

How to use this club development template

Angling clubs, societies and fisheries are our fishing future. The Angling Trust has a key role in promoting the development of the sport and providing advice and guidance to clubs and fisheries to enable their development into effectively run organisations that implement sustainable fisheries management, support a growing and diverse membership, adopt and promote best practice and comply with relevant governance.

Club development is about your organisation looking to the future and creating a plan to establish a more sustainable long-term vision and structure that can further support the development of the club, its facilities and its members.

A club development plan is essential tool to map out the direction that the club aspires to go in and outlines a clear action plan on what needs to be accomplished to attain this goal.

We have provided a template to help you set out your plans for your project and what you want to achieve but you can alter this accordingly to make a plan that works for you.

What should be in a club development plan?

- The club's vision and strategy over a defined period of time, ideally a minimum of 3 years
- Realistic & attainable plans and the adoption of innovative ideas to help modernise the sport
- Once the aims have been agreed, the plan needs to establish clear objectives and tasks to set the path towards achievement

Ultimately, the plan will highlight the main objectives, breaking this down into smaller actions that need to be delivered, which individuals are responsible for these tasks and the timeframe for completion. These can then be used within committee structures to keep an eye on progress.

Consider who should be involved in the development of your plan. Although it may be quicker for one person to write, success may depend on multiple people with the right skills and knowledge to shape it. You may want to consult your members and partners so they feel involved in the process.

It is also important to consider where you are now. What would you like to achieve? What are your current strengths and are their areas where you would like to improve? What are the opportunities to do this, or what advice and support do you need?

Areas you may want to develop

No two club fisheries or clubs are alike. As a result your starting point, and what you want to achieve will be different to another club or a fishery. Think about the areas you offer to your members (including volunteers, parents, juniors), the health of your club membership, your volunteers or workforce, your facilities, the state of your finances and who you work in partnership with. Below we have outlined a list of areas that you may want to consider. This is not an exhaustive list and will depend on the goals of your club or fishery.

- Use of volunteers – health and safety requirements, qualifications, best use of volunteers
- Fisheries management – predation, fish welfare, stock density and management, water quality, biosecurity
- Environment – litter management, invasive non-native species, habitat enhancement and restoration, landscape upkeep
- Communications – GDPR, use of social media and other platforms to communicate with members, setting up a website.
- Increase participation and diversity of membership – welfare and safety, coach development, junior events and coaching, diverse events
- Enforcement – setting up a secure fishery, volunteer bailiffs, understanding legislation, checking rod licences
- Funding – awareness of funding opportunities,
- Committee – structuring your committee, setting out responsibilities, setting up succession plans
- Inclusivity – accessible platforms, path development, toilets.

Club development plan

Objectives (what you plan to do or achieve)	Tasks/ actions (How you intend to achieve your objective and what specific actions need to be undertaken)	Responsibility the people responsible for delivering or who can assist)	What resources & support do you need to deliver this objective?	Timescales (How long will it take you?)	Finance (how much is it going to cost? Is there funding opportunities available?)	How will you know you've succeeded? (i.e. use numbers & frequencies)	Progress status (red – not started, amber – started, green – complete)
Example – Develop junior memberships	New junior events and coaching schemes. Install new fishing platform	Welfare officer Qualified coaches	Training for coaches, advice from AT participation team.	6 months	Get Fishing Fund and Fisheries Improvement Programme	Set up ongoing junior events. Aim for 3 events per year, 10 new juniors joined.	RED