

ESSEX COUNTY FA: COVID-19 CLUB RESOURCE GUIDE

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Website: www.essexfa.com

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INTRODUCTION: welcome to this guide

During these challenging times, grassroots clubs and organisations all over the country are experiencing many different challenges due to the Coronavirus pandemic.

We have prepared this club resource guide to pull together a great deal of information into one document which will give you some tips, tools and ideas to help keep your club functioning and working, with your members, during the coming weeks and months.

Some of the information is Covid-19-related (e.g. funding support available for clubs to explore), while other parts of the resource provide details which are, hopefully, of some use as clubs prepare for when football activity can resume.

We hope everyone is safe and well within your respective clubs during these unprecedented times and we look forward to starting grassroots football in Essex again as soon as possible. Please use the staff contacts page at the back of this guide if you require further information or support.



CONTENTS: Covid-19 Club Resource Guide

1. Covid-19 Funding Support Opportunities
2. Fundraising Tools
3. Football Foundation Facility Funding Opportunities
4. Club Development Tools - FA Webinars Recordings/Club Matters
5. Support For Your Coaching Workforce
6. Safeguarding Update
7. Grassroots Football Awards
8. Staff Contacts

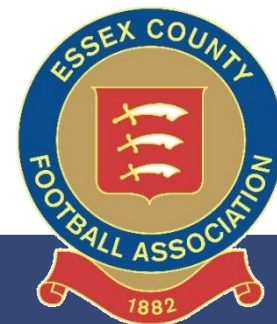


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1. COVID-19 FUNDING SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

Government Support

The Chancellor has set out a package of temporary, timely and targeted measures to support public services, people and businesses through this period of disruption caused by Covid-19. This includes a package of measures to support businesses, including:

- * a statutory sick pay relief package for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- * a twelve-month business rates holiday for all retail, hospitality and leisure businesses in England
- * small business grant funding of £10,000 for all business in receipt of small business rate relief or rural rate relief
- * grant funding of £25,000 for retail, hospitality and leisure businesses with property with a rateable value between £15,000 and £51,000
- * the Coronavirus Business Interruption Loan Scheme, offering loans of up to £5 million for SMEs through the British Business Bank
- * a new lending facility from the Bank of England to help support liquidity amongst larger firms, helping them bridge Coronavirus disruption to their cash flows through loans
- * the HMRC 'Time to Pay' Scheme
- * Covid-19: Support for businesses

The HMRC website is advising that local authorities will be writing to you if entitled to the grants, and at which level (£10k or £25k) shortly but, if you haven't heard when everyone else starts receiving their notices, you should contact the local authority to whom you pay your business rates. More details [can be found by following this link](#).



1. COVID-19 FUNDING SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

Sport England Community Emergency Fund

The Community Emergency Fund aims to deliver immediate funding to those most in need. It's specifically targeted at organisations who have a role in supporting the nation to be active but who are experiencing short-term financial hardship, or the ceasing of operations due to the ongoing crisis.

The types of organisations eligible include local sports clubs forced to close at short notice (but who are facing ongoing costs around maintenance and utility bills) and voluntary and community sector organisations who deliver or enable sport and physical activity.

What it will fund: The fund has been developed to help community sport and physical activity organisations meet their obligations, in particular fixed costs, which are no longer supported with revenue as a result of Coronavirus. This might cover expenditure on: rent, utility costs, insurances, facility or equipment hire, core staffing costs (including casual workers) which cannot be met elsewhere by other Government funds.

Key points to note:

- * grants of between £300 to £10,000 are available
- * Sport England expect applicants will have exhausted all other Government funding sources before applying to this fund
- * given the enormity of the current crisis, there will be a lot of interest, so we encourage clubs to look at this as soon as possible - Sport England are likely to get more applications than they are able to fund, so they will direct funds to where they're most needed

For further information, and to start an application, [please follow this link](#). We are keen to hear from clubs/leagues who progress with an application as we'd like to develop a case study to share.



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1. COVID-19 FUNDING SUPPORT OPPORTUNITIES

Big Society Capital: plans emergency £100m loan fund for charities.

CAF Coronavirus Emergency Fund: organisations with income of £1m or less, up to £10k, to support day-to-day activities in the current health emergency or your Covid-19 emergency response activities.

Comic Relief: some of the money raised through Sport Relief 2020 will go to organisations on the frontline. Support for grantees through adapting activities, reviewing timeframes, or re-budgeting remaining funds.

Martin Lewis: has made £1m available to fund urgent Coronavirus grants of £5k to £20k to small registered UK charities - community aid, financial advice help and more - to help with specific UK Coronavirus-related poverty relief projects. His hope is to get the money distributed within the next couple of weeks. Closed to new applications.

National Lottery: announces all the funding decisions for next six months (up to £300m) will be devoted to crisis and they will accelerate the cash part of this funding as much as possible.

Neighbourly: micro-grants of up to £400, to support good causes who are helping communities affected by the new Coronavirus outbreak.

Sport England: Community Emergency Fund - including those not currently supported by us, who have a role in supporting the nation to be active but who are experiencing short-term financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the impact of Coronavirus. Organisations can apply for grants between £300 and £10,000.

London Community Response Fund: grants are to continue the crisis response as well as changing the way you deliver your work to ensure it continues to meet the needs of your communities. Future funding programmes may include longer-term and recovery costs.



2. FUNDRAISING TOOLS

If your club want to carry on fundraising from home, **easyfundraising** is a fast and free way they can do this. Sign-up at www.easyfundraising.org.uk/essex-fa.

4,000 retailers, including Amazon, eBay, Just Eat, Waitrose, Dominos, Now TV and Audible will send your club donations when members use the easyfundraising website or app to shop with them. It only takes a couple of minutes to get up and running and you can keep raising money this way when life returns to normal, too.



Clubs Using easyfundraising

Valley Green, Kirby Athletic, Stanway Rovers, Witham Town, GFA Loughton, Hatfield Peverel, Rochford Town Sports & Social, Writtle Minors Girls, Billericay Town Girls, Essex Soccability League, St Edmunds, East Thurrock United, Sands United Essex, Pitsea Town, Essex Comets, Gidea Park Rangers, Leytonstone United, Thaxted Rangers, Writtle, Heddinghams United, Harwich Hornets, Porters Soccability, Island Boys & Girls, Southend Manor, Ongar Jubilee



3. FOOTBALL FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Clubs with grassroots teams (non-National League System) are eligible to access financial support through the Football Foundation's single fund.

As part of the Football Foundation's funding matrix, review clubs can now apply for up to £25,000 for smaller projects, which can be funded up to a 75% by the Football Foundation. Clubs can go back into the pot as often as they wish (after previously being restricted to an application once every two seasons). The items you could potentially apply for are set out below:

- * **Goalposts** - replacement or new
- * **Storage Containers**
- * **Fencing** - Site perimeter
- * **Clubhouse Refurbishment Works**
- * **Pitch Maintenance Equipment**

Before considering any of the above, we advise clubs to thoroughly read the guidance document which can be found at the following link on our website before then discussing it further with your local Football Development Officer.

www.essexfa.com/leagues-and-clubs/finance/grants-and-funding (see 'Related Documents')

Following that discussion, if appropriate, clubs can then visit the Football Foundation website at www.footballfoundation.org.uk to start their application.



3. FOOTBALL FOUNDATION FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Clubs with a teams who play within the National League System (Step 7 and above), may be eligible for financial support through the Football Foundation's Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF).

The maximum grant available depends on the level the team plays within, and clubs are eligible for a maximum grant of 70% of the total project cost.

Steps 3-4 = £150,000

Steps 5-6 = £100,000

Step 7 = £20,000 (up to £50,000 for changing room projects)

The purpose of the FSIF fund is to support clubs across the three following areas:

- * to meet the FA ground grading criteria of their league
- * to ensure the club complies with health and safety requirements
- * to promote club sustainability

For more information on the FSIF, including what your club may be eligible for, please visit:

www.footballfoundation.org.uk/grant/football-stadia-improvement-fund



4. CLUB DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

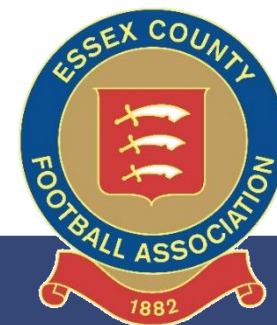
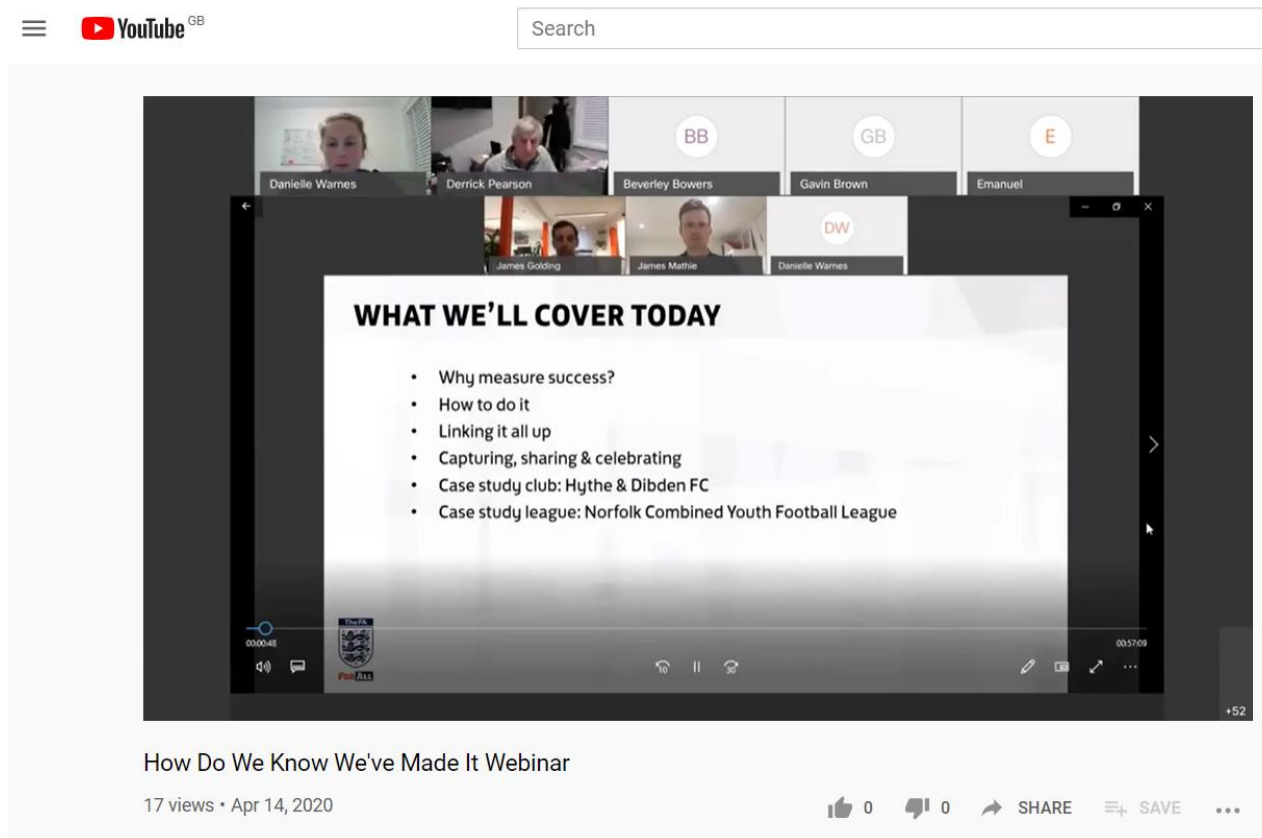
The FA have delivered a series of Club Webinars in recent weeks, all of which can be viewed by visiting the links on Essex County FA YouTube channel below.

The most recent episode provides some useful content on how to plan effectively during these challenging times.

[FA Webinar: How To Plan Effectively During These Times](#)

[FA Webinar: Defining Success As A Club](#)

[FA Webinar: What We Stand For - Developing Your Club Vision & Values](#)



4. CLUB DEVELOPMENT TOOLS

Club Matters

Club Matters is Sport England's one-stop shop for sports clubs, groups and organisations involved in the delivery of physical activity and sport. You can find a lot of useful information on there in many different forms, including podcasts and templates.

They have updated it recently to include a wealth of resources to support clubs in their response to Covid-19, including Emergency Financial Planning Guides; Engaging Virtually With Your Members; Understanding the Financial Support Available.

www.sportenglandclubmatters.com

Muckle LLP Support

Muckle work in partnership with The FA to provide legal support to The FA, County FAs and FA Charter Standard Clubs across the country. Muckle offer advice covering a full range of legal areas such as contracts, landlords and tenants and health and Safety.

All Charter Standard and NLS clubs can access 30 minutes of free advice per matter. They have an updated 'Impact of Covid-19 Club FAQ' document available on the website, where you will also find contact details should you wish to discuss your club's situation with a member of their team.

www.muckle-llp.com/what-we-do/sports/the-football-association



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5. SUPPORT FOR YOUR COACHING WORKFORCE

Throughout this period, we'll be offering support to coaches via online workshops, discussions and sharing useful resources. We'd recommend following @EssexCoaches on Twitter for the latest updates.

The Internet is great place to find coaching material... and there is a huge amount out there! The links below will help you find relevant information for the players you coach. Please feel free to share!

FA Learning on YouTube: access the latest coaching webinars, sessions, interviews and ideas to stay active

CPD (Continuing Professional Development): workshops added throughout the year

The Boot Room: The FA's new home of coaching

The FA Coaching Community- Hive Learning: connect with coaches from all levels of the game

England DNA: the playing and coaching philosophy of England Teams

FA Grassroots Guide: useful for all adults in youth football

FA Playmaker: coming soon - this will be perfect for those interested in coaching or leading activities

Twitter: @FALearning



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5. SUPPORT FOR YOUR COACHING WORKFORCE

Essex County FA on YouTube

FA Talent ID: Level 1 free online

Inclusion & Anti-Discrimination: helpful documents, resources and guidance

The FA Matchday App: organise your football life

Liverpool FA Podcast: interesting discussions with special guests

The FA Player: multiple matches and highlights to review

UK Coaching: ideas, tips and practical guidance for coaches

The Open University- Coaching Others to Coach

The Open University- Exploring Sport Coaching and Psychology



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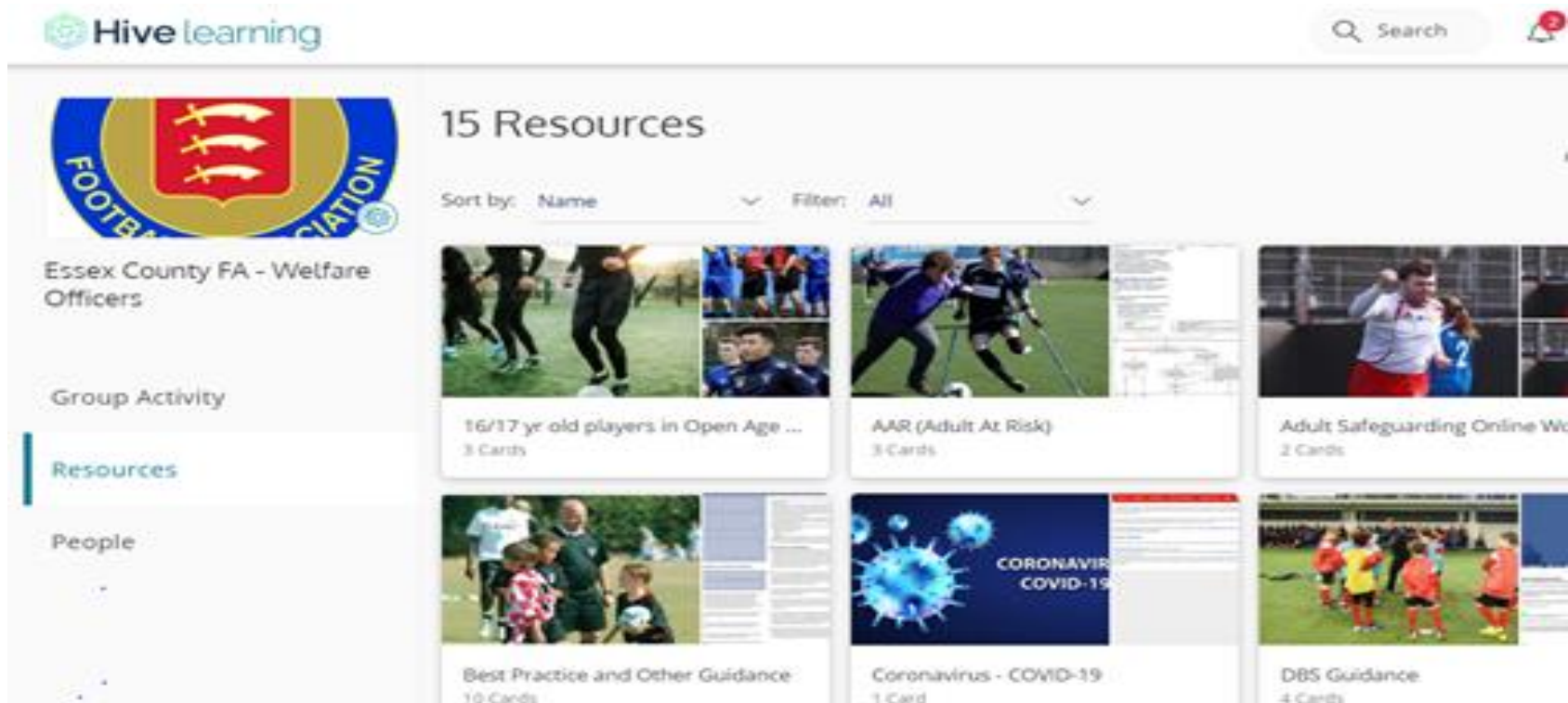


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6. SAFEGUARDING UPDATE

For advice, guidance and information, including 16-17-year-olds playing in open-age football, and updates on DBSs, join our HIVE forum. E-Mail chloe.hookins@essexfa.com to receive the invitation.



The screenshot shows the Hive Learning interface. At the top, the 'Hive learning' logo is on the left, and a search bar with a magnifying glass icon and the word 'Search' is on the right. Below the logo is the Essex County FA crest, which is a blue shield with a red cross and three white fish. To the right of the crest, the text 'Essex County FA - Welfare Officers' is displayed. Below this, there are three tabs: 'Group Activity', 'Resources' (which is highlighted with a blue bar), and 'People'. The main content area is titled '15 Resources' and has a 'Sort by: Name' dropdown and a 'Filter: All' dropdown. There are six resource cards visible, each with a thumbnail image and a title. The cards are: 1. '16/17 yr old players in Open Age ...' with 3 cards, showing a group of young players on a field. 2. 'AAR (Adult At Risk)' with 3 cards, showing a person in a purple shirt running on a field. 3. 'Adult Safeguarding Online W...' with 2 cards, showing a person in a white shirt and red shorts. 4. 'Best Practice and Other Guidance' with 10 cards, showing a group of people on a field. 5. 'Coronavirus - COVID-19' with 1 card, showing a blue virus particle. 6. 'DBS Guidance' with 4 cards, showing a group of people on a field.

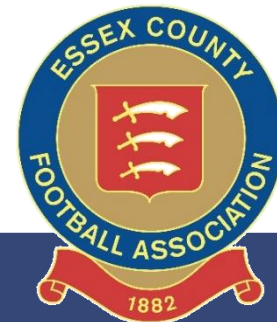


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7. GRASSROOTS FOOTBALL AWARDS

Now Open! Recognising our Essex volunteering heroes - you can nominate until 18th May.

Link for further information, and to vote:

www.thefa.com/get-involved/grassroots-football-awards

Categories

- * Grassroots Coach of the Year for Youth
- * Grassroots Coach of the Year for Adults
- * Grassroots Club of the Year
- * Grassroots League of the Year
- * Grassroots Volunteer of the Year
- * Rising Star of the Year
- * Grassroots Grounds Team of the Year
- * Grassroots Project of the Year
- * 'We Only Do Positive' - Parents Respect Award
- * Grassroots Match Official of the Year



8. STAFF CONTACTS

Group One: Braintree, Colchester, Maldon, Tendring

Governance: Jake Fairman, (01245) 393080, jake.fairman@essexfa.com or Mark Wallis, (01245) 393084, mark.wallis@essexfa.com

Development: Lana Gillard, (01245) 393092, lane.gillard@essexfa.com

Safeguarding: Helen Hever, (01245) 393098, helen.hever@essexfa.com

Refereeing: George Lowe, (01245) 393097, george.lowe@essexfa.com

Group Three: Rochford, Southend-on-Sea, Castle Point, Basildon, Thurrock

Governance: Robert Craven, (01245) 393082, robert.craven@essexfa.com or Mark Wallis, (01245) 393084, mark.wallis@essexfa.com

Development: Rhys Elmer, (01245) 393099, rhys.elmer@essexfa.com

Safeguarding: Chloe Hookins, (01245) 393093, chloe.hookins@essexfa.com

Refereeing: Lukas Wood, (01245) 393076, lukas.wood@essexfa.com

Group Two: Brentwood, Chelmsford, Epping Forest, Harlow, Uttlesford

Governance: Cairo Duncan, (01245) 393081, cairo.duncan@essexfa.com or Mark Wallis, (01245) 393084, mark.wallis@essexfa.com

Development: Karl Sear, (01245) 393094, karl.sear@essexfa.com or Emma Burden, (01245) 393073, emma.burden@essexfa.com

Safeguarding: Helen Hever, (01245) 393098, helen.hever@essexfa.com

Refereeing: George Lowe, (01245) 393097, george.lowe@essexfa.com

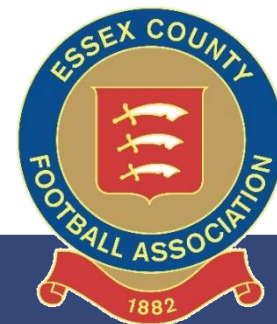
Group Four: Barking & Dagenham, Havering, Newham, Redbridge, Waltham Forest

Governance: Fran Smith, (01245) 393083, fran.smith@essexfa.com or Mark Wallis, (01245) 393084, mark.wallis@essexfa.com

Development: Jake Ling, (01245) 393092, jake.ling@essexfa.com

Safeguarding: Chloe Hookins, (01245) 393093, chloe.hookins@essexfa.com

Refereeing: Lukas Wood, (01245) 393076, lukas.wood@essexfa.com



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