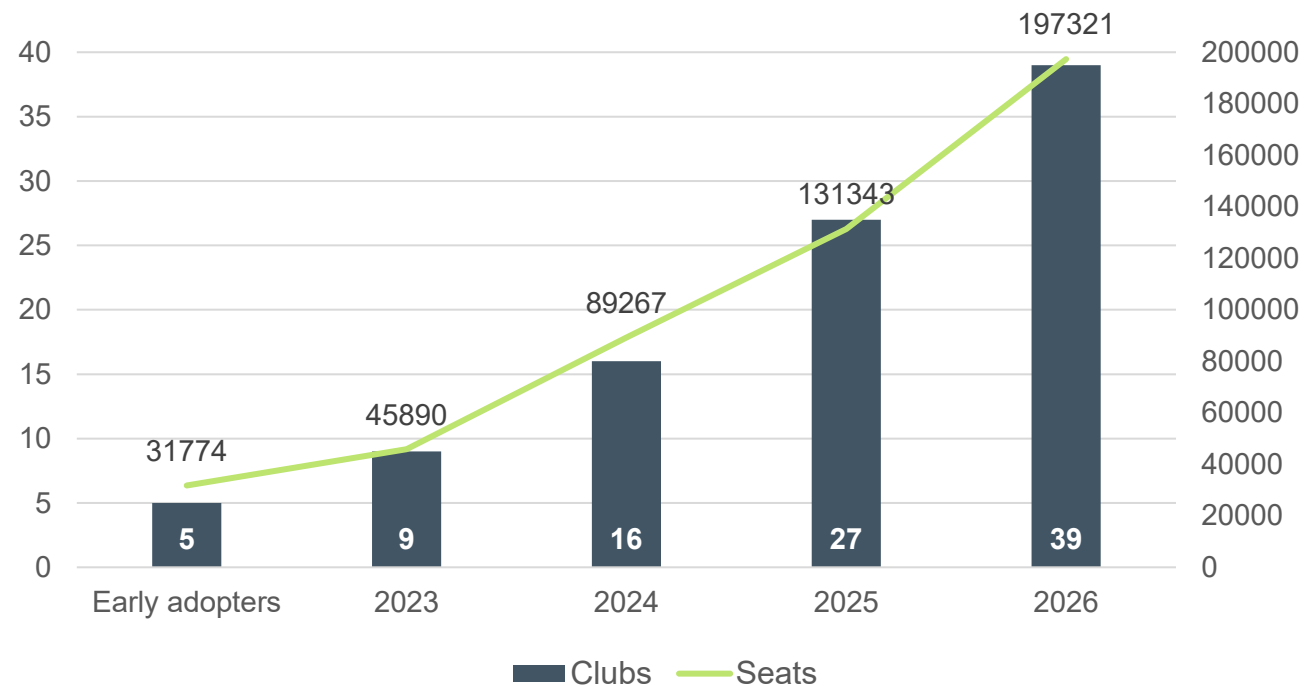


# **Licensed Standing: Latest Learnings**

# Licensed standing in numbers, 2022-2026

Total licensed standing clubs and seats, 2022-2026



39 licensed

4 unlicensed

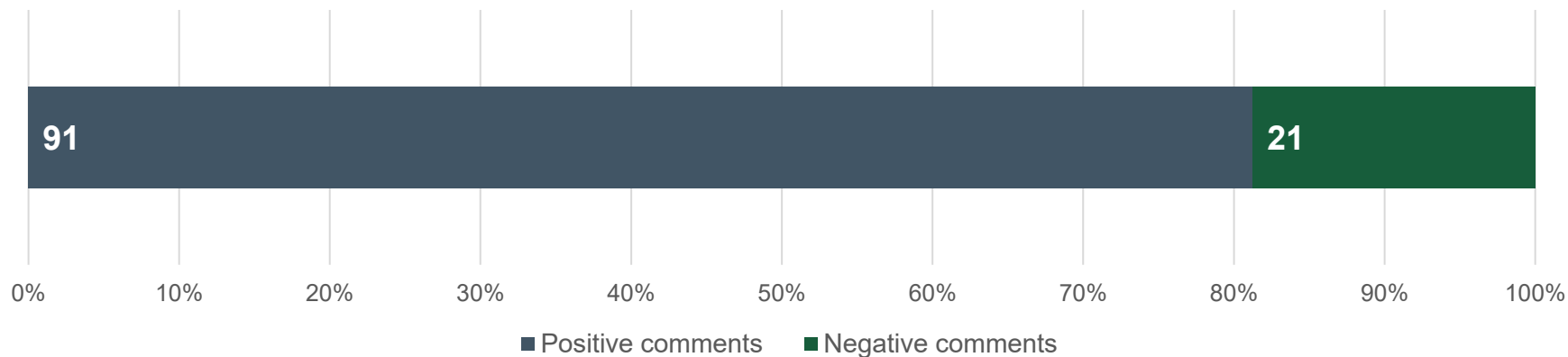
6 voluntary

**49 clubs with safe standing infrastructure**

**Leading safety, supporting live sport**

# Feedback from clubs

- 32 of the licensed standing clubs gave feedback (82%)
- Asked for any positive and negative impacts
- 112 comments in total



# Feedback from clubs

Safety		Experience	Management	Compliance
Improved safety - general	Positive impact on fan behaviour	Positive fan feedback (inside and outside)	Easier management	Less persistent standing
Stewards feel safer	Lower risk of falls/collapse/surge	Improved fan engagement	Less resource needed	Compliance with GSC
Smoother / safer egress	Reduced fan/steward confrontation	Enhanced atmosphere	Identifying overcrowding	
Reduced overcrowding / migration	Gangways clearer	Fan choice		
Standing on infrastructure	Steward access	Negative impact on those who wish to sit	Resource intensive	Still have persistent standing
Still some migration / overcrowding		Away seating options		

**Leading safety, supporting live sport**

# What is the Regulatory Activities Consultation about?

SGSA Regulatory Activities

All-Seater Policy  
Enforcement Approach

Oversight and Licensing  
Policy

# Why consult now?

**2019/20**

All-Seater Policy  
Enforcement  
Approach introduced

**July 2022**

Historic change of  
policy and legislation  
to allow licensed  
standing areas

**2022 – now**

Over 200,000 seats  
with infrastructure  
installed

**But...**

spectators standing  
without protection of  
infrastructure is still  
too prevalent

## **The fundamentals remain the same**

It is a breach of licence – and a demonstrable safety risk – for spectators to persistently stand in seated accommodation, unless licensed standing infrastructure has been installed

**2025/26**

We conducted an internal review of persistent standing and All-Seater Policy Enforcement Approach  
The consultation proposes changes that we hope clarify the SGSA approach

# What the consultation covers

- Majority of All-Seater Policy Enforcement Approach remains unchanged from what has been in place since 2019/20
- Limited number of proposed changes in certain areas to clarify expectations and the SGSA's approach
- The key proposed changes relate to our intention to provide greater clarity on how the SGSA will assess compliance with the all-seater policy
- **Consultation document available on the SGSA website here:**  
<https://sgsa.org.uk/regulatory-activities-consultation/>

# Proposed changes: evaluation of compliance

## Foreseeable risk:

extent to which safety risks could be reasonably anticipated based on the existing control measures in place

- Is there currently identified persistent standing at the ground?
- Has there been a persistent standing-related incident and/or 'near miss' at the ground?

## Confidence:

the level of assurance that the ground's arrangements will address the risks and achieve compliance

- Has the ground already undertaken further action to address persistent standing?
- Does the ground accept that more remains to be done?
- Does the ground have a plan in place with a reasonable timeframe?
- Are there any technical issues related to the construction/layout of the ground?

# Oversight and Licensing Policy

- No material change, just a clarification to avoid risk of misinterpretation
- Clarifies SGSA's responsibilities under Football Spectators Act 1989 in relation to events other than designated football matches taking place at venues the SGSA licences
- In practice, little, if any, difference in the support provided and the approach taken by SGSA

# Consultation Timeline

Date	Activity
16 April 2026	Launch of consultation and registration for webinar
28 April 2026	Consultation webinar
19 May 2026	SGSA Conference
1 June 2026	Consultation closing date
June 2026	Consultation analysis
Mid-July 2026	Final version of Enforcement Approach document published and issued to grounds at same time as SGSA licence 26/27

**Questions and comments?**