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Introduction

Shadow Home Secretary hails Foundation investment

Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP presents £5,000 cheque to Castleford Ladies FC

Shadow Home Secretary, the Rt Hon Yvette Cooper, MP for Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford presented a £5,000 cheque to Castleford White Rose Ladies FC to help them 'Grow the Game'.



Shadow Home Secretary, the Rt Hon Yvette Cooper, MP for Normanton, Pontefract and Castleford presented a cheque for £5,000 from the Football Foundation to Castleford White Rose Ladies FC last week.

The 'Grow the Game' funding will see Castleford White Rose Ladies FC expand their junior setup, adding five new teams over the next two years, as well as providing FA coaching courses to all of their existing and future volunteers.

At the opening the Rt Hon Yvette Cooper MP said: "With the Olympics only a year ago there's a real interest in women's football, especially with the Women's Euros just around the corner.

"And as an honorary patron of Castleford White Rose Ladies, it's absolutely fantastic to see them growing as a club, and this grant will really help bring more young women and girls into the game and I hope anyone who's interested will take advantage and join one of the new teams."

Steve Conboy, Junior Development Officer at Castleford White Rose Ladies FC, said: "Castleford White Rose's ambitions to develop a footballing academy for girls for the five towns district may have seemed like a dream to some but the Football Foundation and West Riding FA have helped us to begin making this dream become a reality."

News Stories

Youth goalpost grants - last chance!

Final funding window before new season opens Monday 1 July

More funding is now available for youth goalposts thanks to The FA and the Football Foundation, as the small-sided game is implemented around the country.



The final youth goalposts funding window before the start of the new season will open on Monday 1 July, meaning clubs will be able to apply for up to 50% of the funding to help cover the cost of small goals.

The Football Foundation, together with The FA, is offering grassroots clubs across England the opportunity to receive funding towards new goalposts, in order to meet 2013/14 season's requirement of using smaller goals for teams of Under-11 and below.

The new 9v9, 7v7 and 5v5 formats, using smaller goals and smaller pitches, will make for a more child-

friendly game and will help to develop more technically-gifted players, as highlighted in The FA's Youth Development review in 2012.

Sir Trevor Brooking, Director of Football Development at The FA, said: "The small-sided formats of the game help youngsters to develop their touch and technique as they have more touches of the ball in a match. Young goalkeepers also benefit as they do not have to protect the same sized goal as a Premier League goalkeeper has to week in, week out."

For more information please contact your County FA or visit www.footballfoundation.org.uk/apply/youth-football-goalposts/.

Ex-top flight forwards open new pitch

Marlon Harewood and Alan Young open new AGP in Loughborough

A new artificial grass pitch has been opened by former Nottingham Forest FC striker, Marlon Harewood, and former Leicester City FC forward, Alan Young, in Loughborough.



A stunning new third generation artificial grass pitch (AGP), jointly funded by the Football Foundation and Leicestershire County Council, has been opened by former Nottingham Forest FC striker, Marlon Harewood, and former Leicester City FC forward, Alan Young, at Charnwood College in Loughborough.

The college and Loughborough Dynamo Juniors Football Club worked with the Leicestershire and Rutland FA to secure a £239,591 grant from the Foundation towards the £482,000 project.

The new AGP will provide more opportunities for the local community to get involved in sport and the aim is to increase the number of teams using the site from 26 to 42 in five years, including five female and four disability teams.

Alastair O'Connor, Assistant Principal of Charnwood College, said: "We are delighted that the Football Foundation has supported us with the next step in Charnwood College's journey in achieving outstanding facilities and provision for the young people of the area.

"With the partnership between Loughborough Dynamo Juniors FC and our newly appointed Football Development Officer, we have an amazing opportunity to develop provision in Loughborough and the wider area."

Let there be light!

Isle of Man club celebrate funding for floodlights

Colby AFC officially open their new, improved all-weather pitch with floodlights, part-funded by the Football Foundation.



Isle of Man club, Colby AFC, celebrated their improved all-weather pitch facility, partly funded by the Football Foundation, with an official opening recently.

The club worked with the Isle of Man FA to secure a £50,000 grant from the Foundation which allowed Colby AFC to install floodlighting, meaning they will be able to use their all-weather pitch for longer during the winter evenings.

Ken Skinner, Chairman of Colby AFC, said: "In recent years the Football Foundation has been investing very heavily in Manx football allowing many clubs and now our own to make much needed improvements to their facilities.

"We at Colby are very grateful for their generous grant which helped to give not only our own members but also the wider community the benefit of our new modern top rated facilities."

Before and After

Ashlyn's School hails transformation to BerkoAstro

How a sports field can be upgraded to a state-of-the-art pitch at Ashlyn's School



A grant from the Football Foundation meant Ashlyns School were able to convert a disused building into a new pavilion, equipped with a meeting room, class room space, toilets and the facilities to provide refreshments.



Ashlyns School and Berkhamstead Raiders Community Football Club (BRCFC) worked in partnership with the Hertfordshire FA to secure a grant of £51,412 from the Football Foundation in 2012.

The Foundation funding enabled the conversion of a disused building on the edge of the Foundation-funded third generation (3G) artificial grass pitch, which was officially opened by former Watford, AC Milan and England favourite Luther Blissett in 2010, into a pavilion.

The improvements will enable the project to continue delivering all aspects of its football development plan which is already exceeding the project's expectations, having increased the number of teams from 40 to 51, with 716 players utilising the facilities.



— ■ FUNDING PARTNERS ■ —

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