



Department
for Culture,
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Dame Caroline Dinenage MP
Chair, Culture, Media and Sport Committee
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

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Dear Dame Caroline,

I am writing to formally confirm that, following Royal Assent of the Football Governance Act 2025 in July, we have now laid a draft affirmative Statutory Instrument (SI) detailing the scope of the Regulator.

This was discussed in detail during the Act's passage through both Houses. The SI is proposing that the scope of the regime will be the top five professional leagues of the Men's game in English Football. This includes the Premier League, the Championship, League One, League Two and the National League.

This was the proposal in the Fan-Led Review in 2021, the previous Government's White Paper in 2023, and has been discussed and consulted on by all relevant stakeholders at great length. The rationale for these leagues are that the issues that the Regulator is concerned with most typically and markedly arise in the top five leagues of the Men's game, where the financialisation of clubs is greater and where the right balance between benefits versus costs of regulation is achieved.

In order to eliminate any uncertainty for clubs, we have brought this SI forward at pace. This will allow the Independent Football Regulator (IFR) to proceed with its setup, including its State of the Game report, that requires its scope to be set before publishing the report. We are aware of the pressures to set this Regulator up as soon as possible, and this SI will give effect to this regime.

Please do let me know if you have any further questions on this SI.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Peacock MP
Minister for Sport, Tourism, Civil Society and Youth