

ANNUAL REVIEW

The Football Stadia Improvement Fund 2004-05



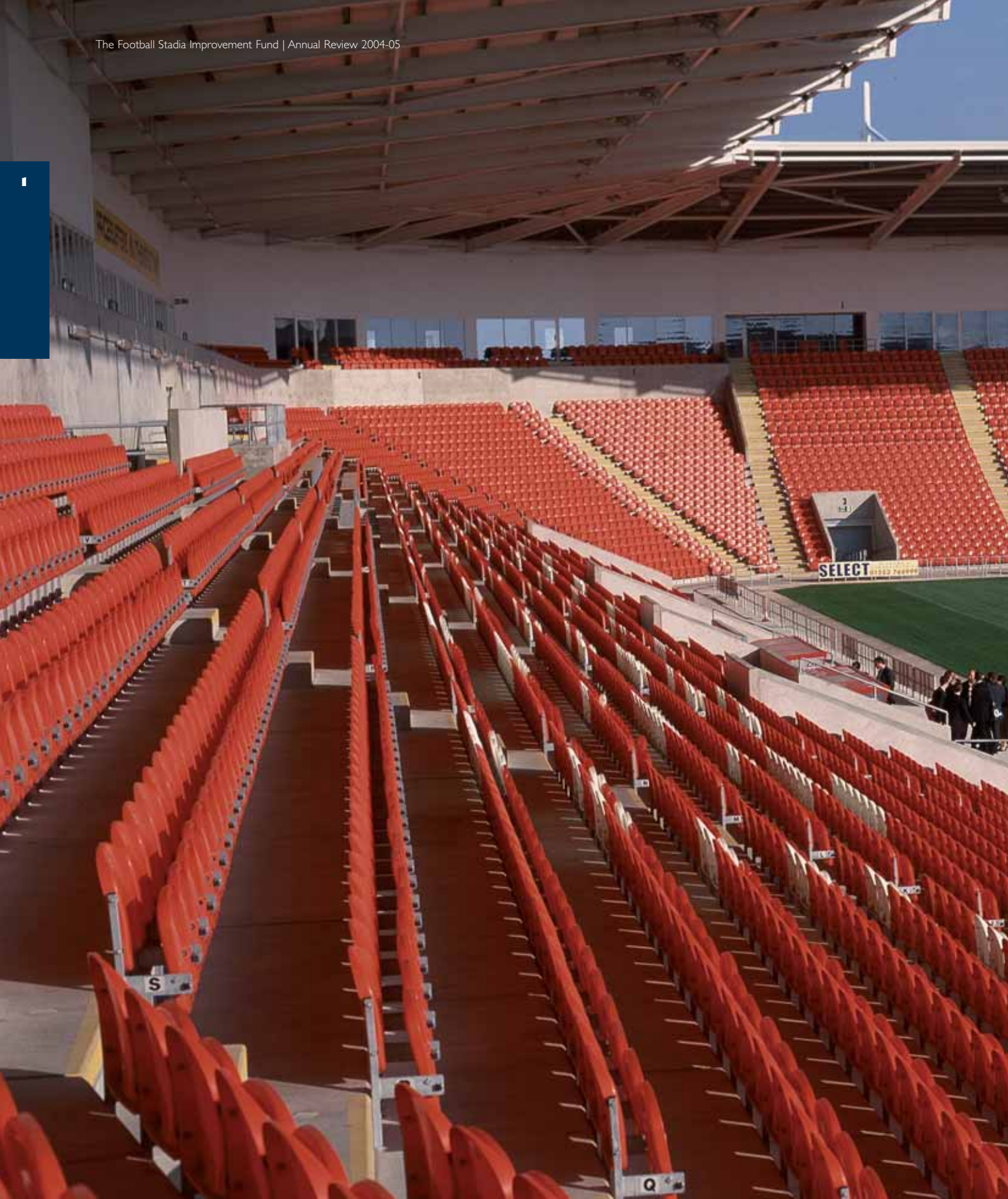
FUNDING PARTNERS

improving facilities • creating opportunities • building communities



**The Football Stadia
Improvement Fund**

supporter of the football foundation



Players Changing Rooms

Terracing

The Football Stadia Improvement Fund Annual Review 2004-05



Contents

PAGE 4 **Chairman's Report**

PAGE 6 **Chief Executive**

PAGE 7 **Stands**

- Kidderminsters Harriers Football Club
- Newcastle Benfield Saints Football Club

PAGE 9 **Floodlights**

- Prudhoe Town Football Club

PAGE 11 **CCTV**

- Port Vale Football Club

PAGE 13 **Facilities for Disabled Fans**

- Darlington Football Club

PAGE 15 **Financial Summary**



Chairman's Report



DAVE RICHARDS

Very few clubs remain to benefit from the unique funding regime of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund (FSIF). In the last five years over 865 projects worth £236 million have received support, transforming grounds from the Championship right down to local county leagues.

It is particularly within the non-league game that our funding has had the most effect. Almost 80% of the FSIF grants have gone to projects from the Conference level down to the lower reaches of the football pyramid, transforming the matchday experience for fans and players alike.

Millions of fans every year are now enjoying a new generation of facilities thanks to the commitment of our funding partners, the FA Premier League and The FA who have contributed to the largest ever redistribution of wealth from the top of the game that the world of football has ever seen.

Without the dedication of the FSIF staff, none of this would have been possible and I offer my sincere thanks on behalf of our Board to everyone who has helped create such a bright future for fans to enjoy for many years to come.



Fencing

Emergency Exits



Chief Executive

PETER LEE

The Football Stadia Improvement Fund provides an invaluable resource for the game. The financial support available to clubs has been essential to their long term future and to securing their place at the heart of communities throughout the country.

Without these clubs sharing our ambition to revitalise the game, the FSIF would not have had the impact it has and our success is a tribute to the staff and volunteers and the hundreds of clubs who have worked tirelessly to ensure their grounds are now amongst some of the best in the world, whilst also being inclusive and accessible to all supporters of our national game.

The year's grace for clubs to upgrade their grounds following promotion has been a most welcome development ensuring the best use of our resources. The co-operation of the Football Conference and feeder leagues on this matter has been very valuable and they deserve our sincere thanks.

Much of the post-Taylor Report large scale stadia development work within the professional game has now been completed but much safety and improvement work remains to be done in the non-league game. We intend to continue to ensure that our funding regime is reaching all the areas and the clubs where it is needed.

7 Stands

No matter what the level of football, spectator accommodation in this country now is the envy of the world. One of the driving forces behind this transformation has been the significant contribution of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund.



The FSIF has provided funding for almost 200 new stands from the South Stand at Preston North End, to the new all seater West Stand at Leamington Football Club in the Midland Combination League.

The increased number of seated stands bears testament to the ambition of clubs to provide modern and safe facilities for their fans. Almost 90% of new stands have gone to clubs at the Conference level or below.

All-seater stands, alongside better CCTV coverage and improvements to stewards' training, have also undoubtedly played a significant role in reducing the number of accidents and crowd disturbances at grounds. Of additional benefit to clubs is that stands are significantly increasing club revenue as well as being cheaper and easier to maintain.

KIDDERMINSTER HARRIERS FOOTBALL CLUB

Kidderminster Harriers' Aggborough Stadium has been significantly upgraded thanks to FSIF funding which has supported the development of the new Bill Greaves Stand.

The previous covered terrace on the east side of the ground was over 30 years old. The FSIF provided a grant of £850,000 and an interest-free loan of £50,000 over a period of three years towards the project. This has enabled the Harriers to replace the terrace with a new stand designed to accommodate 2,420 seats, including 24 wheelchair spaces.

NEWCASTLE BENFIELD SAINTS FOOTBALL CLUB

Newcastle Benfield Saints previously had no seated accommodation on offer for supporters at their home ground, Benfield Park.

This left them stranded in the Northern Alliance League, as were they to achieve promotion to the Northern League, one division up, they would have to provide one stand with at least 100 seats to satisfy the league's requirements.

However, after a successful application to the FSIF for funding, the Saints were awarded a grant of £10,000 towards developing the new stand. As a result of this support, the club and their fans now enjoy a brand new all-seated stand with a steel cantilever frame and are prepared for the next step up.

Floodlights

Now a prerequisite from the professional game down to Step 6, modern floodlighting systems are allowing many football clubs to move away from the often congested traditional Saturday afternoon fixtures, bringing a greater choice for fans and increased crowd numbers, particularly at smaller grounds.





Football is now being played at most levels throughout the week and the installation of floodlighting has proved essential in the development of grounds to meet the increasing number of evening games in the professional and non-league game.

To meet the demand of the modern game the FSIF has provided funding for 162 floodlighting projects. 95% of these have been within the non-league structure ensuring that evening kick-offs are now an enjoyable and welcome development for fans and players alike.

PRUDHOE TOWN FOOTBALL CLUB

The floodlights at Prudhoe Town Football Club's ground, Kimberley Park, were awkward and expensive to maintain. The masts on the east side in particular proved to be extremely expensive as the access track leading to them was not wide enough for standard hoisting equipment. This limited the height to which the hoist platform could extend, resulting in operatives having to stand on beer crates piled on the hoist platform – an extremely unsatisfactory and dangerous procedure.

Thanks to a FSIF grant of £55,467, the club has been able to replace the floodlights with a brand new system that is both easier and cheaper to maintain. Kimberley Park now has eight 15 metre high hinged masts each supporting two lamps, with control gear located in a compartment at the base.

Prudhoe Town's home games are now brighter, thanks to the upgrading to a lux level of 200, compared with the previous league minimum of 121. More importantly, the new floodlighting will save the club maintenance costs and could prevent serious injury now that the unorthodox method involving beer crates is no longer in operation.

CCTV

The decrease in crowd trouble has been assisted by better provision of CCTV coverage at grounds.





The use of CCTV generally, together with fixed and hand-held cameras has played a vital role in the dramatic reduction in the number of incidents. It has also helped in identifying and ejecting trouble makers from grounds, often permanently. Any potential trouble and crowd safety issues within grounds can now be identified easily and isolated quickly and efficiently. CCTV has also helped clamp down on smoking in no-smoking areas.

Working closely with police, clubs and stewards, the FSIF has provided funding for new and upgraded CCTV equipment at 29 clubs within the Football League.

PORT VALE FOOTBALL CLUB

Port Vale's Vale Park stadium had a CCTV surveillance system that was 15 years old with only three cameras meeting the recognition criteria required by today's league football standards and the Staffordshire Police.

This meant their operation was slow and it was not always possible to view and record incidents. In fact, there were some areas of the ground that were not even covered by the outdated CCTV system.

The FSIF considered Port Vale's grant aid application for CCTV camera installation and awarded a £76,900 grant towards the cost. Vale Park now has new cameras with hi-resolution colour speed dome units, as well as new recording technology that has replaced the old equipment in the stadium control room.

Facilities for Disabled Fans



The FSIF's groundbreaking publication *Accessible Stadia*, produced in partnership with the Football Licensing Authority, has proved an invaluable addition to the work of the clubs in providing accommodation for disabled fans. Available online or as a hard copy, the guide sets the standard on information and legal obligations from planning a project to providing safe spectator facilities for fans with a wide range of disabilities.



Clubs take their responsibilities for disabled fans seriously. On top of the integrated and fully accessible stand building programme, the FSIF has also provided funding for an additional 20 disability schemes at professional and non-league grounds. These projects are now offering some of the best facilities for disabled fans anywhere in the world.

DARLINGTON FOOTBALL CLUB

Darlington Football Club's new all-seater stadium accommodates up to 25,000 spectators. Fans can enjoy its new bars and catering kiosks, whilst the Main Stand incorporates players' changing rooms, club administration offices, a club directors' lounge, a boardroom and several function rooms.

Supporters with disabilities are also now catered for right around the stadium. There are four elevated viewing platforms for a total of 44 wheelchair users and helpers – one in each of the east and west stands and two in the north stand. Each platform is serviced by a wheelchair hoist from the concourse below. In addition, there are a further 124 wheelchair positions at pitch level in front of each of the four stands and each stand has toilet facilities for those with disabilities located at concourse level.

So thanks to FSIF funding, disabled fans can enjoy Darlington games without missing a kick and cheer on The Quakers with the rest of the crowd.

Financial Summary

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MAY 2005

These summarised financial statements may 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 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 7 December 2005, and have been delivered to the Registrar of Companies.

On behalf of the Board of Directors



David Richards
Chairman
7 December 2005

Independent auditors' statement

to the members of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund

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

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS

The directors are responsible for preparing the summarised annual report in accordance with applicable law. Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summary financial statement within the summarised annual report with the 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 there under. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summary financial statement.

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 for use in the United Kingdom.

OPINION

In our opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the annual financial statements and the directors' report of the Football Stadia Improvement Fund for the year ended 31 May 2005 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, 7 December 2005

NOTES:

(a) The maintenance and integrity of the Football Foundation's web site 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 web site.

(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 2005

	Year ended 31 May 2005	Year ended 31 May 2004
	£'000	£'000
Income		
Interest received	418	422
Other income	26	28
Total income	444	450
Expenditure		
Operating expenses	(259)	(488)
Operating profit(loss)	185	(38)
Gift aid payment to The Football Foundation	(403)	(333)
Loss on ordinary activities before taxation	(218)	(371)
Taxation	-	-
Loss on ordinary activities after taxation	(218)	(371)
Loss for the financial year	(218)	(371)

Balance sheet

as at 31 May 2005

	31 May 2005	31 May 2004
	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets		
Intangible assets	-	-
Current assets		
Debtors – due within one year	1,795	1,116
– due in more than one year	2,599	1,234
Cash on deposit	9,186	16,314
	13,580	18,664
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	(15,117)	(9,753)
Net current (liabilities)/assets	(1,537)	8,911
Total assets less current liabilities	(1,537)	8,911
Capital Funds: falling due in more than one year	-	(10,230)
Net liabilities	(1,537)	(1,319)
Reserves		
Profit and loss account	(1,537)	(1,319)



The Football Stadia Improvement Fund

supporter of the football foundation



The Football Stadia Improvement Fund 30 Gloucester Place London W1U 8FF
T 0845 345 4555 F 0845 345 7057 E enquiries@footballfoundation.org.uk W www.footballfoundation.org.uk

Company Number 4007132 Registered in England and Wales



FUNDING PARTNERS