



SPÓRT ÉIREANN
SPORT IRELAND

Sport Ireland
Sport Investment

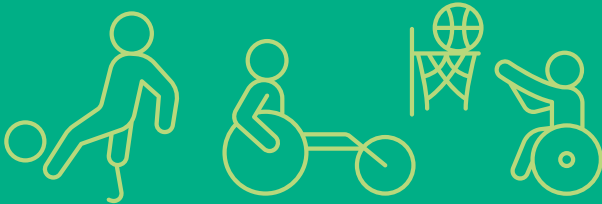
2024

SPORT IRELAND NATIONAL GOVERNING BODIES OF SPORT

PARTICIPATION SPORTS

128,000+

Registered swimming, cycling and running members across 1,056 Cycling, Swimming, Athletics and Triathlon Clubs



DISABILITY SPORT

>€2.1m

Core Funding invested in supporting disability sport focused NGBs



RACQUET SPORTS

95,000+

Registered members taking part in racquet sports such as badminton, squash, racquetball & tennis

WATER SPORTS

93,000+

Participants actively involved in watersports activities through the NGBs of diving, water-skiing, sailing, surfing, rowing & canoeing.



National Governing Bodies

Background

The National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs) recognised by Sport Ireland are at the centre of Irish sport. They are the delivery agents of Sport Ireland's strategic objectives and wider Government policy at a community level. A key focus of Sport Ireland is to assist NGBs to develop effective structures to facilitate increased numbers of participants and volunteers in sport.

Investment is made with the specific aim of ensuring the long-term sustainability of NGBs. When investing in NGBs, Sport Ireland takes into account the national significance of each sport, quality of programmes & operations, levels of participation, membership, volunteerism and social capital. Sport Ireland also wishes to see a diverse range of sports available to the Irish public and continues to invest in a wide variety of NGBs.

2024 Investment

2024 sees a continued increase in financial support to NGBs. Since the publication of the National Sports Policy in 2018, the overall Core funding to NGBs has grown from levels of €10.8m to levels of €17.3m for 2024.

This increased investment provides an opportunity for Sport Ireland to further strengthen the NGB sector. Sport Ireland is mindful of the widening gap between the top funded NGBs and those that are volunteer led. This arises primarily as a result of differing cost bases including the employment of professional staff. Specific development work continues with the volunteer led sector to advance this area.

Targeted Areas

Given the uplift in 2024 levels, Sport Ireland is in a position to provide the majority of performing Governing Bodies with a strong increase while also continuing to target investment in the following:

Strategically Significant Sports

The National Sports Policy 2018 – 2027 recognises that certain sporting activities are likely to have a greater impact on addressing the wider government agenda of lifelong sports involvement and health. The policy identifies swimming, cycling and running as three sports that merit particular attention and support. These sports will continue to receive high levels of Sport Ireland support and engagement during 2024.

Indoor & Disability Focused Sport

Continued investment is required to support the long-term recovery of both indoor & disability sport following Covid 19. This investment recognises the disproportionate and unanticipated extent of restrictions on their communities and the difficulties associated with a resumption and return to normal levels of participation.

Strengthen the Volunteer Led Sector

Since the launch of the National Sports Policy, Sport Ireland has increased its Core investment in volunteer NGBs from €1.1m in 2018 to over €2m in 2024. Specific work has been done with a number of volunteer led NGBs to build their capacity so they are better placed to deliver against broader Government objectives.

Performance Transition & Development Support

Since 2022, under the direction of the High Performance Strategy 2021-2032, Sport Ireland has transitioned Tennis Ireland and Clay Target Shooting out of High Performance Programme Funding. This funding has been ring-fenced within Core Funding. From 2025, it will be presented as a single Core Funding allocation.

Sport Ireland continues to engage with sports who are advanced in their performance development plans. In 2023, Sport Ireland provided funding to Weightlifting Ireland and Basketball Ireland (3x3) to support the delivery of these plans. Sport Ireland seeks to respond to NGBs who can demonstrate high potential performance opportunities underpinned by sustainable and well-governed structures.

Special Projects Budget

Similar to previous years, funding will be ring fenced for strategically important NGB events and projects under the 'Special Projects' funding. This funding will also seek to support any unforeseen or emerging issues in the broader NGB sector. The amount provided for in 2024 is €302,000.

National Sports Policy Funding 2018 - 2027

National Governing Body	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Special Olympics Ireland	€1,200,000	€1,200,000	€1,400,000	€1,400,000	€1,450,000	€1,500,000	€1,600,000
Athletics Ireland	€887,000	€950,000	€1,000,000	€1,000,000	€1,100,000	€1,150,000	€1,230,000
Swim Ireland	€827,000	€910,000	€950,000	€950,000	€1,050,000	€1,100,000	€1,175,000
Horse Sport Ireland	€775,000	€855,000	€930,000	€930,000	€975,000	€1,000,000	€1,070,000
Basketball Ireland	€598,000	€695,000	€740,000	€740,000	€800,000	€840,000	€900,000
Cricket Ireland	€355,000	€450,000	€480,000	€480,000	€500,000	€525,000	€570,000
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	€400,000	€450,000	€485,000	€485,000	€500,000	€525,000	€570,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	€432,000	€475,000	€500,000	€500,000	€500,000	€525,000	€570,000
Tennis Ireland	€353,000	€425,000	€450,000	€450,000	€450,000	€475,000	€535,000
Irish Sailing	€323,000	€385,000	€410,000	€410,000	€450,000	€475,000	€520,000
The Camogie Association	€395,000	€395,000	€435,000	€435,000	€450,000	€475,000	€520,000
Cycling Ireland	€305,000	€350,000	€420,000	€420,000	€420,000	€440,000	€500,000
Badminton Ireland	€320,000	€365,000	€390,000	€390,000	€425,000	€445,000	€490,000
Gymnastics Ireland	€230,000	€320,000	€340,000	€340,000	€370,000	€395,000	€420,000
Hockey Ireland	€260,000	€325,000	€340,000	€340,000	€365,000	€383,000	€410,000
Rowing Ireland	€210,000	€300,000	€320,000	€320,000	€350,000	€368,000	€395,000
Golf Ireland	€233,000	€300,000	€320,000	€320,000	€350,000	€368,000	€395,000
Irish Wheelchair Association Sport	€240,000	€275,000	€285,000	€285,000	€315,000	€330,000	€360,000
Canoeing Ireland	€205,000	€250,000	€275,000	€275,000	€310,000	€325,000	€355,000
National Community Games	€284,000	€315,000	€315,000	€260,000	€285,000	€299,000	€320,000
Triathlon Ireland	€108,000	€180,000	€225,000	€225,000	€265,000	€278,000	€300,000
Irish Squash	€160,000	€180,000	€200,000	€200,000	€230,000	€242,000	€300,000
Mountaineering Ireland	€193,000	€225,000	€235,000	€235,000	€235,000	€247,000	€265,000
Volleyball Ireland	€185,000	€200,000	€210,000	€210,000	€230,000	€242,000	€260,000
Motorsport Ireland	€137,000	€160,000	€180,000	€180,000	€200,000	€210,000	€220,000
Table Tennis Ireland	€107,000	€107,000	€115,000	€115,000	€150,000	€160,000	€210,000
Irish Judo Association	€70,000	€85,000	€100,000	€100,000	€150,000	€155,000	€165,000
Pitch and Putt Ireland	€63,000	€75,000	€80,000	€80,000	€95,000	€100,000	€150,000
Irish Surfing	€64,000	€75,000	€80,000	€80,000	€125,000	€130,000	€135,000
GAA Handball Ireland	€90,000	€100,000	€105,000	€105,000	€115,000	€120,000	€130,000
Vision Sports Ireland	€35,000	€45,000	€48,000	€48,000	€70,000	€75,000	€125,000
Diving Ireland	€60,000	€70,000	€75,000	€75,000	€110,000	€116,000	€125,000
Snooker & Billiards Ireland	€63,000	€70,000	€75,000	€75,000	€80,000	€85,000	€100,000
Irish Martial Arts Commission	€45,000	€60,000	€60,000	€60,000	€75,000	€78,000	€90,000

National Governing Body	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Orienteering Ireland	€45,000	€65,000	€65,000	€65,000	€75,000	€80,000	€85,000
Fencing Ireland	€27,000	€55,000	€55,000	€55,000	€65,000	€68,000	€75,000
Olympic Handball Ireland	€35,000	€45,000	€48,000	€48,000	€60,000	€65,000	€75,000
Weightlifting Ireland	-	€30,000	€32,000	€32,000	€55,000	€57,000	€75,000
Deaf Sports Ireland	€61,000	€65,000	€65,000	€65,000	€67,000	€68,000	€70,000
Irish Lawn Bowls	€24,000	€30,000	€32,000	€32,000	€50,000	€55,000	€70,000
Tug of War Ireland	€22,000	€40,000	€40,000	€40,000	€55,000	€57,000	€60,000
American Football Ireland	€23,000	€30,000	€32,000	€32,000	€45,000	€50,000	€60,000
Motorcycling Ireland	€48,000	€48,000	€48,000	€48,000	€50,000	€55,000	€55,000
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	€36,000	€45,000	€48,000	€48,000	€48,000	€50,000	€55,000
Irish Tenpin Bowling Association	€27,000	€35,000	€37,000	€37,000	€45,000	€47,000	€55,000
Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation	€20,000	€25,000	€27,000	€27,000	€40,000	€42,000	€50,000
Twirl Ireland Federation	€16,000	€20,000	€25,000	€25,000	€40,000	€42,000	€48,000
Racquetball Association of Ireland	€15,000	€20,000	€25,000	€25,000	€40,000	€42,000	€48,000
Angling Council of Ireland	€10,000	€15,000	€20,000	€20,000	€30,000	€32,000	€45,000
Irish Ice Hockey Association	-	€10,000	€10,000	€10,000	€25,000	€28,000	€45,000
ONAKAI	€6,000	-	€10,000	€10,000	€25,000	€28,000	€45,000
Bol Chumann na hÉireann	€20,000	€30,000	€32,000	€32,000	€35,000	€37,000	€40,000
Rugby League Ireland	€11,000	€15,000	€20,000	€20,000	€35,000	€37,000	€40,000
Irish Amateur Wrestling Association	€15,000	€20,000	€25,000	€25,000	€30,000	€32,000	€40,000
Speleological Union of Ireland	€10,000	€15,000	€20,000	€20,000	€30,000	€32,000	€40,000
Archery Ireland	€12,000	€15,000	-	€15,000	€30,000	€32,000	€40,000
Irish Taekwondo Union	€9,000	€25,000	€25,000	€25,000	€35,000	€37,000	€37,000
Croquet Association of Ireland	€5,000	€10,000	€10,000	€10,000	€25,000	€28,000	€35,000
Special Projects & Programmes *	€126,000	€305,000	€501,000	€541,000	€420,000	€488,000	€302,000
Performance Programme Transition**						€230,000	€230,000
Special Olympics World Games	-	€180,000	-	-	-	-	-
Horseshoe Pitchers Association of Ireland	€5,000	€10,000	-	-			
National Aero Club of Ireland	€5,000	-	-	-			
Pentathlon Ireland***	-	€20,000	€20,000	€20,000	-	-	-
Total	10,845,000	12,845,000	13,845,000	13,845,000	15,000,000	16,000,000	17,300,000

* Special Projects & Programmes: Funding ringfenced for strategically important NGB events and projects

** Performance Programme Transition: Funding to support Performance Programmes in Tennis & Clay Target Shooting

***Pentathlon Ireland: Funding rebalanced to the High Performance Programme

Other Funded Bodies

Sport Ireland also invests in a number of other representative and specialist bodies to support the development of sport and physical activity opportunities across Ireland and to increase the capability and capacity of the wider sport sector. These bodies support Sport Ireland in meeting our key strategic objectives and delivering on National Sports Policy actions.

Federation of Irish Sport

The Federation of Irish Sport is the representative organisation for National Governing Bodies of Sport and Local Sports Partnerships in Ireland. It currently represents over 110 organisations. The organisation was established in 2002 by the National Governing Bodies of Sport. A key function of the Federation of Irish Sport is to raise political awareness of the benefits of sport and advocate for increased state investment on behalf of its members. The Federation of Irish Sport also provides a range of important support services for NGBs and LSPs and also operates Sport Dispute Solutions Ireland (SDSI).

Student Sport Ireland

Student Sport Ireland is the representative body for higher education sport across the Island of Ireland. Its primary focus is leading the sector in its development and enabling sport and physical activity at all levels across a student population of 240,000 in 30 universities and colleges. Sport Ireland invests in Student Sport Ireland to support the development of partnerships between National Governing Bodies of Sport and Higher Education institutions.

Age & Opportunity – Active Programme

Sport Ireland funds the Age & Opportunity Active Active sport and physical activity programme as part of its commitment to increase participation in recreational sport among older people. This aims to get older people more active, and its objectives are closely aligned to the National Sports Policy, the National Physical Activity Plan as well as Healthy Ireland’s objectives. The programme works closely with the network of Local Sports Partnerships to create a range of opportunities to help older people get more physically active such as their FitLine and CarePALs programmes.

Active Disability Ireland

Sport Ireland Policy on Participation in Sport by People with Disabilities designates Active Disability Ireland (formerly CARA) as the supporting organisation in playing a vitally important strategic, operational and advocacy role for persons with a disability in Irish sport. “Their wide-ranging national and international perspective and expertise on issues affecting sport is a particularly valuable input to sports policy development.” Active Disability Ireland facilitates participation for people with a disability by promoting the Sport Inclusion Disability Charter. It also does this through coordinating the delivery of training and education workshops on the inclusion of people with disabilities in Sport and Physical Activity such as their Xcessible, Disability Awareness and Disability Inclusion programmes.

Organisation	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	2024
Federation of Irish Sport	€100,000	€100,000	€115,000	€115,000	€115,000	€125,000	€135,000
Student Sport Ireland	€50,000	€60,000	€60,000	€60,000	€60,000	€70,000	€75,000
Age & Opportunity	€607,605	€607,605	€607,605	€607,605	€607,605	€620,000	€620,000
Active Disability Ireland	€130,000	€130,000	€130,000	€130,000	€130,000	€140,000	€140,000

SPORT IRELAND LOCAL SPORTS PARTNERSHIPS

2023 HIGHLIGHTS



Local participation opportunities provided across

60+ sports



5,000+

People attended the BeActive Festival and LSPs held 7 BeActive nights during European Week of Sport



8,000+

participants in 504 registered events across the HER Outdoors Week in 2023

48%

of LSP Coordinators are women



46%

of LSP board members are women

2024 INVESTMENT

€2,075,339

invested in Programmes and Development Funding in 2024

€1,015,000

invested in Community Sports Development Officers (CSDO)

€277,000

invested in the Women in Sport programme for 2024.

€1,000,858

invested in a network of Sport Inclusion Disability Officers

€1,191,729

invested in additional LSP Development Officers

€1,081,540

invested in the appointment of Programme Managers



Sport Ireland's Local Sports Partnerships

Background

Over the past 22 years the network of LSPs has flourished, on a journey that has seen the growth from a pilot initiative in eight counties, to 29 LSPs, one in every county. The significant growth of Sport Ireland's network of LSPs reflects the reputation the network has built as local experts in developing opportunities for sport and physical activity, as well as the trust and recognition the LSPs have now gained at a national and local level. The LSPs are no longer simply organisations that deliver programmes at a local level. They are now key stakeholders in shaping and delivering on policy, creating strategic partnerships, and leaders in influencing the landscape of sport and physical activity at a local level

For 2024, the Sport Ireland investment has been increased across the network of 29 Local Sports Partnerships (LSPs), with a total investment of €11,384,324.

Sport Ireland will utilise this 2024 funding to continue to enhance the capacity of LSPs and increase the reach and impact of LSP initiatives across Ireland. The 2024 investment strategy is informed by the goals of the Sport Ireland Strategy and the actions of the National Sports Policy and the National Physical Activity Plan which are now captured in the Sport Ireland Sports Participation Plan.

Sport Ireland's strategy remains focused on increasing the capacity and stability of the LSP network along with continued investment in the local promotion of LSP activity, opportunities and national campaigns to build awareness of the LSP network across the country. The investment strategy will ensure that LSPs can deliver and sustain programmes and provide the necessary supports to clubs and communities to participate in sport, in 2024.



Sport Inclusion Disability Officers

1 In 2024, Sport Ireland will invest €1,000,858 to continue supporting the full network of 29 Sport Inclusion Disability Officers (SIDOs). The aim of the Sports Inclusion Disability Programme is to encourage and facilitate more people with disabilities to participate in sport and physical activity and develop sustainable clubs and programmes in all settings. The SIDOs work in a coordinating capacity with all relevant stakeholders to increase and sustain participation opportunities for people with disabilities.

Community Sport Development Officers

2 Sport Ireland will invest €1,015,000 in the LSP network for the employment of Community Sport Development Officers (CSDOs), which will ensure funding support to all 29 LSPs for employment of a CSDO. CSDOs are tasked with activating local communities through a variety of means including the co-ordination of targeted programmes and training initiatives for clubs and communities. CSDOs are also tasked with increasing the reach of LSPs to ethnic minorities and teenagers. The CSDOs will also support the objectives of the National Physical Activity Plan action to *'Strengthen and enhance the capacity of the LSPs to further develop locally led plans and more long-term sustainable physical activity programmes.'*

Additional LSP Officers

3 In 2024, Sport Ireland will invest €1,191,729 to maintain roles across the 29 LSPs which focus of specific local needs of an LSP. The officers cover the following priority areas; Governance and Finance, Community and Club Development, Ethnic Diversity, Outdoor Sport Development, Promotion and Building Awareness, Women in Sport and Administration support.

Programme Managers

4 Sport Ireland continues to support the growth of the LSPs by funding a new middle management structure within the LSPs in the form of a Programme Manager role. €1,081,540 has been invested in the role out of this new position across the LSP network. This role will focus on supporting the management function, the development of the community and club initiatives as well as the coordination of the programmes in the LSP. This new role will

bring the minimum number of staff in every LSP to six people, further facilitating the ability of the LSP to build and maintain consistent opportunities in every county in Ireland.

Women in Sport

5 Additional support for Women in Sport is referenced in the National Sports Policy, specifically referring to the high-level goal of increasing participation through the "elimination of active sport participation gradient between men and women". The Women in Sport allocation to the Local Sports Partnerships in 2024 will be €277,000. The LSPs will work with the Sport Ireland Women in Sport lead and will focus specific initiatives on female target groups including women in disadvantaged communities, women in disadvantaged communities, women with a disability, older women, women from ethnic minorities and teenage girls. The LSPs will also explore ways of increasing female social participation in sport through club membership and volunteerism.

Programmes and Development

6 In 2024, it is proposed to maintain the level of funding to support with LSP operating costs and programme funding of €2,075,339. By investing in the development and implementation of targeted programmes and leveraging the support provided to clubs to encourage them to engage with underrepresented groups, this funding will support the delivery of Actions 5, 6, 9, 14 and 28 of the National Sports Policy.

Local Sports Plans

7 Action 8 of the National Sports Policy has tasked Sport Ireland with leading on the development of Local Sports Plans. Sport Ireland have been working with the County and City Managers Association (CCMA) Economic, Enterprise, Community and Culture Committee to highlight the role and value of LSPs and discuss the development of Local Sports Plans. Sport Ireland are working with the CCMA on the recruitment and employment of LSP staff, LSP governance code compliance in a Local Authority context and Sport Ireland funding strategies for the Local Authority based LSPs. Sport Ireland will ring fence funding in the 2024 participation unit budget to assist LSPs and Local Authorities in the development of Local Sports Plans.

LSP Funding 2024

LSP	Core and Programme Funding	Women in Sport	Total 2024 Funding
Carlow	€320,778	€10,000	€330,778
Cavan	€308,750	€4,000	€312,750
Clare	€471,467	€12,000	€483,467
Cork	€597,620	€8,500	€606,120
Donegal	€437,887	€7,000	€444,887
Dublin City	€428,527	€18,000	€446,527
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	€347,371	€8,000	€355,371
Fingal	€299,212	€13,000	€312,212
Galway	€328,274	€12,000	€340,274
Kerry	€215,588	€8,000	€223,588
Kildare	€407,415	€3,000	€410,415
Kilkenny	€328,263	€6,000	€334,263
Laois	€353,565	€10,000	€363,565
Leitrim	€302,830	€7,500	€310,330
Limerick	€560,679	€16,000	€576,679
Longford	€350,746	€9,000	€359,746
Louth	€342,311	€10,000	€352,311
Mayo	€410,393	€15,000	€425,393
Meath	€511,724	€22,000	€533,724
Monaghan	€343,001	€0*	€343,001
Offaly	€346,571	€7,000	€353,571
Roscommon	€361,233	€5,500	€366,733
Sligo	€437,821	€20,000	€457,821
South Dublin	€392,371	€6,000	€398,371
Tipperary	€408,724	€12,000	€420,724
Waterford	€455,042	€0*	€455,042
Westmeath	€319,701	€7,000	€326,701
Wexford	€369,892	€8,500	€378,392
Wicklow	€349,568	€12,000	€361,568
Sub Total	€11,107,324	€277,000	€11,384,324

*Sufficient amount of deferred income being carried over from previous years

2023 Additional Government Investment

2024 Core funding has been further augmented by the provision of an additional, once off Government investment package of €1.7m.

This funding, distributed to the sector in December 2023, sought to recognise the increased costs associated with sports delivery in recent years and to ensure that NGBs and LSPs could commence 2024 in a strong financial position.

National Governing Body/Organisation	Amount
Special Olympics Ireland	€100,000
Athletics Ireland	€80,000
Swim Ireland	€75,000
Horse Sport Ireland	€70,000
Basketball Ireland	€60,000
Cycling Ireland	€60,000
Tennis Ireland	€60,000
Vision Sports Ireland	€60,000
Irish Squash	€58,000
Pitch and Putt Ireland	€50,000
Table Tennis Ireland	€50,000
Badminton Ireland	€45,000
Irish Sailing Association	€45,000
Cricket Ireland	€40,000
Ladies Gaelic Football Association	€40,000
The Camogie Association	€35,000
Canoeing Ireland	€30,000
Irish Wheelchair Association Sport	€30,000
Golf Ireland	€27,000
Hockey Ireland	€27,000
Rowing Ireland	€27,000
Triathlon Ireland	€22,000
National Community Games	€21,000
Gymnastics Ireland	€20,000
Mountaineering Ireland	€18,000
Volleyball Ireland	€18,000
Weightlifting Ireland	€8,000
Irish Ice Hockey Association	€17,000
ONAKAI	€17,000
Irish Athletic Boxing Association	€15,000
Irish Lawn Bowls	€15,000
Snooker & Billiards Ireland	€15,000
Angling Council of Ireland	€13,000
Irish Martial Arts Commission	€12,000

National Governing Body/Organisation	Amount
American Football Ireland	€10,000
GAA Handball Ireland	€10,000
Irish Judo Association	€10,000
Olympic Handball Ireland	€10,000
Motorsport Ireland	€10,000
Federation of Irish Sport	€10,000
Diving Ireland	€9,000
Archery Ireland	€8,000
Irish Amateur Wrestling Association	€8,000
Irish Tenpin Bowling Association	€8,000
Irish Waterski & Wakeboard Federation	€8,000
Speleological Union of Ireland	€8,000
Fencing Ireland	€7,000
Twirl Ireland Federation	€6,000
Racquetball Association of Ireland	€6,000
Irish Clay Target Shooting Association	€5,000
Orienteering Ireland	€5,000
Irish Surfing	€5,000
Student Sport Ireland	€5,000
Bol Chumann na hÉireann	€3,000
Rugby League Ireland	€3,000
Tug of War Ireland	€3,000
Deaf Sports Ireland	€2,000
Total	€1,449,000

Local Sports Partnership	Amount
Carlow	€7,500
Cavan	€7,500
Clare	€15,000
Cork	€15,000
Donegal	€15,000
Dublin City	€7,500
Dun Laoghaire-Rathdown	€7,500
Fingal	€7,500
Galway	€7,500
Kerry	€7,500
Kildare	€7,500
Kilkenny	€15,000
Laois	€15,000
Leitrim	€7,500
Limerick	€15,000
Longford	€7,500
Louth	€7,500
Mayo	€7,500
Meath	€15,000
Monaghan	€7,500
Offaly	€7,500
Roscommon	€15,000
Sligo	€15,000
South Dublin	€7,500
Tipperary	€7,500
Waterford	€15,000
Westmeath	€7,500
Wexford	€7,500
Wicklow	€7,500
Total	€292,500





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