



Department
for Culture,
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Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, DCMS Select Committee
House of Commons
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Dear Dame Caroline,

I have great pleasure in writing to you in your capacity as Chair of the Culture, Media and Sport Committee to let you know that the independent Review of Women's Football has published its final report and recommendations. I would be grateful if you could share the report with members of the Committee.

The report is extensive, so we will now be considering the detailed recommendations ahead of a full Government response. Women's football can be a sport that enhances the lives of women and girls in England and I agree that it has the opportunity to become a world leading sport that can pave the way for women's sport across the world.

Background

The Fan Led Review of Football Governance, conducted in 2021, recommended that *"given the many, but interconnected, issues affecting a meaningful future for women's football needing to be addressed and resolved successfully, the future of women's football should receive its own dedicated review"*.

In response the Government launched the independent Review of the Future of Women's Football in September 2022 to examine the strategic priorities for the development of the game. The Review has been led by the Chair, former England and Great Britain professional footballer, Karen Carney MBE.

The final report

The final report reflects hundreds of hours of evidence and engagement and the passion of those who contributed in their desire to make women's football a sport that enhances the lives of women and girls in England. The Review examines in detail the opportunities and challenges for the women's game and looks not only at what this means for the elite game, but also for the pyramid as a whole. It considers girls' experiences of participating in and watching football, and the key issues from grassroots clubs through to the professional game. The Review sets out a plan to lift minimum standards and makes ten strategic recommendations:



1. The new entity tasked with running elite women's football should not settle for anything less than world leading standards for players, fans, staff, and everybody involved in the women's game.
2. The FA needs to fix the talent pathway in order to create generation after generation of world beating Lionesses.
3. Both the Women's Super League and Women's Championship should become fully professional environments designed to attract, develop and sustain the best playing talent in the world.
4. The FA should urgently address the lack of diversity across the women's game - in both on and off pitch roles.
5. The FA, Premier League, EFL and broadcasters should work together to carve out a new dedicated broadcast slot for women's football.
6. Clubs must better value and support their fans - the FA should raise minimum standards to enforce this.
7. Government must deliver on recent announcements around equal access to school sports for girls.
8. Everyone involved in funding grassroots facilities must come together to increase investment in order to accommodate meaningful access for women and girls.
9. The FA, Premier League and Football Foundation should work together to make sure that women and girls are benefitting from funding flowing into facilities across the pyramid.
10. The FA should leverage the handover of administration of the top two tiers of women's football to even more acutely focus on grassroots clubs and the Women's National League.

The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport and I will be considering the Review's detailed recommendations, and specifically those that are for the Government. Many of the recommendations are for football to take forward, and therefore football bodies and clubs will also need to carefully consider the recommendations made in this report. We look forward to hearing about the action they intend to take to address these.

I would like to thank those who contributed to the Review whether through the call for evidence or engagement sessions. I also want to take this opportunity to thank the Chair and her panel of experts for all the hard work and dedication I know it has taken to produce a review of this magnitude.

The Review's final report can be found [here](#).



Rt Hon Stuart Andrew MP
Minister for Sport, Gambling and Civil Society and Minister for Equalities