

Sport Ireland Phase III – The Sports Energy Support Scheme (SESS)

Please read the information carefully to ensure you meet the eligibility criteria prior to completing the above form.

Under Phase III, community-owned Sports Facilities in Co Donegal not specifically affiliated to a National Governing Body of Sport (NGB) or who do not currently qualify for The Business Energy Support Scheme (TBESS) or other government schemes can now engage with Donegal Sports Partnership to ascertain if they are eligible to qualify for funding.

Sports Clubs or facilities affiliated to Sport Ireland recognised National Governing Bodies of Sport should access support directly through their NGB.

Donegal Sports Partnership now seek specific energy related information from community owned sports facilities between the periods 01 September 2022 and 31 July 2023 verses 01 September 2019 and 31 July 2020 in order to provide Sport Ireland and Department of Rural & Community Development with an estimate of costs.

Community organisations who previously received funding support under Sport Ireland Phase II of this scheme are now eligible to apply for increased energy costs for the months June 2023 and July 2023 verses 1 June 2020 and July 2020.

Criteria for eligibility

- The Sports Energy Support Scheme will contribute to the increased energy costs associated with providing sporting activities only.
- Organisations applying for support must own/lease the sporting facilities or be the primary utility bill payer.
- This scheme is aimed at supporting community owned facilities in Co Donegal only.
- The eligibility period will relate to increased costs sustained between 01 September 2022 and 31 July 2023 verses 01 September 2019 and 31 July 2020.
- Those organisations who previously received Sport Ireland Phase II Funding are now eligible to apply for increased costs for the months of June 2023 and July 2023 verses June 2020 and July 2020.
- Energy costs associated with non-sporting activity such as bars, restaurants etc. are not eligible, however such trading may be eligible for support under the Government's Temporary Business Energy Support Scheme (TBESS)
- Fuel costs associated with machinery, vehicles, travel or transport do not qualify.
- Non-Energy related increases are ineligible, such as rising costs in accommodation, rent, rates or labour costs.
- Pre-existing debts or deficits do not qualify.
- The scheme will not cover Private/Commercial gyms, pools and sports facilities (These are eligible to apply for TBESS).
- The Scheme does not cover Local Authority facilities, School or Third level sports facilities.

Sport Ireland will make an initial assessment on the level of requests and the outcome will be advised to Donegal Sports Partnership in December 2023.

Applications of interest to be submitted before 5:00 pm, Thursday 19th October 2023.