



10U PERFORMANCE NETWORK INVESTMENT GUIDE 2026





1.0 FOREWORD

The 10U Performance Programme (10U PP) network has been in place since September 2021, with a network of kitemarked centres delivering 10U Performance Programmes across England and Wales. Over this time, there have been significant developments within the LTA Player Pathway, and we (the LTA) continue to be steadfast in our belief in the important role daily training environments play within player development.

These 10U Performance Programmes are strategically integral to the Regional Performance stage of the LTA Player Pathway, helping to increase the number and quality of players inspired, informed, and ready to meet the demands of the National Performance Stage of the Player Pathway.

Following the evolution of the RPDC network, it felt the appropriate and opportune time to review the purpose and effectiveness of the 10U Performance Programme network, understand the challenges of the 'on the ground' implementation, and make the necessary recommendations, developments and/or evolutions to ensure they are contributing to and fulfilling the needs of the Player Pathway.

As part of the review process, we undertook an extensive range of consultation sessions and 1:1 interviews across the 10U community

to ensure decisions and recommendations are based on evidence, avoid unsupported assumptions, and reflect the challenges faced by the coaches who deliver 10U Performance Programmes.

The LTA has listened to this feedback and committed to an evolution of the 10U Performance Programme network. The evolution is focussed on the key principles outlined below, and to ensure any programme 'kitemarked' as an LTA Performance Programme, delivers the quality of daily development required to give players the best chance of progression through the Player Pathway.

MICHAEL BOURNE
PERFORMANCE DIRECTOR

2.0 KEY PRINCIPLES

The following Key Principles summarise the outcomes of the consultation, and remain critical to the Player Pathway:

- Increase the number of players and parents who have a clear understanding of the player development journey;
- Increase accessibility through reducing travel time and cost;
- Invest in coaching and training environments, as these areas have the greatest impact;
- Ensure competition is at the heart of player development and players are learning through playing the game;
- Ensure the lens at 7-10 years old is focused on future potential and on optimising player development;
- Increase the number of players who meet the performance requirements for RPDC longlisting in their 10 and under year, strengthening both the quality and depth of players at every stage of the Player Pathway.

The insight work identified a number of areas that the LTA's future 10U investment approach will look to address:

- Bespoke and targeted use of investment, with funds distributed to areas of greatest impact;
- More and better high-quality training environments;
- Increased coach support at competitions;
- Strengthen the credibility of the network by recognising and supporting centres that are committed and consistently develop players.

This investment guide provides detail about the developments to the 10U Performance Network from September 2026, to ensure we are continually evolving and supporting our next generation of players with excellence. It will also outline the investment opportunities, conditions of investment, and application/re-application timeline and process.





3.0 THE OPERATING MODEL

From September 2026, the 10U Performance Network will consist of two levels of centres:

- 10U Performance Programmes – Enhanced (10U PP-E) and;
- 10U Performance Programmes (10U PP).

This guide summarises the purpose of and differences between the two programmes, the process to apply for and be accepted onto one of these levels, and the benefits of achieving 10U PP-E or 10U PP status. It also provides operational guidelines and minimum expectations in terms of service provision and facilities, and, where relevant, infrastructure.

In simple terms, 10U PP-E are funded programmes delivering **enhanced** performance environments for 7U–10U players, while 10U PP are unfunded programmes that contribute to player development locally and may, in time, progress to **enhanced** status.

For the avoidance of doubt, all **existing 10U PP will be asked to re-apply to maintain 10U PP status.** This is to ensure that, within the evolved network, we are partnering with coaches and venues who are motivated by and committed to the vision; engaged with the LTA; meeting the updated Minimum Operating Expectations (MOEs); delivering consistently to the purpose; and to be clearer to players and parents what the kitemark means with respect to expectations of development experience.

4.0 THE ROLE OF THE LTA IN DELIVERING 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMMES - ENHANCED AND 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMMES

The LTA will delegate responsibility for player development to people, centres, and operators, based on a set of investment principles. The successful applicants will be accountable to deliver to the investment outputs, conditions and operating standards outlined in this document.

The expectations of the two levels of centres differ in line with the investment made by the LTA. Therefore, applicants should consider the differing expectations when deciding whether to apply, and for which programme level.

Information on the application process can be found in section 16.0, with the 10U PP-E application process outlined in 16.2 and the 10U PP application process in 16.3.





10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

ENHANCED

INVESTMENT GUIDE



5.0 EXPECTATIONS AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME - ENHANCED

5.1 PURPOSE

- Be 'continuous' developers of 10 and under aged boys and girls to a nationally competitive level and beyond. Delivering a **continuous**, year-on-year pipeline of players who progress into the National Performance stage of the Player Pathway, every single year over multiple consecutive years.
- To provide inspirational and high-quality development environments, in line with the LTA Aspirational Standards, which motivate and nurture the development of young players at the start of their performance journey.
- Through the delivery of high-quality coaching and support for parents, these programmes will increase the **number and quality** of players learning through regular competition and optimise player development to ensure players successfully transition into the National Performance stage of the Player Pathway.

5.2 AGE AND ELIGIBILITY

10U PP-E aim to identify and support players aged 7U to 10U who demonstrate the behaviours, attributes, and potential to progress through the LTA Player Pathway. This may include players already selected for 10U regional, interregional, or national activity, as well as those who have not yet been chosen but demonstrate the potential to do so.

Players entering their 11U year who achieved RPDC longlist status in their 10U year, but were not selected for an RPDC, may continue to train at and be supported by the 10U PP-E for one further year *. However, the priority focus for the programme should be to transition 10U players effectively to the National Performance Stage by the time they are exiting their 10U year.

*in agreement with the 10U Performance Network Lead (10U PNL).

5.3 OUTPUTS

Increase the number of 10U PP-E players**

- Meeting the standard for RPDC longlisting in their 10U and 11U year
- Progressing through the Player Pathway:
 - Selected for regional activity (regional performance camps)
 - Selected for inter-regional activity
 - Selected for national activity or above.
- Competing in 40 + matches per year at 8U, 9U and 10U
- Competing at domestic grade 2 level or above at 9U and 10U.

The **enhanced** programmes will be reviewed against the above outputs as part of the 10U PP-E review process. This review process will include the assessment of players' weekly and competitive schedules against the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2).

**based upon the LTA Player Progression Tool, which will be utilised in the contract review meetings, annual end of year performance reviews, and mid-year check ins.

5.4 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME – ENHANCED OPERATING MODEL

10U PP-E will run as independent operators, providing performance programmes to the players selected onto the programme.***

Investment will support the **enhanced** programmes to make the programme as affordable as possible for the selected players. Operators should endeavour to make the costs to players as low as possible. The exact Player Fee will be agreed between the LTA and the operator in advance of the September 2026 start date. This fee will consider the core programme costs associated with tennis training (squad and individual), athletic development, courts, and the agreed level of domestic competition attendance for the programme.

***in agreement with the 10U Performance Network Lead (10U PNL).



6.0 LTA INVESTMENT CONDITIONS

- The new 10U PP-E strategy will operate for a minimum of a three-year strategy term with individual contracts renewed (contract review meeting) at the end of year two. These formal reviews allow the opportunity for investment changes based on the funding model outlined within this investment guide. For 10U PP-E that remain 'on track' in delivering to the purpose, it is the LTA's intention that these programmes receive at least the minimum level of funding for the three-year term of this strategy, subject to sufficient funds being available to the LTA.
- Yearly setting of strategic priorities and areas for development in the formal end of year performance review (July), with a mid-year check in review (January) with each 10U PP-E forms a critical part of the investment and review process.

The LTA investment is not designed to fully cover the costs of operating as a 10U Performance Programme - Enhanced. The funding is on the premise of LTA investment, player fees and operator value in kind (VIK) to cover the entirety of the cost of the programme. The 10U PP-E should be run not for profit.

The ability for an operator to achieve the 10U PP-E purpose (5.1) and outputs (5.3) will be a significant consideration in investment decision making. A 10U Performance Programme – Enhanced successful in securing investment will be accountable for and monitored closely through the annual end of year performance review process.

6.1 INVESTMENT PRINCIPLES

Operating Model

The LTA will invest in independent operators to deliver local, affordable, and high-quality day-to-day training and coaching programmes for the targeted player group.

The 10U PP-E must operate as a performance-focused programme, distinct from participation or commercial junior coaching, and must prioritise the development, progression, and competitive readiness of the identified 10U performance player group.

Applicants should be clear that 10U PP-E will operate as 'a programme within a programme' and all investments in the 10U PP-E will be ring-fenced for the delivery of the **enhanced** programme alone.

Player and Person Development Philosophy

The 10U PP-E network is designed to provide child centred, inspirational, and high-quality development environments that motivate and nurture the development of young players at the start of their performance journey.

Through the delivery of high-quality coaching and support for parents, these programmes

will prepare players and parents for the demands of the next stage of the Player Pathway.

Whilst the environment should be progressive and appropriately challenging, each programme should ensure best-practice duty of care and safeguarding, driven by a person first approach.

Each 10U PP-E must define and consistently deliver a clear development philosophy ensuring that players build excellent foundations to support transition to the National Performance Stage of the Player Pathway. As part of this philosophy, we expect active incorporation of the Talent Characteristics and Aspirational Standards principles/recommendations (Appendix 1 and 2).

Eligible Players and Player Selection

Each 10U PP-E will require a recruitment plan for how they identify and attract talent. An approved player list will be agreed with the 10U PNL, typically in August.

10U PP-E may select any 10U players they believe have the attributes and potential to progress through the LTA Player Pathway. Selection should be guided by the Talent Characteristics; loves the game, comfortable in rally, athletic qualities, loves to compete, reads the ball well, chases every ball, confident to attack, and creative in play.

Players must be eligible to represent Great Britain - they must hold, or be in the process of obtaining, a British passport, or British Citizenship, and have not represented any other nation in a representative team event. Evidence may be required to prove eligibility. Those not meeting this stipulation, but who have lived in Great Britain continuously since 1 September 2024 will be considered on a case-by case basis and must be approved by the LTA.

Age of Players

Investment is targeted only at players in the 10U, 9U, and 8U age groups.

- Exceptional younger players may be considered on a case-by-case basis in agreement with the 10U PNL.
- Players entering their 11U year who achieved RPDC longlist status in their 10U year, but were not selected for an RPDC, may continue to train at and be supported by the 10U PP-E for one further year, in agreement with the 10U PNL.

The age limits for 10U investment does not preclude the operator running other programmes that may compliment the 10U PP-E, but investment must be ring-fenced for the 10U PP-E only.

Coaching

10U PP-E investment is primarily targeted towards quality age and stage relevant coaching and training environments, to ensure high-quality coaching and support for parents within an inspiring and nurturing setting.

Quality assurance of the coaching, leadership of the programme (Head Coach), and reducing the cost to the player/parent are paramount to our investment principles.

Refer to the 10U PP-E Minimum Operating Expectations (MOEs) for further detail (6.2).



Facility Access

The LTA invest in operators capable of providing the following to 10U PP-E players:

- A programme capable of providing up to 10 hours of high-quality tennis training per week per player, at the optimal times for the player (in line with the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2), and appropriate to the individual, age, and stage.
- This should include access to evening court time at appropriate times for their age and stage, on a minimum of three days a week during the academic year for the provision of quality squad training.
- The ability to offer an appropriate programme year-round with considerations given to indoor access, in order to deliver an optimal programme for players in the 10U PP-E throughout the year.
- Access to suitable S&C equipment, and provision (aligned with the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2), to enhance the athletic development needs of the players.

Player Fee

Enhanced programmes must use the LTA investment to make the programme as affordable as possible for selected 10U PP-E players.

The Player Fee must reflect the true cost of delivering a high-quality performance programme for this age group, including the core elements of the weekly schedule such as individual lessons, small group training, squad sessions, matchplay, and athletic development. The operator must ensure full transparency with parents regarding what is included within the Player Fee and what sits outside of it.

Each 10U PP-E must agree the annual Player Fee with the LTA in advance and must not apply any LTA investment or subsidy to players who do not meet GB eligibility criteria.

Action plan and Review Process

All 10U PP-E must have a formal action plan/strategic priorities agreed with the LTA and attend and engage fully in the LTA review process.

6.2 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME - ENHANCED MINIMUM OPERATING EXPECTATIONS (MOEs)

Partnership approach

10U Performance Programme – Enhanced must be motivated by the vision, passionate about player development and actively committed to delivering to the 10U PP-E purpose.

The LTA will only invest in centres/programmes who proactively engage and work with the LTA, and that are fully supportive of the 10U National Competition framework, and the LTA Player Pathway.

Player Recruitment and Transition

10U PP-E must have a clear and proactive plan for identifying and attracting emerging talent into the programme. There is no mandatory requirement for a school outreach programme, however it may be advantageous to the player pipeline.

Each 10U PP-E is responsible for selecting players into their programme, using the Talent Characteristics (Appendix 1) as the core criteria guiding these selections.

10U PP-E must proactively and regularly communicate with local RPDCs and their county association. This should include being aware of and connected to current

and future county activity plans and proactive and regular communication between the County Performance Leads (CPLs) and the programme.

10U PP-E must have a clear transition strategy (exit plan) for players graduating out of the programme, reflecting local pathways, and ensuring players move into appropriate next-stage environments. There are no mandatory requirements for an in-house 10+ programme, however relationships with RPDCs and other suitable programmes for graduating players is a minimum expectation.

Facility Operators

Facility operators/venues must be fully committed to the 10U PP-E purpose (5.1) and outputs (5.3). They must display the desire and commitment to collaborate with the LTA to achieve the strategic and individual 10U PP-E objectives.

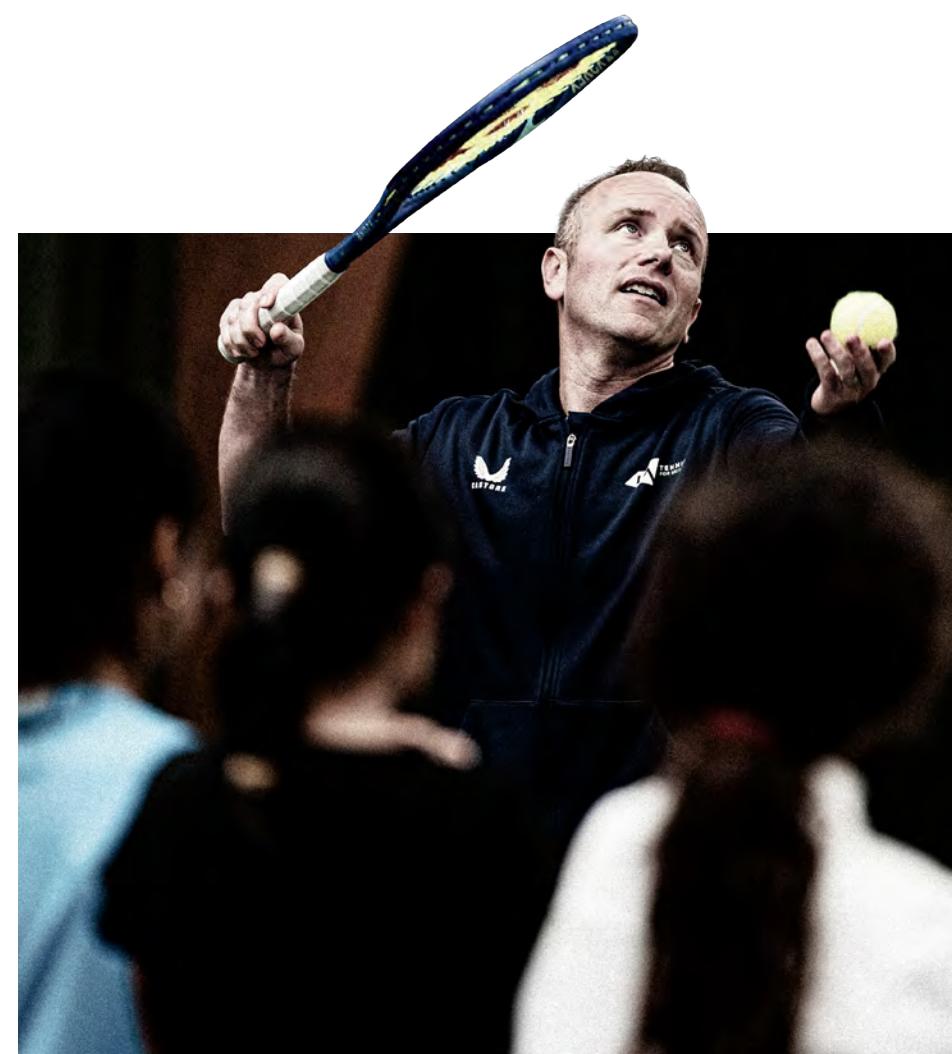
Facility operators (or venue committee whereby an operator does not exist) must provide support with this application, evidencing the 10U PP-E being a priority within the venue and the ability to sustain an optimal 10U PP-E programme for the length of the strategy, subject to the contracted investment from the LTA.

Any investment is expected to be a partnership between the LTA, coaching provider, and operators/venues. This includes demonstrating value in kind (reduced court fees, operational support etc.) to support the delivery and objectives of the programme.

Coaching

Refer to the 10U PP-E Roles and Responsibilities (11.0) for further detail

The Operator must appoint a coaching team with the expertise, behaviours, and commitment required to deliver a high quality 10U performance environment. Coaching at this stage must be specialist, developmentally appropriate, and fully aligned with the principles of the programme.



Head Coach

Essential

- A designated 10U PP-E Head Coach who is fully accountable and has full oversight of the players' programme and development. They should deliver the majority of the 10U PP-E programme.
- Must have a proven track record of developing players in the 8U to 10U age group.
- Holds a minimum of an LTA level 3 qualification and working towards level 4.
- LTA accredited +.

Desirable

- LTA Senior Performance Coach qualification (level 4).

Other coaches delivering in the 10U PP-E (Assistant Coaches)

Essential

- Experience delivering tennis to young performance players.
- Works under the direction of the Head Coach to maintain consistency of standards and messaging.
- Holds a minimum of an LTA level 3 qualification.
- LTA accredited +.

Strength & Conditioning (Athletic Development) Coach

There is no mandatory requirement for a strength & conditioning coach.

However, where you do engage with, or endorse, an S&C coach, they should hold a minimum of an Undergraduate degree in a relative sport specific area, along with the relevant professional accreditation (or working towards final accreditation within the next 6 months) UKSCA/CSCS or equivalent, and hold a current first aid, CPR certificate and be subject to an LTA DBS check.

Player Review

Each 10U PP-E player must have an agreed Individual Development Plan (IDP) and appropriate tournament schedule, reviewed at least twice a year and informed by regular competition observations.

Each 10U PP-E is committed to developing informed IDPs based on regularly observing players in competition and should provide coach support for players at all domestic Grade 1 events, and at Grade 2 events (where this is developmentally appropriate and based on player need).

Education

No mandatory requirements other than players engaged in a 10U PP-E must be meeting the minimum government requirements for education below the age of 16.

Facility Access

A programme capable of providing up to 10 hours of quality tennis training per week per player, at the optimal times for the player (aligned with the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2) and appropriate to the individual, age, and stage.

This should include access to evening courts at appropriate times for their age and stage, at a minimum of three days a week during the academic year for the provision of quality squad training.

The ability to offer an appropriate programme year-round with considerations given to indoor access, in order to deliver an optimal programme for players in the programme throughout the year.

Access to suitable S&C equipment, and provision (aligned with the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2), to enhance the athletic development needs of the players.

Tennis Programming

10U PP-E are responsible for creating a personalised tennis development programme based on their coaching philosophy and the evolving needs of each player. Programmes should be structured to progress appropriately in both volume and intensity, preparing players to transition successfully into the National Performance Stage.

The below table is taken from the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2) and provides guidance on weekly training volumes during term time when there is no official competition.

Total Tennis Hours (Weekly)

| Term time when there is no official competition | 9U | 10U |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Individual Lessons | 2+ | 2+ |
| Squad Training | 4+ | 5+ |
| Free Play/Practice Matches** | 2+ | 2+ |
| Total | 8+ | 9+ |

Notes

- Rest and recovery are essential components of healthy development for 9U–10U players. The 10U PP-E must ensure that training and competition loads are balanced with school, family time, and recovery needs.
- These figures are in addition to pre tennis warm ups.
- Training volume and intensity should be adjusted where necessary to mitigate the risk of growth-related injuries.

Athletic Development

10U PP-E must deliver a structured athletic development programme that supports physical readiness as they progress through the early stages of the Player Pathway. Athletic development at 9U–10U should focus on enhancing strength, power, agility, balance, co-ordination, and speed.

The below table is taken from the Aspirational Standard recommendations (appendix 2) and provides guidance on weekly athletic development activities:

Athletic Development (Weekly)

| In addition to pre-tennis warm-ups | 9U | 10U |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tennis Specific (S&C) | 3 sessions | 3 sessions |
| Other Sports | 3+ sessions | 3+ sessions |
| Total | 6+ | 6+ |

Number of Players

10U PP-E must maintain a priority player group of a size and quality that enables a high-performance training environment and ensures the programme meets the purpose (5.1) and outputs (5.3).

The player group should consist predominantly of 8U–10U players, with the option to include 11U players who met RPDC longlist criteria but were not selected by an RPDC*.

*in agreement with the 10U PNL.

Ratios

Ratios must ensure safety, effective learning, and appropriate supervision. Therefore, an average of 4:1 player to coach ratio across the weekly programme is required. The Operator must ensure that ratios remain consistent across the year and that staffing levels are sufficient to maintain a high-quality performance environment.

All squad training sessions must adhere to the LTA safeguarding requirements for coach to player ratios.

Tracking and Monitoring

10U PP-E are responsible for tracking and monitoring player progression (Individual Development Plans), match count, and compliance of the players weekly and annual plan.

The LTA will monitor player progression as part of the annual end of year performance review and mid-year check in review process.

Parents

The 10U PP-E will ensure parents are engaged, informed, and supported, to compliment and support the child's tennis development (including involved in IDP reviews).

Parents play a crucial role in the early stages of the Player Pathway, and the programme must help them understand how to contribute positively to their child's experience.

Competition Planning

10U PP-E must evidence regular competition attendance for players. All players must have an annual competition plan based upon their needs and stage of development (guidance on this can be found in the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2).

10U PP-E should provide coach support for players at all domestic Grade 1 events as a minimum (and grade 2's where appropriate and based upon player need).

Coach Development/Community

10U PP-E must fully engage in all LTA continuous professional development specific to the 10U Performance Network, which will typically include:

- Quarterly virtual National Performance Pathway (NPP) update meetings.
- Specific coach development workshops or CPD programmes for 10U PP-E Head Coaches (12.0).
- 1 regional NPP network forum per year.

Safeguarding

The 10U PP-E operator and coaching team must ensure they create an environment that is safe, welcoming, and places the highest possible value on the wellbeing and welfare of the players, in full compliance with the LTA Safeguarding Standards for Performance Venues. The environment must support healthy development, positive behaviours, enjoyment, and a strong duty of care appropriate for 10U performance players.

Each centre is required to be and maintain their status as an LTA registered venue and, in addition, to meet the LTA Safeguarding Standards for Performance Venues. Centres are required to fully engage and comply with the 10U PP-E safeguarding audit process conducted by the LTA Safeguarding Team and implement any actions and recommendations within a set timeframe.





7.0 INVESTMENT PROCESS

7.1 ELIGIBLE PROGRAMMES

An application process will be required for programmes seeking to become a 10U Performance Programme - Enhanced. All applications must be able to:

- Evidence their ability to deliver to the purpose (5.1);
- Demonstrate a clear plan to meet the investment principles (6.1) and minimum operating expectations (MOEs – 6.2) ready for September 2026;
- Show a clear commitment and motivation to become a 10U PP-E;
- And demonstrate the desire and willingness to work with local RPDCs, county associations and the LTA as part of the performance network.

Through the application process (16.0), we will invest in programmes with the ambition and evidence of a track record of 'continuously' developing 10U players to a nationally competitive level and beyond. If successful, they will operate as a 10U PP-E for the area and contractually must work with RPDC(s) locally.

A successful **enhanced** programme applicant based in the same venue as an existing RPDC will operate as an 'RPDC and 10U Performance Programme - Enhanced' for the area and contractually must positively and proactively engage with other 10U PP-E & 10U PP locally.*

*As part of the application, where there is an RPDC and potential 10U PP-E in the same venue, a leadership model/organisational structure will need to be clarified and agreed as part of the application process (16.0).

7.2 HISTORICAL INFORMATION

When making decisions on September 2026 funding investment, significant consideration will be given to the standard of the current programme and the development journey of previous player cohorts against the outputs (5.3). This historical information will include the last four years and utilise the LTA Network Assessment Tool. Consideration will be given to the needs of the programme and to provide the LTA assurance/ confidence in the 10U PP-E ability to achieve the purpose (5.1) and outputs (5.3) of the 10U PP-E network.

7.3 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME - ENHANCED FUNDING MODELLING AND REPORTING

Each successful 10U PP-E will receive LTA funding annually in two instalments (October and April).

10U PP-E will be required to:

- Attend a contract review at the end of year two, as part of the ongoing assessment of delivery against the purpose, outputs, and MOEs.
- Attend a formal annual end-of-year performance review (combined with the contract review in year two).
- Attend the annual mid-year check-in review.
- Provide twice yearly financial records of LTA funding.
- Provide a player list twice a year.
- Be subject to annual safeguarding audits.

8.0 LTA INVESTMENT

The LTA will invest in a network of centres (10U Performance Programme - Enhanced) that will support players aged 10U to successfully transition into the National Performance Stage of the LTA Player Pathway. The key principles (2.0) remain at the heart of investment decisions, alongside prioritising centres that we are confident can achieve the purpose (5.1) and outputs (5.3) of the 10U PP-E network.

Successful applicants will receive a fixed amount of funding for the two-year funding period. It is the LTA's intention that successful (on track) programmes meeting the investment conditions, outputs, and delivering to the purpose will receive the minimum amount of funding across the strategy term, subject to funds being available from the LTA.

The following section (8.1) describes how we will invest aligned with our Investment Principles (6.1) and Minimum Operating Expectations (6.2).

8.1 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME - ENHANCED FUNDING

The distribution of funding will be aligned to a programme assessment delivered by the 10U PNL, which will include agreeing bespoke action plans and strategic priorities with each centre. This distribution of funding will be closely monitored to ensure clear impact on, and enhancements, to player programmes. This funding can be used towards (but not limited to) reducing player costs, coach support at competition, talent ID/outreach, specific strategic priorities, or areas of bridging the gap as agreed in the action plan.

The funding available will be based on the number and quality of players in the programme, with initial investment committed for a two-year period. This will be a minimum of £10,000 up to a maximum of £20,000 per year*.

In addition to the funding, successful applicants will receive the LTA 10U PP-E kitemark and have access to the LTA 10U PP-E logo for use digitally and within your programme/venue. Successful applicants will be required to sign a contract and commit to working towards bespoke objectives set and agreed with the LTA.

*with an annual inflationary increase – CPI capped at a maximum of 5%.



9.0 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME – ENHANCED INVESTMENT PROCESS AND REVIEW

- Initial two-year contract.
- Annual formal end of year performance review.
- Mid-year performance check-in.
- Contract review meeting in year two (combined with the formal annual end-of-year performance review).



10.0 SAFEGUARDING

The LTA strives to ensure that all children, young people, and adults at risk are safeguarded from abuse and have an enjoyable tennis experience. Everyone who is involved in tennis has a shared responsibility to support this by promoting the welfare of all children, young people, and adults at risk.

A strong commitment to safeguarding is a key element of any application for a 10U PP-E and it should be clearly evidenced how the safeguarding of players is prioritised, and how it will be delivered and evaluated. Centres are expected to create an inspiring environment where the safety and wellbeing of players is the highest priority and embedded within its culture and operations.

Each centre is required to be, and maintain their status as, an LTA registered venue and, in addition, to meet the LTA Safeguarding Standards for Performance Venues. Centres are required to fully engage and comply with the 10U PP-E safeguarding audit process conducted by the LTA Safeguarding Team and implement any actions and recommendations within a set timeframe.



11.0 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME – ENHANCED ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

As part of the application process each 10U PP-E will be required to present/outline their leadership and operating structure for their 10U PP-E. The following roles and responsibilities must be included.

Head Coach

A designated 10U PP-E Head Coach who is fully immersed in and accountable for the delivery of the programme; this must be their priority focus. They are expected to have full oversight of the 10U PP-E players programme and their development and deliver (at minimum) on the majority of the programme. This includes:

- Providing inspirational and high-quality coaching, support for parents, and leadership to the 10U PP-E coaching team, players, and parents. This will include coaching individual players, squads, and groups throughout the year at base and at tournaments, and developing, planning, and implementing Individual Development Plans (IDPs) and tournament schedules which are age and stage appropriate to optimise player progression.

- Developing a clear vision and set standards for how the 10U PP-E will deliver against the purpose (5.1) and outputs (5.3) of the programme. Developing, planning, and implementing a clear player development philosophy; in addition to IDPs and tournament schedules to all players within the programme.
- Lead, manage and be accountable for all 10U PP-E player development; including weekly programming and the day-to-day delivery of the 10U PP-E programme.
- Build strong relationships with parents, schools, local coaches, counties, and the regional RPDC(s).
- Work closely with the LTA and be fully engaged in, and provide, reports/ feedback when required as part of the review process.

Assistant Coach

Any coach (Assistant Coach) working in the 10U PP-E should have experience delivering tennis to young performance players and should work under the direction of the Head Coach to maintain consistency of standards and messaging. They are expected to:

- Deliver age-appropriate coaching across individual lessons, small groups, squads, and matchplay.
- Understand skill acquisition, child learning principles, and foundational athletic development.
- Work collaboratively to ensure shared coaching language and consistent behaviours.
- Support competition activity and integrate learnings into IDPs.
- Communicate effectively with parents and the wider performance network.

Strength & Conditioning Coach/Provision

The coach delivering athletic development provision (S&C coach, or Tennis Coach) is expected to:

- Deliver a structured athletic development programme (in line with the Aspirational Standards recommendations – appendix 2), which supports the physical readiness as they progress through the early stages of the Player Pathway, to optimise the physical preparedness and long-term athletic development of the 10U PP-E players.

- Collaborate with the coaching team to ensure an aligned approach to player development.

Operations and Administration:

Clearly define who will be responsible for the following:

- Safeguarding and welfare officer.
- Ensuring all required policies and procedures are up to date, adhered to, and visible.
- Coordination and administration of the 10U PP-E programme; including communicating and liaising with players and parents.
- Monitoring and managing the budget and provide financial reports when required, detailing expenditure, and financial forecasts.



12.0 COACH DEVELOPMENT AND SHARED LEARNING

HEAD COACHES

We will run a yearly CPD programme for the Head Coaches in the 10U PP-E. These days will be mandatory to attend.

ASSISTANT COACHES

We will run CPD opportunities for Assistant Coaches working in 10U PP-E, and we expect the Head Coach to provide flexibility to enable attendance.

QUARTERLY UPDATES

We will provide regular updates to the 10U PP-E network through a virtual quarterly call to discuss emerging topics and share information relevant to the upcoming three-month period.



10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

INVESTMENT GUIDE



13.0 EXPECTATION AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMMES

13.1 PURPOSE

- Be 'consistent' developers of players aged 10 and under who regularly reach a **nationally competitive level**. This means maintaining a stable but not necessarily annual pattern of developing players who progress into the National Performance Stage of the Player Pathway.
- To provide inspirational and high-quality development environments, in line with the LTA Aspirational Standards (appendix 2), which motivates and nurtures the development of young players at the start of their performance journey.
- Through high-quality coaching and support for parents, these programmes will increase the **number and quality** of players learning through regular competition and optimise player development to ensure players successfully transition to the National Performance Stage of the Player Pathway.

13.2 AGE RANGE

10U PP aim to identify and support players aged 7U to 10U who demonstrate the behaviours, attributes, and potential to progress through the LTA Player Pathway. This may include players already selected for 10U regional, interregional, or national activity, as well as those who have not yet been chosen but demonstrate the potential to do so.

13.3 10U PP ASSESSMENT/ REVIEW CRITERIA

When determining whether to award (new applicants) or renew (existing applicants), we will use the LTA 10U Network Assessment Tool. This tool provides current and historical information on each programme, including the quality of the player base score, average player value, number of unique players, and players who have met the RPDC longlist over the past four years.

13.4 OUTPUTS

We will also consider the number of players achieving the outputs below within the programme over the last four years (**based upon the LTA Player Progression Tool**).

- Being longlisted for an RPDC.
- Progressing through the Player Pathway:
 - Selected for regional activity (regional performance camps).
 - Selected for inter-regional activity.
 - Selected for national activity or above.
- Competing in 40+ matches per year at 8U, 9U and 10U.
- Competing at domestic Grade 2 level or higher at 9U and 10U.



14.0 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME MODEL

There is no financial investment into 10U Performance Programmes, but successful applicants will receive an expanded range of benefits and, if desired, be supported to progress towards 10U PP-E level.

14.1 BENEFITS

- A designated LTA point of contact (LTA 10U Performance Network Lead) to provide support and on-going connection.
- Kitemarked as a 10U PP and granted access to the LTA 10U PP logo for digital and programme/venue use.
- Match funding 'opt in' option, which will provide bespoke programming and mentoring support. Each year, those programmes that 'opt in,' the LTA would contribute 50% (£1,000) and the 10U PP would be required to contribute the remaining 50% (£1,000). This would fund an annual LTA-led mentoring programme, with a designated tutor or mentor assigned to the 10U PP. They would support the development of the coach and programme in both the training and competition environment.
- Commitment to this programme of support would provide the required coach credits for the year.

- Each 10U PP Head Coach will have access to an annual 10U PP CPD programme and shared learning opportunities as part of the 10U network during the year, in addition to other relevant opportunities throughout the year. This will be available to the Head Coach and, where appropriate, to coaches actively delivering to players within the 10U Performance Programme.

14.2 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME MOES

- Continuing to meet the 10U PP Assessment/Review criteria (13.3) through the initial two-year term.
- Delivery against and meeting the 10U PP Minimum Operating Expectations (MOEs) (appendix 3).





15.0 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME INVESTMENT MODEL AND REVIEW

- Initial two-year commitment (agreement to be signed).
- The 10U Performance Programme renewal/application process will happen at the end of year two and will be aligned with the 10U Performance Programme - **Enhanced** contracts (thus providing ambitious 10U PP the opportunity to apply for 10U PP-E consideration, if applications are open and they meet all conditions of a 10U PP-E, with evidence of successful outputs as a 10U PP).
- Conversely, the 10U PP will be reviewed at the end of year two against the 10U PP assessment/review criteria (13.3), outputs (13.4,) and delivery against the 10U PP Minimum Operating Expectations (appendix 3) to determine their continued credibility and suitability for the network, resulting in one of two possible outcomes:
 - a further one-year commitment;
 - removal from the network.

Decisions will be based on current data and historical information, including the last two years where a programme has been on network. Consideration will be given to the needs of the programme and to providing the LTA with assurance and confidence in the 10U PP ability to achieve the purpose (13.1) and outputs (13.4).

16.0 APPLICATION PROCESS

16.1 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME - ENHANCED AND 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME APPLICATION TIMELINE

| | |
|------------------------------|--|
| Midnight on 22 February 2026 | Application submission deadline (submit to performanceprogrammes@LTA.org.uk). |
| Wb 23 March 2026 | Notification of shortlisting for stage 2 interview. |
| Wb 20 and wb 27 April 2026 | 10U PP-E Interviews held in person at the National Tennis Centre (NTC). |
| Wb 4 and wb 11 May 2026 | 10U PP Interviews held virtually via MS Teams. |
| June 2026 | Communication of decisions. |

16.2 APPLICANTS FOR 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME – ENHANCED

Stage 1

Submit a detailed plan outlining the four areas below (A-D), if you are an existing RPDC please also include (E):

- A)** Why you would like to be considered for a 10U PP-E, evidencing your track record and current ability to deliver the purpose (5.1).
- B)** How you would use the investment to enhance the existing programme to ensure it is aligned with and meets the investment principles (6.1), MOEs (6.2), Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2), and the 10U PP-E purpose (5.1).
- C)** Annual projected budget submission, outlining the value in kind (VIK) provided by the operator/venue and how the investment from the LTA will be used to

reduce player cost and enhance the quality of the programme in line with the conditions outlined above.

Please use the LTA annual projected budget template when completing this, which will include:

- The cost per player.
- Evidence that the VIK can be sustained for the full funding term, including written confirmation from the operator/venue that they support the application.
- D)** Confirm whether, if you are unsuccessful in being shortlisted for 10U PP-E stage 2, you would like to be considered as part of the 10U PP process.
- E)** Confirmation of the leadership model/organisational structure – which should clearly outline the roles and responsibilities within the RPDC and the 10U PP-E and how these compliment each other to deliver to the RPDC and 10U PP-E purpose.

16.2 CONTINUED

There is no fixed template for your application, except for the Annual Budget Submission (**C**), where you will be required to complete the LTA annual projected budget template (provided in the email), in addition to attaching written support from the operator/venue. There is no fixed template for the remainder of the application. However, there must be clear reference to each of the areas described (**A-D**, or **A-E** if you are an existing RPDC applying), and these should be clearly detailed in the application. Failure to do so may jeopardise the application.

Note – This application can be in the form of a presentation pack which can then be directly referenced and brought to life if successful in being shortlisted for stage 2 interview to avoid duplication of work.

In addition, the application should also make clear:

- Which requirements of the proposal are currently in place.
- What elements will require further investment and the associated timelines.

Stage 2

Those shortlisted from stage one will be invited for a formal interview at the NTC.

Interviews will follow a set agenda which will be shared with each centre in advance. The panel will also have the opportunity to ask questions relating to the application and any presentation that takes place as part of the interview.

The core panellists will be the LTA Head of the National Performance Pathway (who will chair each interview), the LTA RPDC Network Lead, LTA National Pathway Manager, and the LTA 10U Performance Network Lead. The Performance Ops Team will also attend to support the process. Other panellists may be added at the discretion of the LTA; if this occurs, you will be informed of any additional panellists at least five days prior to your session.

16.3 APPLICANTS FOR 10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME

Stage 1

Submit an application which should include:

- Why you would like to be considered (new applicants) or renewed (for existing 10U PP) for a 10U Performance Programme, evidencing your track record and current ability to deliver the purpose (13.1) and outputs (13.4).
- How you are meeting the MOEs (appendix 3) and Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2) and identifying any gaps in current programme provision where further enhancement is required.

There is no fixed template for this application and the content each applicant chooses to include is at their discretion. However, all bullet points must be clearly referenced and detailed in the application. Failure to do so may jeopardise the application.

Note – This application can be in the form of a presentation pack which can then be directly referenced and brought to life if successful in being shortlisted for stage 2 interview to avoid duplication of work.

Stage 2

Those shortlisted from stage one will be invited for a virtual (MS Teams) interview.

Interviews will follow a set agenda which will be shared with each centre in advance. The panel will also have the chance to ask questions relating to the application and any tasks that take place as part of the interview.

The core panellists will be the LTA National Pathway Manager (who will chair each interview), the LTA 10U Performance Network Lead and a National Pathway Coach. The Performance Ops Team may also attend to support the process. Other panellists may be added at the discretion of the LTA; if this occurs, you will be informed of any additional panellists at least five days prior to your session.

16.4 THE DECISION-MAKING PROCESS

To establish which programmes are awarded 10U PP-E or 10U PP status, the selection panel will consider:

- The Stage 1 application;
- Further detail provided at Stage 2 (interview); and
- The historical data (referenced in 7.2).

Using this information, the panel will decide which applications best meet the investment principles and Minimum Operating Expectations to achieve the purpose and outputs of the 10U PP-E or 10U PP network (as appropriate).

Final decisions are subject to sign-off by the LTA board and to sufficient funds being available to make the investments.

Where the total investment required exceeds funds available, we will make decisions following the below process:

1. Ensuring all successful 10U PP-E applicants receive the minimum funding (£10,000).

2. Ranking 10U PP-E applications based on a combination of the below criteria:
 - Talent density (defined as a combination of the number of players competing in 40+ matches per year at 8U, 9U and 10U; the number of players competing at domestic Grade 2 level or higher at 9U and 10U; and the number of players involved in NPP activity in the county/region).
 - Track record of developing 10U PP-E players that have gone onto:
 - Being longlisted for an RPDC and/or progressed to a National Academy (NA) by age 14.
 - Selection for international activity (11-14 years old).
 - Selection for National camps (11-14 years old).
3. Geography – prioritising talent development in current talent gaps where engagement and ambition are high and accelerated growth is likely or possible.

16.5 COMMUNICATION OF DECISIONS

The decisions of the selection panel will be communicated to all stage 2 shortlisted applicants in June 2026. There will be no appeal process.

16.6 FORMALITIES

10U Performance Programme – Enhanced

To formalise our investment into 10U PP-E, we will enter into a funding contract with the successful applicants. This will be a legally binding contract that sets out our respective obligations in delivering the programme. Amongst other points, it will include:

- Agreed budget and spend plan.
- Agreed objectives, strategic priorities, and areas for development.

- How annual progress will be tracked and how under-performance will be measured and addressed. The funding contract will precede any investment. No payments will be made until we have a signed contract from the successful applicant. All contracts will be subject to an annual break clause, which may be exercised by the LTA should there be an adverse change in the LTA's financial position.

10U Performance Programme

There will be no formal funding contract for successful 10U PP applicants; however a 10U PP agreement will be required to be signed and returned. This will outline your commitment to delivering the purpose (13.1), meeting the 10U MOEs (appendix 3), engaging with the LTA, and using any 'match funding investment' (if 'opted in') aligned to an agreed action and support plan with the LTA.

16.7 START DATE

The formal start date is Monday 31st August 2026. All programmes (and funding where applicable) will become active at this point.



10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME APPENDICES



APPENDIX 1

TALENT CHARACTERISTICS

THE TALENT CHARACTERISTICS - EARLY SIGNS OF POTENTIAL - A REFRESHER

| ATTACKING SKILLS | RALLYING QUALITIES | DEFENSIVE QUALITIES | ALL COURT SKILLS | ATHLETIC SKILLS | GREAT MOVER | INNER DRIVE | COMPETITIVE |
|---------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------|--------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| Confident to attack | Comfortable in the rally | Chases every ball | Creative in play | Athletic qualities | Reads the ball | Loves the game | Loves to compete |

CHARACTERISTICS OF A WORLD CLASS TENNIS PLAYER

| ATTACKING SKILLS | RALLYING QUALITIES | DEFENSIVE QUALITIES | ALL COURT SKILLS | ATHLETIC SKILLS | GREAT MOVER | INNER DRIVE | COMPETITIVE |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------------------|--|---|---|--|---|
| Weapons at the top of the game | No weakness, able to consistently hit heavy and hard with variety and accuracy at the highest levels | Relentless in defence | Tactically versatile at the highest levels of the game | Powerful, agile and robust at the highest demands of the game | Great mover at the highest levels of the game | Resilient, able to manage emotions, never gives up and tries to find ways to win | Always looking for ways to improve and stretching themselves mentally and physically to do this |

APPENDIX 2

ASPIRATIONAL STANDARDS RECOMMENDATIONS



9U/10U PATHWAY PROGRESSION

REGIONAL PERFORMANCE ▶ NATIONAL PERFORMANCE

Putting together an optimal weekly training and termly competition schedule that balances the right amount of quality with the volume required to develop for the future is important.

However, we acknowledge it can be challenging due to many reasons including schooling and logistical constraints. In this document we have tried to provide some guidance on hours and context, but it is important to note this may be different for each player and thus should be bespoke to the individual (individualised). Also recognising that during school holiday periods, court time and access can increase and there are more competition opportunities which should be factored in.

More important than these recommendations is having a credible and accredited coach who is driven to lead on accelerating the player's development, that rest and recovery is factored in* and the player is accessing a thriving developmental training environment where player well-being is at the forefront.

TOTAL TENNIS HOURS (WEEKLY)

Term time when there is no official competition

| | 9U | 10U |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| Individual Lessons | 2+ | 2+ |
| Squad Training | 4+ | 5+ |
| Free Play/Practice Matches** | 2+ | 2+ |
| Total | 8+ | 9+ |

ATHLETIC DEVELOPMENT (WEEKLY)

In addition to pre-tennis warm-ups

| | 9U | 10U |
|-----------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tennis Specific (S&C) | 3 sessions | 3 sessions |
| Other Sports | 3+ sessions | 3+ sessions |
| Total | 6+ | 6+ |

MATCHES (YEARLY)

| | 9U | 10U |
|--|---------|---------|
| Number of official singles and doubles matches | 120+ | 100+ |
| Win:Loss Ratio | 2:1-3:1 | 2:1-3:1 |

*rest and recovery is paramount at this age and stage (more information on this is explained within this guidance).
**if no matches/tournament at the weekend, then scheduling in practice matches would be appropriate.

CONTEXT

Athletic Development in young tennis players – enhancing strength, power, agility, balance, co-ordination and speed – is essential for long term success. This is best achieved through a combination of multi-sport participation, free play and structured, age-appropriate athletic development sessions with a qualified practitioner.

Individual Lessons in the early stages are important with technical development of key fundamentals remaining a priority. Although the cost of these can be high, it allows for focused and specific development work with progress being seen quickly.

Loading: We recommend that players increase any volumes in training steadily and try to avoid spikes in training load. Signs of a player potentially over-playing could include lack of enjoyment, irritability, constant fatigue, picking up injuries and lack of performance improvements. Consideration should also be given at these early stages to the player's skeletal system not being fully formed.

Free Play/Practice Matches with or without coach presence are vital for players to transition their newly learnt skills to the match court.

Official Matches (singles and doubles): This is the minimum number of matches recommended for players to develop match experience and build their competitive qualities. Match counts may be higher for some players and again will depend on factors listed above and the ball colour being played, but also the player's love for competition at this age.

Other Sports at this age are crucial to help all round athlete development and help reduce any pressures associated with specialising in one sport from a very young age.

Recovery/Rest: Making sure that players are resting, eating and sleeping sufficiently is key to recovery. We recommend that players ideally have one rest day per week and another 24-hour rest period within the week. We recommend players try to factor in four weeks of complete rest per year.

Squad Training: Done well, squad training enables coaches to stretch players physically and mentally whilst achieving the volumes of practice required to embed skills. It also encourages players to take more ownership of their game in fun, energetic environments with drilling and points play. At times, smaller group training sessions (2-3 players on one court with a coach) are highly encouraged as they provide opportunities for full court work, allowing coaches to stretch players and replicate the true demands of the game with an individual coaching approach.

Tennis Specific Athletic Development (also referred to as S&C) is vital to prepare players for the future demands of the game and supports injury prevention.

Total Tennis Hours: This is a guide for a typical term time week, ideally being spread out as evenly as possible. There will be many aspects to consider here including travel time, academic priority, stage of development, parental commitments, playing other sports to high levels and, most importantly, balancing quality over quantity. It is also important to try and incorporate appropriate practice with players of a higher, similar and lower level.

Win:Loss Ratio: We recommend that players try to adapt a tournament schedule that keeps their win: loss ratio ideally between 2:1 and 3:1. This maintains enjoyment in the game with enough losses to drive improvement.



APPENDIX 3

10U PERFORMANCE PROGRAMME MINIMUM OPERATING EXPECTATIONS (MOEs)

1. Programme Purpose

- Be ‘consistent’ developers of players aged 10 and under who regularly reach a nationally competitive level. This means maintaining a stable but not necessarily annual pattern of developing players who progress into the National Performance Stage of the Player Pathway.
- To provide inspirational and high-quality development environments, in line with the LTA Aspirational Standards, which motivates and nurtures the development of young players at the start of their performance journey.
- Through high-quality coaching and support for parents, these programmes will increase the number and quality of players learning through regular competition and optimise player development to ensure players successfully transition to the National Performance Stage of the Player Pathway.

For avoidance of doubt, the purpose of a 10U Performance Programme is to discover (attract) and develop talent. Programmes are expected to take a proactive approach to identifying new players with emerging potential

(mining for talent), while simultaneously providing a high-quality environment that supports the ongoing development of the players within their programme.

2. Coaching

Programmes must have:

2.1 A Lead Coach

The designated Lead Coach must:

- Hold an LTA Senior Performance Coach (level 4) qualification, or a minimum of an LTA level 3 qualification and be working towards their level 4 (SPC qualification).
- Be LTA accredited +.
- Have experience and a track record of developing nationally relevant players aged 10U.
- Be accountable for and have oversight of all Individual Development Plans (IDPs) for 10U PP players.

2.2 On-court Delivery

- The Lead coach must be actively engaged in the on-court delivery.
- Plan sessions with clear intention, purpose, and age-appropriate themes.
- Deliver training that incorporates:
 - Technical and tactical development
 - Athletic development
 - Character development and mental skills
 - Competitive elements

2.3 Engagement and Collaboration

- 10U PP must ensure positive and proactive engagement with the County Performance Lead (CPLs), RPDCs and other 10U PP-E or 10U PP locally.
- Lead coaches and the 10U PP coaching team must attend CPD, forums or updates relevant to 10U development as part of the 10U Performance Network.

3. Training Environment

The programme should aim to deliver training and competition in line with the LTA’s Aspirational Standards for 9U and 10U, ensuring players receive the appropriate balance of quality, volume, and progression for this stage of development.

While the sections below (3.1) focus on weekly hours and athletic development. Programmes should also draw on the wider Aspirational Standards principles, including guidance on loading, recovery, rest, training ratios, and appropriate squad structures that shape a healthy training and competitive schedule.

3.1 Weekly Programme

The table below is taken from the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2) and provides guidance on weekly total tennis hours. This includes individual coaching, and is based on term time weeks when there is no official competition:

Total Tennis Hours (Weekly)

| Term time when there is no official competition | 9U | 10U |
|---|-----------|-----------|
| Individual Lessons | 2+ | 2+ |
| Squad Training | 4+ | 5+ |
| Free Play/Practice Matches** | 2+ | 2+ |
| Total | 8+ | 9+ |

The table below is taken from the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2) and provides guidance on weekly athletic development activities:

Athletic Development (Weekly)

| In addition to pre-tennis warm-ups | 9U | 10U |
|------------------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Tennis Specific (S&C) | 3 sessions | 3 sessions |
| Other Sports | 3+ sessions | 3+ sessions |
| Total | 6+ | 6+ |

3.2 Player Development Oversight

All 10U PP players should have an IDP, covering:

- Key development areas using SMART goal setting principles
- A termly weekly training plan
- An annual, age and stage appropriate, competition plan
- With the IDP being reviewed twice per year
 - Note: This should be practical and simple, not an administrative burden.

3.3 A culture of ‘learning through competition’

- Internal and external competition
 - Programmes must:
 - Provide regular internal matchplay.
 - Actively signpost players to appropriate county, regional and national competitions.
 - Programmes should ensure players compete in a sufficient number of matches each year, with an appropriate balance of wins and losses which reflects being challenged at the appropriate level.

The table below is taken from the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2) and provides guidance on a healthy competitive schedule:

Matches (Yearly)

| | 9U | 10U |
|--|------|------|
| Number of official singles and doubles matches | 120+ | 100+ |

| Win:Loss Ratio | 2:1–3:1 | 2:1–3:1 |
|----------------|---------|---------|
|----------------|---------|---------|

- Coach Presence
 - Coaches are expected to value the importance of seeing players compete. With regular and purposeful observation of players in competition expected, with insights directly informing each player’s IDP. With feedback given to players/parents following competition attendance.
- Team Opportunities
 - Provide or encourage team-based experiences (internal matches, friendlies, leagues).



4. Facility Access

A programme capable of providing up to 10 hours of quality tennis training per week per player, at the optimal times for the player (in line with the Aspirational Standards recommendations (appendix 2), and appropriate to the individual, age, and stage.

5. Safeguarding and venue standards

The 10U PP venue and coaching team must ensure they create an environment that is safe, welcoming, and places the highest possible value on the wellbeing and welfare of the players, in full compliance with the LTA Safeguarding Standards for Performance Venues. The environment must support healthy development, positive behaviours, enjoyment, and a strong duty of care appropriate for 10U performance players.

Each centre is required to be and maintain their status as an LTA registered venue and, in addition, to meet the LTA Safeguarding Standards for Performance Venues. Centres are required to fully engage and comply with the 10U PP safeguarding audit process conducted by the LTA Safeguarding Team and implement any actions and recommendations within a set timeframe.

6. Communication & Collaboration

6.1 County and LTA connection

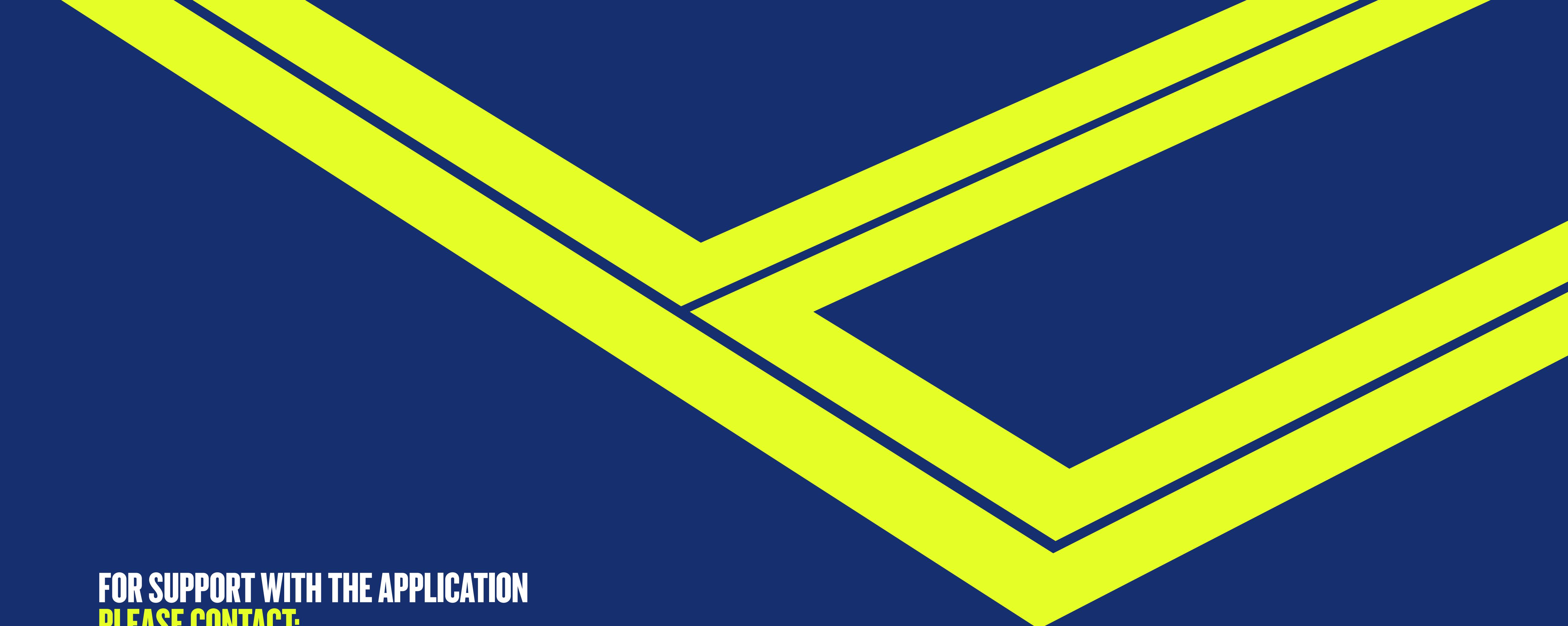
Programmes must:

- Engage positively with the County regarding emerging players, nominations, County Open/ID days and training.
- Build and sustain positive relationships with the LTA Pathway Team and performance network to ensure alignment across the pathway.
- Share basic information when needed (e.g., priority players lists).

6.2 Parent Communication

10U PP should proactively engage with and support parents, building trust, open, and constructive communication. This would include, but not be limited to:

- Parental support – their role and responsibility
- Role and responsibility of the coach
- Training expectations
- Competition plans
- Progress updates
- Promote a developmental future-focused mindset (not results-driven).



**FOR SUPPORT WITH THE APPLICATION
PLEASE CONTACT:**

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