**Press Release**

***\*Please complete all sections in yellow and delete this paragraph before sending to media\****

Day/Date/Month/Year

**Club/Organisation given support for fans through Premier League funding**

**£X invested at X, giving them much needed support in welcoming fans back**

Club/Organisation has been awarded a Return of Supporters Fund grant of £X that has helped to help welcome back both match-going and non match-going fans as the 2021/22 season gets underway.

This grant is part of wider investment from the Premier League which comes in the form of the Return of Supporters Fund. This funding has enabled eligible clubs in EFL League One and Two, the National League (Step 1) and the Women’s Super League to apply for funding for fan-engagement projects ahead of the 2021/22 season.

The initiative awarded up to £6,000 through the Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF) to support activities and events designed to strengthen the relationship between clubs and their fans.

This grant will enable Club/Organisation, to [insert specific details of how grant will be spent].

Name, Position Club/Organisation, said: “insert quote making reference to the Football Foundation grant.”

**Robert Sullivan, Chief Executive of the Football Foundation, said**: *“The Return of Supporters Fund is another commitment from the Premier League to clubs throughout the football pyramid.*

*"Along with clubs across the country, this grant awarded to X will help to develop new ways of interacting with fans – both those returning to stadiums and others supporting from home – building upon the huge excitement for the new season."*

The Return of Supporters Fund is the latest financial support the Premier League has provided for wider football through the FSIF during the pandemic. The Matchday Support Fund enabled more than 1,000 clubs from across the National League System, Women’s Football Pyramid and Welsh Premier League to access funding to put enhanced safety measures in place at grounds for fans.

In total, over 2,500 Covid-19 relief grants worth £6.9m have been awarded to clubs through the FSIF since March 2020.

Last year, the Football Foundation – the charity of the Premier League, The FA and the Government – launched the Pitch and Club Preparation Funds to help clubs prepare their playing surfaces and other facilities for the resumption of football. This saw £8.7 million provided to clubs in the grassroots, non-league and women’s game.

ENDS

**For more information please contact:**

Insert name, phone and email

**Notes to Editors**

**About the Football Stadia Improvement Fund**

The FSIF is solely funded by the Premier League and is the country’s largest provider of grants towards projects that help improve the comfort and safety of lower-league football grounds in both the professional and amateur game. These improvements range from new football stands and turnstiles to floodlighting and improved provision for disabled supporters.

The Return of Supporters Fund grants are managed by the Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF) through the Premier League Fans Fund. The Fans Fund is a commitment from the Premier League to fund projects and organisations that improve the relationship between fans and their clubs and enhance the way supporters engage with each other, which is financed by the Premier League and supports non-league and Women’s Football Pyramid clubs with the cost of improvements to their grounds.