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**PARTNER
INVESTMENT:
FUNDING CRITERIA**

INTRODUCTION

This technical briefing details the criteria, sources of data, and weighting which is used to allocate funding for national governing bodies and regional entities. You'll note that the criteria has been split into participation and performance elements, with an overall funding score for each national governing body established when the two sections are brought together.

Separate criteria are used to determine the funding of regional entities, based on population, socio-economic and environmental factors. Weighting, which is in line with Sport Wales' new strategy, is applied to the criteria to arrive at an overall 'score' which determines the maximum level of funding that partners can receive.

The formula puts the heaviest weighting in favour of the sports that young people are currently participating in as this has been recognised as the area where an intervention by a national governing body can have its biggest impact.

SECTION 1: PARTICIPATION

Used to allocate funding for national governing bodies.

SECTION 2: PERFORMANCE

Used to allocate funding for national governing bodies.

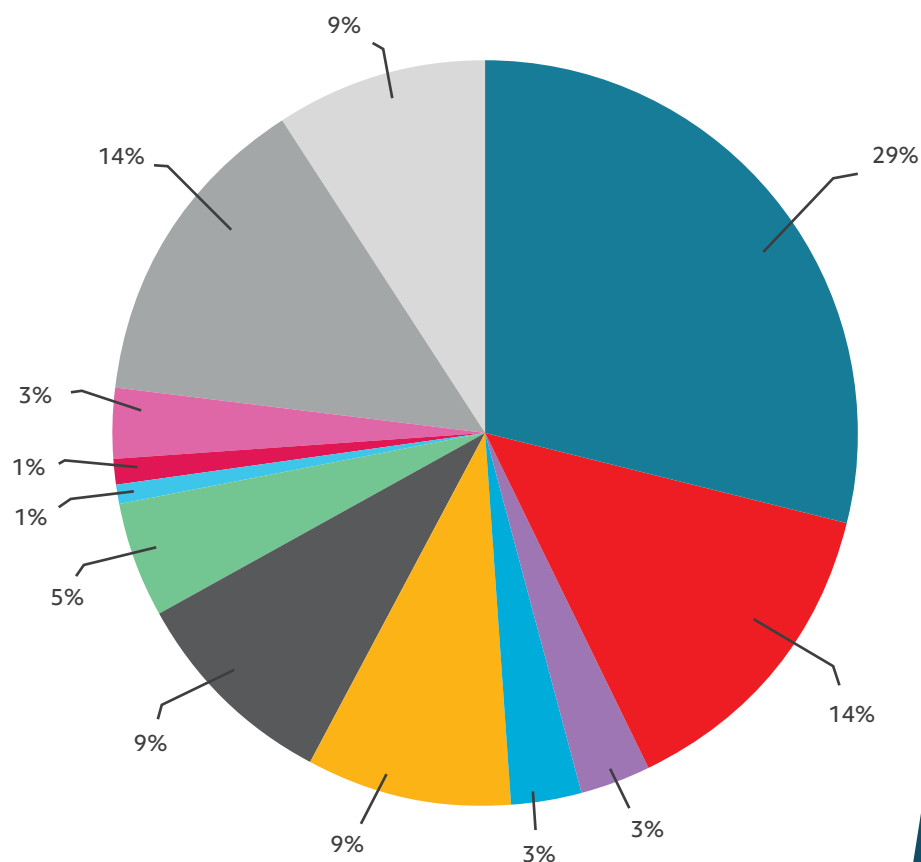
SECTION 3: GEOGRAPHICAL

Used to allocate funding for regional sports partnership entities when they are established.

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PARTICIPATION SCORES



- 29% - School Sport Survey Participation
- 14% - Girls School Sport Survey Participation
- 3% - Black and Minority Ethnic School Sport Survey participation
- 3% - Disability School Sport Survey participation
- 9% - School Sport Survey participation within areas of deprivation (as defined by those with the highest proportion of children claiming free school meals)
- 9% - School Sport Survey latent demand
- 5% - Girls School Sport Survey latent demand
- 1% - Black and Minority Ethnic School Sport Survey latent demand
- 1% - Disability School Sport Survey latent demand
- 3% - School Sport Survey latent demand by deprived
- 14% - Adult participation
- 9% - Adult latent demand

The over 16 population is around 4.6 times the size of the under 16 population. It is important to recognise that the percentages shown in the pie charts reflect the weights applied within the model based on a standardised scoring system for both children and adults. The different population sizes are therefore adjusted exclusively using the weights. This means, in line with our strategic intents and the driving purpose of the new investment approach, that there is a greater emphasis on the participation and demand of children based on population size. We also note that the School Sport Survey, as the closest proxy measure for children below school age, has been taken to represent all children under the age of 16.

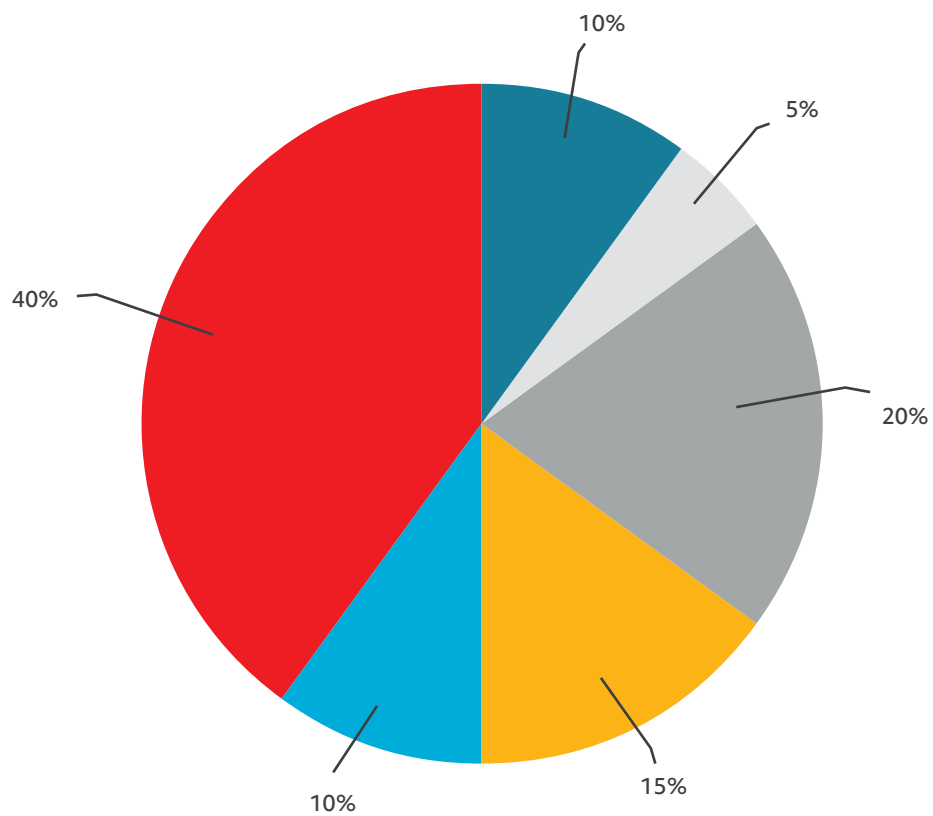
THE CRITERIA AND WHY IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED	Source of the data	Year the data was most recently available	What age of the population the data relates to	What the data measures	The weighting applied to the data
<p>School Sport Survey participation This has been included as an overall measure to capture young people's participation in club and community sport. This recognises the area where an intervention by a national governing body can have its biggest impact.</p> <p>Upper primary and secondary children are included to account for sports where there may be elevated participation at primary level.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils.</p> <p>School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Frequency of participation in last academic year in community club setting (at least once per week)</p>	<p>X10 The weight is based on a 100% baseline. This is our foundational criteria and the most important data set in the model. Other weights are adjusted relative to this weighting.</p>
<p>Girls' School Sport Survey participation We know female participation is traditionally lower than males. We have included this as a separate criterion to recognise the sports that can, and do, have the biggest impact in increasing participation for this demographic.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils.</p> <p>School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Frequency of participation in last academic year in community club setting (at least once per week)</p>	<p>X5 Based on half of girls in overall population. Drawn from Welsh Government population estimates..</p> <p>This data set is weighted relative to the overall participation in a way which reflects the ratio of males to females in the overall Welsh population.</p>
<p>Ethnically diverse communities School Sport Survey participation As with female participation, we know that participation among ethnically diverse communities tend to be lower than the overall Welsh average.</p> <p>We have included this criterion to recognise the sports that can, and do, have the biggest impact in increasing participation in this area.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils.</p> <p>School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Frequency of participation in last academic year in community club setting (at least once per week)</p>	<p>X1 Based on approximate figures of 10% - drawn from 2021 census data.</p> <p>This data set is weighted relative to the overall participation in a way which reflects the ratio of children from ethnically diverse communities to the overall Welsh population.</p>
<p>Disability School Sport Survey participation Again, we have reflected on the need to include a criterion for sports that can drive participation among sections of the Welsh population whereby current levels are lower. Participation in sport by those with a disability or impairment is an area for growth and with a specific equality need.</p> <p>We have included this criterion to recognise the sports that can, and do, have the biggest impact in increasing participation amongst those individuals who would be captured within this data set.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils.</p> <p>School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Frequency of participation in last academic year in community club setting (at least once per week)</p>	<p>X1 Based on approx. 9% children with a disability - drawn from the Family Resources Survey 2020/21.</p> <p>This data set is weighted relative to the overall participation in a way which reflects the ratio of children identified as having a disability within the overall Welsh population.</p>

THE CRITERIA AND WHY IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED	Source of the data	Year the data was most recently available	What age of the population the data relates to	What the data measures	The weighting applied to the data
<p>School Sport Survey participation within areas of deprivation (as defined by those with the highest proportion of children claiming free school meals) Tackling issues of deprivation is a key aspect of Sport Wales' new strategy. Recognising this, as well as the fact that individuals from deprived backgrounds are less likely statistically to participate in sport, we have included this criterion to recognise the sports that can, and do, have the biggest impact in increasing participation for this section of society.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils. School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Frequency of participation in last academic year in community club setting (at least once per week)</p>	<p>X 3 Based on 31% of children living in poverty - drawn from the Welsh Government's children in relative income poverty by economic status of household data. This data set is weighted relative to the overall participation in a way which reflects the ratio of children within the overall Welsh population living in poverty.</p>
<p>School Sport Survey latent demand In order to capture the future potential of a sport and its capacity to grow, as well as the current picture (participation), we have included the figures for latent demand. This data provides the scope of potential participants that a National Governing Body should be looking at catering for within a community club setting.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils. School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Demand</p>	<p>X 3.3 Latent demand has been given a third of the emphasis of participation due to its importance coupled with there being no guarantee that demand is turned into participation. We have given greater weighting for participation to ensure there is an incentive to turn demand into action.</p>
<p>Girls School Sport Survey latent demand As with the participation data, we have established specific criteria to recognise the impact a sport can have on defined segments of the population which are integral to Sport Wales' strategy. This criterion recognises a sport's capacity to reach female participants. A National Governing Body should be looking at catering for this demand within a community club setting.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils. School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Demand</p>	<p>X 1.7 This is based on around half of girls in overall population drawn from Welsh Government population estimates. This data set is weighted relative to the latent demand figures in a way which reflects the ratio of males to females in the overall Welsh population.</p>
<p>Ethnically Diverse Communities School Sport Survey latent demand As with the participation data, we have established specific criteria to recognise the impact a sport can have on defined segments of the population which are integral to Sport Wales' strategy. This criterion recognises a sport's capacity to reach ethnically diverse communities. A National Governing Body should be looking at catering for this demand within a community club setting.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils. School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Demand</p>	<p>X 0.3 Based on approx. 10% children identified as ethnically diverse communities through the 2021 census. This data set is weighted relative to the latent demand figure in a way which reflects the ratio of children from black or ethnic minority backgrounds to the overall Welsh population.</p>

THE CRITERIA AND WHY IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED	Source of the data	Year the data was most recently available	What age of the population the data relates to	What the data measures	The weighting applied to the data
<p>Disability School Sport Survey latent demand As with the participation data, we have established specific criteria to recognise the impact a sport can have on defined segments of the population which are integral to Sport Wales' strategy. This criterion recognises a sport's capacity to reach participants with a disability or impairment. A National Governing Body should be looking at catering for this demand within a community club setting.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils. School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Demand</p>	<p>X 0.3 Based on approx. 9% children with a disability - drawn from the Family Resources Survey 2020/21. This data set is weighted relative to the latent demand figure in a way which reflects the ratio of children identified with a disability within the overall Welsh population.</p>
<p>School Sport Survey latent demand by deprived As with the participation data, we have established specific criteria to recognise the impact a sport can have on defined segments of the population which are integral to Sport Wales' strategy. This criterion recognises a sport's capacity to reach participants impacted by deprivation. A National Governing Body should be looking at catering for this demand within a community club setting.</p>	<p>School Sport Survey https://www.sport.wales/research-and-insight/school-sport-survey/</p>	<p>2022</p>	<p>Primary and Secondary pupils. School years 3-11.</p>	<p>Demand</p>	<p>X 1.1 Based on 31% of children living in poverty - drawn from the Welsh Government's children in relative income poverty by economic status of household data. This data set is weighted relative to the latent demand figure in a way which reflects the ratio of children living in poverty within the overall Welsh population.</p>
<p>Adult participation This has been included as an overall measure to capture adult participation in club and community sport.</p>	<p>National Survey for Wales https://gov.wales/nationalsurvey-wales-results-viewer</p>	<p>2021-22</p>	<p>Adults (16 and over)</p>	<p>Any participation in the last 4 weeks</p>	<p>X 5 There is a need to score for adult participation and demand, but recognising the strategic, long-term, sustainability of engaging young people in sport as a priority, this data has therefore been weighted half that of the children's participation.</p>
<p>Adult latent demand As with the school sport survey data which is included in the investment model, in order to capture the future potential of a sport and its capacity to grow, we have included the figures for adult latent demand. This data provides the scope of potential participants that a National Governing Body should be looking at catering for within a community club setting.</p>	<p>National Survey for Wales https://gov.wales/nationalsurvey-wales-results-viewer</p>	<p>2021-22</p>	<p>Any participation in the last 4 weeks</p>	<p>Demand</p>	<p>X 3 As with latent demand within young people's data, latent demand among adults has been given a lower weighting due to its importance coupled with there being no guarantee that demand is turned into participation. We have given greater weighting for participation to ensure there is an incentive to turn demand into action. We have applied a ratio for latent demand in adults to that of adult participation which is slightly higher than that of the young people's demand to participation ratio. This has been done to reflect the greater number of young people's data sets within the model. This also reflects the independence of adults to act on demand in a way that young people would not always be able to do.</p>

PERFORMANCE SCORES

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- 10% - Major Games Status
- 5% - UK Invested Sport
- 20% - Medal availability
- 15% - Recent track record at Commonwealth Games
- 10% - Track Record on UK Pathway
- 40% - Participation



PERFORMANCE

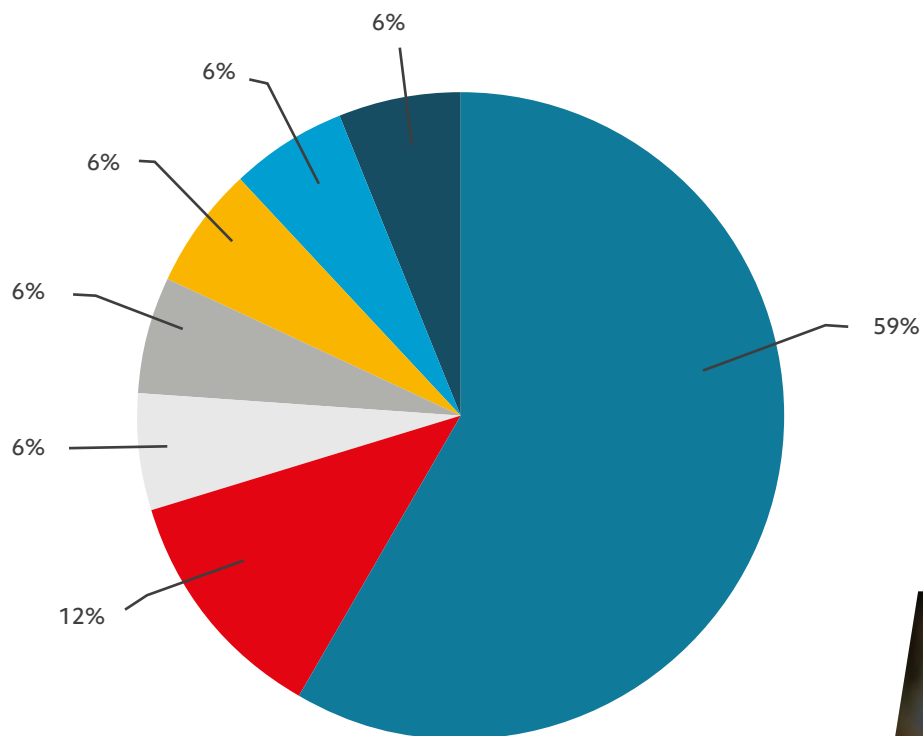
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THE CRITERIA AND WHY IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED	Source of the data	Year the data was most recently available	What age of the population the data relates to	What the data measures	The weighting applied to the data
<p>Major Games status We want to showcase Wales to the world through success on the World Stage.</p> <p>We believe that the major multi-sport Games are consistently the highest profile means of doing this.</p>	International Olympic Committee, International Paralympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Federation.	2022		Is the Sport a Core Commonwealth Sport, an Olympic/ Paralympic Sport, both or neither?	<p>Neither an Olympic/Paralympic sport, nor a Core Commonwealth Games sport = 0 points scored.</p> <p>Either an Olympic/Paralympic sport or a Core Commonwealth Games sport = 1 points scored.</p> <p>Both an Olympic/Paralympic sport and a Core Commonwealth Games sport = 2 points scored.</p> <p>The weighting of this category has been determined by attaching a single score to each element of the criteria. A single digit scoring system is repeated throughout the performance data to ensure that all elements are evaluated along the same measurement scale.</p>
<p>UK Sport invested sport Welsh athletes win medals at the Olympics/Paralympics as part of Team GB.</p> <p>UK National Governing Bodies that are funded by UK Sport have a high likelihood of returning Olympic/Paralympic medals.</p>	UK Sport	2022		Does UK Sport invest in a world class programme?	<p>A sport is funded by UK Sport = 1 points scored.</p> <p>A sport is not funded by UK Sport = 0 points scored.</p> <p>As with the major game's status criteria, the weighting applied is a simple single digit score to recognise is a sport is, or is not, a UK Sport invested sport.</p>
<p>Medal availability We want to support sports to focus on a holistic approach to developing talent.</p> <p>The number of opportunities to be successful on the world stage is considered as part of this.</p>	International Olympic Committee, Commonwealth Games Federation	2022		The number of medals that are available to win at the Olympic Games or the number of medals available to win at the Commonwealth Games (in non-Olympic sports)	<p>1-4 medals = 1 points scored.</p> <p>5-10 medals = 2 points scored.</p> <p>11-30 medals = 3 points scored.</p> <p>31+ medals = 4 points scored.</p> <p>The scale of scoring has been set to recognise the value of multiple medal opportunities, while ensuring that the sliding scale provides scores which are relative to other performance criteria.</p> <p>The maximum score available is 4, which is double the scoring for the Games' status and UK funded criteria to recognise this is a criterion which captures the potential outcomes of the intents of those previous criteria.</p>

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<p>Recent track record at Commonwealth Games Based on historical evidence, we have determined that recent success at the Commonwealth Games is a good predictor of the likelihood of future success.</p>	Birmingham 2022 results and Gold Coast 2018 results.	Last 2 Commonwealth Games		Combined number of medals won at the last 2 Commonwealth Games	<p>1-4 (average of 2 medals per games or less) = 1 points scored.</p> <p>5-8 (average of more than 2 medals and up to 4 medals per games) = 2 points scored.</p> <p>9+ (average of more than 4 medals per Games) = 3 points scored.</p> <p>The scale has been set to reflect the standard of recent Games performances, rewarding achievement in a way which is relative across sports competing within these Games. There is a higher scoring opportunity applied to this criterion than for the Games' status and UK funded criteria. This recognises this is a criterion which captures the potential outcomes of the intents of those categories.</p>
<p>Track record on UK pathway In sports where UK Sport supports a world class programme, Welsh athletes being selected onto the world class programme is (almost always) a pre-requisite to winning an Olympic / Paralympic medal.</p>	UK Sport	2022		Percentage of athletes on UK Sport World class programme that are Welsh	<p>Average 4% (or greater) over the last cycle in able bodied version of the sport = 1 point scored</p> <p>Average 4% (or greater) over the last cycle in para version of the sport = 1 point scored</p> <p>Average 4% (or greater) in both categories = 2 points scored</p> <p>Wales makes up around 5% of the UK population. We have therefore set a baseline score of 4% to reflect what could be considered an expected contribution from Wales to UK pathway programmes given the fluctuations one might reasonably expect over the course of an Olympic / Paralympic cycle. To demonstrate our support of inclusive programmes, we award a higher score to sports who contribute to both the able bodied and para pathways.</p>

THE CRITERIA AND WHY IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED	Source of the data	Year the data was most recently available	What age of the population the data relates to	What the data measures	The weighting applied to the data
<p>Participation score We don't want to simply chase medals. Establishing a shift in the way in which performance sport is valued we want to achieve sustainable success on the world stage in sports that are important to Wales culturally as well as at major Games. As a result, we have factored in a participation score within performance scores to also recognise performance pathways for those competing in non-Olympic / Paralympic and Commonwealth Games.</p>	<p>Total scores from the participation criteria.</p> <p>This criterion takes all the scores from the sports participation data as a total.</p>	<p>Various as outlined within the participation criteria detail.</p>		<p>The size and scale of impact that a sport is, and can have in a community and club setting</p>	<p>Every sport will have an overall score for their results within the participation data (school sport survey participation, national survey participation, demand etc.) The overall scores from the participation element of the funding criteria have been split into 9 separate but equal bands, with points provided on a sliding scale relative to each band. Nine bands were utilised as a way of ensuring there was a spread of scores within this criterion, but which did not create too big a gap between each partner based on their participation element outcome.</p> <p>0-74 = 0 points scored. 75-149 = 1 points scored. 150-224 = 2 points scored. 225-299 = 3 points scored. 300-374 = 4 points scored. 375-449 = 5 points scored. 450-524 = 6 points scored. 525-599 = 7 points scored. 600+ = 8 points scored.</p> <p>The individual bands were determined by examining the highest score for the performance criteria and dividing by 9 to create the consistent banding points. It would be proposed that this is replicated each funding cycle to ensure that the bands were relative to the performance scores at each round. There is no set number of sports within each band, and any individual sports scores would not be relative to another. This is to say that should one sport be placed in a higher or lower band, that would have no implications for the scoring of another sport through this criterion.</p> <p>The maximum score for the participation element is capped at 8 points (achieved by any sport which scored between 600-674 on the overall participation portion of the model). This reflects the need to recognise the cultural and societal importance of the participation element of the scoring within the performance pathway. It is weighted as double the score of any other individual criterion within the performance criteria, but is weighted lower than the maximum possible score achievable through the other elements of the performance data (totaling an upper limit of 12) in order to recognise the core value of performance within this section of the model.</p>

GEOGRAPHICAL SCORES



- 59% - Population 0-15 years
- 12% - Population 16+
- 6% - Deprivation
- 6% - Rurality
- 6% - Ethnically diverse communities
- 6% - Adult Demand
- 6% - Disability

The over 16 population is around 4.6 times the size of the under 16 population. The different population sizes in the model are adjusted exclusively using the weights. This means, in line with our strategic intents and the driving purpose of the new investment approach, that there is a greater emphasis on the participation and demand of children based on population size.



THE CRITERIA AND WHY IT HAS BEEN INCLUDED	Source of the data	Year the data was most recently available	What age of the population the data relates to	What the data measures	The weighting applied to the data	Next release date
<p>Population figures This criterion is included as an overall determination of the number of people within a local authority. We have included this measure as it provides us with the size and scale of demand for sport and physical activity opportunities required. We have determined that a local authority with large populations will require more investment to work with and cater for those numbers.</p>	<p>Census of the Population https://www.gov.wales/population-and-household-estimates-wales-census-2021-html</p>	2021	All ages: - Under 18 - 16 and over	Usual resident population	<p>X 5 for ages under 16 X 1 for ages 16 and over</p> <p>This is our foundational criteria and the most important data set in the geographical model.</p> <p>The 'under 16 years old' score is five times that of the '16 and over years old' score to ensure an emphasis on young people.</p> <p>This combination score takes into consideration the overall population numbers and the cost of opportunities to cater for this cohort.</p>	<p>2031</p> <p>Mid-year population estimates available annually – recalibrated to each Census release.</p>
<p>Deprivation data Recognising the need to address the specific challenges of working with areas of deprivation, and linking the investment to Sport Wales priority areas, we have included a criterion measuring deprivation. This measure evaluates deprived small areas (LSOAs) in a local authority so that we can invest into those areas of need.</p>	<p>Welsh Index of Multiple Deprivation https://gov.wales/welsh-index-multiple-deprivation-full-index-update-ranks-2019</p>	2019	All ages	The number of small areas (LSOAs) in the top fifth most deprived areas in Wales (as a percentage of the total number of wards in the local authority area)	<p>X 0.5</p> <p>Using the population figure as the foundation for our funding model for geographical partners, we have weighted all other measures at 0.5, which is half of the audit population weight. This ratio ensures that the overall population of the partner is the key driver in their funding allocation, recognising this is the biggest factor in the provision they need to deliver, but allowing strategic priorities, such as deprivation, to be given weight within the model.</p>	<p>2024 or 2025 (estimated)</p> <p>The full index is updated every 4 to 5 years. The date of the next update has not yet been agreed.</p>



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<p>Rurality data There is a need to acknowledge the varying challenges of delivering sport in different geographical and societal areas of Wales. In order to build this into the investment model we have included an indicator for rurality.</p>	<p>Office of National Statistics Urban Rural Classification https://www.data.gov.uk/dataset/b1165cea-2655-4cf7-bf22-dfbd3cdeb242/rural-urban-classification-2011-of-lower-layer-super-output-areas-in-england-and-wales</p> <p>Lower Super Output Area Population Estimates https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/lowersuperoutputareamidyearpopulationestimates</p>	<p>2011 & 2017 respectively</p>	<p>All ages</p>	<p>Percentage of overall rural population in local authorities (based on all non-urban categories and Lower Super Output Area Population & Population Estimates)</p>	<p>X 0.5 Using the population figure as the foundation for our funding model for geographical partners, we have weighted all other measures at 0.5, which is half of the adult population weight. This ratio ensures that the overall population of the partner is the key driver in their funding allocation, recognising this is the biggest factor in the provision they need to deliver, but allowing strategic priorities, such as deprivation, to be given weight within the model.</p>	<p>Rural Classification TBC – estimated 2024/2025</p> <p>LSOA population estimates updated annually.</p>
<p>Ethnically diverse communities We have included a specific criterion to recognise the impact a sport can have on defined segments of the population which are integral to Sport Wales's strategy. This criterion recognises a local authority's capacity to reach participants from ethnically diverse communities.</p>	<p>Census of the Population https://gov.wales/ethnic-group-national-identity-language-and-religion-wales-census-2021-html#:~:text=55.2%25%20of%20the%20population%20in,(218%2C000%20individuals)%20in%202011.</p>	<p>2021</p>	<p>All ages</p>	<p>Percentage of the population within a local authority who do not have 'White' ethnicity and instead identify their ethnicity as either 'Asian, Asian Welsh or Asian British'; or 'Black, Black Welsh, Black British, Caribbean or African'; or 'Mixed or Multiple ethnic groups'; or 'Other ethnic group'.</p>	<p>X 0.5 Using the population figure as the foundation for our funding model for geographical partners, we have weighted all other measures at 0.5, which is half of the adult population weight. This ratio ensures that the overall population of the partner is the key driver in their funding allocation, recognising this is the biggest factor in the provision they need to deliver, but allowing strategic priorities, such as deprivation, to be given weight within the model.</p>	<p>2031</p>



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<p>Disability We have included a specific criterion to recognise the impact a sport can have on defined segments of the population which are integral to Sport Wales's strategy. This criterion recognises a local authority's capacity to reach disabled participants.</p>	<p>https://www.gov.wales/health-disability-and-provision-unpaid-care-wales-census-2021-html</p>	<p>2021</p>	<p>All ages (age standardised*)</p>	<p>Percentage of the population within a local authority who are disabled (age standardised*).</p> <p>Respondents who reported a long-term physical or mental health condition and whose day-to-day activities are limited have been defined as disabled in the Census.</p>	<p>X 0.5 Using the population figure as the foundation for our funding model for geographical partners, we have weighted all other measures at 0.5, which is half of the adult population weight. This ratio ensures that the overall population of the partner is the key driver in their funding allocation, recognising this is the biggest factor in the provision they need to deliver, but allowing strategic priorities, such as deprivation, to be given weight within the model.</p>	
<p>Latent demand – Adults Adult demand to do more sport (i.e. demand to do more of at least one sport/activity)</p> <p>This criterion captures the demand among the adult population from within a geographical area. We have included this in the data sets to recognise the potential physical activity growth for a partner to achieve within this cohort of society</p>	<p>National Survey for Wales https://www.gov.wales/national-survey-wales</p>	<p>2021-22</p>	<p>Adults - ages 16 and over.</p>	<p>Percentage of the population within a local authority who register a demand for more sport.</p>	<p>X 0.5 Using the population figure as the foundation for our funding model for geographical partners, we have weighted all other measures at 0.5, which is half of the adult population weight. This ratio ensures that the overall population of the partner is the key driver in their funding allocation, recognising this is the biggest factor in the provision they need to deliver, but allowing strategic priorities, such as deprivation, to be given weight within the model.</p>	<p>2022-23</p>

*Age-standardised proportions (ASPs) allow for fairer comparison between populations over time and across geographies, as they account for differences in the population size and age structure (ONS - <https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/healthandsocialcare/healthandwellbeing/bulletins/disabilityenglandandwales/census2021>).

