



Department of
**Culture, Arts
and Leisure**

www.dcalni.gov.uk

DCAL SUB REGIONAL STADIA PROGRAMME for SOCCER

Meeting the Strategic Needs of Soccer

Consultation Document

Publication Date: 30 November 2015

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1.0 General Information

Thank you for your interest in responding to this consultation.

This consultation document and response form can be downloaded from the Department's website at www.dcalni.gov.uk/consultation. It is also available from the Department at the address given below or by calling 028 90515053.

Should you require the document in a format such as Braille, audio-tape or large print please contact us at the email address or phone number below.

There is no requirement to respond to all of the questions in the consultation questionnaire.

This document may be made available in alternative formats.

Please contact us to discuss your requirements.

Stadia Branch
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Belfast
BT2 7EG
Telephone: 02890 515053
E-mail stadiumteam@dcalni.gov.uk

2.0 Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure – Background

The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) is one of 12 Northern Ireland Departments and is responsible for arts and creativity, museums, libraries, sport, inland waterways and inland fisheries, linguistic diversity, archives, and for advising on National Lottery distribution.

Through culture, arts and leisure DCAL and its arm's-length bodies deliver innovative programmes aimed at improving the economy and the environment; enhancing education, health and wellbeing; and promoting social inclusion across society.

All of DCAL's activities support the overarching Departmental objective of promoting equality, tackling poverty and social exclusion. This is underlined in the DCAL Mission Statement.

The DCAL mission is:

“To promote social and economic equality, and to tackle poverty and social exclusion, through systematically promoting a sustainable economic model and proactively targeting meaningful resources at sectors of greatest inequality, within areas of greatest objective need, in the wider context of effectively developing tangible opportunities and measurable outcomes for securing excellence and equality across culture, arts and leisure, and a confident, creative, informed and healthy society in this part of Ireland.”

3.0 Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer - Background

On the 10 March 2011, the Executive endorsed an investment of circa £36 million for the proposal of the then Minister of Culture, Arts and Leisure Nelson McCausland that the remaining football stadia development at sub regional level should be taken forward as a priority area of spend in the next CSR period. The Executive agreed to:

“... meet the strategic needs of football including those as outlined in the Irish Football Association’s paper entitled “Strategic Facility Need”. (dated March 2011)

The rationale for investment in the Sub Regional Stadia Programme arises from:

- The Executive’s Programme for Government, building specifically on the PFG Commitment to develop sports stadia;
- Individual clubs and/or Sporting Bodies not having the financial resources to make the scale of investment needed;
- Achieving the positive externalities of increased participation in sport and physical recreation and improved sporting performances, through the provision of quality, accessible places for sport, as set out in Sports Matters; and
- A requirement to ensure compliance with safety legislation, and the need to address comfort and amenities of stadia.

4. State Aid

State aid may be present whenever state resources are used to provide assistance that gives organisations that are engaged in economic activity (i.e. an undertaking) an advantage over others. State aid can distort competition, which in turn can be harmful to consumers and companies in the European Union (EU).

The European Commission has developed a series of State aid rules to minimise distortions in competition and promote a level playing field between Member States.

Until 2012, sports infrastructure was not caught by the State aid rules. However, following the judgment of the General Court in *Leipzig/Halle*¹, the European Commission advised that the financing of *any type of infrastructure* (excluding infrastructure related to security, safety, etc.) that is later commercially exploited may involve State aid.

DCAL's initial assessment of the Sub-Regional Stadium Programme for Soccer is that State aid is almost certainly present in Strands 1 – 3 and may be possible in Strands 4 and 5.

If State aid is present in any of the projects supported under the Sub Regional Soccer Programme, this will be provided in accordance with the conditions and the limits set out for 'investment aid' in Article 55 of the General Block Exemption Regulation (GBER) - Commission Regulation (EU) No 651/2014.

A full version of the GBER can be found at <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32014R0651&from=EN>.

The GBER provides State aid cover for investment aid measures for sport and multifunctional recreational infrastructures that fulfil the conditions laid down in the GBER.

In particular it should be noted that to fall within the scope of the GBER details the sport infrastructure shall not be used exclusively by a single professional sport user

¹ Joined Cases T-443/08 and T-455/08 Flughafen Freistaat Sachsen and others v Commission, EU:T:2011:117.

and the use of the sport infrastructure by other professional or non-professional sport users shall annually account for at least 20% of time capacity.

5.0 What are the programme aims and objectives?

5.1 Programme Aims

DCAL aims to develop a funding programme specifically targeted at addressing the strategic needs of football including those as outlined in the Irish Football Association's Facilities Strategy (March 2011). A copy of the IFA Facilities Strategy is at **Annex A** for information.

5.2 Programme Objectives

The strategic objectives of the programme are:

- i. To contribute to addressing the stadium needs of soccer at the sub regional level;
- ii. To contribute to addressing the low and dwindling attendance at games through the provision of improved facilities;
- iii. To improve the viability and sustainability of soccer at the sub regional level;
- iv. To assist in developing safer and more family orientated facilities;
- v. To contribute to achieving the increased participation levels anticipated in Sports Matters and to wider government policies and initiatives through health benefits, infrastructure development, neighbourhood renewal, social inclusion and the promotion of a cohesive and socially inclusive society;
- vi. To develop shared sustainable facilities and maximise the scope for ground sharing; and
- vii. To contribute to promoting equality and tackling poverty and social exclusion.

6.0 What are the proposed programme strands?

In order to align the programme with the IFA Facilities Strategy (March 2011), DCAL has provisionally designed the Sub Regional Stadia programme into five distinct strands.

Strand 1: Safe Stadia

(IFA Facilities Strategy specifies the redevelopment of The Oval in partnership with Glentoran FC)

- **Purpose:** To provide funding towards the achievement of safe stadia. The stadium should be suitable for hosting high level competition matches with a moderate capacity level of 6,000 to 8,000 persons.
- **Budget:** A budget of circa £10 million will be made available for this strand.
- **Maximum Award:** The maximum award available is up to £10 million.
- **Partnership Funding:** A minimum of 20% partnership funding is required.

Strand 2: Significant Sub-Regional Stadia

(Designated Venues only)

- **Purpose:** To provide sub-regional stadia which can sit at the hub of key communities and can offer quality football facilities and community facilities which bring revenues into the club tenants, thus making football in these areas more sustainable. **A Challenge Fund principle will apply.**
- **Budget:** A budget of circa £17 million will be made available for this strand.
- **Maximum Award:** The maximum award available is up to £3 million.
- **Partnership Funding:** A minimum of 20% partnership funding is required.

Strand 3: IFA Championship Clubs

(Venues not designated under the Safety at Sports Grounds (NI) Order)

- **Purpose:** To provide funding to improve safety provision at soccer venues. **A**

Challenge Fund principle will apply.

- **Budget:** A budget of circa £3 million will be made available for this strand.
- **Maximum Award:** The maximum award available is up to £500,000.
- **Partnership Funding:** A minimum of 20% partnership funding is required.

Stand 4: National Training Centre

- **Purpose:** To provide funding towards the creation of a purpose built flagship National Training Centre to support current talent and nurture future generations.
- **Budget:** A budget of circa £3 million will be made available for this strand.
- **Maximum Award:** The maximum award available is up to £3 million.
- **Partnership Funding:** A minimum of 20% partnership funding is required.

Strand 5: Intermediate and Junior Football

(A single high quality facility)

- **Purpose:** To provide funding via targeted programmes, in partnerships with the local councils and schools/colleges, in order to deliver key sporting centres in local communities at an intermediate and junior level.
- **Budget:** A budget of circa £3 million will be made available for this strand.
- **Maximum Award:** The maximum award available is up to £3 million.
- **Partnership Funding:** A minimum of 20% partnership funding is required.

7.0 Who is eligible to apply?

Applicant organisations must meet the following **core** and **strand specific** eligibility criteria.

7.1 Core Eligibility Criteria

- **Ownership/Security of Tenure:** Applicants must be able to demonstrate ownership of the venue by means of the deeds (Freehold Ownership) or a lease (Leasehold) providing for a minimum of 10 or 21 years security of tenure (depending on the scope of works/value of award).
- **Properly Constituted:** Applicants must be able to demonstrate that they are properly constituted by means of a Constitution or Memorandum & Articles of Association, which provide for equality of opportunity, not for profit, child protection, and management input from users.
- **Viability & Solvency:** Applicants must be viable and solvent. In the absence of operational viability only applicants who can meet the security of tenure requirements will be deemed eligible.
- **Venue Located in the North of Ireland:** The venue must be located in the north of Ireland and the project must, in the main, benefit the inhabitants of the north of Ireland.

7.2 Strand Specific Eligibility Criteria

- **Strand 1**
 - **Potential Capacity**

The venue must be capable of hosting fixtures of 6,000 – 8,000 capacity. Any venue capable of hosting a 5,000 capacity must be designated under Safety at Sports Ground legislation.
- **Strand 2**
 - **Potential Capacity**

The venue must be capable of hosting fixtures of 5,000 capacity. Any venue capable of hosting a 5,000 capacity must be designated under Safety at Sports Ground legislation.

- **Location & Fixtures**

Applicant must be an IFA affiliated club or non IFA affiliated club with grounds located in the north of Ireland and who host either: NIFL, IFA, UEFA or Football League of Ireland fixtures.

- **Strand 3**

- **Location & Fixtures**

Applicant must be an IFA affiliated club or non IFA affiliated club with grounds located in the north of Ireland and who host either: NIFL, IFA, UEFA or Football League of Ireland fixtures.

- **Strand 4**

- **Size of Site**

The minimum requirement for the proposed site for development for the National Training Centre is 20 acres.

- **Location & Fixtures**

TBC

- **Strand 5**

- **Partnership Working**

There must be a partnership working agreement between the venue owner and IFA member club(s) (excluding NIFL affiliated club).

8.0 What types of projects are eligible?

For a project to be considered eligible applicants must clearly demonstrate the following:

- The proposed project must be a capital project, which for the purposes of this programme is defined as expenditure associated with the purchase, improvement, construction or creation of an asset and includes any costs directly incurred in this process.
- The project must be fit for purpose, well designed and of high quality.
- The project is viable in terms of the capital funding package required.
- The project will be for the benefit of the soccer fraternity in the north of Ireland
- The proposed project will improve facility provision at soccer venues as per the IFA Facilities Strategy of March 2011.
- The applicant organisation has not committed itself by purchase, contract or other binding agreement, before receiving an offer of award and permission to proceed from DCAL.
- The proposed project builds on existing resources and is in addition to existing or planned investment by statutory bodies or the owner of the facility.
- The project cannot be a replacement or upgrade to a project which has previously been funded through public sector investment and which is still within the economic life span of the asset – 21 years for buildings and 10 years for pitches.

9.0 How will applications be assessed?

9.1 Assessment Criteria

The following assessment criteria will be used to assess applications.

- **Facility Need** - applicants must identify the need for the project in terms of infrastructure, health & safety, spectator numbers and legislative requirements.
- **Financing** - applicants must be able to demonstrate financial need, partnership funding, operational viability and solvency and sustainability.
- **Sports Development Plan** - the applicant must submit a sports development plan detailing partnership working including sharing of grounds and other facilities and also joint partnerships with other clubs, schools, local authorities, other sports and community groups and demonstrating a clear need for the project in relation to the objectives of the programme.
- **Project's Integration with overall Plan for Venue** - Clubs should have an overall plan for the venue compatible with the projected number of spectators expected to attend fixtures, and to meet legal and competition requirements. Therefore applicants should be able to demonstrate how their proposed project integrates into the overall plan for the venue.
- **Technical Feasibility** - applicants must demonstrate that their proposed project is technically feasible at the venue and illustrate that they have also considered planning issues (if applicable).
- **Management Experience** - applicants will be asked to identify their project team members (including proposed roles and responsibilities), and provide details of the skills, expertise and experience for each team member.

9.2 Scoring

The following assessment criteria will be used to score applications.

	Assessment Criteria	Assessment Score (%)				
		Strand 1	Strand 2	Strand 3	Strand 4	Strand 5
1	Facility Need	35%	35%	35%	TBC	35%
2	Financing	25%	25%	25%	TBC	25%
3	Sports Development (including ground share)	15%	15%	15%	TBC	35%
4	Project's Integration with Overall Plan for the Venue	10%	10%	10%	TBC	N/A
5	Technical Feasibility	10%	10%	10%	TBC	N/A
6	Management Experience	5%	5%	5%	TBC	5%

Projects attaining a score of less than 50% will be immediately rejected on the basis that they do not adequately meet the requirements of the programme.

Projects attaining a score of greater than 50% will then be ranked according to the score attained. Once the available budget has been allocated, those projects having attained a score of greater than 50% but where the budget has been exhausted, will be deemed to have a lower priority than those ranked above them and will not proceed to Stage II at this time. These applicants will be informed that they have been put on a reserve list which may be used should any of the successful clubs withdraw from the process or additional budget becomes available.

Applicants who attain a score of greater than 50%, and have been ranked at a position where there is likely to be sufficient budget, will receive a Letter of Intent with associated Project Management Requirements (PMRs).

10.0 What are project management requirements?

Applicants who attain a score of greater than 50%, and have been ranked at a position where there is likely to be sufficient budget, will receive a Letter of Intent with associated Project Management Requirements (PMRs).

Applicants will be required to complete a set of time bound PMRs to help them deliver the project within the programme timescale (i.e. all projects must be completed by March 2018). Applicants who fail to address the PMRs within the timescales set will not receive a formal letter of offer.

Project Management Requirements will include (but are not limited to) the following:

- Completion and Approval of a Business Case
- Procurement of Integrated Consultant Team (ICT)
- Statutory Approvals
- Security of Tenure
- Procurement of Integrated Supply Team (IST)
- Partnership Funding
- Updating of Business Case (to reflect actual costs)

11.0 Will development costs be awarded?

In order to ensure applicants satisfactorily address the PMRs, DCAL will fund reasonable development costs in relation to the procurement and appointment of an Integrated Supply Team and a Business Case Consultant (if applicable).

Relevant procurement advice and guidance will be provided. All procurement exercises must comply with NI Public Procurement Policy and DCAL advice. Applicants must not enter into any contract for services unless they have obtained formal approval from DCAL.

A condition of funding will be that grant recipients must engage with CPD (DCAL's CoPE) on the development of the Outline Business Case particularly in terms of cost and programme estimates.

The Executive has a commitment to the inclusion of social clauses in contracts and DCAL will ensure that strong social clauses targets will be contained within the procurement contract. While the minister welcomes any advice from CPD in this regard, all decisions will rest with the minister.

Grant recipients must retain all project documentation relating to procurements, competitions and payments and ensure it is kept for a period of 7 years after final payment of grant or such other date as DCAL may advise. All project documentation must be made available to DCAL upon request.

A development cost letter of offer will be issued covering the approved development costs.

12.0 When will Final Letter of Offer be issued?

Once DCAL are satisfied that all project management requirements have been satisfactorily addressed the final Letter of Offer will be issued.

Upon receipt of the signed Form of Acceptance DCAL will issue formal permission to proceed.

At this stage the contract notice may be issued and construction can commence on site.

13.0 How will the programme be managed?

The programme will be delivered by DCAL. It is envisaged that DCAL and IFA will develop a Programme Steering Group to oversee the delivery of the Sub Regional Programme for Soccer. All final investment decisions and monetary awards will be made by the DCAL Minister.

14.0 How to respond?

The consultation process will commence on Monday 30th November 2015 and finish on 22 February 2016.

Responses are requested online, however they can also be sent either by email or post, as detailed below:

- E-mail: stadiumteam@dcalni.gov.uk
- Post:
Stadium Branch
Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure
Causeway Exchange
1-7 Bedford Street
Belfast
BT2 7EG

The deadline for receipt of responses is 5:00 pm on Monday 22 February 2016.

Should you have any enquiries please send them to stadiumteam@dcalni.gov.uk or telephone **028 9051 5053**.

This consultation document and response form can be downloaded from the Department's website at www.dcalni.gov.uk/consultation . It is also available from the Department at the address given above or by calling 028 9051 5053.

Should you require the document in a format such as Braille, audio-tape or large print please contact us at the email address or phone number above.

There is no requirement to respond to all of the questions in the consultation questionnaire.

What happens next?

Following the closing date for the consultation, all responses will be considered along with any other available evidence to help finalise the policy and application process for the Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer in advance of the programme being formally launched.

15.0 Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Confidentiality of Consultation Responses

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or disclosure in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000(FOIA).

If you want information that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

In view of this, it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

For further information about confidentiality of responses, please contact the Information Commissioner's Office or see website at:

www.ico.org.uk

Data Protection

DCAL will handle any personal data you provide in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.



Strategic Facility Need (excluding national stadium)

Background

The IFA Facilities Strategy (April 2009) outlines the key areas of facility need for Football within Northern Ireland, and, without costings, seeks to identify the prioritisation of these. The Strategy itself is currently under review to take account of projects implemented via the SNI Stadia Safety Programme and IFA Soccer Strategy, Floodlighting Improvement and Football Turf programmes and to recognise the potential funding and partnership support which presently exists.

It is important to note however that this remains a working document only and that full integration into any revised IFA Facilities Strategy document would require the formal approval of the IFA Executive Board.

The areas identified are:

1. Safe stadia

The Oval is arguably the least fit-for-purpose stadium we have for senior football in Northern Ireland at the moment. The only recent upgrade which this stadium has benefitted from involving public money was the provision of new floodlights in 2009.

The IFA would recommend that redevelopment of The Oval should take place in partnership with Glentoran FC; the stadium should be suitable for hosting high level competition matches with a moderate capacity level of 6,000 to 8,000 persons. The venue would meet all appropriate, UEFA, IFA, Red Guide and DDA requirements whilst providing a suitably equipped facility for all media and broadcast partners.

In order to ensure viability and sustainability it is anticipated that all available commercial and public sector revenue opportunities would be integrated into the facility.

Dependent upon the development opportunity at any such site the potential would exist to combine this facility with the development of a National Training Centre (see point 4 below). However, it is possible that space constraints and other developments (for example Giant's Park in north Belfast) could suggest that these are maintained as separate projects.

Anticipated cost: £10M

2. Significant sub-regional stadia

There is a clear need to provide sub-regional stadia which can sit at the hub of key communities and can offer both quality football facilities, and community facilities which bring revenues into the club tenants, thus making football in these areas more sustainable. Likely developments in these significant sub-regional stadia would include spectator accommodation, club rooms which could be rented out to community and/or business groups to bolster revenue, and 3G pitches (for competition and/or playing) which would also be revenue generators.

The strategic, rather than tactical, facility development of a small number of clubs in Northern Ireland which are designated under the Safety at Sports Grounds (NI) Order would deliver significant rather than piecemeal investment into venues facing both challenge and opportunity. As an example, we are aware that Crusaders are at an advanced stage of planning and whether they opt for a refurbishment of Seaview or a new stadium on the North Foreshore, it is likely that a figure in the region of £3m would be required.

Associated works at selected venues appropriately identified is anticipated in would be in the areas of safe and secure spectator accommodations, changing provision for players and officials, floodlighting, disabled persons provision, playing surfaces (including the provision of 3G football turf) and media/hospitality areas. All investments would be designed to make the clubs more inclusive, sustainable and connected in to their local communities. A 'Challenge Fund' principle would be applied in this area to ensure that fairness is achieved.

Anticipated cost: £17M

3. IFA Championship Clubs (not designated under the Safety at Sports Grounds (NI) Order)

Thirteen football grounds in Northern Ireland are designated under the Safety at Sports Grounds (NI) Order. Other smaller grounds have not been able to avail of recent funding streams which have focused on safety. Nevertheless, work is needed at several of these smaller grounds to improve the venues in respect of general health and safety, and also to ensure that such clubs have the equitable opportunity for promotion to the highest level of the domestic game.

In this respect the IFA recognises that these clubs need to develop themselves as clubs, rather than in a single team mentality, and in this regard the IFA would wish to implement club development procedures, in line with SNI Clubmark and Kitemark schemes, to capacity build within such clubs in order to fully integrate these clubs into their local communities and thereby giving greater confidence and assurance to investors.

The required improvements are in the areas of spectator provision (up to 500 seats and a similar amount of covered standing places), floodlighting (300lux), toilet provision, disabled persons provision, changing provision for players and officials and playing surfaces (including the provision of 3G football turf).

In order to ensure appropriate investment, in line with principles of viability and sustainability, it is anticipated that 'Challenge Fund' principles would be applied in line with guidance from SNI.

Anticipated cost: £3M

4. National Training Centre

A flagship National Football Centre is a crucial component of the IFA's strategy to qualify for a major tournament by supporting the cream of Northern Irish football ability. Such a facility should be built specific to the needs of players, coaches, medical and sports science personnel.

Such a facility would support fully the player pathways developed through grassroots and excellence programmes which are fully integrated into local communities and schools. As indicated (in point 1 above) this facility could be combined with The Oval redevelopment which would reduce capital investment (but these projects could well be de-linked based on space availability and other developments).

The combined facility should include:

- two 3G pitches	£1.25M
- two high quality natural grass pitches	£0.40M
- rehabilitation area and conditioning suite	£0.5M
- lecture facilities	£0.25M
- changing facilities	£0.6M

Consideration would also be given to partnership with a hotel chain in order to provide accommodations for players and support staff as it is recognised that dedicated facilities in this respect may not be cost efficient. It may well be that the best stand alone location for this project would be as part of the proposed Giant's Park development in north Belfast, and could be complementary to Crusaders' plans to move their stadium there or alternatively as part of the proposed Oval development.

Anticipated cost: £3M

5. Intermediate and Junior Football

The football family is predominately made of clubs from the Intermediate and Junior ranks, numbering around 900, and whilst recognising that these clubs play an important part in the sporting culture of Northern Ireland it is unrealistic to seek to support any sizeable number of such clubs in facility development.

The IFA feel that this level of the game should be supported via targeted programmes, in partnerships with local councils and schools/colleges, in order to deliver key sporting centres in local communities.

Again the IFA would wish to capacity build within such partner clubs and organisations and seek to understand further the constitutional issues prevalent at this level of the game to develop and support local clubs rather than individual teams.

It is however considered appropriate to invest in a single high quality facility which could deliver multi club and community usage via the provision of several football turf pitches and minimum associated support accommodations on a single site.

The information contained within the SNI 'Active Places Research Report 2009' could be utilised as a core indicator of facility need and be implemented in conjunction with local Council and/or SNI support.

The facility could also serve as a regional training centre for the development of elite players, complementing the national training facility noted in point 5 above.

Anticipated cost: £3M

Annex 2: *Sub Regional Stadia Programme – Consultation Response Form*



**DCAL SUB REGIONAL STADIA PROGRAMME
for SOCCER**

Consultation Response Form

Publication Date: 30 November 2015
Closing Date for Responses: 22 February 2016

Questions for Consideration

The Department of Culture, Arts & Leisure is seeking views on its draft Sub Regional Stadia Programme for Soccer.

We would welcome your comments on any aspect of the draft programme.

PROGRAMME

Q1. Do you agree with the decision to invest in soccer?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions as to what the money should be invested in?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q2. Do you agree with the proposal to funding 5 separate strands in the programme?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q3. Do you agree with the 20% partnership funding requirement for all projects?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q4. Do you agree with the assessment criteria?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

STRAND 1 – SAFE STADIA

(IFA Facilities Strategy specifies the redevelopment of The Oval in partnership with Glentoran Football Club)

Q5. Do you agree with the proposal to invest in Safe Stadia?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q6. Do you agree with the budget allocated to this strand of the programme?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

STRAND 2 – SIGNIFICANT SUB REGIONAL STADIA

(Designated Venues Only)

Q7. Do you agree with the proposal to invest in significant Sub Regional Stadia (Designated Venues only)?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q8. Do you agree with the budget allocated to this strand of the programme?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

STRAND 3 – IFA CHAMPIONSHIP CLUBS

(Venues not designated under Safety at Sports Ground NI Order)

Q9. Do you agree with the proposal to invest in IFA Championship Clubs (not designated under Safety at Sports Ground NI Order)?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q10. Do you agree with the budget allocated to this strand of the programme?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

STRAND 4 – NATIONAL TRAINING CENTRE

Q11. Do you agree with the proposal to invest in a National Training Centre?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q12. Do you agree with the budget allocated to this strand of the programme?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

STRAND 5 – INTERMEDIATE AND JUNIOR FOOTBALL

(A single high quality facility)

Q13. Do you agree with the proposal to invest in a single high quality facility for Intermediate and Junior Football?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

Q14. Do you agree with the budget allocated to this strand of the programme?

Strongly Agree Agree Neither Agree/Disagree Disagree Strongly Disagree

Please provide your views:

Do you have any alternative suggestions?

Yes No

Please provide your suggestions:

GENERAL

Q15: Please provide any other comments on any aspect of the draft programme?

Please provide any additional comments:

CONSULTATION RESPONSES & FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

All responses will be treated as public and the Department will usually publish a summary of responses following the completion of the consultation process. If you would prefer your response to be treated as confidential, please let us know, stating your reasons clearly.

Q16: Do you want your response to be treated as confidential?

Yes No

If 'YES' please state clearly your reasons for requesting confidentiality:

If we are asked to disclose responses under freedom of information legislation, we will take any requests for confidentiality into account. However, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed.

We will handle appropriately any personal data you provide in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.

For further information about confidentiality of responses, please contact the Information Commissioner's Office or see website

PERSONAL INFORMATION

Q17: Are you responding as an individual or on behalf of an organisation?

Individual (if ticked, go to Q18) **Organisation** (if ticked, go to Q19)

Q18: What is your Postcode?

Q19: What is the Postcode of your organisation?

Q20: What is the name of your organisation?

Thank you for taking the time to participate in this public consultation.

Please return completed responses to stadiumteam@dcalni.gov.uk or to DCAL Stadia Team, Level 8, Causeway Exchange, 1-7 Bedford St, Belfast, BT2 7EG