

**Club:** Maidstone Football Club

**Sport:** Rugby

**Local Authority:** Maidstone

**Funding:** Kent Sport Small Grant

**Success:** March 2015

### **Background: Why were Maidstone Football Club looking for funding?**

The funding was to be used to establish a Girls Rugby Development Project. With the aim of introducing more girls to the game, increasing participation and raising the profile of girls rugby in the area.

### **What was the club looking for funding for?**

Maidstone Football Club needed funding for equipment to cater for the new girls development squad and increased demand for participation.

### **How did the club find out about Kent Sport?**

Co-chair for Youth Rugby (Eva Howson) has an ongoing relationship with Kent Sport and brought to my attention the grants that are available. The Youth Section already had ideas to develop girls' rugby and the connection was quickly made between the ideas and the potential source of funding. We agreed to explore the potential for a grant and was quickly provided with an application form and guidance notes, and took it from there.

### **How did Kent Sport support you with the process of applying for funding?**

Kent Sport responded to an initial email enquiry and encouraged me to complete the appropriate application form. We had one point of contact throughout and this was very helpful as it is always easier to deal with one (very capable) person consistently throughout any process. Kent Sport maintained email contact and provided suitable prompts and guidance regarding processes and requirements.

### **How long did the process take?**

From my starting position in late February 2015 I was in receipt of a confirmed grant offer within 4 weeks and had completed & submitted a grant acceptance form as at 25 March 2015. Our project ran from March 2015 to late September 2015. This was largely due to the fact that March/April time is end of season and September is start of new season. We had to see how well our out-of-season training efforts would translate into numbers of female players turning up for the start of the season.

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