

Securing funding for school sport facility redevelopment

SECTOR
Education

DATE UNDERTAKEN
February 2018 - January 2019

CONSULTANCY AREA
Funding

PARTNER
St Cyprian's Greek Orthodox Primary Academy

A school that had long sought to enhance its sport facility offer engaged London Sport to provide expert guidance on securing funding that could lead to new opportunities for pupils and the local community

The Challenge

- Enable the transformation of an unused playground with poor drainage into a new all-weather multi-sports facility available to the local community
- Demonstrate impact on outdoor provision opportunities in local area
- Improve opportunities for pupils and community to participate in physical activity and sport
- Highlight potential to promote social cohesion and help address relatively high levels of crime in the Thornton Heath area through programmes run at the new facility

London Sport Support

- Provided robust primary research required to evidence the need from strategic partners and the local community
- Developed stakeholder outlines for impact of new development on participation in physical activity and sport at the site
- Created business plan to support long-term financial sustainability
- Completed funding applications for major industry funder grants

Outcomes of London Sport Consultancy

- Client successfully secured over £135,000 capital and revenue funding from Sport England and London Marathon Charitable Fund



The Challenge

Supporting the production of high-quality grant applications to build a new artificial multi-sports pitch

As the education sector faces increasing budget pressures and the important role of school sport gains ever-greater recognition, how can schools ensure they have the means to develop facilities which are fit for the future?

St Cyprian's School in Thornton Heath had long had a vision to transform a previously disused playground into an exciting all-weather facility which could support the needs of the school's pupils and the wider local community. With the Local Authority's Playing Pitch Strategy and Assessment having identified the need for new 3G artificial pitches to meet existing levels of need, the school's vision represented an opportunity to deliver material benefits to the whole community. Having secured planning permission, the school approached London Sport to support its efforts to secure funding for the project from major community funders.

London Sport's Support

London Sport worked closely with school representatives to identify the strategic insight-base that would serve to underpin applications to major funders, while building associations with a range of local stakeholders, including the Local Authority Sports Development team and local Community Action Team.

With development plans subsequently informed by connection to local community need, London Sport worked to develop a robust business plan to ensure future financial sustainability of the project, incorporating headline income and expenditure forecasts, a robust pricing strategy, and recommendations around facility management, maintenance and marketing.

Underpinning the wider strategic opportunity, London Sport's Funding Specialist worked to support the development of capital and revenue funding applications to both London Marathon Charitable Trust and Sport England's Community Asset Fund to enable the delivery of the redevelopment project.



Outcome of London Sport Support

In providing guidance to the school and enhanced connections to local strategic partners, London Sport was able to support the successful receipt of over £135,000 of capital and revenue funding from Sport England and London Marathon Charitable Trust.

The facility was subsequently officially opened in June 2019, bringing to a close the successful funding and redevelopment project and providing a much-needed new facility to pupils and the Thornton Heath community.





Interested in working with London Sport? Get in touch:

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“London Sport consultants provided us with excellent direction and insight into the bid process. Our consultant put together and submitted the bids and has been very supportive throughout, including after the award of the grants. Transforming the disused site had been the vision of Head Teacher Mrs. Baron for several years. We are delighted with the multi sports pitch which has been named ‘Baron’s Court’.”

Johanna Scarry

Business Manager, St Cyprian’s Greek Orthodox Primary Academy



St Cyprian's Greek Orthodox Primary Academy