



LondonFA

Title: Chair's Report	Meeting: Annual General Meeting
Author(s): James Middlehurst, Chair	Date: 27/06/2022

Welcome to London FA's 2022 Annual General Meeting.

We live in exceptional times and envisage we will continue to do so as we cope with all manner of new challenges in this Post Covid era. Throughout the last year we've been learning to manage in this so called 'new normal' and at the same time have seen a great upsurge in interest & engagement in the Grassroots game in London and throughout the country.

A great deal of this new interest is being driven by the Women & Girls game, where we are now approaching 500 teams in London and 500,000 players across the country. We expect this number to rise significantly as we enter the new season in September.

Our five-year plan for the support & regeneration of grassroots football - Harnessing the Power of Grassroots Football in London 2020-25 - is well on track and the challenge for us all now is to make sure we have the necessary facilities, referees & coaches to support this renewed growth in the Grassroots game. We're also very aware of the financial impact of the cost-of-living crisis on our member clubs and activities and will be working hard to support them as much as possible over the course of the coming season.

Paul Bickerton will take us through the steps that have been approved by the Board for the 2022/23 plan as the business continues its support for all aspects of the development of Football for All in London. The plan will include our continuing work around equality, diversity & inclusion, the further development of Women & Girl's football and Paul will also provide an update on how we see the London FA moving forward as we maintain our focus on the strategic goals and objectives set out in our five-year plan (access this [here](#)).

Our overall objective as before will simply be to become as relevant as possible in supporting and developing Grassroots Football in London. Both the traditional game and in particular the emerging opportunities for wider participation for Any & All wishing to take part in football in London.

No doubt there are many more challenges ahead, but we very are optimistic about the opportunities before us and are all very much looking forward to a brighter & more inclusive future for Football for All in London.

Looking forward to catching up with you all again on the 27th June.

Best Wishes, James Middlehurst