

**TRUSTEES REPORT**

**APRIL 2024**

Mike Coyne, Chair, welcomed Trustees to the meeting and in so doing, accepted the apologies offered. Declarations of interest were made in decisions affecting County Schools’ FA funding by those acting as County Secretaries.

In considering the Association’s financial position, Trustees:

* Noted that the primary purpose of the meeting was to consider the budget
* Assessed the draft budget, which included a small surplus
* Considered the risks associated with two major income streams
* Selected and/or adapted options to set a balanced budget, allowing for investment in key business priorities.
* Approved the budget subject to the agreed amendments

In considering the Association’s policies, Trustees:

* Agreed to the adoption of new paternity and flexible working policies into the staff handbook, following changes in legislation
* Noted that The FA guidance on playing football in thunderstorms had been issued to Membership and published on the website

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

* Received an update on the FA grant and conditions, and were pleased with the outcome.

In considering the Association’s governance arrangements, Trustees:

* Formally received the Safeguarding 365 report from NSPCC, noting the many areas of good practice and the few suggestions for improvement.
* Received the report of the Board Safeguarding Champion, including a report on progress towards targets, which was good
* Approved a draft rule change for onward referral to Council, and then the AGM

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.