

DISCRETIONARY RATE RELIEF FOR COMMUNITY AMATEUR SPORTS CLUBS

Qualification criteria for DRR for Community Amateur Sports Clubs in Stockport:

1. Valid Sport England Clubmark/associated National Governing Body Accreditation.
2. Acceptance of Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council's Leisure Key discount scheme and/or Life Leisure Membership.
3. Affiliation to Stockport Active (formerly Sport Stockport).
4. Attendance at the Stockport Active Annual and General Meeting.
5. Membership rates must not be such, as in the opinion of the Council, to exclude the general community.
6. The facilities of the Organisation should be made available to people other than members, e.g. schools, casual public sessions etc. subject to licensing requirements.
7. Membership of the Organisation must be open to all members of the community, regardless of ability, subject to the physical capacity of the premises.
8. Organisations must actively encourage membership from groups such as young people, older age groups, persons with a disability or ethnic minorities, such encouragement to be demonstrated by either –
 - (a) Differential fee structures for such groups or
 - (b) Provision of schemes of training or
 - (c) Education for such groups; or
 - (d) Membership which consists of at least 25% of people from such groups.
9. Sports Clubs have considered applying for Community Amateur Sports Club (CASC) status with HM Revenues and Customs and must supply a reason why this is not appropriate for the club.
10. At least 51% of the membership must be made up of Stockport residents.

For CASC's where a Clubmark/Associated National Governing Accreditation Scheme is not in operation, Discretionary 20% 'Top Up' Rate Relief will be awarded to CASC's meeting the criteria detailed in points 2 to 9 above.

Relief is granted for 12 months at a time. Any change to the current scheme requires the Council to notify recipients 12 months ahead of the change being implemented. This allows organisations to plan for the impact on their budgets of any change to their entitlement.

Organisations granted Discretionary Rate Relief must inform the Council of any change in circumstances, which might affect eligibility for Relief.