

**TRUSTEES REPORT**

**AUGUST 2023**

Mike Coyne, Chair, welcomed Trustees to the meeting and in so doing noted the declarations of interest made.

In considering the Association’s financial position, Trustees:

* Received the Commercial Director’s pipeline and approved the signing of one new sponsorship contract and one renewal
* Noted the level of rebated fees applied to Membership competitions
* Heard of an idea for fundraising, which was to be shared with Membership
* Received confirmation that the financial regulations approved at the last meeting had been published

In considering the Association’s policies: Trustees

* Received the results of the external health and safety report and approved the action plan and indicative budget for a small number of improvements in the office building
* Agreed the approach to reviewing the staff handbook

In considering the Association’s staffing, Trustees:

* Approved the permanent appointment of one fixed term member of staff
* Noted the progress of the annual appraisal and target setting process
* Approved the steps to replace the outgoing Designated Safeguarding Officer
* Noted the voluntary vacancies in the International management teams, for the appropriate committee’s attention

In considering the Association’s sponsorship and partnership arrangements, Trustees:

* Received a detailed presentation from the PR, Marketing and Comms Manager on the added value gained from each of the existing partnerships
* Were disappointed that more progress negotiating with The FA about priority football for girls had not been made
* Were however pleased that a small grant had been awarded to support girls’ futsal
* Were delighted that the ESFA’s HE partner had re-signed to continue the partnership
* Noted the impact on the Year 3 and 4 Festivals of the teachers’ strikes, and the remedial plan to catch up

In considering the Association’s progress against its business plan, Trustees:

* Received a report on the closure of the 22/23 business plan, where some targets had been significantly exceeded, most met, and 3, having been monitored through the year, being carried forward to 23/24
* Discussed the SWOT and draft business plan for 23/24, and approved it subject to minor additions

In considering the Association’s governance arrangements, Trustees:

* Adopted the draft Code of Governance for the Association
* Received and debated the report of the Honorary Auditors
* Received an update on Council vacancies and agreed the options for sourcing a new Trustee

Finally, Trustees reviewed all decisions taken during the meeting from a safeguarding and equality and diversity perspective to double-check that appropriate consideration had been given in each case. Trustees conducted their routine review of risks facing the Association and checked that opportunities to engage players in decision making had been considered.