.

- 2.9 The report explains the shift away from “sport for sport’s” sake, to how local systems can work together to remove the barriers that stop people from living active, healthy, and connected lives.
- 2.10 More recently Sport Birmingham has continued to develop its place-based approach to physical activity and wellbeing, through the umbrella programme of Active Birmingham. This has included funding four community anchor organisations to strengthen their local networks and capacity build their local community organisations to support young people become more active and engaged.
- 2.11 Through its Community Champions Project, Active Birmingham has worked with organisations in thirteen areas across the city. This has involved supporting them to co-design engagement and wellbeing activity within their local area, including developing capacity and capability. Both projects have found key barriers and enablers to activity and the key themes around capacity and capability. [Active Birmingham - Sport Birmingham](#)
- 2.12 Sport England recognises that a co-operative and co-ordinated approach is essential to achieving systems change and leadership at a local level. Place based organisations play a critical role in reaching communities that are often least heard, least active, and least connected to formal services. These communities are not only the seldom heard but seldom listened to. Co-operation enables partners to align their strengths, share insight, build trust, reduce duplication, and develop activity that reflects the real needs of communities.
- 2.13 This approach is consistent with place-based principles, which seek to change the local conditions that influence health, wellbeing, and physical activity, rather than simply fund isolated activity.
- 2.14 In 2023 Sport England announced a major expansion of its Local Delivery Partnerships saying that the aim was to help more people become active by breaking down the barriers that get in their way. By 2025 the Place Deepening Programme was announced naming ninety Place Partnerships across England with funding until 31st March 2028. Sport Birmingham is the accountable body for this funding across Birmingham.
- 2.15 Funding is focused on – building local relationships, strengthening grassroots community organisations, and using learning, insight and data to create the conditions for long term systems change and healthier, connected, and active communities rather than simply funding isolated activity sessions.
- 2.16 Sport England’s Place Partnerships are long-term, place-based investments designed to tackle inactivity and reduce inequalities by working with local communities, organisations, and systems. Focus is on understanding the specific barriers people face in their everyday lives and building local relationships, capacity and conditions that make

it easier for people to be active, healthy, and connected. [Our work in places | Sport England](#)
: [How game-changing place work is helping to get England active | Sport England](#)

3.0 Strategic aims of the Place Deepening Programme

- 3.1 The purpose of the Programme is to deepen engagement in Birmingham across the sectors of health, community, environment, skills, and education. The strategic aims of the programme are:
- Reducing health inequalities through targeted, holistic community-led interventions.
 - Decreasing inactivity and increasing physical activity through accessible pathways.
 - Supporting children, young people, and families to be more active.
- 3.2 The Programme builds on the foundations set up through the Local Delivery Partnerships and Commonwealth Active Communities Projects (CAC). It will further strengthen existing work to reduce health inequalities across Birmingham through targeted, holistic, and community-led interventions that are rooted in local neighbourhoods and shaped by the needs, strengths, and priorities of local communities.
- 3.3 The programme will support children, young people and families, including children and young people with disabilities and additional needs, by creating inclusive, safe, accessible, and engaging environments that encourage participation, improve wellbeing, and foster active habits for life.
- 3.4 The Programme looks to deepen engagement through a range of sustainable interventions including:
- Community-led physical activity sessions in a range of community assets such as parks, streets, youth, sport and faith centres, and GP surgeries.
 - Health-integrated models that encourage safe/accessible movement and activity.
 - Programmes focused on positive experiences for children and young people.
 - Continued development of accessible tools like the “Activity Finder” platform.
- 3.5 It is important to note from the outset that funding is **not intended for Local System Partners to deliver physical activity or wellbeing services directly**. Their role is to coordinate, facilitate and enable local action, while building the capacity of community groups and organisations already working at neighbourhood level. This includes strengthening local leadership, encouraging greater collaboration and supporting the long-term sustainability of community-led activity.
- 3.6 Sport Birmingham have been co-operating closely with Birmingham Public Health to align Place Deepening investment with the Public Health Local Activity Partnerships (LAPs) of which there are five across the city: North, South, East, West and Central.

This funding aligns with these five areas and with the City Council's increasing emphasis on neighbourhood and place-based delivery of services.

- 3.7 Birmingham Public Health is exploring and preparing for future investment to address wider health inequalities, with opportunities to align with and complement Sport England's Place Deepening programme. While Place Deepening focuses on children, young people and families, the two funding streams share common aims, including strengthening community capacity, widening participation and supporting people of all ages to become more physically active. Where appropriate, the programmes should work together to avoid duplication and create more coordinated and accessible pathways into physical activity across the city.
- 3.8 The Programme aligns with the Public Health Strategy, Creating an Active Birmingham, whose priorities are:
- Closing the gap in health inequalities related to physical activity.
 - Decreasing physical inactivity levels.
 - Focus on Children, Young People and Families.
 - Shared leadership and Governance.

[Creating an Active Birmingham strategy 2024 to 2034 | Birmingham City Council](#)

4.0 Geographic Focus and Target Communities

- 4.1 Sport Birmingham has a Grant Agreement with Sport England for the delivery of funding in seven areas between September 2026 and September 2028, with all agreed delivery activity, returns (financial, evaluations) and payments completed by the **24th of March 2028**.
- 4.2 The funding of the Local Delivery Partnerships in 2018 was based on geographic and demographic data from 2016 / 2017. However, since then Birmingham has continued to grow and change, the city is still one of the youngest and most diverse major cities in England, and its population has increased. The changes reinforce the need for a place-based approach focusing on community wellbeing and physical activity.
- 4.3 The areas identified broadly reflect the Local Place Partnerships detailed on page 3, with some adjustments to account for the exclusion of Solihull, increasing levels of deprivation in wards in the south of the city identified through the 2025 IMD, and ongoing collaboration with Birmingham Public Health to align the programme with its Local Activity Partnerships.
- 4.4 The focus of this programme is on **children, young people, and their families**.
- 4.5 As part of the Grant Agreement, Sport England has given Witton Lodge (North LAP) and Saheli Hub (East LAP North) first refusal. Both organisations have informed Sport Birmingham that they will take up this offer and will be working as Local System Partners in these areas. This arrangement is in recognition (by Sport England) of the

work undertaken by both organisations on the original Local Place Partnerships and continues the work of deepening place activity in those areas.

- 4.6 Therefore Sport Birmingham is looking to commission five Local Systems Partners (LSPs) in the East, West, South and Central, as part of the Place Deepening Programme.

West LAP (North)	Holyhead	Handsworth	Birchfield	Lozells	Aston
West LAP (South)	Soho and Jewellery Quarter	Bordesley and Highgate	Bordesley Green	North Edgbaston	
East LAP (North) Saheli Hub	Alum Rock	Ward End	Bromford and Hodge Hill	Glebe Farm and Tile Cross	Shard End
East LAP (South)	Acocks Green	Tyseley and Hay Mills	Small Heath	Heartlands	Yardley West and Stechford
	Garratts Green				
North LAP Witton Lodge	Kingstanding	Perry Common	Castle Vale	Gravelly Hill	Stockland Green
	Pype Hayes				
Central LAP	Sparkbrook and Balsall Heath East	Balsall Heath West	Sparkhill		
South LAP	Kings Norton South	Frankley Great Park	Bartley Green		

5.0 Local Systems Partners, Local Community Partners and Capacity Building for Health and Wellbeing.

- 5.1 There will be seven Local Systems Partners, with two in the East and West. Organisations can only apply for one area.
- 5.2 An LSP is a locally rooted well-established community organisation that plays a trusted role within its neighbourhood, bringing people, community groups, and local partners together, using its assets and influence for the wider good.
- 5.3 For the purposes of this programme they will employ staff, already be delivering services, and have a strong presence and physical base / community asset in their area. They will have a demonstrable track record of championing their communities, and working with local groups, organisations, and residents to reduce inequality, isolation and improve health and wellbeing outcomes.
- 5.4 LSPs will be expected to demonstrate a strong understanding of, and proven experience in, building the capacity of local organisations and communities through physical activity, sport, and wellbeing. Applicants should clearly show how their approach can contribute to improved health outcomes, reduced inequalities, stronger communities, and greater social connection.
- 5.5 The role of LSPs in relation to **capacity building** is to:
- Work with **approximately two Local Community Partners (LCPs) per ward** to strengthen their capacity and capability to deliver sustainable, locally focused activity that engages children, young people and families and increases physical activity. We recognise that existing community networks and local boundaries may not align neatly with ward boundaries, meaning that more or fewer than two LCPs may be appropriate in some areas. Applicants are encouraged to explain their proposed approach, and we welcome discussion about what will work best locally.
 - In each district, bring Local Community Partners together as a supportive learning network that shares insight, builds capacity, and strengthens delivery across the area.
 - Engage with Stakeholders in their locality, including the NHS, local Network Neighbourhood Services and other relevant projects and funded activity.
 - Recognise the strong alignment between Place Deepening and Birmingham Public Health's Local Activity Partnerships (LAPs), and, where appropriate, coordinate funding to maximise added value and impact across local communities.
 - To attend Local Active Partnerships meetings and liaise with the LAP lead in their area.
 - Oversee the networking, sharing of good practice, and developing local leadership skills across the LCPs in each of the districts.

- Engage with the Active Birmingham and Sport Birmingham teams in networking, sharing and co-ordinating across the districts and working closely with the **Community Connectors** who will work across the areas to develop a city-wide Place Deepening Network.
- As part of the overall governance of the programme, there is a city-wide Birmingham Place Steering Group forming of representatives from Sport Birmingham, Public Health, and local and national partners. LSPs will be expected to contribute to the partnership by attending relevant meetings, sharing learning, developing networks and helping to shape the programme's future direction and delivery.

5.6 LSPs will need to demonstrate that, collectively, their LCPs offer a broad and varied range of physical activity and wellbeing opportunities across the wards. Provision should reflect the age, (up to 18 for younger people), gender, cultural, social, and economic profile of local communities, helping to ensure that activity is inclusive, relevant, and not limited in scope or reach across the area.

5.7 Each of the LSPs will:

- Build capacity and support the development of local grassroots groups.
- Support them in developing their physical activity offer for their local community.
- Provide hosting and network opportunities for their Local Community Partners.
- Where required, provide governance and hosting arrangements for the local groups, with the view of building their own capacity to apply for funding and deliver activities.
- Recognise and support the role of active travel, by active travel we mean supporting people to make daily journeys by physically active methods e.g. walking, wheeling and cycling, for children, young people, and families.
- Recognise the environmental conditions for local activity to become embedded in everyday life – systems change.
- Work closely with the Active Birmingham Place Deepening Team, including providing qualitative and quantitative evidence for the monitoring, evaluation and learning across the programme.

5.8 Furthermore, investment is to be structured around five priority systems, so emphasis is on the strands of activity that:

- **Improve Health, Wellbeing and Physical Activity** – this is physical, mental, social, and emotional, it is about encouraging people to become active.
- **Link into education** - as a route to improving overall health and increasing activity.
- **Linking into Skills and Employment**, which could for example result in stronger local leadership, increased volunteering skills, and pathways into employment.
- **Developing an Active Local Environment** – making easier for people to engage in activity in their local community, activity is safer, movement is

encouraged through cleaner and safer environments whether that is inside or outside.

- **Community Cohesion** - being active is often a social act — people meet, mix, build trust and start to feel more connected to where they live, they come together around shared interests and local places.

5.9 **Local Community Partners** are organisations rooted within their areas, with the local knowledge and reach needed to deliver activity directly in their communities. They will:

- Work closely with their Local Systems Partner, who will support their wider engagement and help strengthen local connections across their Local Area Partnership.
- Use local knowledge and trusted relationships to support and engage residents, particularly those who face barriers around taking part in physical activity.
- Working with their LSP and Community Connectors to find potential additional resources and opportunities.
- Take part in relevant capacity building and learning opportunities, sharing learning and good practice across local networks.
- Help identify local need and where there are gaps in physical and wellbeing activity.
- Contribute to the overall development and sustainability of the Place Deepening Programme.
- Use the Birmingham Activity Finder, which will also include adding local community activity.

5.10 Local Community Partners will receive funding to facilitate their meaningful participation in the programme. This may support staff or volunteer time, attendance at meetings, engagement with residents, networking, and participation in capacity-building activities. Expectations, monitoring and reporting will be proportionate to the size of the organisation and the funding received.

5.11 Those applying for the role as a Local Systems Partner will need to demonstrate that they have the experience and processes in place to support the LCPs. The distribution of the funding to LCP's will be subject to ratification later.

5.12 Through their capacity and development role, LSPs will help to build locally sustainable networks that can improve coordination, reduce duplication, and create increased opportunities for local people to engage in physical activity.

5.13 The programme **will not fund** Local Systems Partnerships to **directly deliver physical or wellbeing activities**. This funding is to act as co-ordinators, capacity builders, facilitators, and enablers within and across their local place. LSPs will be expected to work with community groups and organisations that are already delivering at a neighbourhood level, supporting them to strengthen local leadership, increase co-

operation across the system and improve the long-term sustainability of community-led activity.

6.0 Funding Allocation and Grant Management Agreements

- 6.1 The total **delivery budget** for this programme is **£1.3m**. Sport England have agreed to fund **70%** with an in-principal funding of a further **30%** at a date to be agreed, Therefore, the funding model will reflect this.
- 6.2 The figures below show the Capacity Building Budget for each LSP and the budget for Local Community Partners. There is a learning and development allocation for each LSP and this forms part of the overall budget. LSPs will need to demonstrate learning and development activity.
- 6.3 The budget figures detailed below are indicative and intended to support applicants in preparing their proposals. Final funding allocations may vary depending on the quality and scope of applications received, the proposed delivery model and the overall availability of funding. This funding is restricted funding and cannot be used to deliver activities not related to the Place Deepening Programme.
- 6.4 Payments will be made **quarterly** in advance and dependent upon the return of all relevant documentation by agreed dates. Where this does not happen and agreed output are not achieved, Sport Birmingham reserves the right to withhold funding.
- 6.5 Within one month of the start of the agreement, each LSP will have to submit a Place Deepening Delivery Plan. This will outline the role of each of its local community partners, its own role and the outputs and activity that will be collectively delivered. 10% of the Capacity Building Budget is paid when the plan has been agreed.
- 6.9 Funding will be awarded as a grant, and VAT should not be added to the agreed final grant value. Applicants are responsible for taking their own VAT advice and should identify any VAT implications within their application.

Area

Area	Number of Wards	Local Community Partners	Total Budget for Local Community Partners	Total Capacity Budget for each Local System Partner	Overall Total	Funding Nov 26 to March 27 Local Community Partner	Funding April 27 to March 28 Local Community Partner	Funding Nov 26 to March 28 Local System Partner	Funding April 27 to March 28 Local System Partner
West LAP (North)	5	10	£103,125	£95,714	£198,839	£72,188	£30,938	£67,000	£28,713
West LAP (South)	4	8	£82,500	£85,714	£168,214	£57,750	£24,750	£60,000	£25,714
East LAP (North) Saheli Hub	5	10	£103,125	£95,714	£198,839	£72,188	£30,939	£67,000	£28,712
East LAP (South)	6	12	£123,750	£105,714	£229,464	£86,625	£37,125	£74,000	£31,714
North LAP Witton Lodge	6	12	£123,750	£105,714	£229,464	£86,625	£37,125	£74,000	£31,714
Central LAP	3	6	£61,875	£75,714	£137,589	£43,312	£18,563	£53,000	£22,714
South LAP	3	6	£61,875	£75,714	£137,589	£43,312	£18,563	£53,000	£22,714

The table above breaks funding down between two periods - Nov 26 to March 27 and April 27 to March 28. Sport England have withheld 30% of the overall £1.3m and it is subject to approval, we have therefore assumed that the 30% funding will become available from April 2027, however, we cannot guarantee this and full funding is subject to agreement with Sport England. If the 30% funding is not agreed, it will not be payable.

7.0 Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL)

- 7.1 The shift to engagement, leadership and delivery at a community and neighbourhood level will continue to be monitored and evaluated both at a quantitative and qualitative level.
- 7.2 Active Birmingham through its monitoring and evaluation role on the programme, will support and work with local system and community partners to assess the effectiveness, impact, and sustainability of the programme, ensuring learning is captured, shared, and used to strengthen future delivery.
- 7.3 Sport Birmingham adopts the National Evaluation and Learning Partnership (NELP); part of its role as a local Active Partner is to work with local providers to assess local readiness, sustainability and leadership across the sport and wellbeing sector. Part of your role as a LSP will be to support the MEL team by engaging with this process, including your Local Community Partners.
- 7.4 Successful LSPs will be required to complete a monitoring and evaluation form as part of their **quarterly returns** this will form part of the payment process. Our MEL lead for the programme will also engage with the LSPs and their community partners on a regular basis to understand the challenges and build evidence of what works well in local communities.
- 7.5 Sport Birmingham reserves the right to withhold payments where monitoring and evaluation forms are not submitted as part of the quarterly returns process.
- 7.6 All successful LSPs will be required to attend a Sport Birmingham meeting where the Active Birmingham team will walk you through the MEL, contractual and reporting requirements. LSPs will also need to commit to further three learning and sharing workshops throughout the lifetime of the project.

8.0 Grant Monitoring and Support

- 8.1 As the accountable body for the programme, Sport Birmingham and the Active Birmingham Team, will support LSPs to ensure that funding is used appropriately and delivery remains aligned with the aims and outcomes of the project, achieving the agreed outputs and demonstrating benefit for children, young people and families.
- 8.2 Support and oversight will be undertaken in a supportive and proportionate manner, combining agreed delivery, monitoring returns, financial oversight, and progress reporting.
- 8.3 This approach will help ensure that LSPs and their community partners are supported to deliver effectively, manage risk, evidence impact, and contribute to the wider programme aims around physical activity, wellbeing, local leadership, and sustainable community-led delivery.
- 8.4 Where an LSP does not send required returns by the agreed date, or where performance or delivery issues are identified, Sport Birmingham reserves the right to

withhold payment and, where necessary and if matters cannot be resolved cancel the agreement.

- 8.5 Successful applicants will receive a Grant Service Level Agreement, which will contain agreed Key Performance Indicators, delivery milestones, reporting requirements, and contract responsibilities.

9.0 Grant Application Form Guidance

- 9.1 Please read the guidance carefully before completing the Grant Application Form. We appreciate that some information may be repeated across the guidance and background information. This is intended to provide clarity and ensure that all applicants are fully aware of their role, responsibilities and the expectations associated with delivering the programme.
- 9.2 The Place Deepening Grant is intended to support seven Local System Partners (LSPs), each working with Local Community Partners (LCPs) across their district. We are looking to provide grant funding to organisations with the capacity, local reach and proven experience to develop, strengthen and sustain community partners and local networks. The outcome is improving access to physical activity for inactive and hard to reach communities.
- 9.3 Funding should build on existing relationships, networks and community partners that are already established and delivering within the area being applied for. Successful applicants will be expected to demonstrate how they will support community organisations to strengthen, grow, and become more sustainable throughout the lifetime of the programme.

10.0 Who can apply?

- 10.1 We are looking to fund Local System Partners that have the capacity and proven experience to develop, grow, and sustain Local Community Partners and networks.
- 10.2 Applicants applying for grant funding as a Local Systems Partner need to be able to demonstrate that they are / or have the capability to:
- Work with Local Community Partners to deliver sport, physical and wellbeing activity to children, young people, and their families.
 - Already supporting and developing the capacity of smaller community groups to build their sustainability and become part of a sports and activity delivery network.
 - Linking into other initiatives, (local, regional, national), that could promote this activity, provide added value, and promote sustainability.
 - Able to demonstrate they can collect and share learning and impact with local groups, including the Local Activity Partnerships, Active Birmingham and wider stakeholders engaged in the programme.
 - Experienced at managing and distributing funding to community organisations and supporting them to achieve agreed activity and outcomes.

- In your application we would expect you to prove how you will strengthen, grow, and sustain community organisations during the lifetime of the programme and what exit plan you will have in place for when the funding ends.

- 10.3 We recognise that the LAP districts cover large and diverse geographical areas across the city. We therefore welcome **collaborative applications** from organisations that wish to share the responsibilities of the LSP role, bringing together partners with established reach, local knowledge, and a strong presence across different communities. While one organisation will need to act as the accountable body and lead contractual arrangements, we are open to partnership models involving several anchor organisations working collectively to provide effective, locally responsive support to LCPs. Funding for collaboration will come from Local Systems Partner budget.
- 10.4 If your organisation is successful, you will have to name all the Local Community Partners you will be working with in your Place Deepening Development Plan, which needs to be completed within one months of signing your grant agreement. However, if you already have LCPs in place these can be named on the application form.
- 10.5 Organisations applying for funding will need to be either:
- Registered Charities
 - Charitable Incorporated Organisations
 - Community Interest Companies
 - Community Benefit Societies with charitable status
- 10.6 To be eligible, organisations who wish to be the Accountable Body must have been established and operating for at least **five** years. Applicants will have to provide evidence of financial stability, including solvency and cash flow arrangements that prove their ability to manage and sustain delivery across the full duration of the funding period.
- 10.7 **Subcontractors** may be used where their involvement is essential to the effective delivery of the Programme and can be used to buy a specific service and where the required activity cannot be delivered by the Lead Organisation or its core collaborative partners.
- 10.8 Any proposed subcontracting arrangement must show clear added value to the programme. This should include how the arrangement will strengthen local delivery, build the capacity of community organisations, and contribute to the development of sustainable local networks that can continue beyond the lifetime of the grant.
- 10.9 The LSP must inform Sport Birmingham before appointing a subcontractor or entering any subcontracting arrangement in relation to grant-funded capacity building activity. The LSP will remain fully responsible for all aspects outlined in the grant service level agreement. Sport Birmingham is the overall accountable body.

11.0 Completing the Application Form

- 11.1 Please answer all the questions on the form as this will enable us to understand what your organisation can deliver and what your offer is. As the accountable body for your grant funding, you will need to provide us with a set of your latest published accounts / charitable returns and your latest set of Management Accounts. If necessary, we may request a cashflow forecast.
- 11.2 Some of the questions have a word response limit to them. Please do not go over the word limit as this will mean that your application is rejected.
- 11.3 Where we have requested documents please ensure that they are attached with your submission.
- 11.4 You will need to identify two Local Community Partners in each ward of the districts you wish to work in. You will also need to ensure that these organisations have all the relevant processes in place relating to such things as safeguarding, health and safety and insurance.
- 11.5 Your application will be assessed by an independent panel, and if successful we will arrange a meeting with you to talk through:
- Your KPI's and outputs for the project.
 - Issue you with a Service Level Grant Agreement, which will include such things as the Grant Payment and Reporting Schedule and the terms and conditions of the award.
 - A timeline for your Local Delivery Plan.
 - An opportunity to meet the Place Deepening Team based at Sport Birmingham and to talk through how we will work together to deliver the programme.

12.0 Finally

- 12.1 If you have any queries / questions about this process please do not hesitate to contact us at grants@sportbirmingham.org and a member of the team will be in touch.
- 12.2 The FAQ's will be updated on our webpage, so please visit this regularly. <https://sportbirmingham.org/active-birmingham-place-deepening/>
- 12.3 We wish to start delivery activity on the programme in November.

13.0 Glossary

LSP:	Local Systems Partner
LCP:	Local Community Partner
LDO:	Local Delivery Organisation

- LAP: Local Activity Partnership administered through Birmingham Public Health
- LDP: Local Delivery Pilot now referred to as Local Place Partnerships