

Board Meeting Minutes

**Minutes of the seventy-eighth meeting of the Sports Grounds Safety Authority Board,
held on 3rd September 2025 at the G-Tech Community Stadium, Brentford FC**

Present

Derek Wilson
Jil Matheson
Jane Sawyers
Martin Esom
Bradley Pritchard
Jon Sellins

In attendance

Giles Smith, Chief Executive Officer
Gavin Jenkins, Head of Corporate Services
Andrea Jones, Head of Communications and Stakeholder Engagement
Paul McCormack, Head of Regulatory Policy
Steve Stathakis, Head of Special Projects
Sarah Hannaford, DCMS

- 1. Welcome, apologies and declarations of interest**
 - 1.1 Derek welcomed everyone to the meeting.
 - 1.2 There were apologies for absence from Aoife Hunt and Ken Scott. There were no declarations of interest given, other than Derek's ongoing work with Luton FC.
- 2. Minutes of the seventy-seventh meeting of the SGSA Board, including matters arising and action log SGSA25(39)**
 - 2.1 Subject to an amendment noting that apologies were received from Aoife Hunt, the Board agreed the minutes of the previous meeting. All actions had been completed.
 - 2.2 Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Board will receive a future paper that clarifies SGSA's responsibilities in relation to events other than designated football matches taking place at grounds we licence.
 - 2.3 The Board agreed that it would be useful to run through the Board's and Executive's roles following an incident. It was also agreed that Board member to Executive communication channels should be clarified.
 - 2.4 The Board noted the positive response to the recent Board appointments campaign
- 3. Chief Executive's Report SGSA25(40)**
 - 3.1 Giles Smith provided his report to the Board highlighting:



- An update on the SGSA licensing process.
- Updates on issues at SGSA licensed grounds, in particular Hillsborough.
- Progress on implementation of the enforcement review recommendations.

4. Head of Inspectorate's report SGSA25(41)

- 4.1 In Ken Scott's absence Giles provided the Head of Inspectorate's report.
- 4.2 On ground assessments and match day inspections there was nothing to report further than issues that the Board are already aware of. In respect of local authority assessments there are two local authorities currently ranked as red. CEO letters have been sent to them both outlining the actions that the SGSA requires them to take.

5. Martyn's Law Update

- 5.1 The Board received an update from Paul McCormack on Martyn's Law. The Board were keen to keep close to developments and wanted assurance that the SGSA was able to secure the engagement that it needed in order to help ensure optimal implementation of the new requirements.

Gavin Jenkins

September 2025