

RUGBY UNION WINTER SURVIVAL FUND ASSET IMPROVEMENT LOAN

the prospectus



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INTRODUCTION

The Rugby Union Winter Survival Fund Asset Improvement Loan is a partnership between the RFU, Sport England and Government. It is designed to help clubs with their immediate survival through investment into their assets and enabling them to become more financially sustainable.

Loan funding is available between £20,000 and £150,000 for facility projects that will help clubs to survive, to diversify revenue, to reduce operating costs and to protect and grow their membership. The funding available is broken down into three loan 'buckets'.

This prospectus outlines the application process and all key facts about the loan buckets and repayment terms. It also provides example costs and exclusive RFU support relating to each eligible project category.

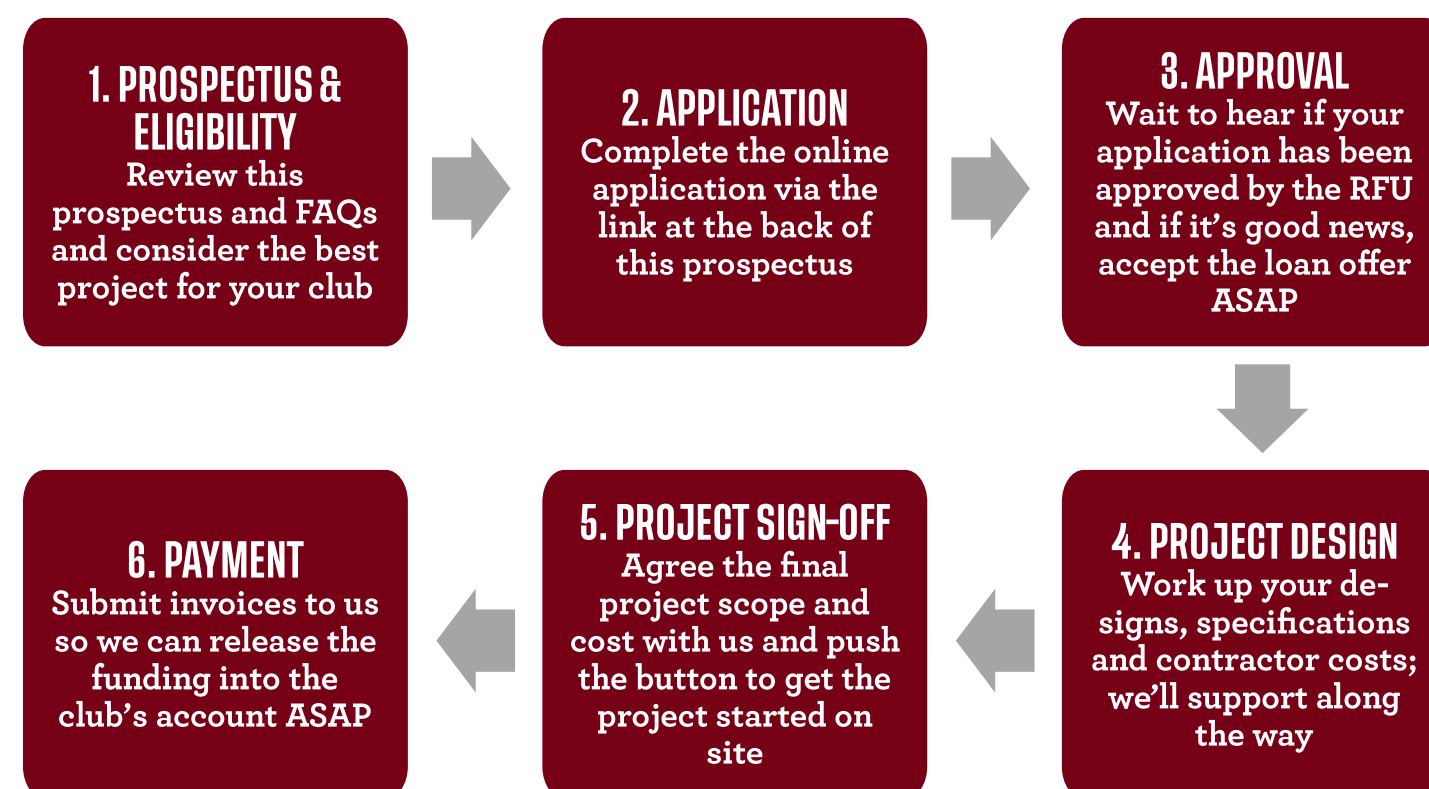
The prospectus can be used with the FAQs to determine whether to make an application, what the most suitable project for your club might be and to calculate loan repayment terms that are affordable as you recover from COVID lockdowns.

Once you have digested and discussed the contents of this prospectus, you can access the online application form via a link on the final page.

KEY FACTS

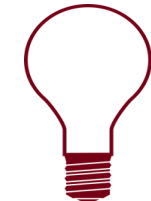
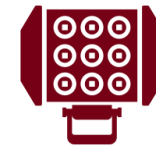
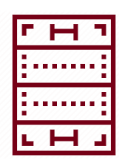
	SMALL LOAN	MEDIUM LOAN	LARGE LOAN
AMOUNT AVAILABLE	£10,000-£49,999	£50,000-£99,999	£100,000-£150,000
REPAYMENT PERIOD	8 years	8 years	8 years
PAYMENT HOLIDAY	2 years	2 years	4 years
INTEREST RATE	2%	2%	2%
SECURITY OF TENURE	Equivalent to overall repayment period		

APPLICATION PROCESS



PROJECT CATEGORIES

The types of project that loans are available for are outlined below. Each category contains links (TELL ME MORE button) to additional information including ways the RFU can provide support.



SMALL LOAN (£20,000-£49,999)

Pitch Renovation

Carry out a super charged pitch renovation to get your pitches back in tip top condition.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

Floodlight Refurb/ Upgrade

Refurbish or upgrade to light new playing areas or achieve match standard requirements.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

Upgrade to Catering & Hospitality Facilities

Deliver an impact refurbishment of your social space and/or bar or upgrade your kitchen and catering facilities.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

Mobile Catering Unit

Purchase a mobile catering unit to extend your outdoor hospitality offer for spectators and visitors.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

MEDIUM LOAN (£50,000-£99,999)

Pitch Drainage

Carry out pitch infrastructure works including the installation of new drainage or surface levelling.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

Floodlight Installation

Install new floodlights to provide match standard lighting to one or more pitches.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

Changing Room Refurbishment / Extension

Refurbish or extend your existing changing rooms to improve provision for players & visitors.



[TELL ME MORE](#)

LARGE LOAN (£100,000-£150,999)

Existing Project Completion

Funding that will enable clubs to achieve immediate start on planned projects that already have the majority of funding in place.



[TELL ME MORE](#)



SMALL LOAN: £20,000-£49,999

Project Categories and RFU Support

Please note, the example project costs are for illustrative purposes only and clubs can apply for a loan value relevant to their specific requirements

PITCH RENOVATION

Access the funding to enable you to invest in an enhanced pitch renovation project on one or more of your pitches. You may have fallen behind on your usual pitch maintenance programme because site access has been difficult during lockdown or because the club has had to cut back on the usual maintenance budget due to falls in revenue. This is an opportunity to catch up and get your pitches back in tip top condition.

Example 1

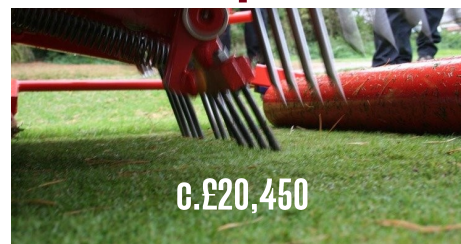


c.£22,780

One pitch sand slits and renovation

- 2m centre sand slits £16,400
- Sand amelioration (100 tonnes) £3,420
- Overseed £1,850
- Supply and apply fertilizer £500
- X 2 vertidrain £700

Example 2



c.£20,450

Three pitch summer renovation

- Sand dress (300 tonnes) £10,000
- Earthquake £1,200
- Verti-drain (x 2 per pitch) £2,000
- Overseed £5,000
- Fertilize £2,250

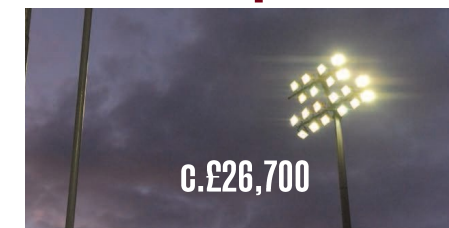
RFU Support

The RFU has a number of Pitch Advisors around the country. At no cost to the club, we can arrange for one of our pitch advisors to review your pitches and provide feedback and a short report. If we are not able to do this face-to-face, it can be done virtually via a video call. As well as proposing a renovation programme, the Advisors will be able to sign post you to special RFU purchasing deals on things like seed, fertilizer and sand and even introduce you to local Pitch Contractor Partnerships that can deliver the work based on a pre-procured pricing schedule. If you would like to take advantage of the initial element of this offer, (access to product and contractor partnerships can be agreed further into the project development phase) please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

FLOODLIGHT REFURBISHMENT OR UPGRADE

Access the funding to refurbish or upgrade your existing floodlights. This may be an upgrade from training to match lights, from metal halide lamps to LED lamps or just some TLC to get your old floodlights up to a good working standard again. Eligible projects must be designed to help clubs to generate revenue or reduce their operating costs as they bounce back from COVID lockdowns.

Example 1



c.£26,700

Match standard LED upgrade to one pitch

- Structural survey of masts £1,200
- Installation of LED luminaires £22,000
- Lamp re-alignment and testing £2,000
- Upgraded switch gear £1,500

Example 2



c.£22,800

General refurbishment (2 pitches)

- Survey existing masts and cabling £2,000
- Clean glass and reflectors £2,400
- Replace broken lamps £8,400
- Replace gearboxes £3,000
- Check and replace worn fittings £3,000
- Install remote switching & cabling £6,000

RFU Support

The RFU will arrange for one of our appointed floodlight contractors to visit your site and carry out lighting, electrical and structural surveys as required. They will discuss the club's project plans and work through the viability of the proposal and suggest alternative solutions if necessary. Once the project scope has been agreed and a budget cost has been shared with the club, the club can retain the contractors services to deliver the refurbishment project. If you would like to take advantage of the initial element of this offer (the actual project contract can be agreed further into the project development phase) please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

UPGRADE TO HOSPITALITY & CATERING FACILITIES

Access the funding to improve any of the facilities relating to the club's hospitality offer as part of a wider COVID recovery plan to generate more revenue.

This could be a transformational refurbishment of your social space and bar area or it could be a complete revamp of your kitchen and catering facilities – or a combination of all four!

Example 2



c.£23,200

- Lighting and feature light
- Mirrors
- Soft furnishings
- Redecoration and colour scheme
- Intelligent touch screen cash registers
- Spotify sounds system
- Flooring

Example 1



c.£21,850

- Re-siting existing doors
- New lighting
- Improved service area to kitchen
- Flooring
- Upgrade catering equipment

RFU Support

The RFU will run webinars to provide advice, guidance and inspiration from sector experts on each of the elements of the hospitality grants. If you would like to take advantage of this offer please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

MOBILE CATERING UNIT

Use the loan to purchase a mobile catering unit to enable the club to extend their hospitality offer, comply with COVID restrictions and generate additional revenue.

Whether you need the flexibility to locate the unit more conveniently for parents on a Sunday morning or to improve your offer to spectators for senior fixtures this will provide the options you need. As well as this it also presents an opportunity to have a rugby club presence at local community events both for revenue creation and player or volunteer recruitment.

A great opportunity to invest into an asset that may well pay for itself.

Example



c. £26,000

- Mobile unit £17,000
- Lighting and electrics £1,000
- Boiler and gas supply £1,000
- Griddle and Bain Marie £2,000
- Fridges £1,500
- Silver corner posts £3,500

RFU Support

The RFU is working with a reputable national supplier to bulk purchase a standard unit with a range of optional extras both in terms of food and beverage preparation and design and branding. Clubs that select the RFU offer within the Prospectus will be able to take advantage of the central unit offer but also develop a bespoke solution depending on their own individual requirements. If you would like to take advantage of this offer please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

MEDIUM LOAN: £50,000-£99,999

Project Categories and RFU Support

Please note, the example project costs are for illustrative purposes only and clubs can apply for a loan value relevant to their specific requirements

PITCH DRAINAGE

Fixture postponements and cancelled training sessions undoubtedly affect the continuity of a club’s operation and its associated revenue streams. To resolve this issue once and for all, access the funding to carry out a significant drainage or pitch levelling project at your club

Example 1



Example 2



Drainage installation on one pitch

- Site set up and preliminaries £3,000
- Installation of 5m lateral drainage system £37,500
- Sand amelioration £13,700
- Installation of cut off drain £5,500

Pitch levelling on one pitch

- Surface removal £2,000
- Cut & fill earthworks £48,000
- Sand topdressing & verti-draining £6,600
- 12 month grow in and establishment £8,500

RFU Support

The RFU will arrange for our natural turf pitch consultant, Pro Sportsturf Design (PSD) to visit the site to carry out a pitch survey on the nominated pitch. This is an assessment of the pitch including, drainage efficacy, soil sampling and climactic conditions. Based on this information PSD will provide a report outlining recommendations for pitch improvements and drainage solutions.

Over and above this initial RFU offer, the club can retain PSD’s services throughout the delivery phase of the project from a pre-procured menu of fees. These additional services include overall project management, tender and procurement, contractor appointment and all technical sign offs. Costs for these subsequent professional services can be included in your loan application. If you would like to take advantage of the initial element of this offer, (additional fee incurring services can be agreed further into the project development phase) please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

FLOODLIGHT INSTALLATION

Access the funding to enable you to install new floodlights to provide match standard lighting that will enable the club to host evening fixtures and increase revenue generation as a consequence.

Example 1



Installation of match standard metal halide floodlighting to one pitch

- Planning fees £1,800
- Trenching and cabling (20m) £1,500
- Mast foundation £5,500
- Supply and install of masts and metal halide floodlighting luminaires to RFU match standard £35,000
- Hinged masts upgrade £2,500
- Reinstatement £2,000
- 36 month maintenance contract £3,600

Example 2



Installation of match standard LED floodlighting to one pitch

- Planning fees £1,800
- Trenching and cabling (40m) £2,500
- Mast foundation £5,400
- Supply and install of masts and LED floodlighting luminaires to RFU match standard £43,000
- Hydraulic raise and lower masts £2,000
- Wireless app based switching gear £1,800
- Reinstatement £2,500
- 36 month maintenance contract £600

RFU Support

The RFU will arrange for one of our appointed floodlight contractors to visit your site to carry out a full survey and design a bespoke floodlighting solution based on your requirements. Once this design and budget cost has been shared with the club, the club can retain the contractors services to deliver planning permission based on the design scheme for a pre-procured fixed fee.

Finally the RFU contractor can then be engaged by the club to carry out the full floodlighting project including the supply, installation and testing of the new system. All RFU framework contractors also include a three year warranty as standard and an associated three year maintenance programme. If you would like to take advantage of the initial element of this offer (pursuit of planning permission and the actual project contract can be agreed further into the project development phase) please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

CHANGING ROOM REFURBISHMENT / EXTENSION

Access the funding to carry out a major overhaul of your changing accommodation. This may be to reconfigure the internal layout of the your existing changing rooms to enable segregated changing, toilets and showers. It may be that you would like to install cubicles or lockers to diversify the changing options the club can offer.

As well as refurbishing existing changing rooms, the club may wish to extend their changing accommodation to provide more space, more showers or achieve disability access requirements, in order to improve the experience for players and visitors alike.

Example Changing Room Refurbishment



- Condition and asbestos Survey £1,700
- Statutory Fees for Building Control £750
- Construction Works (knock through to create en-suite shower and toilet facilities in x2 changing rooms) £60,000
- Ramp to main entrance £3,000
- Plumbing £10,000
- Fit out, fixtures & equipment £8,000

RFU Support

The RFU recognises that this project category will be unique to each club and therefore ownership of the project scope, design, specification and delivery should remain in the hands of each club.

However, as well as providing online guidance through our clubhouse and changing room technical guide, we will run webinars to provide advice, guidance and inspiration from sector experts on changing room design and best practice.

If you would like to take advantage of this offer please tick the appropriate box in the online application form.

LARGE LOAN: £100,000-£150,000

EXISTING PROJECT COMPLETION

Apply to the large loan bucket to enable you to complete an asset improvement project that is nearly ready to start or already in motion.

This may be a project that was put on hold due to COVID restrictions or a scheme that has been devised and developed during the lockdown that can now hit the ground running. To be eligible, the majority of project elements must already be moving forward and the key outstanding element being the final part of the funding jigsaw.

It must be a project that will help you to survive, to diversify revenue, to reduce operating costs and to protect and grow your membership.

As part of your submission for this loan bucket, you must provide all existing project development information, e.g. designs, indicative costs and any progress with planning permission.



ANOTHER IDEA?...



In addition to the project categories outlined in the prospectus, the RFU is also looking for a small number of different projects that will help clubs improve their assets and maximise revenue opportunities to aid their post COVID-19 survival.

We want innovative ideas, unique projects and new concepts not previously seen at rugby clubs. We want to work with you to investigate what might be achievable in a thriving rugby club of the future.

If you have a project that you think might fit the bill and where a loan of between £20,000 and £150,000 could help you bring it to life, please let us know by visiting the online application portal.



TECHNICAL GUIDANCE

IF YOU DO NOT CHOOSE TO DEVELOP YOUR PROJECT THROUGH RFU SUPPORT, THERE IS A RANGE OF TECHNICAL GUIDANCE AND REQUIREMENTS THAT YOU NEED TO BE AWARE OF. THIS CAN BE ACCESSED VIA THE LINKS BELOW.

[RFU Pitch Maintenance Guide](#)

[Sport England Natural Turf Guidance](#)

[RFU Floodlighting Guide](#)

[RFU Design Guide to Changing Rooms & Clubhouses](#)



[**CLICK HERE
TO APPLY***](#)

*This link will take you to the RFU Loan homepage where you can access the fund Criteria, FAQ and online application form when launched.