

ENGLAND AND WALES CRICKET BOARD



TACKLING CLIMATE CHANGE FUND (TCCF) 2026

GUIDANCE NOTES FOR
CRICKET CLUBS



**TACKLING CLIMATE
CHANGE FUND**

INSPIRING
GENERATIONS

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1. ABOUT THE SCHEME

- 1.1 The Tackling Climate Change Fund (TCCF) aims to support ECB affiliated Cricket Clubs to mitigate the impact of Climate Change with particular regards to flooding, drought, energy saving and water management .
- 1.2 Themes for the scheme may vary from year to year (depending on identified strategic need) and will directly relate to the ECB Environmental Sustainability Plan:
<https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/what-we-do/sustainability>
- 1.3 The scheme is funded by the England and Wales Cricket Trust (EWCT), the associated charity of the England and Wales Cricket Board Limited (ECB) and has a budget of £1m in 2026.
- 1.4 TCCF 2026 is intended to run as a pilot to inform future investment. The design of the scheme will be reviewed for 2027.

2. ELIGIBILITY

2.1 As a minimum, Clubs will need to have the following:

- Affiliation to ECB* via the local Recreational Cricket Board (RCB) or Cricket Foundation (CF) in England and Wales
- A Constitution, Articles of Association or equivalent governing document
- Valid Buildings, Contents and Public Liability Insurance
- Security of Tenure – Freehold, Leasehold or Rental agreement (minimum one year)
- A bank account in the Club's name
- Financial accounts from the Club's last financial year
- Club Safeguarding Officer (fully compliant on ECB Safe Hands Management System)
- Compliance with all relevant ECB policies including the ECB Safe Hands Policy and ECB Anti-Discrimination Regulations

Additional documentation may be requested depending on the project theme, i.e. Planning Permission, Landlord's Consent, Building Regulations, Site Plans etc.

**Includes Clubs affiliated to ECB nationally, via the African Caribbean Cricket Association (ACCA) or National Asian Cricket Council (NACC).*

2.2 Clubs may apply for up to one grant per ECB budget year (which runs from 1 February - 31 January). Clubs will also not be able to apply for a second grant under the TCCF for the same project before 2028.





3. PROJECT THEMES

- 3.1 Clubs should choose **one** project theme only – see section 3.3.
- 3.2 Clubs can apply for funding towards the purchase of relevant products or materials (new only), and associated professional labour costs, under the following project themes:

- **Flood Resilience** – building protection / targeted drainage* / ditch or culvert clearance
- **Drought Resilience** – rainwater harvesting / bore holes / square irrigation
- **Heat Resilience** – awnings / ventilation / planting
- **Energy Saving** – Insulation / LED lighting / Solar PV / Solar Thermal / energy-efficient heating systems / double or triple glazing / EV Chargers / Energy efficient (kitchen) appliances
- **Water Management** – Water-saving sanitaryware / greywater recycling / SUDS & Stormwater attenuation
- **Electric mower, roller or automated mower** (maximum grant of 25% of costs only. See section 5.3)

**Any drainage scheme other than small, specific projects will require a full feasibility study and the support of a fine-turf consultant. Large scale drainage schemes are unlikely to be suitable for this scheme.*

- 3.3 Clubs should refer to the **‘Tackling Climate Change Project Guide’** to understand further information about specific project theme and the evidence that should be submitted with a full application.

4. INELIGIBLE PROJECTS

- 4.1 Any project already funded by an ECB / EWCT Grant or Loan. For the avoidance of doubt, this does not prevent a Club from applying for an EWCT Interest Free Loan in accordance with Section 6.4.
- 4.2 Purchases of reconditioned or second hand goods or materials.
- 4.3 Purchases of mechanical air-conditioning, gazebos or parasols.
- 4.4 The grant may not be used to fund professional fees, such as:
- Legal fees
 - Architect and/or surveyor fees
 - Planning
 - Third party consent

5. AMOUNT OF GRANT

- 5.1 Each application will be assessed on a case-by-case basis.
- 5.2 Clubs can typically apply for between £1,000 (minimum) and £15,000 (maximum) per application.
- 5.3 Applications for an electric mower, electric roller or automated mower will be limited to a maximum grant of 25% of the total cost of the machinery (within the limits set in Section 5.2).
- 5.4 The grant **cannot** be used to retrospectively fund projects (see Section 9.6).
- 5.5 The amount of grant offered may differ from that requested by the Club.

6. PARTNERSHIP FUNDING

- 6.1 Partnership funding is the difference between the total project cost and the amount of grant. It can be sourced from Club funds, other grant bodies or sponsorship etc.
- 6.2 There is no minimum level of partnership funding required from the Club, although partnership funding is welcomed.
- 6.3 In-kind contributions can be included as partnership funding where they can be demonstrated / evidenced (by accurate valuation of donation of materials or labour).
- 6.4 Partnership funding may also be provided by way of an EWCT Interest Free Loan. A Club can choose to apply for a joint grant and loan as part of the online application.
- 6.5 Excluding Section 6.4 (above), the scheme cannot be partnered with any other ECB / EWCT capital funding grant programme.
- 6.6 The grant cannot be used where duplicate funding has been or will be obtained in respect of the same costs.

7. KEY DATES

- The scheme will be open to applications from 27 July - 30 November 2026 (or until the funding runs out, if sooner).
- All projects must be completed and the grant claimed by 31 January 2027.
- In exceptional circumstances, and at EWCT's discretion, the end date may be extended for projects that require works to extend beyond this date.

8. PLANNING YOUR PROJECT (PRE-APPLICATION)

- 8.1 **Please review the 'Tackling Climate Change Project Guide' before planning your project.** Careful thought should be given to the planning and timing of the project before starting the application process. Consideration should be given to when projects can be scheduled, in particular, projects that be affected by adverse weather conditions during late autumn to early spring.
- 8.2 Whilst some projects can be completed quickly, others may take many months to plan and deliver. Projects may be deferred to re-apply in a future year (if scheme continues) if they may not be started within this financial year.
- 8.3 For projects with a total project cost up to and including £24,999, Clubs are required to submit 'like-for-like' quotations (or tenders) from two different suppliers. For projects of £25,000 and above, a minimum of three quotes will be required.
- 8.4 Official quotations (or tenders) can be obtained by contacting the supplier(s) direct or, if for standard purchases, EWCT will accept a screenshot from a supplier's website. Please note that hyperlinks and/or generic lists produced by the Club are not acceptable.
- 8.5 All quotations must be legible and contain the following information:
- Supplier Details
 - Date of quote (no more than 6 months old)
 - Where VAT is being charged, please check the supplier has a VAT Registration Number shown on the quote. If the supplier is not VAT Registered, it cannot charge VAT.
 - Where multiple options or additional extras are offered, the Club needs to highlight its preferred choices on the quote.
 - If purchasing items direct from a website (especially when purchasing multiple different items from the same supplier), all items should be added to the 'shopping basket' facility, which will provide a breakdown of the type, size, quantity and price of each item required, including any delivery fees, discounts and VAT (where applicable).
- 8.6 It is in all Clubs' interest to shop around for quotations **prior** to submitting an application. The cheapest option may not necessarily be the best for the Club's needs. Choose items that offer the best value for money and are robust enough for heavy usage.
- 8.7 The amount of grant offered will be based on the nominated preferred quotation(s) submitted by the Club. This information will be written into the Grant Offer Letter (Contract). If a Club subsequently changes the preferred quotation(s) or supplier(s) without notifying the EWCT, the Club may need to re-apply and the grant offer may be reduced or withdrawn in its entirety (see Section 10.4).
- 8.8 Projects that include changes to the external appearance of a clubhouse or require groundworks are likely to require planning permission. Cricket Clubs are classified as 'non-domestic premises' and most permitted development rights do not apply. In such cases, the Club must contact the local planning authority to obtain written confirmation of whether planning permission will be required or not. If planning permission is required, the process can take on average 12 weeks for a decision.
- 8.9 A list of useful resources to assist with planning your project can be found in Section 13.



9. THE APPLICATION PROCESS

9.1 Access to the application is via the online Investment Management System (IMS) at ims.ecb.co.uk

9.2 The Club will need to identify two contacts (authorised signatories) to act on its behalf for the duration of the project:

- Contacts must be authorised to enter into and sign contracts on behalf of the Club.
- The Key Contact will be responsible for completing the application process and signing and accepting the terms and conditions of the Grant Offer Letter.
- The second contact will be responsible for countersigning and accepting the terms and conditions of the Grant Offer Letter.
- Contacts must have reasonable IT skills, have access to a personal email address and set up a personal user account on IMS.
- Contacts should not share the same home address, email or phone number.
- To avoid any potential conflict of interests, contacts should not be an employee of the ECB, RCB, CF or Professional Cricket Club (PCC).

9.3 New user account details will need to be verified by the local RCB, usually within seven days. Once verified, the designated Key Contact will be able to start the application process.

9.4 The Key Contact will be required to complete a brief Expression of Interest (EOI) form, which requests basic information about the proposed project. This can then be submitted to ECB for initial review. If the project receives in principle support from ECB, the Club will be given access to the full application process.

9.5 On completion of the full application, it should be submitted to ECB for assessment within 30 days. ECB may refer the application back to the Club for further information, if required. Once ECB is satisfied with the application, it will be forwarded to EWCT for final approval and processing.

9.6 **Clubs must not proceed with their project until they have received, signed and returned the Grant Offer Letter to EWCT. If a Club is subsequently found to have commenced the project before receiving the Grant Offer Letter, the funding will be withdrawn (see Section 10.4).**

10. IF AN APPLICATION IS SUCCESSFUL

- 10.1 The Grant Offer Letter will be issued by email, usually within 30 days of receipt of the Club's completed application.
- 10.2 To accept the terms and conditions of the grant, the two contacts (authorised signatories) will be required to electronically sign and return the Grant Offer Letter (using the DocuSign process) within 30 days of receipt.
- 10.3 Once EWCT has received and accepted the signed Grant Offer Letter, the Club may commence the project.
- 10.4 Any changes to the project specification or supplier(s) after the Grant Offer Letter has been accepted must be notified to EWCT immediately. Once the EWCT receives notification of such changes, it will either confirm in writing that there are no changes to the Grant Offer Letter or will issue a new Grant Offer Letter for signature varying its terms. Failure to notify EWCT may result in the revised project being ineligible and the grant being reduced, withdrawn or repaid in whole or in part.
- 10.5 All projects must be completed and the grant claimed before the 31 January 2027, unless agreed otherwise in writing by the EWCT. In exceptional circumstances, and at EWCT's discretion, the end date may be extended.
- 10.6 The grant will ordinarily be paid in arrears against expenses actually incurred. Clubs will be required to complete the claim process on IMS and may submit multiple claims (minimum £1,000 per claim), throughout the duration of the project, or submit one final claim on completion. Each claim must be supported by invoices/receipts at least equal to the value of the claim submitted, up to the value of the final project cost.
- 10.7 In exceptional circumstances, and at EWCT's discretion, a pro-forma invoice(s) may be submitted ahead of completion and the EWCT will in its discretion, pay the grant in advance of expenses being incurred. Any Club that submits a pro-forma invoice with a claim will be required to complete a reconciliation on completion of the whole project, where they will need to upload any outstanding VAT invoices.
- 10.8 Payment will be made direct to the Club's designated bank account, usually within 10 working days of receipt of each claim.
- 10.9 The Club shall immediately on receipt of the funds from the EWCT pay those sums received to the relevant supplier(s), if it has not already done so.
- 10.10 The Club will provide an initial Post Project Review on the impact of the project, after completion. This will include, without limitation, photos of the completed project, outcomes, numbers impacted, publicity etc., and any other information reasonably requested by, or on behalf of, EWCT.
- 10.11 If requested, the Club will provide further annual reviews (for up to 3 years) on the impact of the grant depending on the project theme, e.g. impact on utility bills and/or energy consumption.

11. WARRANTIES AND WAIVERS

- 11.1 The Club warrants and represents that the information provided within the application is correct. The EWCT reserves the right to request further evidence from the Club to support this information, if necessary, at any stage during or after the grant has been paid and spent.
- 11.2 Payment of the grant is conditional on ongoing satisfaction of the conditions of the scheme from the date of the application until the completion of the final post project review feedback. The EWCT reserves the right to withdraw or require repayment of a grant in whole or in part if it considers that the conditions of the scheme or the conditions set out in the Grant Offer Letter have not been met to EWCT's satisfaction for the required period.
- 11.3 Where final expenditure is less than the quotation on which the award is based, and as set out in the Grant Offer Letter, the EWCT reserves the right to reduce the grant or to withdraw the grant in entirety. Where a grant has been paid in advance under Section 10.7 and the actual expenses incurred are less than the amount allocated to each item of expenditure in the Grant Offer Letter, the EWCT may require repayment of the surplus.
- 11.4 All awards will be granted by the EWCT in its absolute discretion. Not all applications will be successful even if all criteria set out above are met.
- 11.5 EWCT is not under any obligation to consider any proposal or application that it may receive and reserves the right to defer or reject an application it considers does not comply with these terms.
- 11.6 EWCT reserves the right at any stage to change any or all requirements for qualification for a grant and/or any terms and conditions relevant to the award of any grant to any Club.
- 11.7 This guidance note sets out an outline of the application process and requirements to be fulfilled by a Club prior to, or as a condition of, the award of a grant by the EWCT. This guidance is correct as at the date on which it was issued.
- 11.8 Neither these guidance notes nor any other information supplied by the ECB/EWCT (or its officers or agents) constitutes a contract or an offer which is capable of acceptance by any Club with the exception of the Grant Offer Letter (which incorporates these guidance notes into its terms). These guidelines do not contain any representation upon which any Club is entitled to rely at any time.
- 11.9 ECB/EWCT (and its officers or agents) will not be responsible for any costs, losses or expenses which Clubs or any other parties incur in the preparation and submission of applications or in complying with any of the mandatory requirements set out in this guidance note.



12. CONTACTS

12.1 If in any doubt about the eligibility of a project, in the first instance Clubs should contact **facilities@ecb.co.uk**

12.2 For all other queries regarding the fund or the online Investment Management System (IMS), please contact **grantmanagement@ecb.co.uk**

13. USEFUL RESOURCES

ECB Tackling Climate Change Project Guide

<https://resources.ecb.co.uk/ecb/document/2026/07/20/c18a070b-ac46-4584-a4d5-a95c66d847e1/Tackling-Climate-Change-Fund-Toolkit-July-2026.pdf>

ECB Environmental Sustainability Plan

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/about/what-we-do/sustainability>

Sport England Guide

Making a Planning Application: A guide for community sports clubs

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/facilities-and-planning/planning-for-sport/sports-club-planning-application-guide>

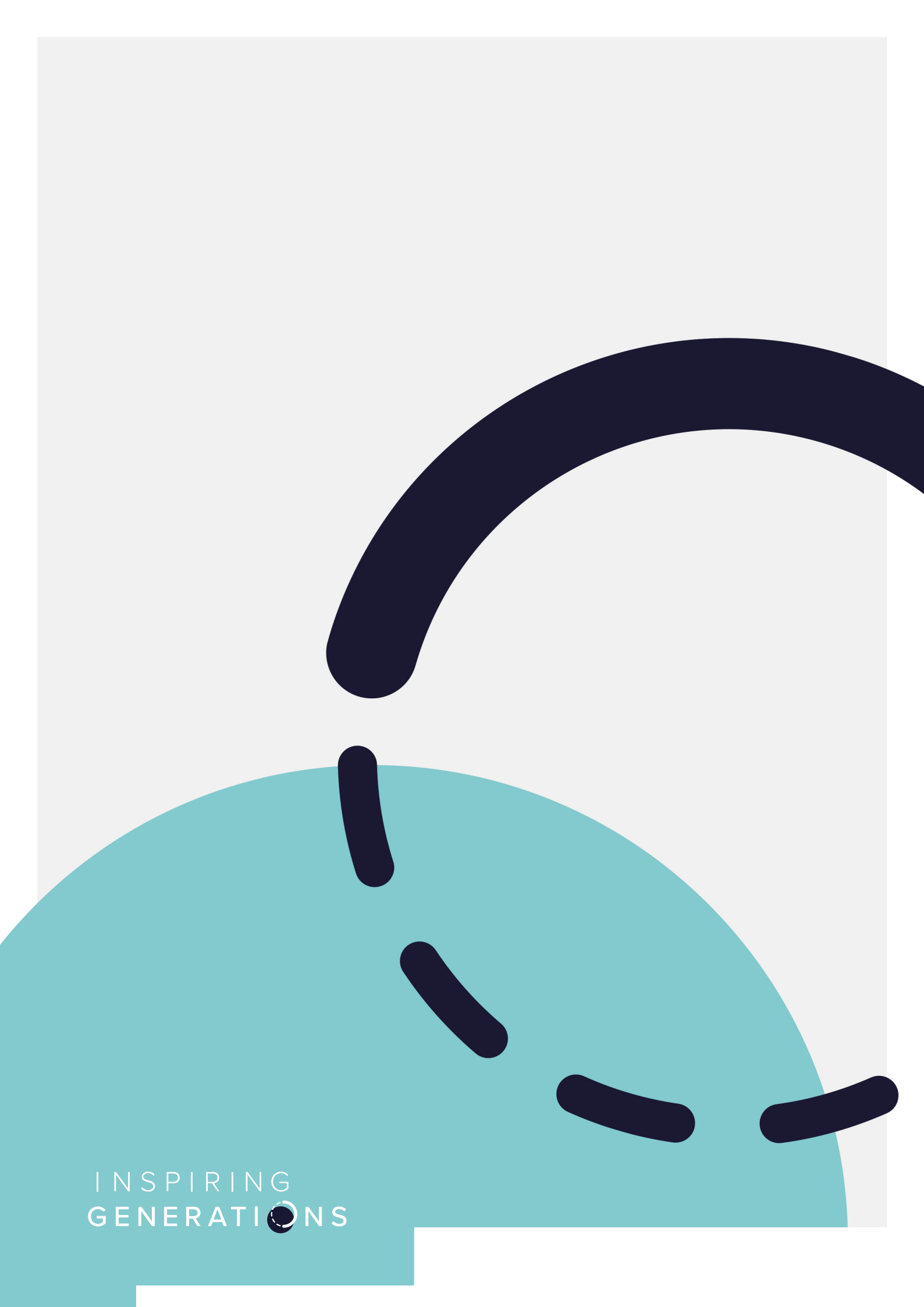
EWCT Interest Free Loan Scheme

<https://www.ecb.co.uk/play/club-support/club-funding/interest-free-loan-scheme>



14. PROCESS FLOW CHART





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