

Minutes of the London FA Council Meeting	
<b>Date:</b>	Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> December 2021
<b>Venue and time:</b>	18:30 – 20:30 Meeting conducted as a hybrid (London South Bank University – Keyworth Centre / Microsoft Teams)
<b>Attendees:</b>	<p><u>In person:</u></p> <p>James Middlehurst, Drew Patterson, Roger Fox, Ian Wallis, Alejandro Sanchez-Buitrago, Alex Turnbull, Duncan Hart, Jo Hind, Lockie Bramzell, Chris Conroy, Nicholas Bearham, Bobby Bernini, Kevin Wilmot, Simon Hughes, Christina Oshodi, Gemma Watson, Eddie Webb, Luke Thompson, Louise McGing</p> <p><i>London FA Staff:</i> Paul Bickerton, Neil Twitchett, Priti Trivedi, Amanda Lewis, Aquila Burgess, Shannon Hyner, Jamaal Horne</p> <p><u>Virtual:</u></p> <p>Graham Harknett, Louise Dorling, Lib DiCesare, Farooq Mohammed, Ian Burke, Alan Clarke, Russell Howes, Abigail Ingram, Anita Poulman, Tony Sharples, Martynas Stonkus, Peter Barnes, Graham Etchell, David Wolff, Yashmin Harun, Jordan Nelson-Hall, Karen Greene, Mark Deveney, Ali Morgan, Paul Mortimer, Jill Berry, Serkan Poyraz, Alf Brown</p>
<b>Apologies</b>	Imrul Gazi, Yasmin Hussain, Bill Neicho, Tony Gilbey, Clive Coleman, John Taylor, Bob Henderson, David Lando, Aroz Mia, Michael Burke, John McCulloch, Hocine Tachoukaft, Jenn Athill, Dave Hooker, Colin Reid, Ruth Heppinstall, Lester Newham



Item	Minutes	Action
<b>1</b>	<b>Welcome</b>	
1.1	James Middlehurst (JM), Chair of the London FA, opened the meeting and introduced the agenda for the evening. He explained that this was the first London FA Council meeting ever to be held in a hybrid format and thanked those who were attending, either in person or online	
<b>2.</b>	<b>To receive and approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b>	
2.1	Received and approved	
<b>3</b>	<b>CEO Update - presentation</b>	
3.1	Paul Bickerton (PB) gave an update on the following:	Slides to be circulated with the minutes of the meeting
3.1.1	- The FA's plan to improve the Player Registration and Full-Time systems for next season (2022-23)	

3.1.2	- Refereeing and Facilities	
3.1.3	- London FA's Racial Equality Action Plan	
3.2	Several questions followed the presentation, to include:	
3.2.1	- The impact of the increase in teams and clubs on London FA's capacity, which has resulted in the organisation bringing in temporary staff to support the affiliation process over the summer	
3.2.2	- Whether referees receive automatic prompts for the registration process	
<b>4</b>	<b>Women &amp; Girls Football in London (interactive session)</b>	
4.1	Amanda Lewis (Women & Girls Dev. Manager) and Jo Hind (Women & Girls Advisory Group Vice-Chair) led an interactive session that covered the following:	Slides to be circulated with the minutes of the meeting
4.1.1	- A video introduction from Charlie Sizer, the Women & Girls Advisory Group Chair	
4.1.2	- An overview of London FA's Women & Girls Operational Plan	
4.1.3	- The UEFA Women's Euro 2022 Legacy Programme	
4.2	A group breakout discussion was set up to explore the opportunities around the UEFA Women's Euros in 2022. Council members were asked to consider what had already been planned and whether the operational plan presented covered the right areas.	Feedback captured and fed back into WAGAG meetings
<b>5</b>	<b>London FA Divisions</b>	
5.1	PB updated the Council on the work led by Anita Poulman (AP), Ian Wallis (IW) and Roger Fox (RF) to allocate Council members to the four specific geographical regions. This work had now been completed and the allocations agreed by the London FA Board. PB covered the rationale for the allocations and the membership of each of the four regional groups.	Slides to be circulated with the minutes of the meeting
5.2	AP had contacted individual Council members to start to plan their first meeting, via an email introduction. The role of the first meeting would be to elect a Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary.	Council members to lead on organisation of first group meeting
<b>6</b>	<b>London FA Council Reports</b>	
6.1	The following reports were given to the London FA Council and members were offered the opportunity to ask questions:	
6.1.1	1. Chair's report (written)	
6.1.2	2. Standing Committee reports (written)	
6.1.3	3. FA Representative Report (written)	
6.1.4	4. Health & Wellbeing Officer Report (oral)	
6.2	PB updated the Council that concerns had been raised regarding the recent Discipline Panel Member pilot programme developed by the FA, which London FA were part of. The concerns were based on ensuring that existing panel members were not unfairly excluded from the process. It was difficult to address this issue appropriately in the meeting and so London FA's Head of Football Services would pick this up with Judicial Committee members outside of the Council meeting.	Priti Trivedi to pick up with Judicial Committee Chair

<b>7</b>	<b>Chair &amp; Independent Director Recruitment</b>	
7.1	Sir Simon Hughes (SH) updated the Council that an open recruitment process had been completed to appoint the London FA Chair for the next three-year term (Jan 2022 – Jan 2025). SH was pleased to report that the Board had voted unanimously to reappoint James Middlehurst as London FA Chair and he congratulated James on his re-appointment	
7.2	SH also updated the Council that sadly he had decided to step down as the Senior Independent Director from January 2022, after over six years in post at London FA. JM wanted to place on record his thanks for SH’s work over these past six years, recognising the enormously positive impact on the Association that he has had. The governance reforms led by Sir Simon ensured that we were the first County FA to become compliant with the Sport England / UK Sport Code of Governance.	
7.3	SH confirmed to the Council that an appointment had been made to replace him and this was to be approved by the London FA Board on 8 <sup>th</sup> December 2022. The Council would be updated on the new Independent Director immediately following that meeting.	Council informed of new London FA Independent Director after 08 December 2021
<b>8.</b>	<b>Date / Time / Place of 2022 Meetings</b>	
8.1	Dates for the Council Meetings in 2022 had been set as follows:	
8.1.1 8.1.2 8.1.3 8.1.4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2022</li> <li>- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2022 (inc. AGM)</li> <li>- Monday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2022</li> <li>- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December 2022</li> </ul>	
8.2	Council meetings will take place from 18.30 to 20.30 and government guidelines will determine whether they take place virtually, face to face or as a hybrid arrangement.	
<b>9</b>	<b>Any Other Business</b>	
9.1	Two questions were posed via the Microsoft Teams function, as follows:	
9.1.1 9.1.2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Funding support for new existing coaches (via Alf Brown)</li> <li>- South Asian players not being represented across grassroots football in London (Farooq Mohammed)</li> </ul>	
9.2	Neil Twitchett, London FA Head of Development, took up those questions directly with the relevant Council members outside of the meeting	
<b>10.</b>	<b>London FA Christmas Drinks and Networking</b>	
10.1	JM wished all Council members a very Happy Christmas and the attendees at the in-person meeting were invited to the Mezzanine floor for festive drinks and mince pies.	