



Comhairle Ceantair
**an Iúir, Mhúrn
agus an Dúin**

**Newry, Mourne
and Down**
District Council

**Active and Healthy Communities
Sports Development**

**Recognition of Achievement for
High Performance Levels in Sport**

Criteria & Processing Procedures

1. Title

Sports Development: Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport. Criteria & Processing Procedures.

2. Statement

Two of the key objectives identified by the Active & Healthy Communities Directorate are to; promote increased levels of activity and create a strong community base to improve empowerment and capacity within our communities. Consequently, we assist our sporting community to develop and reach their sporting goals through a structured environment and are aware that a percentage of our citizens achieve the level of 'high sports performer.'

The Council is satisfied that payments under this policy are in the interest of the Council and the district. The Council is also satisfied that the categories and levels of financial support as set out below will bring a direct benefit and that the direct benefit is commensurate with the payments to be made.

Applications for Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in sport will only be considered in accordance with these Procedures.

3. Aim

The aim of the procedures is to:-

- (a) Set out the process, the levels of Recognition available and the allocation of financial support for participation in High Performance Levels in sport;
- (b) Complement the Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Community and Corporate Plans and the Active & Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan;
- (c) Promote high achievement in sport to encourage increased participation at a local level
- (d) Empower and improve the capacity of our local communities;
- (e) Improve sports and community development opportunities for all;
- (f) Support improved Health and Wellbeing outcomes;
- (g) To enable our sporting citizens to develop and reach their sporting goals at the highest level.

4. Criteria used in the Procedures:

1. A sports club can make application to the Sports Association Newry, Down & South Armagh (SANDSA) for financial assistance; Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport, on behalf of their club, team or individual club member, providing they are a member of SANDSA. However, in certain circumstances, applications may be directly considered and processed by the Council.
2. An individual can make application to SANDSA for financial assistance; Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport and are not required to be a member of SANDSA where the nature and circumstances of their sport dictate that the facilities and club environment of their sport don't exist within the district (Newry, Mourne & Down District Council) or they participate in high performance sport as an individual or part of a county, national or international squad.
3. The sports club or individual must participate in a sport recognised by the Sports Council for Northern Ireland.
4. The sports club or individual may be requested to demonstrate partnership funding – (ie from their Governing Body).
5. The sports club or individual must be able to produce their 'selection letter' from their Governing Body reflecting their selection and illustrating details of the competition and any additional support as required by the Council and SANDSA.
6. The sports club or individual must be able to produce evidence of expenses incurred to support their application.
7. The sports club or individual must be prepared to assist the Council in promoting their sport throughout the district.
8. The sports club or individual must process their application through their District Electoral Area Sports Forum (The Mournes, Newry, Slieve Gullion, Crotlieve, Downpatrick, Rowallane & Slieve Croob). Their application will then be forwarded by the chair of the relevant Sports Forum to the SANDSA Executive for consideration. The list of recommended applications will then be forwarded to Council for approval.
9. Two categories of applicant will be considered; sports club or individual.
10. Three Levels of Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport will apply (see below under definitions).
11. The categories and levels of Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport will be considered for the following financial support:
 - Club - Provincial or Interprovincial = £300
 - Club - International level = £400
 - Club - World Level = £500
 - Individual - Provincial or Interprovincial = £200
 - Individual - International level = £300
 - Individual - World Level = £400
12. A sports club or individual can only make one application per calendar year. The budget allcated will be profiled for the periods – April/September & October/March. All applications are subject to availability of funding and the scheme may be temporarily suspended in the absence of same.

5. Scope

The procedures apply to all sporting citizens within the environs of Newry, Mourne and Down District Council who perform at the highest level within their respective sport and to all sporting organisations and individuals in respect of applications for financial support towards; travel, accommodation, sports equipment necessary for high performance competition and recognition of achievement for high performance celebratory events. Expressions of interest/application can be registered with SANDSA prior to the sporting event. However, post event applications will only be considered up to three months after the competition date. In all circumstances, if claim receipts are not received by the Council, the Council reserve the right to claim the financial support back.

6. Conflict of Interests

Council staff and the SANDSA Executive Committee are required to conduct themselves with integrity, impartiality and honesty and their private interests should not be such as to have the potential for allegations of impropriety or partiality to be sustained thereby bringing the Council or SANDSA Executive Committee into disrepute. Consequently, those concerned should regularly review their personal circumstances and take steps to deal with any potential conflict of interest.

For effective Governance, full disclosure of actual or perceived conflicts of interest is required. The purpose of disclosing interests is to enable Council employees and the SANDSA Executive Committee to prevent a conflict arising between their duties to the Council and the SANDSA Executive Committee and any outside interest they may hold, and take steps to avoid this affecting the Council's or SANDSA's business and what others think.

7. Advertising

In order to ensure a fair process for the call periods; April to September & October to March, the Council will promote the scheme on their website, social media and in their annual newsletter.

8. Related Policies

Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Community Plan
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council Corporate Plan
Newry, Mourne and Down District Council's Active & Healthy Communities Directorate Business Plan

9. Definitions

Recognition of Achievement for High Performance Levels in Sport: A sports club or individual who has been selected by their governing body of sport to represent their County or Country at any one of three levels or alternatively, have achieved the highest performance level determined by their governing body which would be deemed equivalent to any of the three levels below:

1. Provincial or Interprovincial Level(s) (Ulster or All Ireland)
2. International level (European, Commonwealth or Inter-Countries)
3. World Level (Olympic, World Championships)

10. Legislative Powers

The Recreation & Youth Service (Northern Ireland) Order 1986 10(I) (10) (d) & (e)
Local Government Act (Northern Ireland) 1972 Chapter 9 .115

11. Procedure Owner

Assistant Director Active & Healthy Communities (Leisure & Sport).

12. Contact details in regard of these procedures are

Assistant Director Active & Healthy Communities (Leisure & Sport).

13. Procedures Authorisation

Active & Healthy Communities
Committee Authorised on: February 2017

Council Authorised on: March 2017

14. Procedures Effective Date: 1st April 2017

15. Procedures Review Date

These procedures will be reviewed annually.

16. Procedures

This document should be read in conjunction with SANDSA Executive Management Procedures.

17. Equality Screen

The Procedures have been equality screened and it recommended it not be subject to an equality impact assessment (with no mitigating measures required).

18. Version Control 15

SANDSA: Sports Association Newry, Down & South Armagh