



Annual Review

The Football Stadia Improvement Fund 2007

**The Football Stadia
Improvement Fund**

supporter of the football foundation



**love
supporting
the game**

The **Football Stadia Improvement Fund** (FSIF) is the partner organisation of the Football Foundation, the UK's largest sports charity.

Funded equally by the Premier League and The Football Association, the FSIF funds improvements at lower league football grounds in both the professional and amateur game.

Since its launch in July 2000, the FSIF has supported around 1,000 projects worth nearly £400m.

This investment helps clubs to create safer, more comfortable environments for fans and players alike to enjoy our national game.

love football

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Chairman's report

Just as the Football Foundation is rebuilding our community sports facilities, the Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF) is investing in keeping football fans safe and comfortable in football grounds across the country.

As England gears up to bid to host the FIFA World Cup Finals in 2018, we can genuinely claim to have the best football stadiums in the world and the FSIF and the Football Trust have played an important role in making that happen.

The dedication and professionalism of the FSIF staff, panel members, Board and The Football Association Counties should be applauded.

The Premier League and The Football Association also deserve immense credit for their generous, equal investment into the FSIF. They provide the funding that goes towards creating a safe spectator environment for fans across the country, protecting them from the elements or lighting pitches for evening kick-offs.

FSIF money also allows everyone to enjoy our national game, improving access, comfort and views of the pitch for disabled and able-bodied supporters.

Crucially the work and investment by the FSIF is helping to ensure that the tragic incidents witnessed at football matches in this country, in previous decades, are never repeated.

I hope you enjoy reading this year's FSIF Annual Review.

Sir David Richards



Chief Executive's foreword

This has been another busy but productive year for the FSIF. England is the home of football, so it is right that its football clubs have the best homes possible.

The FSIF helps give football clubs a strong base and continue to be a source of pride and identity for their local communities.

This year alone, my staff with the help and advice of The FA Counties – have delivered grants worth £7m towards 70 projects.

All of this money has gone to improving the experience of supporters across the country at every level of the game. FSIF investment also ensures they can follow their team in a safe environment.

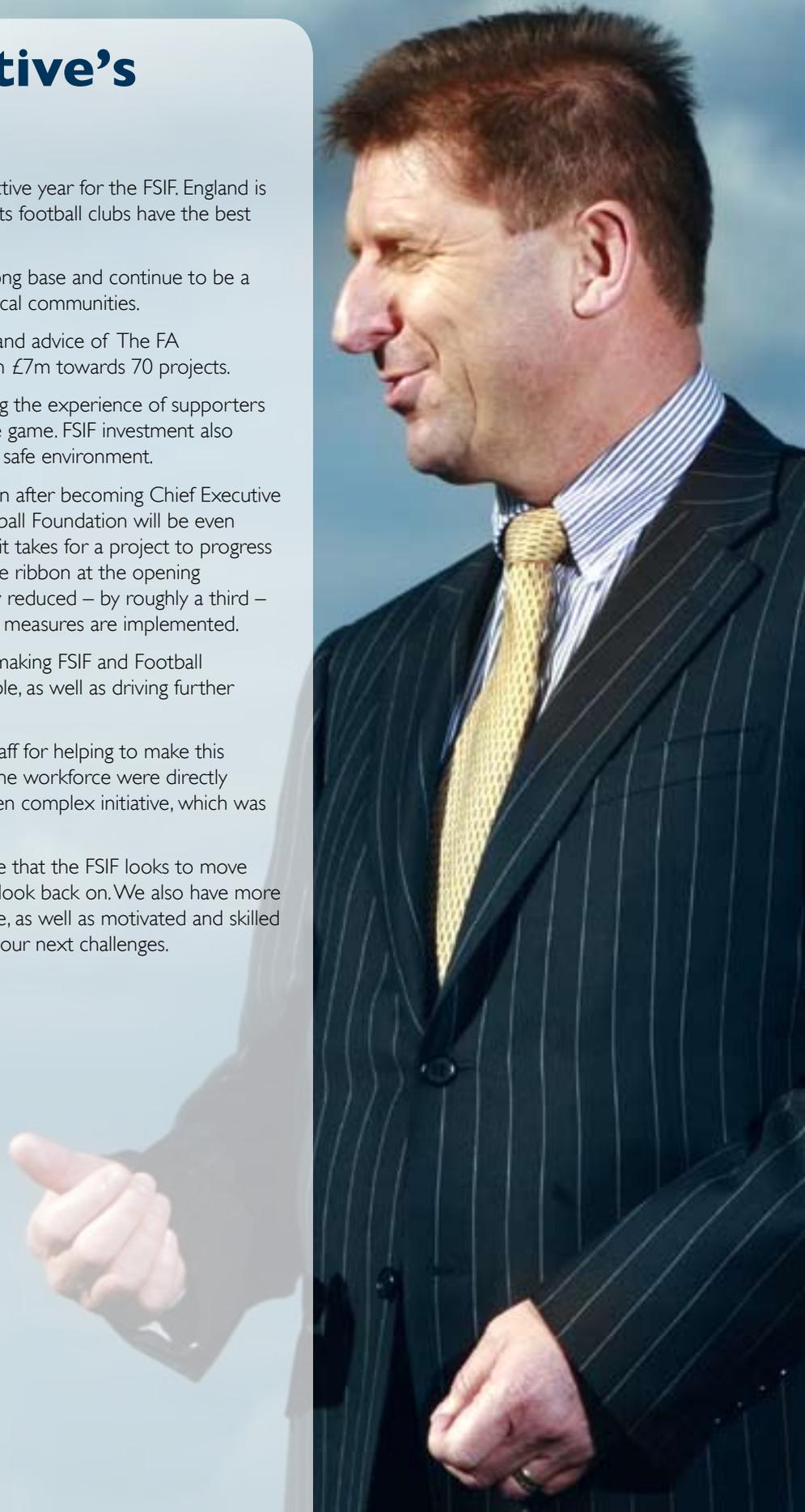
The Process Review that I initiated soon after becoming Chief Executive is ensuring that both the FSIF and Football Foundation will be even more efficient going forward. The time it takes for a project to progress from initial concept to the cutting of the ribbon at the opening ceremony has already been significantly reduced – by roughly a third – and is going to improve further as new measures are implemented.

The new online application process is making FSIF and Football Foundation funding even more accessible, as well as driving further efficiency savings.

I want to give personal thanks to my staff for helping to make this Process Review happen. Almost all of the workforce were directly involved in this comprehensive and often complex initiative, which was completed in just six months.

It is therefore with immense confidence that the FSIF looks to move into 2008. We have a proud record to look back on. We also have more efficient and effective processes in place, as well as motivated and skilled professionals who will help us to meet our next challenges.

Paul Thorogood





**love
stadia**

Colchester's new 'Community Stadium'

A FSIF grant of £2m is helping to give Colchester United Football Club in Essex a brand new home and regenerate the area for the local community.

The new 10,000-seater Community Stadium will have state-of-the-art football stands, 24 hospitality boxes, provisions for press and media, bars, space for a future restaurant and a 200m² community area. This stadium is designed so it can be expanded to accommodate 18,000 seats if required in the future.

The Community Stadium is part of a major development alongside the A12 trunk road that includes a hotel, restaurants, a pub, business units and 150 houses.

Lord Pendry, President of the Foundation, presented a cheque for £2m to Colchester United Chief Executive Marie Partner and Cllr Robert Davidson, Leader of Colchester Borough Council at half time at The U's pre-season friendly match against Liverpool Football Club.

"A new stadium was something that has been talked about in Colchester for over thirty years and it was needed even back then. Now that the team on the pitch has moved up two levels into the Championship, the club as a whole has outgrown our current home at Layer Road. An increased capacity will enable more people to watch the action and the increased revenues that the new Community Stadium can provide will ensure that we are able to grow off the pitch as much as we have done on it in recent years.

"It isn't just the football club that needed a new facility, the town and surrounding areas are in desperate need of the amenities that will be on offer, especially when the new junction is in place. With up to 10,000 new homes being built in Colchester in the next decade, recreational facilities are a must and the Community Stadium will provide the town with something to be proud of."

Marie Partner, Chief Executive,
Colchester United FC

"The development of the Community Stadium not only gives us a new state of the art home for Colchester United Football Club but also provides us with a fantastic new community facility for the town and the wider area.

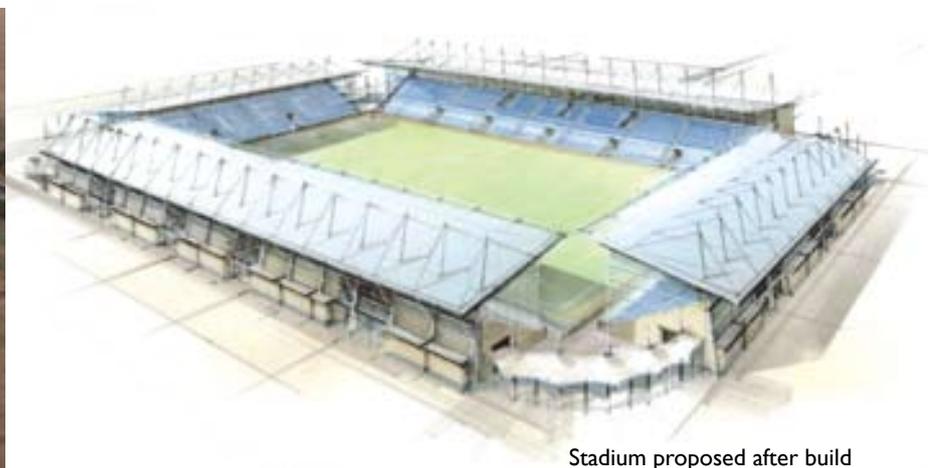
"Colchester Borough Council, Colchester United Community Sports Trust and the Football Club working together under the umbrella organisation of Colchester Community Stadium Ltd, have developed into a formidable, progressive partnership that is committed to ensure the community stadium is used for the benefit of all and offers a wide range of opportunities from social and recreational activities to health and education programmes.

"Already becoming a distinctive local landmark as construction progresses, the community stadium is a significant development that is helping to raise the profile of our town. The FSIF's contribution of £2m is vital in making this exciting development a reality."

Dave Murthwaite, Chair,
Colchester Community Stadium Ltd



Stadium build in progress



Stadium proposed after build

love floodlights



FSIF helps Olney Town light the way

The floodlights at Olney Town Football Club ground were more than ten years old and only suitable for training pitches.

Following a successful application to the FSIF, Olney Town FC received £30,622 towards installing six brand new 15m high hydraulic raise and lower floodlighting columns.

The new lighting system achieves an average luminance of 180 lux, in accordance with The Football Association minimum standard for any new installation. Another benefit is that it can be split into two halves for training purposes.

The Club have also reused the ground's previous masts for their nearby training facility.

“The FSIF investment and advice by the team has helped to ensure that top flight football will be able to be enjoyed at Olney for years to come. We now have a facility to be proud of and are already seeing the benefits both on and off the field!”

Paul Tough, Chairman,
Olney Town



**love
disabled
access**



Fans in wheelchairs enjoy the view at The New Meadow

Shrewsbury Town Football Club's previous ground, Gay Meadow, was a restricted site on the bank of the River Severn with no scope for expansion. It also regularly suffered such severe flooding that it had become impossible to secure insurance cover.

The Club has now relocated to a new £15m stadium at Meole Brace, known as The New Meadow.

Another drawback to the previous stadium was the restricted views for fans. The New Meadow gives Shrewsbury's supporters a great view of the pitch and thanks to the FSIF, the Club's fans who use wheelchairs can also enjoy excellent viewing positions and keep up with all the action and excitement.

The FSIF provided Shrewsbury with a grant of £2m towards building the new stadium but made it a condition of the grant offer that the National Association of Disabled Supporters (NADS) was fully consulted so that disabled fans were sufficiently catered for.

The result is that the new stadium now includes 50 spaces for wheelchairs at higher levels of the ground and another ten in the hospitality boxes, making a total of 60 higher-level spaces for wheelchairs. Combined with the spaces at pitch level there are more than 100 wheelchair positions around the new ground.

"The extra provision that supporters with disabilities now enjoy at Shrewsbury Town's new ground is thanks to the efforts of the FSIF.

"NADS has a proud history of working with the FSIF to ensure best practice in the interests of disabled football fans."

Joyce Cook, Chair,
National Association of Disabled Supporters



love stands



Rugby United FC can ‘stand’ on its own two feet

A FSIF award of £150,000 has helped Rugby United Football Club construct a brand new football stand for fans at their ground.

The newly developed stand was completed in July 2007 and allows the Club to satisfy ground grade ‘C’ for membership of the league in which they currently play. It also incorporates a new steel cantilever frame roof over the full length of the new stand, to protect its fans from the elements.

The FSIF funding also went towards terracing and perimeter fencing at the ground. This investment was further enhanced by an additional grant from the Foundation of £562,800 towards a new artificial turf pitch which is also used by other teams in the area as well as the local community.

“The new covered terracing funded with a FSIF grant is fabulous. It now has the best view in the whole stadium, as the area has also been heightened as part of the redevelopment project.

“The new roof also shields our supporters from any bad weather during a match. It really has helped create a really special atmosphere at the ground.”

Brian Melvin, Chairman,
Rugby United Football Club



Financial summary

Summary financial statements for the year ended 31 May 2007

These summarised financial statements do not contain sufficient information to allow a full understanding of the financial affairs of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund. For further information the full annual financial statements, the Auditors' report on those financial statements and the Directors' Annual Report should be consulted; copies of these are available on the Football Foundation's website www.footballfoundation.org.uk.

The principal activity of the Company is to provide funding for activities relating to the safety and redevelopment of football stadia. During the year grants were awarded to clubs at all levels of the game towards safety and improvement work such as new stands and terraces, toilets, facilities for the disabled, turnstiles, closed circuit television equipment and at lower levels pitch work and floodlights. The Company intends to maintain its current grant making activity over these categories. No director received any remuneration from the Company during the year.

The full annual financial statements, from which these summary financial statements are derived and on which the Auditors gave an unqualified opinion, were approved by the Directors on 21 December 2007 and have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

On behalf of the Board of Directors



Sir David Richards
Chairman
21 December 2007

Independent Auditors' statement to the members of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund

We have examined the summary financial statements of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund.

Respective responsibilities of the Directors and Auditors

The Directors are responsible for preparing the annual review in accordance with United Kingdom law. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statements within the annual review with the full annual financial statements and the Directors' report and its compliance with the relevant requirements of Section 251 of the Companies Act 1985 and the regulations made thereunder. We also read the other information contained in the annual review and consider the implications for our statement if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statements.

This statement, including the opinion, has been prepared for and only for the company's members as a body in accordance with Section 251 of the Companies Act 1985 and for no other purpose. We do not, in giving this opinion, accept or assume responsibility for any other purpose or to any other person to whom this statement is shown or into whose hands it may come save where expressly agreed by our prior consent in writing.

Basis of opinion

We conducted our work in accordance with bulletin 1999/6, 'The Auditors' statement on the summary financial statement' issued by the Auditing Practices Board. Our report on the Company's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our audit opinion on those financial statements.

Opinion

In our opinion the summary financial statements are consistent with the full annual financial statements and the Directors' report of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund for the year ended 31 May 2007 and complies with the applicable requirements of Section 251 of the Companies Act 1985, and the regulations made thereunder.

PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors
London

21 December 2007

Notes:

- (a) The maintenance and integrity of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund's website is the responsibility of the Directors; the work carried out by the Auditors does not involve consideration of these matters and, accordingly, the Auditors accept no responsibility for any changes that may have occurred to the financial statements since they were initially presented on the website.
- (b) Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Profit and loss account

for the year ended 31 May 2007

	Year ended 31 May 2007 £'000	Year ended 31 May 2006 £'000
Income		
Interest received	184	353
Other income	95	256
Total income	<u>279</u>	<u>609</u>
Expenditure		
Operating expenses	(575)	(455)
Operating (loss)/profit	<u>(296)</u>	<u>154</u>
Gift aid payment to the Football Foundation	(168)	(416)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	<u>(464)</u>	<u>(262)</u>
Taxation	-	-
Loss for the financial year	<u><u>(464)</u></u>	<u><u>(262)</u></u>

Balance sheet

as at 31 May 2007

	31 May 2007 £'000	31 May 2006 £'000
Fixed assets		
Intangible assets	-	-
Current assets		
Debtors - due within one year	324	249
- due in more than one year	2,015	2,185
Cash on deposit	3,434	9,589
	<u>5,773</u>	<u>12,023</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	<u>(8,036)</u>	<u>(13,822)</u>
Net current liabilities	<u>(2,263)</u>	<u>(1,799)</u>
Total assets less current liabilities	<u>(2,263)</u>	<u>(1,799)</u>
Capital funds: falling due in more than one year	-	-
Net liabilities	<u><u>(2,263)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,799)</u></u>
Reserves		
Profit and loss account	<u><u>(2,263)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,799)</u></u>



www.footballfoundation.org.uk



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improving facilities • creating opportunities • building communities