



To: All Directors of Active Partnerships
(By Email)

18 September 2019

Dear Colleague

**SCHOOL SPORT AND ACTIVITY ACTION PLAN
SUPPORTING SCHOOL TO OPEN UP THEIR SPORTS FACILITIES**

I am writing to alert you to an exciting opportunity to help Government and Sport England further test out how to help schools to open up their sports facilities.

As you know on 15 July 2019 the Department for Education, Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, and Department for Health and Social Care published the School Sport and Activity Action Plan. This is a joint commitment to ongoing collaboration at national level to ensure that sport and physical activity are an integral part of both the school day and after-school activities, to improve pupil access and opportunity to school sport and high-quality PE lessons. As part of the Action Plan, the Department for Education announced that it will provide £1.5m funding in this financial year (2019-20) for a project to support schools to open up their sports facilities, in order to broaden the offer of extra-curricular and out of school sporting and physical activities available to pupils and the wider community. This funding is open to bids from individual Active Partnerships or groups of Active Partnerships working together.

The plan is for 15-20 areas to be funded with work being led either by an individual Active Partnerships or groups of Active Partnerships working together. Given the amount of funding available, the time constraints and a desire to learn at some depth the Department for Education and Sport England felt we had no choice but to target the funding. Whilst we are unfortunately unable to provide funding to all Active Partnerships, we will ensure that learning from these investments is shared across the entire network. This is also a first step.

Active Partnerships are invited to apply for this opportunity, but there is no requirement or expectation that they do so. I would encourage you to carefully consider your ability to deliver within tight timescales (funding and activities must be completed by 31 August 2020) and alignment with your local strategies and priorities. Further details on how to apply for these funding opportunities is below. More information is set out in the attached specification document.

In order to apply for this funding, you should complete the attached expression of interest form and email it to info-CYP@sportengland.org by **7 pm on Wednesday 2 October 2019** (ten working days from the issue of this specification). We envisage that the areas selected to receive

exchequer funding will be announced on **Friday 11 October 2019 at the latest**. If you have any questions about this specification of expression of interest process, please email: info-CYP@sportengland.org.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Diaper". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Mike Diaper
Executive Director Children, Young
People and Tackling Inactivity