

Trust Statement – 24th February 2023

The Shrimpers Trust welcomes the publication of the UK Government White Paper, 'A sustainable future - reforming club football governance', and is thankful for the work undertaken by multiple stakeholders towards its production.

The White Paper outlines a roadmap for vital reforms in relation to football club ownership and sustainability. These are issues that have blighted Southend United Football Club under Ron Martin's near-25-year tenure at Roots Hall.

We welcome the recommendation for the need for interim regulation for at risk clubs, such as ours, and echo the sentiments of the Football Supporters' Association in backing any proposals that offer fans more of a voice in the running of their clubs.

We are also grateful for the interventions from our constituency MP, Anna Firth, as well as the cross-party support offered from the All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) for Football. We are appreciative of the oversight provided by Parliamentarians from both chambers and the urgency with which our current situation is being treated. Representatives of the Shrimpers Trust intend to meet with members of the APPG next week.

The Shrimpers Trust Board.