

Press Release

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## Runwell Hospital Sports & Social Club awarded £65,000 of funding to improve grassroots sports facility

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Embargo: 00:01 Monday 1 June 2015

Date:

Local sports club, Runwell Hospital Sports & Social Club, is among 149 project to secure a share of £16.5 million of National Lottery funding from Sport England that will help improve facilities and playing fields across the country.

Runwell Hospital Sports & Social Club, has been awarded £65,000 to lay a new archery range on previously unused grassland with full drainage, levelled so the Archery section ( Rayleigh Town Archery Club) can develop its present membership and also that for disabled archers.

To maximize the area in wintertime, the installation of drainage will allow the provision of u14/u16 football when not in use for archery.

RHSSC Club secretary, Keith Peckover, said: “We are delighted to have secured this investment, which means we can increase the availability of archery to the local community, develop further, much needed disability archery facilities and provide a football facility lacking in the u14/16 age range.

The announcement comes as Sport England revealed that it has reached a major funding milestone – having invested £5 billion in grassroots sport in the last 20 years.

Since 1994, the year Tom Daley was born, Wet Wet Wet topped the charts with Love Is All Around and the Channel Tunnel opened, Sport England has made tens of thousands of investments – totalling £5 billion.

Sport England’s Property Director, Charles Johnston, said: “£5 billion is a huge sum of money, but it’s the projects and people that that money supports which are really important. We’re delighted to have invested so much into community sport, and see on a daily basis the impact that it makes for local people.

“The latest round of facility funding continues to make a noticeable difference to community sports clubs across the country. By giving people top-class, sustainable facilities in which to play sport, and by improving and protecting our playing surfaces, we’re ensuring that more people can pay sport, more often.”

The latest round of facility funding will help create new changing rooms, pavilions and artificial grass pitches as well as protecting and improving grass pitches to make people's sporting experiences better.

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**Notes to Editors**

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