Premier League & the FA Facilities Fund Awards 67 Grants Worth £5.8m Into the Grassroots

Monday 9 June, 2014

67 grassroots football facilities across the country are set to benefit from a £5,770,118 cash injection, thanks to the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund.

This new funding constitutes the first ever investment from the new Fund. The investment will help develop new sports facilities, such as floodlit third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches (AGPs) and modern changing rooms, right across the country (see Notes to Editors for full list of grant awards.)

By providing more high-quality facilities, coupled with coaching at the appropriate age group, the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund aims to improve the experience for regular players, as well as attracting new players to the game. Many of the new facilities will serve to strengthen the connection between professional football clubs and their local communities, particularly in the most deprived areas of the country, through the professional clubs' community trusts' outreach work.

Funded by the Premier League, The FA, and the Government, via Sport England, the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund is delivered by the Football Foundation, the country's largest sports charity.

Helen Grant MP, Minister for Sport and Equalities, said: “The Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund, backed with investment from Government, shows what can be achieved with a strong public and private partnership in sport.

“By building fantastic all-weather 3G pitches across the country we will boost grassroots football, encourage participation all-year round and also help develop the next generation of talent.”

Richard Scudamore, Chief Executive of the Premier League, said: “The Premier League's commitment to and investment in grass roots facilities is unprecedented and unparalleled?.

“These new and upgraded sites will be of huge benefit to local communities, allowing even more schools, clubs and casual players to enjoy their sport. We want to encourage as many people as possible to get involved in the game.

“They will also enable professional clubs at all levels to engage with their communities, becoming hubs to deliver outreach work that improves the lives of local people, and promotes health, education and social cohesion.

“Our continued investment in the grass roots of the game will see hundreds of millions of pounds more flow into the game at this critical level in the coming years benefiting hundreds of thousands people as well as laying the foundations for the future development of English football.”

Alex Horne, General Secretary of The FA, said: “The Premier League & FA Facilities Fund is crucial to our aim of improving facilities up and down the country.

“From small grants of under £10,000 to some of the largest grants of up to £500,000, the Fund makes a huge impact in the communities that the facilities serve. Renewing pitches and expanding our 3G pitch network is an important ambition for The FA.”

Phil Smith, Sport England Director of Sport, said: “I'm really pleased so many great grassroots projects are benefitting from the new fund. We know people have a better experience of sport when they have good facilities to play on.

“By ensuring these are available in local communities across the country we're not only improving the sporting experience of existing players, we're also helping attract new ones.”

Paul Thorogood, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation – the charity that delivers the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund – said: “The Football Foundation has ensured that this new investment is being targeted into projects where it will have the most impact.

“The facilities that will be developed in this first funding window of the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund will elicit significant increases in participation in football and a wide of range of other

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sports. They will also help to regenerate communities and encourage links with the professional game, where appropriate."

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Notes to editors

The projects that have been awarded grants in the first round of funding for the Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund are listed below.

Organisation

Project

Grant value (£)

Area

Alfold FC

New changing rooms

67000

Surrey

Astley & Tyldesley JFC

Improvement of grass pitches

90870

Lancashire

Barkway Parish Council

New changing rooms and grass pitch works

59779

Hertfordshire

Bath And North East Somerset Council

New changing rooms

450000

Somerset

Bedworth United FC

New AGP

357680

Birmingham

Birstall United Juniors FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Leicester

Brookfield Community School

Improvement of grass pitches

50000

Derbyshire

Bugbrook St Michaels

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Northamptonshire

Cavendish Fields Sports Association

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

19950

Derbyshire

Chadderton Park FC

Improvement of grass pitches

52560

Manchester

Chadlington FC

Floodlights and storage container

8000

Oxfordshire

Charles Darwin School

AGP refurbishment

159780

Kent

Chipping Parish Council

Replacement of goalposts

2574

Lancashire

Coates Athletic FC

New changing rooms

50000

Cambridgeshire

Costello FC

New changing rooms

87793

East Riding

Cranborne FC

Portable floodlights

2311

Dorset

Darrick Wood School

Refurbishment of AGP

190824

London

Deighton Into Sport Project

Replacement goalposts

650

West Riding

Dorset Property, Dorset County Council

New AGP

350000

Dorset

Earls Barton United FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Northamptonshire

Feniton Playing Fields

Maintenance equipment and tractor

4788

Devon

Gosforth Bohemians FC

Improvement of grass pitches and new fencing

67317

Northumberland

Hambleton District Council

Refurbishment of AGP

50427

North Riding

Harborough Town FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Leicester

Holt Filey FC

Replacement of goalposts

507

East Riding

Holt Playing Field Association

New changing rooms

99983

Norfolk

Horsforth St. Margarets JFC

New pavilion

300000

West Riding

Ibstock United Juniors FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Leicester

Islip Parish Council

New pavilion

196000

Northamptonshire

Kibworth High School

New AGP

346646

Leicester

Kirkby Lonsdale FC

New pitch maintenance equipment

12300

Westmorland

KLASSIC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17954.89

Lincolnshire

Langho FC Sports And Country Club

Improvement of grass pitches

54443

Lancashire

Langho FC Sports And Country Club

Improvement of grass pitches

62016

Lancashire

Lincoln City FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

8013.6

Lincolnshire

Lincoln United FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

5544.72

Lincolnshire

London Borough Of Ealing

Improvement of grass pitches

99999

Middlesex

Loughborough Students' Futsal Club

New goalposts

270

Leicester

Mansfield Hosiery Mills Sports

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Nottinghamshire

Midtown United FC

Replacement goalposts

500

Lincolnshire

Moorends Hornets & Stingers JFC

New pitch maintenance equipment

5469

West Riding

New Fordley Juniors FC

New changing rooms

74558

Northumberland

North Tyneside Council

New AGP and floodlights

99000

Northumberland

Northampton Academy

Replacement goalposts

1230

Northamptonshire

Northumberland County Council

New changing rooms and improvement of grass pitches

97974

Northumberland

Old Catton Parish Council

New fencing

15117

Norfolk

Old Woodhouseians FC & CPFT

Improvement of pitch drainage

31338

AFA

Oxford City Council

New changing rooms and improvement of grass pitches

99508

Oxfordshire

Peterborough Northern Star

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Northamptonshire

Ponteland Community Middle School

New AGP

230782

Northumberland

Priory Parkside FC

Internal alterations to pavilion

2892

Huntingdonshire

Reeth & District Athletic FC

Replacement of goalposts

1755

North Riding

Retford Utd Juniors FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Nottinghamshire

Saffron Dynamo FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Leicester

South Bromsgrove High

New AGP and changing rooms

500000

Worcestershire

South Normanton Athletic FC

New pitch maintenance equipment

7200

Derbyshire

South Normanton Athletic FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

19950

Derbyshire

St Johns School And Sixth Form College

New AGP

216000

Durham

The Piggott School

New AGP

296712

Berks/Bucks

Thornham Village Hall & Playing Field Lt

Replacement goalposts and new line marker

1340

Norfolk

Underwood Villa FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Nottinghamshire

Unsworth JFC

Replacement of goalposts

3000

Lancashire

VT Sports

New changing rooms

150000

Hampshire

Waveney District Council

Refurbishment of changing rooms

198252

Suffolk

Wheathampstead Parish Council

New AGP

94101

Hertfordshire

Woodford United FC

FA Pitch Improvement Fund

17955.88

Northamptonshire

Writtle Minors FC

New AGP

99945

Essex

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The Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund

The Premier League & The FA Facilities Fund was officially launched in October 2013 by Minister for Sport and Equalities, Helen Grant MP, Premier League Chief Executive, Richard Scudamore, The FA's General Secretary, Alex Horne, Football Foundation Chief Executive, Paul Thorogood and Charles Johnston, Sport England Director of Property. The announcement was made at the site of two third generation (3G) artificial grass pitches (AGP) on the border of Southwark and Lambeth that were refurbished with a Football Foundation. The new Fund opened for funding applications in January 2014. You can find out more by visiting: www.footballfoundation.org.uk/funding-schemes/premier-league-the-fa-facilities-fund.

The Football Foundation

Since it was launched in 2000, the Foundation has awarded 12,025 grants worth more than £490m towards improving grassroots sport. It has used this investment by its funding partners – the Premier League, The FA and the Government/Sport England – to attract additional partnership funding of over £651m, meaning more than £1bn of investment has been directed into the grassroots game.

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