



Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Committee

House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA

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Mark Bullingham
Chief Executive Officer, The FA

[by email]

14 July 2021

Dear Mark,

The scenes witnessed at Wembley Stadium on Sunday 11 July 2021 during the Euro 2020 final were shocking. The sheer number of ticketless people breaching the temporary, and arguably insufficient, barriers and physically attacking stewards and police to force their way into the match was appalling.

Reports across social media of unsafe numbers in the stalls and terrified children being intimidated by the intruders did not line up with the stadium's statement that a small number of people had successfully entered the stadium without a ticket.

In The FA's statement on the matter, it stated that "security and stewarding numbers for the Euro 2020 final exceeded the requirements for the match and were greater than any other previous event" at the venue. Clearly the numbers were still insufficient.

The Committee acknowledges that The FA has announced that it will undertake a review of the night's events. In the meantime, however, the Committee would be grateful for answers to the following questions:

- Given the relatively limited number of tickets available compared to the extraordinary nation-wide interest in the event, what plans were in place for a potential 'storming' of the stadium? What went wrong?
- What training were stewards given in anticipation for such a situation occurring?
- Why were permanent barriers not installed to manage the anticipated crowds?
- How many people, in total, gained access to the stadium without a ticket?
- How many a) stewards and b) Metropolitan police officers were stationed outside the stadium to deal with the crowds?
- What actions were taken to remove those without tickets once they had gained entry to the stadium, and how successful were those actions?
- What repercussions will those who attacked the stewards and/or forced entry to the stadium face?

The Committee would be grateful for your response by 2pm on Tuesday 20 July 2021.

Yours sincerely,

**JULIAN KNIGHT MP,
CHAIR, DIGITAL, CULTURE, MEDIA AND SPORT COMMITTEE**