



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport

Stephanie Peacock MP
Minister for Sport, Media, Civil Society and Youth
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
1st Floor
100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ

E: enquiries@dcms.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dcms

24 July 2025

Clive Betts MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

INT2025/07590/DC

Dear Clive,

Thank you for your contributions at Report stage of the recently passed Football Governance Act and for your engagement throughout its passage. I am writing to follow up on your New Clause 9 amendment regarding the prioritisation of competitions within English football. Your amendment sought to empower the Regulator to take any measure it considers necessary to prevent a club's participation in a competition outside of English football, if that participation is damaging to the heritage of English football.

I want to reassure you that if any existing or new competition jeopardises the heritage or sustainability of English football, the Regulator already has powers to prohibit that competition. Which would mean no English football club would be permitted to compete in it. This power is, we believe, more than sufficient to achieve the aim of your amendment.

The Regulator can assess whether any competition, new or existing, is harming the heritage of English football through its State of the Game report and its ongoing monitoring of the industry. This decision will be based on criteria such as if a competition is fair and open, whether it jeopardises the sustainability of relevant competitions, whether it harms the heritage of English football, and any other factors the Regulator can specify in rules.

I hope that this reassures you on the issue you have raised. I have placed a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

Yours sincerely,

Stephanie Peacock MP
Minister for Sport, Media, Civil Society and Youth