

Rent Support Assessment Process

Date of rent support assessment: 5.9.24
Carried out by: Simon Hodges, Ela Jankowska, Richard Gibson, Helen Down
Name of Applicant: Cheltenham Whaddon Bowls Club
Is the applicant a legally constituted, not-for-profit voluntary and community sector organisation? Whaddon Bowls Club is CASC registered (Community Amateur Sports Club Scheme).
Name /address of property: The Pavilion, Whaddon road, Cheltenham, Glos, GL52 5NA
Current rent: £5500 with a rent support grant of 20% (meaning the club pays £4400 per annum). The rent is increasing to £5750 per annum.

Rent Support outcomes	Submission	Proposed score against the sub-elements (up to a maximum of 20% per outcome)
<p>Cheltenham's environmental quality and heritage is protected, maintained and enhanced.</p> <p>This could include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoting bio-diversity • Responding to climate change • Promoting sustainable living • Protecting and enhancing parks, gardens and open spaces • Protecting and enhancing the built environment 	<p>By maintaining the bowls green and surrounding garden borders we continue to provide a green space to enhance other parks in the Whaddon area.</p> <p>Investing in the bowls green costs in excess of £8,000 per annum. We are working with contractors/suppliers to reduce emissions, chemicals etc - aiming for greener working practices.</p>	<p>Promoting bio-diversity – 0% Responding to climate change – 0% Promoting sustainable living – 0% Protecting and enhancing parks, gardens and open spaces – 0% Protecting and enhancing the built environment – 2%</p> <p><u>The recommended rent subsidy for this element is 2%.</u></p>

Rent Support outcomes	Submission	Proposed score against the sub-elements (up to a maximum of 20% per outcome)
<p>Sustain and grow Cheltenham's economic and cultural vitality. This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Helping people into employment • Helping businesses to get established • Supporting cultural activity • Providing advice and information • Supporting tourist activities 	<p>The building is used by 7 skittles teams during the winter months - keeping the local tradition when many skittle alleys are disappearing. Skittles alone accommodates about 70 people a week.</p> <p>Short mat bowls sessions are attended by approximately 80 people a week in the winter. Bringing people to Cheltenham from throughout Gloucestershire to play in competitive matches. The building is also available to other third parties e.g. Probus, Rotary. Who may wish to use the facilities.</p> <p>The building also hosts social events such as quizzes, themed nights, wakes and can accommodate up to 90 people at a time. It serves as an important meeting place within a designated IMD3 decile area - based on Indices of Multiple Deprivation (Whaddon) where many facilities (pubs etc) no longer exist.</p> <p>Visiting bowls teams - if coming from further afield - will often make extra time to visit Cheltenham shops prior to playing the game. The club and its buildings are totally managed and run by volunteers - all of whom come from the local community. In excess of 30 volunteers attend the premises on a regular basis to provide maintenance, catering, bar work and facilitating meetings.</p>	<p>Helping people into employment – 0% Helping businesses to get established – 0% Supporting cultural activity – 2% Providing advice and information – 0% Supporting tourist activities – 0%</p> <p><u>The recommended rent subsidy for this element is 2%.</u></p>
<p>People live in strong and safe communities. This could include</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling local residents to meet together and socialise • Engaging residents in positive social networks • Enabling local residents to contribute their time and efforts into community activity • Enabling local residents to feel safer in their communities • A place for young people to meet and feel safe 	<p>The bowls club helps create and enhance all the elements quoted above.</p> <p>The building provides a safe environment that enable people to socialise and meet new people. It is a particularly welcoming place for elder and single people who may feel intimidated to go to pubs or other venues.</p> <p>The venue now has disabled toilet facilities (completed with the aid of a Cheltenham pride grant) and we have plans in place to further improve disabled access - see safeguarding section.</p>	<p>Enabling local residents to meet together and socialise – 4% Engaging residents in positive social networks – 4% Enabling local residents to contribute their time and efforts into community activity – 4% Enabling local residents to feel safer in their communities – 0% A place for young people to meet and feel safe – 0%</p> <p><u>The recommended rent subsidy for this element is 12%.</u></p>

Rent Support outcomes	Submission	Proposed score against the sub-elements (up to a maximum of 20% per outcome)
<p>We will work to strengthen the emotional and physical wellbeing of all Cheltenham residents</p> <p>This could include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enabling local people to be active • Helping local people make healthy lifestyle choices • Reducing the harm caused by alcohol • Improving mental health • Improving health & wellbeing into older age 	<p>As with helping build strong communities the bowls club provides an opportunity for people of all ages, abilities to participate in physical exercise.</p> <p>We have 2 members in the nineties- still playing 2 hours games of bowls. Since we are also highly visible to the residents of Whaddon - we believe we are a good advertisement to maintaining healthy lifestyle choices.</p>	<p>Enabling local people to be active Enabling local people to be active – 4% Helping local people make healthy lifestyle choices – 0% Reducing the harm caused by alcohol – 0% Improving mental health – 0% Improving health & wellbeing into older age – 4%</p> <p><u>The recommended rent subsidy for this element is 8%.</u></p>
<p>Summary and recommended rent support grant</p>		<p><u>The total recommended rent support grant is 24%.</u></p>

Financial considerations	Panel assessment
<p>Will the grant award will support the financial viability of the operation of the building?</p>	<p>A sum has been set aside to replace electrics and work is needed on the roof and to provide a disabled access ramp.</p> <p>Increased utility costs are causing a predicted deficit this year and next. The grant will support the club to continue to operate from the building.</p>
<p>Has the organisation got reasonable longer-term plans to sustain activities being delivered from the building beyond the term of the grant?</p>	<p>The club is able to sustain activities for the foreseeable future, however planned maintenance works and anticipated deficits will weaken the financial position.</p>