

£250,000 boost to get young people active across borough

By Nina Morgan

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A £250,000 funding boost will help get more young people active across Welwyn Hatfield.

Child UK is leading on a Welwyn Hatfield sports project and has been awarded £250,000 by Sport England.

John O'Callaghan, of Sport England, welcomed partners from all over the borough at the cheque presentation in Hatfield Town Centre.

The Welwyn Hatfield sports project, Simply Amazing, is designed to get young people between the ages of 14 to 25 more active.

There will be a programme of activities across the borough, focussing on central Hatfield and Peartree.

The activities include sports rave nights, trampolining, boxing, moonlight sports and many other innovative ways to bring excitement to being active.

The aim is not only to improve physical and mental health but also steer young people away from substance misuse and antisocial



■ Andrew Anastasiou and John Manitaras from Child UK with MP Grant Shapps and other guests Picture: KEVIN LINES

behaviour.

Andrew Anastasiou, executive officer of Hatfield-based Child UK, said: "The support and encourage-

ment of our partners through the application process has been a massive factor in helping Child UK gain this award and we owe them a

big vote of thanks. Now the hard work is really starting and we will need their support and more to ensure the success of this project."