

Title: Chair's Report	Meeting: Annual General Meeting
Author(s): James Middlehurst, Chair	Date: 10/07/2023

2023 continues as it started, and we are enjoying a continuing upsurge in interest in the Grassroots game throughout London. Every aspect is growing and in particular with the continued success of the Lionesses there is significant growth within the Women & Girls game where there are now 500+ teams in London. We can only expect this surge in Women & Girls involvement to accelerate as the Women's World Cup takes place this July & August. 'Come On you Lionesses...'

The upsurge in interest & involvement throughout Grassroots Football has created its own challenges in terms of developing adequate facilities & resources to support the growth in clubs & leagues - old & new.

Alongside the facilities program where we continue to create more and better maintained playing surfaces the London FA is working hard to attract & retain more referees & coaches to support this continued growth and as we move forward with our strategy for Football for All in London

Our objective is simple and remains to be to be as relevant as possible in supporting our clubs & leagues as they themselves develop their ability to be better able to serve the community.

The future for Grassroots Football looks very bright and we are very optimistic about the opportunities before all of us in London.

I look forward to catching up with you all again on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July.

Best Wishes, James Middlehurst Chair, London Football Association *June, 2023*