



NEW! England Rugby & The WI joining together to bring game changing opportunities to women

'The WI is proud to be an active partner in the Rugby World Cup Legacy Programme and supporter of the Women's Rugby World Cup 2025. With this tournament comes an exciting opportunity for the WI to be bold, relevant, inclusive, flexible and inspiring by bringing 'game changing' and long-term opportunities to women at all stages of life, around the country. Members will have the opportunity to make meaningful impact within their communities and to be a catalyst for both women's sport and the WI.' Ann Jones DL, National Chair.

In June 2022, England Rugby were formally confirmed as the host country for the 2025 Women's Rugby World Cup. The Women's Rugby World Cup brings a mutual opportunity, between the WI and England Rugby, to not only promote two like-minded organisations and the benefits that can be brought to women, but to enable both organisations to understand about team sport, physical activity, barriers and obstacles faced by women.

With government funding, England Rugby and the WI will be working together over the next 5 years to build and deliver an accessible and inclusive programme, which will include research, training, community engagement and sport participation. In May 2023, WIs in England, Wales and the Islands will be invited to submit an Expression of Interest; this will contribute towards the development of phase one of the partnership which aims at delivering an exciting programme of opportunities. Full details of how to submit interest will be sent to all federations, made available to download from My WI and promoted on social media in the coming weeks.

Harnessing the power of an innovative and world class spectator experience, the RWC 2025 Legacy Programme will drive transformational change in communities up and down the country, providing a catalyst for opportunity, capacity and participation in the women's game.

