



# Press Release

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September 2020

## Cranleigh FC awarded funding to improve football facilities

People living in Cranleigh are set to benefit from fresh investment into local football facilities. Cranleigh FC have been awarded a grant from the Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation, to upgrade their facilities.

The Football Foundation is the UK's largest sports charity and exists to improve the experience of playing football for everyone, by championing fair access to quality facilities.

This grant will enable Cranleigh FC, which has players from aged 5 all the way up to adults and veterans playing across a number of leagues in the South East, to increase the number of pitches they can use following the grant to install two new sets of goals.

Players will also be able to train locally on grass in the evenings, thanks to the grant which has enabled the purchase of portable floodlights.

Cranleigh FC worked with the Football Foundation and the Surrey FA to secure a grant of almost £4,000 towards the project.

Spencer Adams, Vice-Chairman, said: "The grant from the Football Foundation will make a huge difference to the club. Given our expansion over the last few years, access to more pitches is critical, and the portable floodlights will enable more locations to be used for evening training during the week, especially across the winter."

Robert Sullivan, Interim Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said: "**We know the huge benefits playing regular football can have on individuals' physical and mental well-being. That's why we're committed to transforming the face of grassroots football facilities in this country. It's therefore very welcome news to hear that this funding will support Cranleigh FC with a greater number of pitches to use and additional training opportunities for their local community.**"

**"Working with our partners – the Premier League, The FA, government and Sport England – we will be investing in over £1bn worth of local facilities across the country over the next decade. We believe we can transform lives and strengthen communities by unlocking the power of pitches and this is another project that brings us closer to that ultimate goal."**



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**Notes to editors:**

The Premier League, The FA and Government's Football Foundation is the largest sports charity in the UK. It champions and supports fair access to quality football facilities for everyone, regardless of postcode, gender, race, disability or place.

The Foundation receives money from the Premier League, The FA and the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, through Sport England. This is matched with partnership funding and awarded as grants to create outstanding grassroots facilities that enable better games and attract more players, helping to transform communities.

The Football Foundation celebrates its 20th anniversary next year. Since 2000, it has awarded more than 17,300 grants to improve facilities worth more than £684m – including 829 artificial grass pitches, 3,175 natural grass pitches and 1,100 changing facilities. This has attracted an additional £870m of partnership funding – totalling over £1.5bn investment in grassroots football so far.

Through the Foundation, the Premier League, The FA, DCMS and Sport England have come together to create the National Football Facilities Strategy (NFFS) that will guide work over the next 10 years to transform many more local facilities. Local Football Facility Plans (LFFP) are being created to identify priority projects where demand is greatest, and the impact will be strongest and help stimulate the action required to deliver them.

**For more information please contact:**

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