

FOI Request DFC/2026 – 0185 – The Northern Ireland Football Fund allocations

I wish to confirm that the Department has now completed its search for the information which you requested on 24 June 2026. Below details your request and the Department's response.

Following further clarification of your FOI request, you asked for details of the capital and resource funding allocated to the 20 prioritised clubs through The Northern Ireland Football Fund Performance Programme from its launch on 30 January 2025 to the date of this response.

A copy of the information is enclosed below.

Information Disclosed

Response to FOI Request DFC/2026-0185

In February 2026, all twenty applicants in the prioritised cohort were awarded the Northern Ireland Football Fund resource funding to either refresh an existing business case or to develop a new outline business case to support their application to the Performance Programme.

During 2023 to 2025 ten of the prioritised cohort received funding to complete a business case through a standalone DfC programme, the Football Ground Business Case Development Fund, these ten have been awarded up to £10,000 via The Northern Ireland Football Fund to update their existing outline business cases.

The remaining ten applicants were not recipients of the Football Ground Business Case Development Fund and have each been awarded up to £30,000 via The Northern Ireland Football Fund to develop new business cases.

Funding for the refreshed or new business cases is being met from TNIFF resource budgets for the 2025/26 and 2026/27 financial years.

Under the TNIFF Performance Programme, resource grant funding is awarded to applicants rather than allocated.

The table below sets out the resource grant funding awarded to each of the 20 clubs since the launch of the Performance Programme on 30 January 2025.

Club	Amount Awarded to develop Outline Business Case
Ballymena United	£10,000
Bangor	£10,000
Carrick Rangers	£10,000
Dungannon Swifts	£10,000
Glenavon	£10,000

Larne	£10,000
Loughgall	£10,000
Newry City	£10,000
Cliftonville	£10,000
Glentoran	£10,000
Armagh City	£30,000
Ballymacash	£30,000
Dergview	£30,000
Lisburn Distillery	£30,000
Queens University	£30,000
Rathfriland Rangers	£30,000
Ballinamallard United	£30,000
Banbridge Town	£30,000
Lisburn Rangers	£30,000
Oxford Sunnyside	£30,000

No capital funding has been awarded by TNIFF to date. Completion, submission and approval of business cases does not guarantee any projects will receive capital grant awards at the later stages of the Programme. All decisions remain subject to the Department's discretion and availability of funding.