



Premier League Charitable Fund

Report and Financial Statements for the year ended 31 July 2021

**The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384**

Report and financial statements 2021

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**The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384**

Officers and professional advisers

Board of Trustees

Tim Godwin, OBE QPM (Chair)
Bill Bush (Premier League)
Bobby Barnes (Professional Footballers' Association)
Christine Davies, CBE
Gail Scott-Spicer (McKay)
Tom Finn

General Manager

Ruth Shaw

Audit and Risk Committee

Tom Finn (Chair)
Christine Davies, CBE

Legal status

The Premier League Charitable Fund ("PLCF") is a company limited by guarantee (Company number 07331384) incorporated in the United Kingdom and registered in England and Wales. It is registered with the Charity Commission under registration number 1137208.

Registered Office

Brunel Building
57 North Wharf Road
London
W2 1HQ

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
1 Churchill Place
London
E14 5HP

Solicitors

McCormick's Solicitors
Wharfedale House
37 East Parade
Harrogate
North Yorkshire
HG1 5LQ

Auditor

Deloitte LLP
Statutory auditor
Hill House
1 Little New Street
London
EC4A 3TR

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Strategic report

A message from the Chair:



This year has not been without its challenges; the implications of the Covid-19 pandemic continue to impact individuals, families and communities across the nation. The support of the charitable sector has never been more important and I'm proud of the support that the PLCF, through the organisations it funds, has offered to those that needed it most in this difficult year. The Premier League Charitable Fund Board took a decision early on that PLCF would once again maintain existing grant payments to Club Community Organisations (CCOs) at originally agreed levels for the 2020-21 delivery year, to ensure CCOs across the Premier League, EFL and National League, could continue to support their workforce and communities. It

is a testament to the drive, determination and agility of the Clubs and CCOs that even in these exceptional circumstances they were able to provide much needed support to their communities by adapting delivery to meet local need. An example of this was the Premier League Kicks Holiday Activity initiative. In partnership with Barclays, the initiative saw over 3,000 young people offered three-days of Premier League Kicks multi-sports, workshops and nutritional meals in December 2020. 73 CCOs delivered the initiative and it also included the launch of the #WeAreOneTeam social action project supported by England and Manchester United player, Marcus Rashford. An outstanding example of the power of football to deliver change for good and one that I am proud the charity could be a part of.

Collaboration and partnership continue to be key elements of ensuring we can continue to positively impact and change lives. Over the year relationships have strengthened with colleagues and partners such as the Premier League, National Football League, Professional Footballers' Association, Sport England, Barclays, the Football Association (FA), BBC Children in Need and the #iwill Fund, through a common purpose and real need.

This year has also been one of self-reflection for the charity and its Board, with a focus on its long-term goals and objectives. These reflections saw the launch of a new five-year strategy as well as strategies for two extremely important areas, Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Mental Health and Wellbeing, ensuring both are embedded at the heart of everything we do from Board level to on the ground delivery of programmes. We have taken strides to ensure our organisation, the organisations we fund, and our programmes, are inclusive and prioritise positive mental wellbeing, with a wealth of training opportunities and resources provided to both the CCOs and PLCF staff. We understand that there is still more to be done and action plans and Committees have been created to ensure this work continues to be driven forward.

Looking ahead to the 2021/22 season we want to continue to see young people in their communities supported and given the opportunities they need to achieve their full potential. We will also mark the 15-year anniversary of the Premier League Kicks programme and the five-year anniversary of the Premier League Primary Stars Programme. We will take the opportunity to look back on the positive impact the power of football has already had on so many lives and celebrate the individuals and organisations that were instrumental in delivering this positive change. It will also be a chance to reflect on those successes and take steps to ensure we continue to remain agile in a constantly changing world to offer the best service possible to the beneficiaries we serve now, but also in the future. It is my continued pleasure and privilege to lead the organisation as we celebrate these two milestones, and I look forward to the ways in which the PLCF will continue to serve the needs of children and young people and build stronger, safer and more inclusive communities for generations to come.

Tim Godwin OBE QPM
 PLCF Chair of Trustees

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Strategic report (continued)

A message from the General Manager:

Like many other charities and community organisations, demand for services supported and funded via the PLCF dramatically increased because of the economic and social impact of COVID-19.

The PLCF responded by showing its agility, creativity and collaborative approach, providing flexible funding and continued support to our network of Club Community Organisations (CCOs) through challenging times.

The CCOs in turn have worked relentlessly in their communities to enhance participants' physical and mental wellbeing, develop young people's personal skills and positive relationships and increase sporting, educational and employment opportunities across the country, and they do all this through the unique appeal of football; the power of the badge and the brand, and the sense of belonging that clubs and the Premier League engender.

In 2020 the Board approved a five year strategy to develop effective long-term partnerships, build capability in CCOs to increase the reach and impact of our work, deliver programmes, based on insights and impact data using the power of football to positively impact on participants' lives and on communities, and to promote the impact and value of our work to beneficiaries, funders and the charity sector.

We have made positive progress on partnerships, building relationships across the football family, the wider sport for development sector, and with a diverse range of charitable and community organisations.

Our programmes, resources and opportunities continue to surprise and delight children and young people (and often people of all ages). We are embedding high quality youth social action across all our programmes, with the Premier League Inspires Challenge being a highlight of my year when I saw the brilliant ideas that young people had to support other young people who might be struggling with mental health, worries and other issues.

We have actively tried to engage more young people directly, and planned the first ever Premier League Youth Summit, working with CCOs to better reflect and represent the voice of our beneficiaries in our work.

Our commitment to create an inclusive culture and diversify the workforce through our Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Strategy and action plan has also been a focus for our work this year. While there is always more to do, we have made this a whole organisation priority and it is part of everyone's day job – not something we do as an afterthought or a tick box exercise.

There is so much great work going on that I cannot do it justice here, and it's a personal commitment in the year ahead to get better at capturing and communicating the impact of our work, and the work of the CCOs. In the meantime, I can only say a huge thank you and well done to the Team and the Board who have driven things forward with integrity and compassion through the toughest of times, and to the CCOs and their staff who deliver day in and day out to those who need them most.

Ruth Shaw

Ruth Shaw
General Manager



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Strategic report (continued)

About the Premier League Charitable Fund

The Premier League Charitable Fund (PLCF) was established in 2010 to distribute funds on behalf of the Premier League and its partners. It is one of the biggest sports charities in the world, with an annual budget of around £35m. The PLCF provides grants to the charitable arms of professional football clubs in England and Wales to deliver high quality national programmes including Premier League Primary Stars, Premier League Inspires, Premier League Kicks, Premier League Kicks Targeted and Premier League PFA Community Fund.

The overarching goal of the PLCF is to help ensure that participants achieve their potential and positively impact their communities through the power of football. The PLCF is committed to funding the best opportunities for people from all walks of life to develop their full potential, particularly through sport. It does this through funding a number of programmes that meet one or more of the following themes; community cohesion, education, health and sports participation.

The PLCF works in the following ways to achieve its charitable objectives:

- I. **PLCF works in partnership:** with the Premier League which drives strategy and objectives; with the police and other partners and funders, who support the work of PLCF; and with CCOs and clubs, who deliver programmes for participants funded via the PLCF.
- II. **PLCF supports CCOs** primarily through funding, but also through training, guidance and networking opportunities. This contributes to CCOs' delivery of programmes with value for money, and to sustainably respond to need within their communities.
- III. **PLCF-funded programmes deliver outcomes for participants.** The wide-ranging and popular appeal of football, combined with clubs' own connections and platform within communities, gives CCOs a unique opportunity to connect with people and offer them a sense of belonging and identity.

The PLCF uses the power of football and its wide-ranging appeal across geographical locations and socio-economic groups to have a positive impact. The Premier League is widely recognised across the country and football clubs often have a unique visibility and reputation in local communities. Many people in those communities identify with their club, providing a unique opportunity for football to play a key role in engaging people in activities and supporting them to succeed and achieve positive outcomes.

CCOs across the Premier League, English Football League and National League, supported via the PLCF offer a sense of belonging and identity, equality, diversity and inclusivity, which are key principles underpinning the PLCF approach.

Performance and achievements

This year marked the tenth anniversary of the Premier League Charitable Fund's formation and despite the continued challenges and uncertainty presented by COVID-19 over the year, the PLCF has generated income of £30.2m (2019/20: £40.5m) and was able to maintain all grant commitments at the agreed level. The results for the year are shown on page 34 of the financial statements.

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Strategic report (continued)

Partnerships

The PLCF could not achieve its goals without the active support and involvement of its valued partners. The PLCF works with the Premier League to set its strategy and to drive its charitable objectives, using the appeal of football together with the power of the brand and badge of the Premier League and professional football clubs as a force for good. Without the generous and sustained funding provided by the Premier League, the PLCF would not achieve the impact it does.

The funding received by the PLCF is channelled into a network of 93 professional football club community organisations (CCOs) across the Premier League (x20), English Football League (x68) and National League (x5), extending the PLCF's reach through an unrivalled national delivery network. The CCOs are the trusted names, faces and services that communities have come to rely on over the years, and none more so than this year, and allow the PLCF's national programmes to be tailored locally to effectively support those who need them most.

This year, there has been a range of additional partners who have contributed financially, or in other ways, to enable the PLCF to achieve its goals. These include the National Lottery Community Fund, the #iwill fund, BBC Children in Need, Barclays PLC, Comic Relief, UNITAR, the Prince's Trust, the Football Association (FA), the EFL Trust, the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime (MOPAC), the Ministry of Justice, Department for Education and London Probation Service. The PLCF has also continued to benefit from organisations such as the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and the Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO) who have provided excellent leadership and support to the charitable sector through these challenging times.

Partnerships with the police forces, Police Crime Commissioners and Violence Reduction Units are valuable to the Premier League Kicks and Premier League Kicks Targeted programmes, providing strategic, operational and financial support to both club community organisations and the PLCF. These include MOPAC, Metropolitan Police, Office of South Yorkshire Police Crime Commissioner, Office of Sussex Police Crime Commissioner, Greater Manchester Violence Reduction Unit Early Intervention Sport and Youth Justice Group and West Midlands Violence Reduction Unit Early Intervention Sport and Youth Justice Group.

These partnerships are built on the shared objectives of helping children and young people to achieve their potential and have a positive impact on their communities. Through these partnerships, the PLCF and CCOs can engage new participants and stakeholders, learn and share good practice, and deliver programmes and services that make a difference.

Support for Club Community Organisations

The PLCF supports CCOs primarily through funding, but also through training, guidance and networking opportunities. This contributes to CCOs' delivery of programmes and allows them to sustainably respond to need within their communities. In 2020/21 the PLCF delivered 189 online training opportunities with a total of 6,807 attendances. This includes the PLCF's two national online learning weeks delivered in November and June, and a monthly spotlight series featuring guest speakers on key topics such as race equality, women in leadership, disability inclusion and mental health.

PLCF funding is flexible and consistent. Despite COVID-related reductions in income, the PLCF maintained all its CCO grant commitments at the agreed levels, providing £30.7m in funding to 472 active projects delivered by 93 different CCOs. Long-term and increased Premier League funding since the inception of the PLCF, combined with prudent financial management by the PLCF Board and Executive meant the PLCF was in a robust financial position as the pandemic and associated challenging financial climate arrived. This meant consistent funding could be provided to the CCO network, enabling them to plan accordingly and allowed flexibility to tailor

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their projects to meet local need with responsiveness and autonomy. The consistency of funding and PLCF support over time has helped CCOs to be a constant presence and foster long-term partnerships and deeper relationships within their communities. In many cases PLCF grants have enabled CCOs to apply for match funding from other sources.

The PLCF continues to assess CCO governance and management arrangements through the highly commended Capability Code of Practice (CCOP), developed in 2018/19 in partnership with the EFL Trust. The CCOP provides a continuous improvement tool to help Premier League and English Football League CCOs prioritise the activities, actions and systems that will help them to thrive. The CCOP is also used as a guide to help the PLCF determine CCO capabilities and to further inform its funding decisions. During the 2020-21 delivery year, 56 CCOs achieved good compliance, 32 satisfactory compliance and three were identified as requiring improvement and have subsequently received support to address any development needs.

The PLCF provides support to senior managers in their leadership roles, to optimise strategic decision-making, build skills and promote shared values within their workforce. This can help CCOs become more welcoming and diverse, motivate and engage their staff, and ultimately deliver better quality programmes and better value for money. As CCOs continually improve their reach and their programme effectiveness, the PLCF anticipates CCOs will strengthen their ability to respond to the needs in their local communities, engage more effectively and harness the potential of their unique role in these communities.

Programmes and participants

Since its launch in 2010, over 1.75 million participants have benefitted from projects directly funded by the PLCF. CCOs also receive core funding underpinning the engagement of hundreds of thousands more people in communities where Premier League and English Football League clubs deliver.

PLCF-funded programmes deliver outcomes for participants and their communities. The draw of football, combined with clubs' powerful connections and platform within communities, gives CCOs a unique opportunity to connect with people and offer them a sense of belonging and identity. PLCF delivers programmes for participants through a digital offer and through CCOs on the ground in educational and community settings.

The circumstances of every participant are unique and different PLCF programmes focus on different aspects of their development. Participants have different needs and goals, and PLCF programme activities are delivered through a range of mechanisms or experiences, most of which are focused on educational, personal and physical development to help achieve positive outcomes. Exacerbated by COVID-19, PLCF funding has been used to support those children and young people most affected by the pandemic, with much needed educational equipment and materials provided to those most in need.

Programme delivery mechanisms include classroom-based learning, online provisions, recreational and competitive opportunities to play sport, workshops, matchday experiences and more. Participants have fun and enjoy positive, engaging activities. They feel supported, included and appreciated, and feel they can talk and be themselves. This promotes social and emotional connection and development. Many show a sense of freedom from external pressures while playing football or spending time at a club, which can provide a safe space and a different perspective.

Through these activities and experiences, the aim is that participants can improve their confidence and self-esteem, feel inspired and engaged, and develop more positive attitudes towards others. Depending on what an individual wants to achieve, participation in PLCF programmes can help them develop skills and knowledge or become more physically active. Through these programmes, beneficiaries have improved educational attainment,

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Strategic report (continued)

demonstrated more positive behaviours, improved interpersonal relationships and participated more in community activities.

The following table shows some of the key participation statistics across the programmes in 2020/21 based on data submitted by CCOs. The impact of COVID-19 has continued to be felt across all PLCF programmes with community-based activities and events restricted over the year significantly impacting engagement levels.

PLCF Programmes	01/08/19 – 31/07/20	01/08/20 – 31/07/21
Overall statistics		
Number of unique participants engaged across all programmes*	216,340	229,000
Number of participants that were female*	82,768	80,179
Percentage of participants that were female*	38.3%	35.0%
Number of participants that were Black and Minority Ethnic (BAME)*	70,699	65,115
Percentage of participants that were BAME*	32.7%	28.4%
Number of participants that were disabled*	14,684	12,956
Percentage of participants that were disabled*	6.8%	5.7%
Premier League Primary Stars		
Number of CCOs funded	92	90
Number of sessions	137,896	117,518
Number of young people engaged	93,600	106,260
Number of schools directly engaged by CCOs	3,869	2,444
Number of young people in targeted intervention activities	48,300	37,950
Number of teachers supported by CCOs	6,672	6,697
Total number of schools engaged to date by digital offer		18,428
Total number of teachers engaged to date by digital offer		55,300
Reach of PLPS digital offer	1.20m	1.34m
Premier League Kicks		
Number of CCOs funded	90	91
Number of sessions	31,983	27,612
Number of unique participants	73,555	61,783
Number of venues	1,318	1,197
Number of active volunteers	499	328

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PLCF Programmes	01/08/19 – 31/07/20	01/08/20 – 31/07/21
Premier League Kicks Targeted		
Number of CCOs funded	37	45
Number of sessions	1,244	7,913
Number of unique participants	454	1,266
Number of venues	68	242
Premier League Inspires		
Number of CCOs funded	30	30
Number of sessions	8,363	12,070
Number of unique participants	5,721	5,284
Number of venues	226	238
Premier League PFA Community Fund		
Number of CCOs funded	26	27
Number of sessions	15,256	21,630
Number of unique participants	20,258	17,514
Number of venues	506	617

*Note that the prior year KPIs above have been restated to include the results of Premier League Primary Stars, which is also included in the current year results following an update in methodology that allows participant numbers to be reasonably gauged in each year.

Programmes funded via the PLCF are broadly split into two categories - Community Programmes and Education Programmes. The Community Programmes are predominantly based in community settings and the Education Programmes predominantly based in school settings. For all programmes KPIs do not run by financial year but instead run September – August.

Community Programmes 2020/21

Premier League Kicks

Premier League Kicks is soon to enter its 15th year of delivery and continues to use the reach and appeal of the Premier League and network of professional football clubs to regularly engage children and young people of all backgrounds and abilities in football, sport and personal development, in hundreds of high-need areas across England and Wales. The goal of the programme is to inspire young people to achieve their potential and improve their wellbeing, working together to build stronger, safer and more inclusive communities. The programme was delivered by 91 Premier League, EFL and National League clubs in 2020/21 with

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Strategic report (continued)

a focus on providing much needed but often restricted diversionary activity, both virtual and face to face for young people. The programme was impacted by COVID-19 in terms of the delivery that was able to take place, particularly during periods of local and national lockdown. However, since the lifting of the last lockdown, the CCOs have gradually returned to high levels of in-person delivery. During the first half of the delivery year, focus was on providing a small amount of physical activity to bubbles of young people, with greater emphasis on virtual delivery of workshops, competitions, qualifications and group work. Over the latter months, the programme has returned to providing football, multi-sport activity and competitions, particularly re-engaging young people aged 14+.

In December 2020, 73 CCOs delivered the Premier League Kicks Holiday Activity in partnership with Barclays offering young people three-days of Premier League Kicks multi-sports, workshops and meals. Over 3,000 young people benefitted from this opportunity, with the CCOs replicating this model for future school holiday periods throughout the rest of the delivery year.

One of the challenges faced due to the impact of COVID-19 was providing young people with opportunities into volunteering and social action. In preparation for the inaugural Premier League Youth Summit around 1,000 young people took part in youth voice activities themed around their programme experience, No Room For Racism and community safety. The discussions put the views of young people at the heart of the event, and the next step for us and CCOs to evolve in this area will be to grow activity from youth voice activity to meaningful volunteering and social action. Another challenge faced as a result of the pandemic was that the Premier League Kicks Cup was unable to be delivered for a second year. There are plans in place for the flagship event to return in 2021/22. It is a key event for the charity which drives opportunities for thousands of teenage boys and girls to take part in local, regional and national football competitions.

Premier League Kicks – Participant A, Watford FC Community, Sport and Education Trust

Participant A, 13-years old, has been engaging in Premier League Kicks since 2016 joining Watford FC Community, Sport and Education Trust's sessions. He is an extremely polite and well-mannered individual who is always willing to try new things and often challenges other young people to take part in different activities. He has built a fantastic rapport with the Youth Workers, which has helped the CCO learn more about him, including that he was a young carer. However demanding his day had been, balancing school and providing care for his mother at home, he always attended sessions with a positive attitude and a smile on his face.

During the first lockdown, it was apparent to staff that Participant A was struggling and his engagement with virtual activity abruptly stopped. This it transpired was due to the loss of his mother and him having to be relocated to live with his brother. CCO staff worked hard to stay in contact with him and his school and they agreed with his brother and school for Participant A to attend the Community Centre straight after school before his Premier League Kicks session.

In December, Participant A was selected for a small-sided fixture with Stevenage FC Foundation to recognise his commitment to the project. He represented the CCO in the best possible manner throughout the evening, both on and off the pitch. He was then offered the chance to volunteer at the Premier League Kicks Holiday Activity, where he was fantastic at engaging with the children, helping to pass on his knowledge and love of football. He continues to act as a positive role model for younger children at sessions and is willing to help staff wherever possible. He always offers to set up the equipment when he arrives and has taken part in workshops and youth voice activities providing valuable feedback. It is hoped he will continue volunteering moving forwards.

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Strategic report (continued)

Premier League Kicks Targeted

The programme works towards the Premier League Kicks' overall vision and goals, but takes a more targeted approach. Created by the Premier League in partnership with BBC Children in Need (BBC CiN), it represents one part of BBC CiN and Premier League's overall strategy for reducing youth violence in the communities in which football clubs operate. The programme has been delivered for nearly two years following a three-year pilot with eight CCOs which demonstrated that CCOs were able to achieve sustained engagement with a very hard to reach group and reduce the risk of children and young people becoming involved in violence. 45 CCOs currently deliver the programme with interventions bespoke to local need but all designed to bring an improvement in protective factors and a decrease in risk factors associated with youth violence for individual young people aged eight – 18 years. These young people are identified as being, or at risk of becoming, perpetrators or victims of youth violence and are referred into the CCO's programme by local statutory partners such as the Police, Youth Offending Team, Pupil Referral Unit and Children in Care teams.

Following an initial delay to the roll out of the programme caused by the pandemic and the first lockdown which affected the majority of CCOs' ability to deliver against the original targets, the programme has seen a consistent period of delivery since September 2020. Several CCOs have highlighted a higher demand for the programme, having to work with referral partners to ensure the young people with the most need benefit from the programme. Delivery has focused on one-to-one support, with a hybrid of virtual and face-to-face; the programme was able to maintain delivery through the most recent lockdowns and tier restrictions due to the National Youth Agency and Government agreed guidelines for youth work delivery.

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Strategic report (continued)

Centre for Youth Impact and Dartington Lab are externally evaluating the programme, testing the programme's Theory of Change, quality of CCO delivery and mapping young people engaged in the programme. Despite COVID related delays in the programme's development, the evaluation is finding positive feedback and reflections from participants and staff about the quality of delivery with positive outcomes for young people.

The programme allows for locally led referral processes, risk thresholds and delivery models to be used; this is reflected in the range of CCO delivery from high-risk e.g. in a Youth Offending Institute or London Custody Suite to lower-risk referrals e.g. High Schools and Pupil Referral Units. This range and variety often provide challenges in the range of support that CCOs require and widens the scope of the evaluation. Another challenge has been the progress towards some key performance indicators; whilst very much an outcome focused programme, it has seen

Premier League Kicks Targeted – Participant B, Palace for Life Foundation

Participant B was referred to the programme by the Met Police's Youth Engagement Team after they were found in possession of drugs. It later transpired that Participant B had been groomed by a gang via social media and criminally exploited to hold drugs for the gang. Participant B also said that family relationships were strained between them and their mum and described how they would often argue.

Jade was assigned to work with Participant B for 12-weeks, an experience that she felt helped the participant a lot. The participant was able to open up and talk to Jade about worries and challenges and Jade worked with them on how to spot different signs of grooming by gangs and potential implications that it could have if they were caught carrying drugs again.

Participant B said: *"I suppose it was just having someone easier to talk to than my mum, because sometimes it is difficult to talk to my mum on certain things. Jade has really helped me understand the things I need to do to get my head straight and succeed in life".*

As well as working on some of Participant B's challenges, Jade helped the participant look at different colleges to apply to for next academic year. The participant said: *"I didn't understand a thing about the colleges, I didn't know what to do or where to go, but me and Jade sat down and looked at some colleges and she definitely helped me".*

There have been many positive changes that Participant B has seen in themselves and highlights that one of those is a positive attitude. The participant recently took their mock GCSEs and received some glowing grades which the participant has put down to their new-found positive outlook. Noting that *"with my mocks I was revising because I wanted to do well, whereas before I wouldn't have even tried, I just wouldn't be bothered".*

Participant B also feels like they now have a better relationship with their mum. They speak more, and she understands her perspective and where she is coming from.

One of Participant B's goals was to get involved in Netball, a sport they enjoyed playing at school. The participant attended a taster session organised by England Netball, aiming to get girls reengaged into the sport. After a number of sessions, the participant was given tickets to watch the Netball Super-League live at The Copper Box, an experience the participant wanted to share with Jade to thank her for all the help.

Participant B also has some positive goals for the future, They said: ***"I feel like I know myself now and I want to get my head down and work hard and make my mum proud, go to college and then study criminology at university".***

engaged targets exceeded for the delivery year. However, engaging girls and disabled participants, and progressing participants into volunteering, training, education and/or personal development plans has been difficult and is an area of focus for the programme during the next delivery year.

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Strategic report (continued)

Premier League PFA Community Fund

The Premier League Professional Footballers' Association (PL PFA) Community Fund delivered in partnership with the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), enables Premier League CCOs to respond to a local issue, need or to support their development in a local strategic area. The fund also has a focus on player engagement, and how players and scholars can positively impact a project.

CCOs can apply for up to £250,000 each year they are in the Premier League, providing they can secure £50,000 cash match funding and can be used on projects that span between one-five years. The Community Fund investment needs to meet one or more of the following criteria:

- Helping the CCO move into a new strategic area,
- Responding to local partnerships,
- Continuing work with a particular project or partner,
- Helping address a particular issue or need.

In 2020/21 PLCF supported 90 active projects in 27 CCOs through the fund working across a number of thematic areas including; equality, diversity and inclusion, tackling social isolation, early years support and targeted education related initiatives. Other themes the fund supports include employability programmes, health and wellbeing (physical and mental), and creating sporting opportunities for people across a wide range of ages and backgrounds.

The CCOs entered the 2020-21 delivery year with a better understanding of hybrid delivery (in-person and online) and developed innovative ways to continue delivering projects and keep participants engaged. The programme also benefited from flexibility of the fund provided by the Premier League and PFA, to allow CCOs to meet local COVID-19 needs whilst continuing to benefit the project's original target beneficiaries.

Player engagement in meaningful community activity continues to be a strong focus of the Community Fund and has at times benefitted from the virtual delivery due to COVID-19 which allows greater ease and flexibility for players to get involved. Examples of player engagement include:

- Burnley FC in the Community working with the Men's First Team captain Ben Mee to call and speak to pupils from their Schools Mental Health and Wellbeing Project,
- Fulham FC Foundation having past and present players calling older supporters at risk of loneliness and isolation,
- AFC Bournemouth Community Sports Trust working with first team goalkeeper, Aaron Ramsdale, to connect with a young supporter who was in hospital via video chat, and
- The Albion Foundation (West Bromwich Albion) engaging former 1968 FA Cup winning captain, Graham Williams, into their men's over 50s physical fitness sessions:

One participant fed back: *"I needed to email this rather than put it on WhatsApp, as I will get very emotional. I can't tell you how thrilled I was to speak with Graham tonight. My dad passed away 10 years ago; he would have been 83 this year. He passed away after a battle with Alzheimer's. In his later years his short-term memories faded, not being able to recognise who I was when I visited him. However, his memory of the 1968 Albion team and his visit to Wembley with the rest of the family was as sharp as the day he went. Along with the usual Albion heroes, Graham was always fondly remembered. As you can imagine I miss my dad, and tonight, Graham brought him back to me. He would have loved to be with me on the call! He was Albion through and through. Graham, thank you so much for tonight. Because of you my dad is closer"*

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An ongoing challenge for the programme relates to data-capture, where improvements are required to the system and collection processes, to ensure reliable and accurate information is captured. To tackle this, PLCF will be cross-working with other programmes and consulting with CCOs to develop a consistent bank of KPIs and outcomes that align with other programmes and the Theory of Change, to better evidence the impact of the programme.

Premier League PFA Community Fund – Participant C, Wolverhampton Wanderers Foundation

As a result of an ongoing situation with trying to see his children, Participant C had just been released after spending two-and-a-half months in prison for breaching a court order. Upon release, the participant was homeless. Having attended a Job Club at Molineux before being sent to prison, Participant C got back in touch to see if another was due to be held at which point he was referred to the Head 4 Health programme aimed at improving the mental health of men from across the city. He has been attending sessions ever since.

Participant C said: *'Head 4 Health has made such a difference to my life. Even though I realise I still have far to go to beat the depression that has taken over me in the past few years, I feel far more confident in dealing with everyday life.'*

Health and Wellbeing Manager of the programme said of the participant: *'Participant C has been on quite the journey through his engagement on Head 4 Health, as shown in the wellbeing and stress scores that we have collected throughout this time. As part of pre and post programme questionnaires, participants complete both the Warwick Edinburgh Mental Wellbeing Scale (WEMWBS) and Perceived Stress Scale (PSS). When the participant first attended Head 4 Health in September 2019, his wellbeing score was just 21 (out of a maximum 70) and his perceived stress score was 33 (out of a maximum 40). Through his initial engagement both of these figures had improved at the end of the six-week programme but the greatest improvement can be seen through his sustained engagement on Head 4 Health. It has been very noticeable to staff to see how Participant C has changed over his time with us and the figures only reinforce this. In July 2021, when we conducted a follow up with the questionnaires, his wellbeing score had increased greatly to 53 and his stress score had reduced to 19. We are so proud of the progress the participant has made and to have been a part of his journey.'*

Premier League Changemakers Pilot

Premier League Changemakers is a jointly funded pilot project between the Premier League, PLCF and Sport Relief which has been developed to support girls and young women to develop their personal skills and attitudes for leadership. The project is being delivered with support from the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR).

37 CCOs who are delivering the pilot were invited into an application process due to being eligible for Premier League Core Funding. The CCOs were required to deliver sport, workshops, mentoring and training starting July 2021 – April 2022, to create a network of girls and young women leaders. The CCOs are required to engage a minimum of 16 participants from across their existing programmes of Premier League Kicks, Premier League Inspires and/or Premier League PFA Community Fund, with the project forecast to engage over 900 girls and young women.

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Four CCOs were selected to be part of a 'Goal Click' photography project; Goal Click works with young people to tell their stories through photographs taken by the young people and using their own words.

Most CCOs will commence delivery in September 2021, however all CCOs completed the UNITAR accredited Train the Trainer course in June and July 2021 ready for delivery. A small number of CCOs commenced delivery in July 2021, including Saints Foundation, who launched the project as part of their Premier League Summer Sessions. Saints FC Women's Captain, Shannon Sievwright led the project, using her expertise on and off the pitch as Saints Foundation Female Inclusion Officer to inspire girls and highlight pathways into leadership roles for the future. Saints Foundation ambassador Marieanne Spacey-Cale also agreed to guest speak on the programme, offering insight into her career as an England footballer and now as manager and head coach of Southampton FC Women. PL Changemakers will be supported by female staff from across the Foundation to provide great role models for the participants. Activities on the programme also include taking part in a variety of sporting sessions, planning social action projects and engaging with volunteering opportunities within the Foundation.

The project is still in its infancy, with inFocus appointed as external evaluators and the majority of delivery expected to commence in October/November 2021. The project is being delivered across Premier League Inspires, Premier League Kicks and a small number of PL PFA projects. There was also flexibility in delivery models, including in-curriculum time, in-community time and mixed delivery of sport, football, education, workshops and qualifications.

Education Programmes 2020/21

Premier League Primary Stars

Premier League Primary Stars is a well-established primary schools programme that uses the appeal of the Premier League and professional football clubs to improve and enhance physical education (PE) and other curriculum areas, developing skills and values in children that are crucial to success in later life. The programme has two separate but complementary areas, our CCO funded activity (in-person delivery) and a digital offer via www.plprimarystars.com available to all primary school teachers across the country.

2020/21 was heavily affected by school closures linked to COVID-19, and this had a knock-on effect to CCOs' ability to get into schools to deliver face to face. However, despite this, progress made has been strong and the support given to schools has become an invaluable lifeline to teachers and school communities. CCOs have continued to use the appeal of the Premier League and professional football clubs to inspire children to learn, be active and develop important life skills both in the classroom with their teachers and peers and with parents, carers and family members from home. CCOs engaged with over 2,400 schools and supported 6,697 teachers via in lesson team teaching or unique CPD workshops. Overall, CCOs delivered over 117,000 sessions covering physical education in a covid-safe environment, as well as English, maths and PSHE. One teacher quoted: *"Premier League Primary Stars has helped bring PE to life at our school this year. Our children LOVE attending the sessions and teachers feel empowered to teach a bigger breadth of skills."*

The biggest area of focus across the year has been in equality, diversity and inclusion, and wellbeing, as both are strategic priorities of the Premier League and the PLCF. The programme has rolled out six resource packs linked to the 'No Room For Racism' campaign, focussing on racism, inclusion, allyship, racial stereotyping, black players' voices and a creative Draw Together Challenge which received close to 2,000 entries. We have also rolled out five new

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resource packs linked to Wellbeing including a challenge on spreading kindness in Premier League Wellbeing Stars. One participant of PL Wellbeing Stars said *'First it's fun and secondly you're helping out other people to make their day a little bit better so it's like a win-win because you feel happy while doing it and you're making someone else feel happy.'*

In addition to the challenge of school closures due to the pandemic affecting school-based delivery, another significant challenge this year has been the delivery of certain activities. Teacher CPD has been a real challenge due to the increase in teachers' workloads, stemming from planning in-person and virtual classes and managing isolating pupils with the rest of the class. The COVID-19 related protocols have also affected social action projects taking place with taking young people off site more difficult, and venues such as stadiums less available than before. It is expected that in the majority of cases this will improve across the 2021/22 season and plans are in place to support the delivery of these aspects from September 2021. A further challenge is around the amalgamation of data collected from CCOs delivering the programme and the data and analysis from the digital offer incorporating user traffic, engagement numbers, resource downloads, impact information etc. The Premier League Primary Stars team are working with the PLCF Quality assurance team and our education agency to support how we can do this better. Lastly, the Premier League Primary Stars Football tournament was unable to take place for a second year but plans are in place for the event to be delivered in 2021/22 where young people will be given the opportunity to play at a Premier League stadium.

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Premier League Primary Stars – Participant D, Fairlight Primary School (Albion in the Community)

Participant D started working with AITC in September 2020. She was quiet and seemed to lack confidence. In the first few sessions, she didn't want to answer any questions in the group and didn't appear to want to do many of the activities. The participant kept herself to herself and struggled to work with other individuals in the group. She took a backseat role and didn't take major responsibilities when working in teams. In class, she was quite happy to not push herself and do very little. She adopted the mindset of 'I can't, so I won't' and this was mirrored in the Premier League Primary Stars (PLPS) sessions. Her teacher described her confidence and self-belief as 'low'. Participant D was cautious about taking part in PLPS as she claimed she didn't understand why she was there as she didn't like football. After explaining to her and the group we wouldn't be playing football every week, but looking at the PLPS values of Ambition, Fairness, Inspiring and Connected amongst other attributes, she was more onboard. Over the course of the year, Participant D only missed two sessions due to illness, which demonstrated her commitment to working with AITC.

Over the course of the year, Participant D participated in Literacy, Numeracy and PSHE interventions as well as a whole class Social Action project. Ambition was always the value that stuck out to her as an area she could improve herself in. She needed to believe in herself more and not be afraid to fail. The participant threw herself into every challenge and activity. Whether displaying ambition by being a managing director in her Social Action project, being connected during some of the teamwork challenges in PSHE, being fair in numeracy when being the strongest mathematician or inspiring us with some of the poetry she created in literacy, she has given everything a go. This was a real difference from the beginning of the year and a positive mindset change.

Participant D said *"I didn't really enjoy school at the start of Year 5. Last year's class was split up and none of my friends from the previous year were in my class now. I didn't really know why I was put in the Primary Stars group as I didn't like football, but I've found it really good and learnt so many new things. I especially enjoyed the stadium game as I learnt more about football, and I was active and moving. We had questions we needed to answer and pick out and find the right answer from all 20 around the room. It helped my reading too. I think working with Tom has made me more resilient too. In class, I don't give up as easy. I think back to when we did origami in PSHE and making the boats was really hard and frustrating. But I couldn't give up otherwise I wouldn't have a boat! So, I keep going in class too! I would definitely recommend PLPS to other people who find life tricky sometimes. You learn so much but not just about football, about yourself too."*

Participant D's teacher agreed saying: *"Participant D began the year with very low self-esteem and a real sense of 'learnt helplessness.' During focused tasks she often needed lots of adult attention and guidance to motivate her, as she would often say that things were too difficult, and she could not do it. Throughout the past few months, she has really grown in confidence and this has been pleasing and hugely rewarding to see. The small group settings that Tom has been able to provide have meant that she has become more motivated and more willing to take risks. There has been a sharp rise in her self-esteem and general happiness, and it is brilliant to see her want to more readily contribute to class discussions and take pride in her achievements; something, she previously struggled to do. She always looks forward to working with Tom and often comes back excitedly talking about what she has been doing."*

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Premier League Inspires

Premier League Inspires is an education and personal development programme developed by the Premier League and PLCF aimed at young people between the ages of 11 and 25. The goal of Premier League Inspires is to help ensure young people are equipped with the personal skills and positive attitudes to succeed in life, using the power of football. It targets young people who are most in need of support and takes place in school and other educational settings with a focus on progression in education, employment, training and social action.

Whilst the programme has been delivered across two school years, both of these have been quite heavily affected by COVID-19 with significant amounts of delivery needing to be delivered online, which has limited the ability of CCO staff to really build strong relationships to date. However, in 2020/21 30 CCOs delivered in 236 schools and to over 5,100 young people. In terms of demographics, this equates to 41% Key Stage 3 (11-13 year-olds), 44% Key Stage 4 (14-16 year olds) and 14% 16+ years; 37% female participants, 26% Black, Asian or Minority Ethnic, and 19% of participants having a special educational need or disability. The most common reasons that young people are referred onto the programme are low confidence and self-esteem (38% of participants), poor behaviour (23%), low resilience and aspirations (22%), access to Pupil Premium (21%) and low commitment to school (17%).

Despite challenges, the programme has seen some strong outcomes this year. 49% of pupils indicated that they feel better at handling difficult situations; 37% feel they can now keep trying at tasks they find difficult without giving up; 33% with better concentration skills; and 28% able to deal with problems better. One participant said about the programme *"I love it because it's fun, entertaining and it helps me with my mental health. I want to keep on with the sessions because it helps me a lot. My anger has changed. I understand stress containers now and express my thoughts better. I haven't got into any fights. I told (Head of Year 7) about my problem with (Pupil). I would have dealt with that problem another way without this. I've been better behaved and my friends see me less angry".*

A key success of the programme this year has been the addition of the Premier League Inspires Challenge. This was a social action related challenge asking young people to learn about the theme of mental health and wellbeing and delivering a project to promote positive mental wellbeing and reduce the stigma attached to poor mental health. The Challenge saw groups from all CCOs in the programme deliver a project and this was celebrated at a virtual celebration event in July 2021, hosted at Premier League Productions Studios by mental health ambassador and radio DJ, Lauren Layfield.

The programme provides flexibility for CCOs to deliver in the way they feel will best support the young people in their community, providing it is within the framework and delivering the intended core outcomes of the programme. This means that delivery can range from CCOs focussing on mentoring/1:1 engagement to group engagement. There are some CCOs that focus on careers and aspirations, and others that look at behaviour and emotional control. Delivery is broadly split between Key Stage 3 (transition to secondary school) and Key Stage 4 (preparation for exams and achieving each pupil's expected grades) to some looking at higher education by working in colleges. Whilst delivery is predominantly in mainstream secondary schools, we do also have activity that takes place in Pupil Referral Units, SEN schools, colleges and a prison. This variety can create challenges in consistency of reporting, and drawing programme wide conclusions. Over the coming year, and through an external evaluation, we hope to be able to provide examples of best practice in a number of areas in order to provide more focus and consistency throughout the programme in future. Reducing the breadth of

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work, with a focus on replicable areas of high impact, will also allow for more consistency in reporting.

Premier League Inspires – Participant E, East Manchester Academy (City in the Community Foundation)

In the academic year 2020/2021 City Inspires has been delivered to 30 year 9 students at The East Manchester Academy. One learner in particular, Participant E, has stood out having initially been identified as a student who would benefit from the programme due to an increasing number of challenging behaviours and lack of co-operation with staff. Participant E has a keen interest in football and immediately her engagement with the programme was noted.

Throughout the programme, Participant E has developed better relationships with staff both on the programme and most importantly within school too. Her confidence has increased substantially and has resulted in the participant becoming a Student Leader within her year group, a participant in the City Inspires promotional video and a leader within the theory and practical sessions. All of this culminated in the participant being offered a trial with Stoke City Football Club which she has excelled at, asking the City Inspires coaches for advice along the way, resulting in the participant signing a contract with Stoke.

Throughout the programme, the number of behaviour issues relating to Participant E has largely reduced and her ability to better communicate with staff has led to the participant being a stand-out member of the year group, a testament to her own hard work and dedication to improve, but also the hard work and dedication of the Inspires staff to build positive relationships and enable those to be transferred into the classroom and across school.

Participant E said *"I enjoy City Inspires because the structure of the session is a little bit more relaxed. This allows me to work at my own pace without feeling pressured. I think the coaches create a nice environment for me to be myself and I know they care. My confidence has definitely grown since starting the programme. Before this I would never have thought I would be able to speak on camera but to my surprise I have managed to film promo videos for the inspires programme. Trust is massive for me; this course has allowed me to open up more and build relationships with teachers which I never thought I would."*

J. Arnell - Head of Year *"Participant E has been a different student this year. She was previously quite angry and would not speak about her feelings or emotions meaning it was hard for staff to help her or understand why she was upset / annoyed. This year she has been willing to communicate with staff and has been much more open. She has still occasionally had angry outbursts, but these have been fewer and with her being able to calm herself down quite quickly afterwards. I know that football is a passion for Participant E so this has been an amazing opportunity for her!"*

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Looking ahead

In the year ahead as the country continues to recover from the impact of the pandemic on the economy and on communities, the PLCF will focus in particular on the challenges that will emerge in terms of education, mental and physical health and wellbeing, supporting transition and developing resilience. The PLCF will continue to support CCOs to develop resources and activities for children, young people and those in communities who need them most, and play its part in tackling inequalities, levelling up, and creating community cohesion.

The PLCF will continue to support CCOs to deliver against agreed grant conditions and objectives through COVID-19. We will be a flexible funder in challenging circumstances, while ensuring the charity continues to deliver against its objectives and where possible protects future funding levels. We will champion and promote equality, diversity and inclusion throughout our work and ensure the network is more representative of the communities that CCOs serve. We will also focus on making the case for the collective impact of our network and review our arrangements for impact monitoring and reporting to funders.

Following the substantial impact of COVID-19 on Premier League and its Clubs, the Premier League confirmed funding for the 2021/22 season at £31.08m, a reduction in planned income of £2m. However, it was recognised that following sustained and increased levels of Premier League investment since 2010 and prudent financial management by the PLCF Board, the levels of reserves means that, if required, it is possible to absorb this with no reduction in grants due to be distributed to Premier League, English Football League and National League club community organisations. When combined with further savings identified by the PLCF Executive, resulting from the impact of COVID-19 on delivery of major events and tournaments, the PLCF expect to be able to maintain support to the CCO network and ensure that football continues to have a positive impact in communities across the country. See note 10 regarding future funding commitments.

Government support for an Exclusion Order which will enable the Premier League's domestic broadcast agreements to be extended for another three-year period from season 2022/23 has also provided the Premier League with stability and enabled decisions to be made on future communities and wider football investment. Subject to further discussions, agreements and unforeseen circumstances, it is the intention to return the Premier League's donation to PLCF to the pre-pandemic level in the 2022-25 funding cycle.

COVID-19 Response

PLCF Board policy position in relation to COVID-19

As per the previous season, COVID-19 continues to have a large impact on the organisations funded via the PLCF and their ability to deliver programmes. With this in mind the PLCF Board took the decision to once again maintain existing grant payments to CCOs for the 2020-21 delivery year at originally agreed levels, to continue to support CCOs in supporting their workforce and communities. This is consistent with a decision that was also taken for the 2019-20 delivery period. PLCF agreed to be flexible with regards to existing grants and to accommodate reasonable changes to timelines, delivery plans and KPIs as well as accommodate changes to activity to respond to the pandemic and critical local needs. CCOs were able to use grants to continue to pay staff salaries wherever possible, including to support staff who needed to be off sick, self-isolate or had caring responsibilities.

The PLCF Board were aware that there would likely be underspends of grant funding by the end of the delivery year, particularly amongst CCOs who used the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme but that with continual easing of COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines the CCOs could have more capability to offer increased provision in the summer months. With this in mind, the

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Board set a new under-spend policy and summer provision stance for the delivery year. CCOs were in the first instance given the opportunity to submit a revised delivery plan and budget using any forecast under-spend to bolster summer delivery. This was optional and CCOs were not required to offer extra summer provision. Following this and where under-spend was not being used for summer delivery, where a CCO had an under-spend, they were able to apply in writing for agreement to carry the funding forward up to the threshold of 5% or £5,000, whichever was lowest. Any under-spends exceeding this threshold were not permitted to be carried forward and the amount will either be offset against future grant payments or the CCO will be required to pay it back to PLCF. Many CCOs opted to bolster their summer delivery provision providing additional opportunities to children and young people across the summer period.

PLCF support to the network

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, unfortunately many of the PLCF's flagship events including the Premier League Kicks Cup, the Premier League Primary Stars Tournament and the Premier League Disability Festival were unable to take place for a second year. However, following learning from the ePremier League #StayAtHome Cup hosted online last season and virtual work practices for the past 18 months, the first Premier League Inspires Challenge Final was able to take place as a virtual event and planning is well underway for the first ever Premier League Youth Summit. These exciting events will see over 850 young people in total from across the country connect and come together for what in many cases will be the first time since before the pandemic.

The PLCF offered a comprehensive package of virtual training and networking opportunities with over 120 different sessions made available to all CCO staff including those on furlough which included a mixture of short thirty minute bitesize sessions, one hour webinars, spotlight sessions and Q&As as well as longer, more intensive training. There was no limit to the number of sessions an individual could attend and over 2,600 places were issued on sessions that took place across the season. Topics covered included: safeguarding, leadership and management, finance, project management, personal wellbeing, equality, diversity and inclusion, youth voice, mental health, social action and programme specific learning.

In addition to financial support and the online offer of capacity building opportunities and training, CCOs were given additional programme support with two virtual online learning weeks. These week-long events gave programme leads a focussed week of learning opportunities to assist them with the specific programmes they deliver and included topics such as monitoring, evaluation and learning, safeguarding, equality, diversity and inclusion, data and impact and social action.

Grant making policy

Grant making decisions are made by the PLCF Trustees based on programme specific criteria which set out the activities the trustees and any funding partners wish to support to deliver the programme and PLCF's charitable objectives. The criteria outline activities which the trustees do not wish to support because they do not consider them to be in line with the PLCF's purpose. All grants are made in accordance with charitable law. Each funded programme has a series of key performance indicators which are set out in the programme information packs for each programme.

The Board has ultimate collective responsibility for all grant making decisions in line with the PLCF's charitable purposes and any requirements agreed with donors and partners. Trustees may assign certain decision-making responsibilities to staff under a process of delegation. Such delegated decisions are subject to scrutiny from time to time and all decisions are reported

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back to the Board. Trustees may apply conditions to a grant through the grant offer letter process, and all grants are subject to twice annual monitoring through a robust reporting system. Grantees are required to report progress against agreed key performance indicators and to record data on number of participants, activities and outcomes.

Grants are made primarily to the charitable and community arms of professional football clubs in England and Wales and criteria are shared with CCOs through a series of briefing sessions and programme information packs at the beginning of each application process. PLCF only makes grants to support activity which is charitable in law. CCOs do not have to be registered charities to apply, but funding is always allocated in support of PLCF's charitable purposes.

Trustees expect that grants will normally support one or more of the following objectives:

- Services and activities that work – helping CCOs to maintain, expand or provide new services that meet the needs of beneficiaries, with an emphasis on quality and effectiveness.
- Stronger organisations – organisational development and strengthening club community organisations overall.

The PLCF strives to be an effective grant maker and allocated £30.7m in grants to 93 CCOs over the course of the year (2019/20: £31.3m). Grant size varied depending on the programme, but most grants paid were between £1,700 and £250,000 for an individual award. Grantees can apply for multiple annual grants depending on the programmes which they are delivering. In 2020/21 grants were awarded for the following programmes; Premier League Inspires, Premier League Kicks, Premier League Kicks Targeted, Premier League Primary Stars, Premier League PFA Community Fund as well as Premier League Core Funding. In addition to the above, with the support of Barclays PLC, 81 CCOs received a grant to deliver holiday activity and food camps for at-risk children and young people as part of the Premier League Kicks programme. Grants were also awarded to 37 CCOs for the Premier League Changemakers women and girls inclusion programme supported by Comic Relief and UNITAR, and to four CCOs to deliver a football-based probation pilot in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and London Probation Service.

The PLCF establishes specific grant criteria for each of the funding streams that it oversees. These criteria are agreed after consultation with the relevant donors and PLCF Board, always ensuring that the grants comply with the PLCF's objectives. Each programme has a programme information pack setting out minimum operating standards and expectations for the programme in question. CCOs are required to apply, demonstrating how they would meet those programme requirements and the key performance indicators for delivery. KPIs are programme specific and vary in relation to the amount of funding requested, with higher levels of funding having more stretching targets for participation, achievement and outcomes.

Given the level of investment, monitoring and evaluation is a key function. PLCF has a robust system in place to ensure the positive impact of its funded projects, with regular review of statistics against KPIs through the "Views" monitoring system, which is used by all club community organisations to submit their data. Over the course of the year there have been challenges around ensuring all CCOs upload the data to the relevant platform in a timely way. In order to address this, PLCF provides additional training and support including webinars, one-to-one conversations with new CCO staff members and updated guidance. In addition, PLCF pays for the licences and technical support provided to CCOs to ensure a single platform is used by all.

All CCOs in receipt of PLCF funding are required to achieve and maintain a satisfactory level of compliance with the Capability Code of Practice. Any areas of development are monitored through individual CCO continuous improvement action plans.

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Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC) was established in November 2018 to support the Board and the General Manager in their responsibilities for ensuring the adequacy of risk management, internal control and governance arrangements and that charitable funds are being used efficiently and effectively. The ARC also exists to monitor PLCF's compliance with the Capability Code of Practice (CCOP), assist in formulating the assurance needs of the PLCF and to assess how comprehensive and reliable those assurances are. The ARC is a committee of the Board and is serviced by the PLCF executive team which provides the information to be considered.

In 2020/21 the Board met on four occasions and the ARC met on three occasions. The members of the Committee continue to be Christine Davies and Tom Finn. All meetings were attended by the General Manager (or proxy), Head of Quality Assurance and Governance and Premier League Finance colleagues. The committee reports on its work to the full Board at each meeting. In 2020/21, the committee considered a range of issues including implementation of the governance review action plan, formation of a risk panel, safeguarding audits, and regular financial management issues including Management Accounts and the arrangements to produce the Annual Report and Accounts. The Committee conducted its first review of performance and effectiveness in July 2021 with findings and recommendations reported to the Board. The Terms of Reference of the Audit and Risk Committee are available to the public on request.

In December 2021, Tom Finn will retire from his role as a trustee after ten years of exemplary service. Christine Davies will assume the role of Chair of the ARC and a new member will be appointed to the ARC from the Board.

Approach to risk management and control framework

The PLCF is required to manage risks which may have an impact upon beneficiaries. In this context it ensures that CCOs comply with mandatory requirements in the Capability Code of Practice and the Terms and Conditions of PLCF grants, which include safeguarding arrangements, financial management arrangements, monitoring procedures and compliance with minimum operating standards for each programme. The PLCF also has a responsibility to manage any risks that could have an adverse effect on the organisation being able to meet its legal and regulatory requirements as a registered charity and company.

The PLCF's management of risk recognises that the PLCF works in a complex multi-stakeholder environment, whereby external events have an impact on delivery and organisational objectives and create risks which we must manage to the best of our ability. The PLCF has identified a number of risks that might prevent us from achieving strategic priorities and/or opportunities which we might take advantage of. Our objective is to bring each risk down to a reasonably acceptable level at which it can be managed or controlled.

The Audit and Risk Committee oversees a review of risks on a regular basis. This examines both the risks to the PLCF from its policies and operations and those related to the CCOs we fund. Our risk register sets out responsibility within the PLCF for risk management, assigning risk managers and identifying measures that have been taken, or are yet to be taken, to mitigate each one. The register is presented to the PLCF Board for consideration and approval on at least an annual basis.

In 2020/21 a Risk Panel was established and is responsible for reporting to the ARC on risk management. The panel convenes each quarter and reports directly to the ARC via the Head of Quality Assurance and Governance. Overall responsibility for risk still sits with the PLCF Board.

The principal risks identified for the PLCF in 2020/21 are outlined below:

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Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties relate to the potential of reduced funding as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as risks around safeguarding, and grantee performance. The Trustees confirm that exposure to these risks is regularly reviewed and systems have been established to minimise those risks. Trustees considered the impact of Brexit but deemed this to be a low direct risk to PLCF. Climate change and environmental sustainability has been identified as an emerging risk and will be monitored closely going forward.

Risk area	Potential Impact	Mitigation strategy
Financial - the impact of COVID-19 on future funding streams.	The PLCF is dependent upon the Premier League continuing to be its main source of income. It is also supported by a number of other organisations, all of which have been negatively impacted financially by COVID-19 which could result in PLCF receiving reduced income in the future. This could then reduce the PLCF's ability to award grants.	Three-year funding agreement in place with the Premier League. Enhanced relationship management activity with all funders and partners during the pandemic. Monitor and maintain healthy reserve levels. Maintain low level of overhead costs and reforecast expenditure for 2021/22, streamlining and reducing direct costs further. Clause in all PLCF grant offer letters relating to the PLCF being dependent on receiving funds to be able to pay out grants to beneficiaries. Diversify income streams through new fundraising strategy. Exclusion Order secured providing greater stability and assurance for future funding from the Premier League.
Safeguarding - inadequate safeguarding arrangements increase the likelihood of a serious incident occurring.	Inadequate safeguarding arrangements at PLCF and funded CCOs increases the risk of a serious incident taking place, or being poorly managed, which may lead to harm of an individual, which in turn could lead to reputational damage and reduction in funding. There are also potential legal ramifications for the PLCF and its Trustees.	Robust safeguarding policy and procedures are in place including DBS checks for PLCF staff as part of internal procedures. Senior Safeguarding Lead appointed at Board level and full-time Safeguarding Manager in post. Standing item on the Audit and Risk Committee and full Board meetings. CCOs must comply with the safeguarding standards as set out in the Capability Code of Practice. CCOs must demonstrate specific safeguarding approaches taken at project level at application stage and when reporting. A programme of safeguarding related training opportunities is available to all CCOs. CCOs subject to independent safeguarding audits and checks by Barnardo's.
Governance - Underperforming	The PLCF delivers a high volume of grants,	Robust grant making policy and procedures in place with terms and conditions of funding.

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CCOs and/or projects.	events and grantee support activity with a small central team. Underperforming CCOs and/or projects can put a strain on PLCF capacity and may lead to reputational damage for both PLCF and CCO, and in turn the Premier League and the affiliated Club.	CCOs must achieve satisfactory level of compliance with the Capability Code of Practice. Applicants must meet minimum operating standards for project delivery. Regular monitoring of project key performance indicators and submission of bi-annual reports. Quality assurance visits and checks to observe project activity. Regular communication with network via email newsletters and national conferences and events (in-person and online) Training and support provided to applicants throughout grant funding lifecycle. Grant payments paid in instalments and upon satisfactory performance. Crisis communication plans implemented in the event of serious incidents.
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Whistleblowing

The PLCF is committed to conducting its business with honesty and integrity and expects all staff to maintain the highest standards. However, all organisations face the risk of things going wrong from time to time, and PLCF operates a culture of openness and accountability in order to prevent such situations occurring and to address them if they do occur. PLCF encourages staff to report suspected wrongdoing as soon as possible, in the knowledge that their concerns will be taken seriously and investigated as appropriate, and that their confidentiality will be respected, and provides staff with guidance as to how to raise those concerns.

PLCF staff are advised that they can raise genuine concerns without fear of reprisals, even if they turn out to be mistaken.

The Board has overall responsibility for the PLCF's whistleblowing policy and for reviewing its effectiveness, and the General Manager has day-to-day operational responsibility, including to ensure that all staff receive regular and appropriate training in relation to whistleblowing.

Modern slavery

The PLCF has a zero-tolerance approach to modern slavery and is committed to acting ethically and with integrity in all its business dealings and relationships. This includes the implementation and enforcement of effective systems and controls to ensure modern slavery is not taking place anywhere in the charity or in any of our supply chains. It is committed to ensuring there is transparency in its approach to tackling modern slavery throughout its supply chains. The PLCF expects the same high standards from all its contractors, suppliers and grantees. As part of any contracting process, where appropriate, specific prohibitions against the use of forced, compulsory or trafficked labour, or anyone held in slavery or servitude (whether adults or children) are included and it is expected that suppliers will hold their own suppliers to the same high standards.

This applies to all persons working for the PLCF or on its behalf in any capacity, including employees at all levels, directors, officers, agency workers, seconded workers, volunteers, interns, agents, contractors, external consultants, third-party representatives and business partners.

The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384

Strategic report (continued)

The PLCF Board, advised by the Audit and Risk Committee, has overall responsibility for ensuring this policy complies with its legal and ethical obligations, and that all those under its control comply with it.

The General Manager has primary and day-to-day responsibility for implementing this policy, monitoring its use and effectiveness, dealing with any queries about it, and auditing internal control systems and procedures to ensure they are effective in countering modern slavery.

Management at all levels are responsible for ensuring those reporting to them understand and comply with this policy and are given adequate and regular training on it and the issue of modern slavery in supply chains.



T Godwin
Chairman, PLCF

15 December 2021

The Premier League Charitable Fund

Company Registration No. 07331384

Report of the Trustees

The Trustees, who are also directors of the company, present the annual report along with the financial statements of The Premier League Charitable Fund (PLCF) for the year ended 31 July 2021. The Trustees have complied with the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) (FRS102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued in 2019, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006, in preparing the financial statements of this charity. The charity is a public benefit entity.

Structure, governance and management

PLCF is a registered charity in England and Wales (No. 1137208). PLCF was incorporated (Company No.07331384) on 30 July 2010 by a Memorandum and Articles of Association. It is a company limited by guarantee. The registered office of PLCF is 57 North Wharf Road, London W2 1HQ.

The charity was established as a grant-making trust to further the charitable and community causes of the Premier League (PL) and it obtains the majority of its funding from the FAPL and supports Premier League and Football League clubs' community activities. The Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) is also a major benefactor of the charity.

The General Manager is responsible for the day-to-day management of the charity's affairs and for implementing policies agreed by the Board of Trustees and ensuring that the organisation is meeting its aims and needs, remains financially viable and that all funds are:

- used and allocated wisely;
- used only to further PLCF's objectives;
- used in accordance with the law and accounting requirements; and
- audited annually in line with current legislation.

In the past new Trustees have been appointed by the existing Trustees. The appointment and re-election of Trustees to the Board may be made by agreement from a simple majority of the Charity's members in a general meeting or by the other trustees (Richard Masters, CEO of Premier League, is identified as a person with significant control with the right to appoint and remove trustees). In some cases, external recruitment consultants have been used to identify new independent trustees. PLCF developed a new policy for Trustee recruitment that was adopted by the Board and rolled out in 2019/20. This policy sets out the principles and procedures for appointment of Trustees in line with the PLCF Memorandum and Articles of Association and charitable good practice.

On appointment, new Trustees are given a formal induction programme which includes an initial meeting with the Chair, followed by a series of short meetings with the General Manager on all governance processes, including the power and responsibilities of the Board. Ongoing training and support is provided, including through insight sessions at the end of Board Meetings (for example, inviting programme leads or grant recipients in to meet Trustees and discuss delivery of programmes, and through the opportunity to attend events and programme delivery.)

Trustees are reimbursed any expenses properly incurred in the performance of their duties. The Trustees did not receive any remuneration for their services to the Charity during the year (2019-20: £nil) – see note 12.

Remuneration of key management personnel is set by the Trustees. Key management personnel is defined as only the Trustees and the General Manager as disclosed on page 1. Information on Trustee remuneration is included in note 12.

PLCF believes in rewarding staff fairly for the jobs they do and fostering a positive working environment; as such, they want salaries and employee terms and conditions to reflect this.

The Premier League Charitable Fund

Company Registration No. 07331384

Report of the Trustees

People are employed on the basis of specific skills that they bring to their particular role and pay is set in accordance with benchmarked roles in relevant sectors.

Trustees

The Trustees during the year under review and up to the date of this report were:

Tim Godwin, OBE QPM (Chair)
Bobby Barnes (Professional Footballers' Association)
Bill Bush (Premier League)
Christine Davies, CBE
Tom Finn
Gail Scott-Spicer (McKay)

General Manager

Ruth Shaw

Risk management

The principal risks and uncertainties of PLCF relate to the ability of principal donors to maintain the required funding level and risks arising from safeguarding incidents or issues and CCO performance.

The Trustees confirm that exposure to these risks is regularly reviewed, and systems have been established to minimise those risks, including regular meetings of an Audit and Risk Committee and a Risk Panel. The principal risks and mitigation of these are on pages 21-22.

Objectives and activities

PLCF is committed to providing the best opportunities for people from all walks of life to develop their full potential, particularly through sport. The Charity supports other like-minded charities, particularly those operating within English and Welsh professional football clubs.

PLCF's objectives are specifically restricted to the following:

- to support the mental, educational, cultural, moral and physical development, health and improvement of the inhabitants of England and Wales without discrimination and in order that they can develop their full capacities as responsible individuals whilst contributing positively to society as community members with improved conditions of life and health; and
- to benefit such other exclusively charitable objectives and purposes as the charity might determine from time to time, and those charitable objectives and purposes that have a connection with the football clubs competing in the Premier League, the Football League or the National Football League.

The PLCF has achieved these objectives by grant funding and supporting CCOs to deliver national programmes including Premier League Primary Stars, Premier League Kicks, Premier League Inspires and local projects funded through the Premier League PFA Community Fund. Each programme has different target participants and objectives but all of them meet one or more of the benefits or objectives outlined above.

PLCF's work (Public Benefit Statement)

The Trustees confirm due regard has been paid to the public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission. PLCF supports projects that embrace one or more of the following themes which are open to all sections of our society with no restriction by ability to pay fees:

The Premier League Charitable Fund

Company Registration No. 07331384

Report of the Trustees

Our work (Public Benefit Statement) (continued)

• Community cohesion - Fulfilling potential

Using the power of football to bring communities together, creating inclusive environments and opportunities that channel the energy and potential of hard-to-reach young people into positive activities that contribute to safer and stronger communities for all.

• Education - Encouraging achievement

Using the power of football to provide inspirational learning and personal development opportunities that motivate, improve skills, and enhance self-esteem; encouraging educational and entrepreneurial achievement.

• Sports participation - Success through sport

Using the power of football to widen access to sport and provide pathways that enable young people to realise their full potential, experience the sheer enjoyment of taking part and benefit from a more active lifestyle.

PLCF carries out its objects principally by making grants to bodies directly involved in the provision of sports activities, especially those involved with football club community organisations. A summary of the main projects that were undertaken in 2020/21 is contained in note 9 to the accounts and discussed in the strategic report.

Financial review

Donation income for the year was £30.2m (2020: £40.5m) and a total of £30.7m (2020: £31.3m) was paid out for grants. The work of PLCF is reliant mainly on donations from the FAPL, the PFA, #iwill Fund, Comic Relief, Children in Need, Barclays PLC and MOPAC to fund current areas of charitable activities (see note 9). Income from grants and other sources for the year under review and expenditure expended are detailed in the Statement of Financial Activities on page 34.

The net deficit for the period of £3.4m (2020: surplus of £5.9m) has been reflected in the available reserves which resulted in restricted funds of £17.8m (2019/20: £21.2m).

In August 2019, PL and PLCF agreed a grant agreement, which was formally approved by the PLCF Board on 19 September, for the 2019-22 broadcast cycle of £103.4m over the three years. Since then, as a result of COVID-19, the grant has been reduced by £7.3m, of which £2m reduction relates to FY22 – see note 15. Currently £65.1m has been paid out and the remaining £31.1m of the grant will be paid in the 2021/22 season.

Investment policy

PLCF holds cash balances throughout the year as a result of donations received from its funding partners. These cash balances represent short to medium term funding requirements of the Charity. Accordingly, it is the policy of PLCF to place these cash holdings in fixed term treasury deposits in order to maintain liquidity and maximise the interest receivable. The length of term of these deposits ranges from one week to twelve months depending on cash requirements in terms of grants payable and day-to-day administration costs.

Reserves

Total reserves at the end of the reporting period are £17.8m; these are all restricted. Please refer to note 10 for the future commitments. Within each of the restricted funds, management has agreed with the funding partners that the grant allocations of each programme will only be calculated after the central and support costs of that programme have been accounted for. Although all of the charity's funds are restricted and no unrestricted reserves are held, the

The Premier League Charitable Fund

Company Registration No. 07331384

Report of the Trustees

agreement in place with the PLCF's key funder, Premier League, allows core costs to be appropriately allocated to various projects.

The current reserves policy is that twelve months of the operational expenditure should be covered by the reserves held. The policy has been considered by the Audit and Risk Committee this season and is reviewed periodically by Trustees to ensure it continues to meet the evolving needs of the charity.

Going concern

The Audit and Risk Committee (ARC), on behalf of the Trustees, regularly reviews management information on budgets and forecasts for income, expenditure and cash-flows. It does this for the organisation as a whole, and on a project-by-project basis.

In respect of the season 2021/22, as a result of COVID-19, PLCF received a funding reduction of £2m to £31m. When compared with the commitment for the 2020/21 season of £33.6m, this leaves a funding gap of £2.6m. The trustees have developed spending plans such that reserves can be used to cover this shortfall. In advance of confirmation of the reduction in funding from the Premier League in 2021/22 the Executive put forward a range of options for how to manage the proposed reduction, including in-year and future savings, drawing down and using reserves, exploring alternative funding options, and whether or not to reduce grants. These were considered by ARC and the full Board, who decided to protect grants to the network where possible, to make a number of savings in relation to direct programme costs, and to draw on a level of reserves to manage the reduction. Once the reduction was confirmed the PLCF Trustees agreed a proposal for the shortfall to be covered from a combination of savings on direct programme costs and PLCF reserves.

PLCF funding is typically agreed in a three-year cycle with a grant agreement in place running from August 2019 to July 2022. Most of the grants awarded by PLCF are awarded on the same three-year cycle. While the PLCF has a grant agreement in place with the Premier League for the full three year period, Trustees have discussed the possibility of a further future reduction in income, and the fact that current reserves levels were lower than current grant commitments. Should Premier League funding be reduced again in the 2022/23 season, the trustees consider that they have sufficient reserves in place to manage this shortfall and sufficient time to develop more detailed plans.

Trustees have taken account of the current and future operating environment including the challenges around the ongoing impact of the pandemic for football, Brexit and the wider economic climate. Having done so, and having reviewed the agreement and funding for the next year, the trustees have confidence that they have sufficient funding in place to cover core costs in any one-year period and sufficient funding so that the core costs relating to each individual programme could be covered for a rolling one-year period when taking account of the expected expenditure. Total core expenditure for the current season was £2.8m (2020: £3.3m). As noted in the principal risk mitigations should funding fall further then ultimately the trustees retain the discretion to reduce the grant commitments.

The trustees consider the level of funding to be sufficient to meet the objectives of the Charity. The Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the organisation has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for at least twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. PLCF Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

The Premier League Charitable Fund

Company Registration No. 07331384

Report of the Trustees

Plans for future periods

The Trustees noted that the pandemic created challenges but also inspired innovation, flexibility and a can-do spirit from the Executive and CCOs. Across the country there was an unprecedented degree of collaboration between the public, private and philanthropic sectors, and the PLCF will seek to build on this. The PLCF will continue to adapt and evolve and use the next year of the current funding cycle (2021/22) to prepare for a more challenging fiscal environment in the next funding cycle (2022-25).

The PLCF benefits greatly from, and relies heavily on, income from the Premier League and its partners. The PLCF will continue to develop the data and evidence base to demonstrate impact and return on investment for the current funding partners. It will also explore additional future funding partners and focus on telling the story of the collective impact of our work and the work of the CCOs.

The charity will continue to support CCOs to deliver programmes that help children and young people to achieve their potential and have a positive impact on communities. The PLCF will challenge itself and the network to embed equality and inclusion through their work, tackling discrimination and making improvements to organisational development, workforce development, programme development and data collection to reflect the communities and beneficiaries we serve.


Auditor

Deloitte LLP have expressed their willingness to continue in office and will remain as auditor unless a resolution is passed by the company changing this status.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees' Report, including the Strategic Report, was approved by the Board of Trustees and signed on behalf of PLCF on 15 December 2021



T Godwin
Chairman, PLCF

The Premier League Charitable Fund

Company Registration No. 07331384

Trustees' responsibilities statement

The Trustees (who are also Directors of PLCF for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland".

Company law requires the trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

**Independent auditor's report to the members of
The Premier League Charitable Fund (continued)
Company Registration No. 07331384**

Report on the audit of the financial statements

Opinion

In our opinion the financial statements of the Premier League Charitable Fund (the 'charitable company'):

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 July 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland"; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

We have audited the financial statements which comprise:

- the statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account);
- the balance sheet;
- the cash flow statement; and
- the related notes 1 to 15.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report.

We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the Financial Reporting Council's (the 'FRC's') Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Premier League Charitable Fund (continued) Company Registration No. 07331384

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the report of the Trustees, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the report of the Trustees. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the FRC's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

We considered the nature of the industry and its control environment, and reviewed the documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations. We also enquired of management and those charged with governance about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities.

Independent auditor's report to the members of The Premier League Charitable Fund (continued) Company Registration No. 07331384

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in, and identified the key laws and regulations that:

- had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. These included UK Charities Act and UK Companies Act; and
- do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included the Charity Commission for England and Wales (Charity Commission) regulations.

We discussed among the audit engagement team regarding the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements.

As a result of performing the above, we identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to revenue recognition over Premier League funding, and our specific procedures performed to address it are described below:

- Comparison of expected income per the main Premier League agreement to the income recognised on the ledger to determine that the value is accurate and restrictions have been appropriately recognised;
- Review of in-year minutes and communications received from the Premier League with regard to any amendments to funding in the year; and
- Review of communication from Premier League regarding future funding to determine that cut-off has been appropriately applied.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following:

- reviewing financial statement disclosures by testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- enquiring of management concerning actual and potential litigation and claims, and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Report on other legal and regulatory requirements

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the trustees' report, which includes the strategic report and the directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**Independent auditor's report to the members of
The Premier League Charitable Fund (continued)
Company Registration No. 07331384**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified any material misstatements in the strategic report or the directors' report included within the trustees' report.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

Under the Companies Act 2006 we are required to report in respect of the following matters if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We have nothing to report in respect of these matters.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jeremy Black

Jeremy Black ACA (Senior statutory auditor)

For and on behalf of Deloitte LLP

Statutory Auditor

London, United Kingdom

15 December 2021

The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384

Statement of financial activities (incorporating an income and expenditure account)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

		Restricted Funds 2021 £	Restricted Funds 2020 £
	Notes		
Income from;			
Donations	2	30,182,761	40,361,322
Investments		8,603	144,756
Total income		<u>30,191,364</u>	<u>40,506,078</u>
Expenditure on;			
Charitable activities;		22,964,469	23,200,470
Community Cohesion		10,595,822	11,380,569
Education			
Total expenditure	3	<u>33,560,291</u>	<u>34,581,039</u>
Net (expenditure)/income for the year before and after tax		<u>(3,368,927)</u>	<u>5,925,039</u>
Funds brought forward		<u>21,209,754</u>	<u>15,284,715</u>
Funds carried forward	9	<u>17,840,827</u>	<u>21,209,754</u>

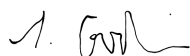
There were no other recognised gains or losses other than those listed above and the net income for the year. All income and expenditure derives from continuing activities.

The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384

Balance sheet
As at 31 July 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Current assets			
Debtors	7	-	8,478
Cash and cash equivalents			
Short term deposits	14	-	21,500,000
Cash at bank and in hand		18,188,739	36,942
		18,188,739	21,545,420
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(347,912)	(335,666)
Total assets less current liabilities being net current assets		17,840,827	21,209,754
Restricted funds	9	17,840,827	21,209,754
Total funds		17,840,827	21,209,754

These financial statements of the charity Premier League Charitable Fund registered charity number 1137208 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 15 December 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



T Godwin
Chairman, PLCF

The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384

Cash flow statement
For the year ended 31 July 2021

	Notes	2021 £	2020 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities	13	(3,356,806)	1,556,787
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Changes to short term deposits over 3 months		21,500,000	(2,500,000)
Interest received		8,603	144,756
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the year		18,151,797	(798,457)
Cash and equivalents brought forward	14	<u>36,942</u>	<u>835,399</u>
Cash and equivalents carried forward	14	<u>18,188,739</u>	<u>36,942</u>

The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

1. Accounting policies

The Premier League Charitable Fund, a public benefit entity, is incorporated in England and Wales as a company limited by guarantee not having a share capital.

The Trustees comply with the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP 2019) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities (SORP 2019)' applicable to charity preparing their accounts in accordance with financial reporting standard applicable in UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), effective 1 January 2019, and Companies Act 2006.

The principal accounting policies adopted, which have been applied consistently in the current year, are described below. These financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis as the Trustees are satisfied that the Charity has sufficient financial resources for at least 12 months from the date these accounts were signed. This assessment has been made taking regard of the current levels of cash, the known income for the next 12 months and assessing the likely level of charitable expenditure over the same time period within each restricted fund; please refer to the "Reserves" and "Going concern" sections of the report of the trustees on pages 26-27 for additional information.

The functional currency of the charity is sterling, being the currency of the country in which it operates.

Accounting convention

These accounts are prepared under the historical cost convention.

Fund accounting

Restricted funds are funds which are to be used in accordance with specific restrictions imposed by the donor.

Further details of each fund are disclosed in note 9.

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities ('SOFA') when the charitable company is legally entitled to the income and the amount can be quantified with reasonable accuracy. The following specific policies apply to categories of income:

- Donations are recognised in the SOFA when receivable unless the donor specifies that the grant or donation must only be used in particular financial accounting years or the donor has imposed conditions which must be met before the charity has unconditional entitlement, in which case the income is deferred;
- Where income is received in advance of its recognition, it is deferred and included in creditors;
- Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued; and
- Investment income is recognised on a receivable basis.

Donated staff time received from the Premier League has not been recognised in the financial statements as it is not practicable to quantify the cost.

Cost of charitable activities

This includes all expenditure directly related to the objects of the Charity. This consists mainly of assessing grant applications and making and monitoring grants. It also includes support costs representing staffing and associated costs.

All expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings, they have been recognised as support costs and allocated to activities on

The Premier League Charitable Fund
Company Registration No. 07331384

Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

a basis consistent with use of resources. The allocation of support cost is agreed on an annual basis by the Trustees, as part of the budget process. No support costs have been applied to Other programmes as minimum grant making activity and staff time has been spent on these activities.

Grants are charged to the SOFA when a constructive obligation exists. Where grants are awarded over a number of years, future instalments of the grants are dependent upon the satisfactory fulfilment of the PLCF's monitoring and quality assurance requirements. PLCF reviews projects at least annually to approve future instalments of the grants.

Governance costs

Governance costs are the costs associated with the governance arrangements of the Charity. Included within this category are costs associated with the strategic as opposed to day to day management of the Charity's activities. These costs are shown in note 5.

Pension costs

For defined contribution pensions the amount charged to the profit and loss account in respect of pension costs and other post-retirement benefits is the contributions payable in the year. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments in the balance sheet.

Irrecoverable VAT

Irrecoverable VAT is charged as an expense in the SOFA and allocated to the same category as the associated expense.

Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the Charity becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial assets are derecognised when and only when (a) the contractual right to the cash flows from the financial asset expires or is settled, (b) the Charity transfers to another party substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership of the financial asset, or (c) the Charity, despite having retained some, but not all, significant risks and rewards of ownership, has transferred control of the asset to another party.

Financial liabilities and equity instruments are classified according to the substance of the contractual arrangements entered into. An equity instrument is any contract that evidences a residual interest in the assets of the Charity after deducting all its liabilities. All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs) unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction, when the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial liabilities are derecognised only when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due. Cash at bank and cash in hand includes cash highly liquid investments. Creditors and provisions are recognised where the charity has a present obligation resulting from a past event that will probably result in the transfer of funds to a third party and the amount due to settle the obligation can be measured or estimated reliably. Creditors and provisions are normally recognised at their settlement amount after allowing for any trade discounts due.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

In the application of the Charity's accounting policies, which are described in this note, the trustees are required to make judgements, estimates and assumptions about the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities that are not readily apparent from other sources. The estimates and associated assumptions are based on historical experience and other factors that are considered to be relevant. Actual results may differ from these estimates. The estimates and underlying assumptions are reviewed on an ongoing basis. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. There are no critical accounting judgments or key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date.

2. Donations

Income from donations comprises:

	2021 £	2020 £
Grant income – FA Premier League	20,192,500	30,430,000
Grant income – PFA	8,400,000	8,400,000
Grant income – Sport England	-	107,733
Grant income – #iwill Fund *	500,000	500,000
Grant income – Barclays PLC	125,000	-
Grant income – Comic Relief**	125,000	108,300
Grant income – South Yorkshire Police	-	135,000
Grant income – Children In Need	666,667	666,667
Grant income – MOPAC	150,000	-
Other donations	23,594	13,622
Total	30,182,761	40,361,322

*The #iwill Fund is an England wide joint investment that brings together funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport and The National Lottery Community Fund, creating a central investment pot.

**£125k (FY20: £75k) of funding from this funder is the result of a tripartite agreement with BT Group.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

3. Analysis of expenditure

	Year ended 31 July 2021			Total
	Grants to institutions £	Direct costs £	Support costs £	2021 £
Community Cohesion;				
PL Kicks	10,482,184	151,806	358,021	10,992,011
PLPFA Community	11,137,924	443,439	298,351	11,879,714
Other	-	92,744	-	92,744
	<u>21,620,108</u>	<u>687,989</u>	<u>656,372</u>	<u>22,964,469</u>
Education;				
PL Inspires	2,029,082	55,182	179,011	2,263,275
PL Primary Stars	7,077,326	897,200	358,021	8,332,547
	<u>9,106,408</u>	<u>952,382</u>	<u>537,032</u>	<u>10,595,822</u>
	<u>30,726,516</u>	<u>1,640,371</u>	<u>1,193,404</u>	<u>33,560,291</u>

Support costs have been allocated on a basis consistent with use of resources; no support costs have been allocated to Other as no direct activities were completed by PLCF staff on these projects in the current year or prior year.

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

3. Analysis of expenditure (continued)

Analysis of expenditure

	Year ended 31 July 2020			Total 2020
	Grants to institutions £	Direct costs £	Support costs £	£
Community Cohesion;				
PL Kicks	10,770,500	233,550	312,389	11,316,439
PLPFA Community	11,120,815	410,023	260,324	11,791,162
Other activities	-	92,869	-	92,869
	<u>21,891,315</u>	<u>736,442</u>	<u>572,713</u>	<u>23,200,470</u>
Education;				
PL Inspires	2,129,500	37,046	156,195	2,322,741
PL Primary Stars	7,295,000	1,450,439	312,389	9,057,828
	<u>9,424,500</u>	<u>1,487,485</u>	<u>468,584</u>	<u>11,380,569</u>
	<u>31,315,815</u>	<u>2,223,927</u>	<u>1,041,297</u>	<u>34,581,039</u>

CCO Grant payment analysis

	Number of CCO 2021	Number of CCO 2020	Number of Non CCO 2021	Number of Non CCO 2020
£0 to £500k	67	64	2	2
£501k to £1m	26	29	-	-
£1m+	-	1	-	-
Total	<u>93</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

3. Analysis of expenditure (continued)

The above grants are paid to a number of organisations to carry out the approved projects. CCOs and other organisations can apply for grants under a number of different programmes. As described in the Trustees' report, PLCF invited applications from CCOs from the Premier League, English Football League and National League. The largest single programme grant given in the year was £250k (2020: £250k) and the largest total grant given to a single CCO was £961k (2020: £1.12m).

4. Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging:

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to the company's auditor for the audit of the company's annual accounts	14,400	10,920

5. Direct and support costs

	Direct costs 2021 £	Support costs 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Direct costs 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Staff costs	-	885,433	885,433	-	661,735	661,735
External project support	1,640,371	-	1,640,371	2,223,927	-	2,223,927
Other expenses	-	200,871	200,871	-	275,942	275,942
Office overheads	-	92,700	92,700	-	92,700	92,700
Governance Costs	-	14,400	14,400	-	10,920	10,920
	<u>1,640,371</u>	<u>1,193,404</u>	<u>2,833,775</u>	<u>2,223,927</u>	<u>1,041,297</u>	<u>3,265,224</u>

6. Staff costs and numbers

	2021 £	2020 £
Employee costs during the year amounted to:		
Wages and salaries	712,305	535,906
Social security	81,131	61,481
Pension	80,970	56,994
Other employee benefits	11,027	7,354
	<u>885,433</u>	<u>661,735</u>

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

6. Staff costs and numbers (continued)

The average headcount analysed by function was:

	2021 No.	2020 No.
Administration and management	14	11

During the current year, the following employees' emoluments (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000:

Band:	Employees 2021 No.	Employees 2020 No.
£60,000 to £70,000	1	-
£70,000 to £80,000	1	1
£100,000 to £110,000	1	1

During the year, pension contributions on behalf of these staff amounted to £17,768 (2020: £13,229)

Key management personnel are represented by one individual, being the General Manager of the PLCF. The total remuneration (including Employers' NI and pension costs) for key management personnel in the period totalled £122,100 (2020: £122,633).

The pension liability outstanding at year-end was nil (2020: Nil).

7. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Prepayments and accrued income	-	8,478
	-	8,478

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

8. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Accruals	347,912	335,666
	<u>347,912</u>	<u>335,666</u>

9. Restricted funds

	Balance B/F from 2020 £	Donation Income £	Investmen t Income £	Grants paid £	Direct and support costs £	Total C/F 2021 £
PL Kicks	7,867,088	9,684,167	2,581	(10,482,184)	(509,828)	6,561,824
PL PFA Community	6,959,430	11,824,258	2,151	(11,137,924)	(741,790)	6,906,125
PL Inspires	2,252,474	2,185,742	1,290	(2,029,082)	(234,193)	2,176,231
PL Primary Stars	3,366,267	6,115,000	2,581	(7,077,326)	(1,255,221)	1,151,301
"Other" Restricted funds	764,495	373,594	-	-	(92,743)	1,045,346
Total restricted funds	<u>21,209,754</u>	<u>30,182,761</u>	<u>8,603</u>	<u>(30,726,516)</u>	<u>(2,833,775)</u>	<u>17,840,827</u>

Restricted funds (2020)

	Balance B/F from 2019 £	Donation Income £	Investment Income £	Grants paid £	Direct and support costs £	Total C/F 2020 £
PL Kicks	4,805,407	14,334,693	43,427	(10,770,500)	(545,939)	7,867,088
PLPFA Community	6,246,820	12,246,991	36,189	(11,120,815)	(670,347)	6,738,838
PL Inspires	1,152,486	3,401,016	21,713	(2,129,500)	(193,241)	2,252,474
PL Primary Stars	2,165,668	10,215,000	43,427	(7,295,000)	(1,762,828)	3,366,267
Players' Kits Scheme*	220,592	-	-	-	-	220,592
"Other" Restricted funds	693,742	163,622	-	-	(92,869)	764,495
Total restricted funds	<u>15,284,715</u>	<u>40,361,322</u>	<u>144,756</u>	<u>(31,315,815)</u>	<u>(3,265,224)</u>	<u>21,209,754</u>

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 July 2021

9. Restricted funds (continued)

***As at the start of the Financial Year 2021, these programmes were merged/transferred as per following.**

	Merge with	Surplus £	Transfer amount £	Total C/F 2020 £
PL Kicks	-	7,867,088	-	7,867,088
PL PFA Community	-	6,738,838	220,592	6,959,430
PL Inspires	-	2,252,474	-	2,252,474
PL Primary Stars	-	3,366,267	-	3,366,267
	PLPFA			
Players' Kits Scheme	Community	220,592	(220,592)	-
"Other" Restricted funds	-	764,495	-	764,495
Total restricted funds		<u>21,209,754</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,209,754</u>

Note - Internal transfers are approved by the PLCF Board and any funding partners of those programmes.

Funds received from principal donors are for specific projects including external project support and general administration costs. The internal transfer represents the agreed reallocation of the fund to its related programme.

The main projects represent:

PL Kicks

- PL Kicks derived from the original "Kicks" programme which began in 2006.
- PL Kicks looks to engage 8 to 19 years olds from high need areas in football and other sports.
- Sport acts as the engagement tool allowing the positive CCO role models to provide guidance and opportunities such as volunteering and qualifications to enable young people on the programme to move into positive pathways, be it in sport or education/employment.

Delivered by 91 clubs, PL Kicks combines sports participation to promote a sporting habit for life with positive social outcomes, such as contributing towards a reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour.

PLPFA Community

- The Premier League Professional Footballers' Association Community Fund empowers individual professional football clubs to work in collaboration with local strategic partners to meet the needs of their local communities in key areas such as education, community cohesion and sports participation.

PL Inspires

- PL Inspires is an education programme for 11 to 18 years olds that uses the workings of a football club and its brand to introduce young people to the basic principles of business and enterprise.
- The programme has been running for over eight years.

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- The PL currently partners with Sport Relief to deliver the programme.

The partnership includes the Premier League and Sport Relief Enterprise Challenge, an annual event where teams of young people work with clubs to develop solutions to a real football business task.

Premier League Primary Stars (PLPS)

- Premier League Primary Stars focusses on providing children and young people with a holistic whole person offer. It incorporates access to high quality coaching opportunities in football and multi-sport delivered by clubs, leading to enhanced physical literacy and fundamental movement skills. In addition, it also involves the delivery of Personal, Social, Health and Economic (PSHE) education, literacy and numeracy, all using the unique assets of Clubs to engage young people.
- Funding is used to deliver in-school activity and is utilised flexibly at a local level to ensure that CCOs can provide an offer that meets the needs of partner schools.
- The PLPS offer includes highly developed Premier League digital resources which can be used by teachers in areas that are geographically remote from clubs, as well as adding value to club delivery. The website includes resources covering English, maths, PE and PSHE.
- The resources also connect learning to the real world of sport, helping teachers to enthuse pupils when tackling challenging topics such as resilience, diversity, self-esteem and fair play.
- The final element of delivery is built around competitions, events and incentives. These range from national football tournaments to creative writing competitions, whilst registered schools have been able to apply for free sports kit and equipment, book boxes and PL values packs.

10. Future project funding

Following the three year agreement with the Premier League, which was signed in October 2019, PLCF intends to continue its programme of project funding over the next twelve months. This is expected to total £96.1m over three years of which c.£65m has been paid out as grants. The remaining amount of £31.1m is to be paid out in season 2021/22. However, future instalments of the grants are dependent upon the satisfactory fulfilment of the PLCF's monitoring and quality assurance requirements for the duration of the grant agreement and funding being received from funding partners to enable the PLCF to provide the grants. Due to the continued negative impact of COVID-19, there has been a c.£240k underspend from the grants provided in season 2020/21 which will be off-set against grant payment in season 2021/22.

11. Taxation

PLCF is a registered charity, No. 1137208, which benefits from corporation tax exemptions available to charitable bodies. On the basis that its activities fall within its charitable purposes and its funds are applied only for these purposes, no provision for corporation tax or deferred tax is made.

12. Related party transactions and Trustees' remuneration

All Trustees give of their time freely and no Trustee remuneration was paid in the year. One Trustee is a paid Director of Premier League; he is not remunerated for his role as a Trustee. Trustee expenses are reimbursed strictly on the basis of expenses incurred necessarily and

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Notes to the financial statements (continued)
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wholly for the purposes of the Charity's expenses, being principally travel and accommodation expenses. Due to COVID-19, there were no trustee expenses during this financial year (2020: two trustees, £1,762). There are no other related party transactions. Two members of the board of trustees are also a member of the PLCF's key funding partners. We are satisfied that conflicts are managed in a satisfactory manner.

13. Reconciliation of net income/(deficit) to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net (deficit)/income for the year	(3,368,927)	5,925,039
Interest received	(8,603)	(144,756)
Decrease/(increase) in creditors	12,246	(4,348,518)
Decrease in debtors	8,478	125,022
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities	(3,356,806)	1,556,787

14. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	Short-term deposits over 3 months 2021 £	Cash 2021 £	Total 2021 £	Short-term deposits over 3 months 2020 £	Cash 2020 £	Total 2020 £
Short-term deposits over 3 months	-	-	-	21,500,000	-	21,500,000
Total Short-term deposits	-	-	-	21,500,000	-	21,500,000
Cash at bank and in hand	-	18,188,739	18,188,739	-	36,942	36,942
Total	-	18,188,739	18,188,739	21,500,000	36,942	21,536,942

15. Post Balance Sheet Events

Due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have been notified that in the season 2021/22, the funding from PL will be reduced by £2m. Whilst conditions continue to be challenging, the Premier League has received Government support for an Exclusion Order which will enable their current domestic broadcast agreements to be extended for another three year period from the season 2022/23. Subject to further discussions, agreements and unforeseen

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circumstances, the Premier League have stated the intention to return donations to the PLCF to pre-pandemic levels in the 2022-25 funding-cycle.