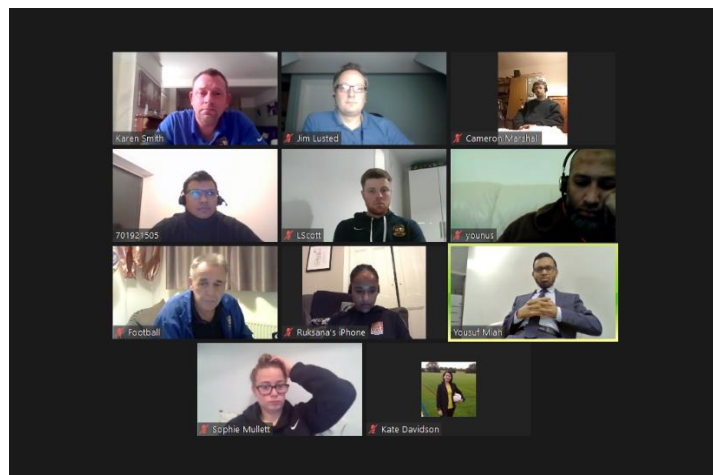




Inclusion Advisory Group Meeting

Wednesday 25th November 2020



The Inclusion Advisory Group met for the first time since November 2019. Due to current restrictions the group met via an online Zoom meeting, with a good turn-out given the circumstances. The group welcomed **new members** from the NFA staff – Christian Smith (Partnerships Manager) and Sophie Mullett (Partnerships Administer), and also congratulated existing member Tony Major on his appointment as Chair of the NFA following Bob Cotter’s move to the National FA’s Board.

Christian gave an overview of the impact of COVID-19 restrictions **staffing changes** at the NFA resulting from a loss of funding from The FA. Ian Tinto has now moved away from the NFA, and Christian now has oversight of equality and diversity issues, including responsibility for the IAG. The group noted the disappointing loss of Ian and his recent contribution on the IAG. We look forward to working with Christian and Sophie and moving the group forward.

The group then discussed the importance of having an IAG presence and influence in **future events** taking place this year. Christian mentioned a conference focusing on football coming up at the University of Northampton which the IAG have agreed to get involved with. Following the success of the ‘Remembering Srebrenica’ football tournament that the IAG and NFA delivered in, we discussed the possibility of running another ‘IAG’ branded football tournament this summer – COVID-19 restrictions permitting.

In a previous IAG meeting we had discussed the issue of **branding** and it was agreed to re-visit this considering Christian’s new emphasis on making the NFA – and the IAG and associated activities – more ‘visible’ to the local football population.

A discussion was then had about the potential influence of the **FA’s new codes** – the code of governance and the leadership code – which have equality, diversity and inclusion at their heart. We spoke both of the importance of these codes moving forward, and the role the IAG can play in implementing them, while also noting these codes shouldn’t dominate our work and there are other activities the IAG should be influencing and involved with.

The date of the next meeting was agreed for **Tuesday 15th December 2020**.

If you are interested in finding out more about the IAG – or would like to be considered to join the group – please contact Christian.smith@northamptonshirefa.com .