

The Football Governance Bill

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Timeline of Key Events

Feb 2023White Paper published

Mar 2024
Previous Bill
introduced to
House of
Commons

October 2024
Current Bill
introduced to
House of Lords

Nov 2021 Fan-Led Review published Sep 2023
Consultation
Response
published

May 2024
Previous Bill
falls as
Parliament is
dissolved

March 2025
Current Bill
introduced to
House of
Commons

The Football Governance Bill: What it does

'Protect and promote the sustainability of English football'

IFR Objectives, Duties, and Regulatory Principles





Duties on clubs, owners, officers and competition organisers

MONITORING, INVESTIGATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT

INTERNAL REVIEWS AND APPEALS

Next Steps - Football Governance Bill Parliamentary Passage

- **Second Reading**: on 28 April. This is a high level principles debate giving MPs the opportunity to highlight their concerns with the Bill and raise areas they are interested in
- Committee Stage: takes place over several weeks involving a line-by-line scrutiny of each clause/schedule in the Bill, as well as amendments. Only MPs selected to be on the Public Bill Committee can table amendments (or move amendments tabled by MPs not on the Committee) and push them to a vote
- **Report Stage:** similar to Committee Stage but only covers amendments. Takes place over one day on the floor of the House so all MPs can table and push amendments.
- Third Reading: taken immediately after Report Stage ends, the Government thanks all the MPs and wraps up the debate before the Bill goes back to the House of Lords for ping pong should there be any amendments made in the Commons
- Ping-pong: further exchanges between the Houses until an agreement is reached
- Royal Assent: when a Bill has been passed by both Houses and any amendments have been agreed to it receives Royal Assent and becomes an Act.

The Shadow Football Regulator

Shadow Regulator Focus: To build an agile, skilled and efficient organisation that can deliver a world-class regulatory regime for football

- The Shadow Regulator was announced by the previous Government in March 2024.
- Operates separately from the "Bill" team, recognising the future independence of the IFR.
- Their work, currently led by interim COO Martyn Henderson, is roughly split up into three main areas: organisational set up; research and analysis; and policy.
- The Shadow Football Regulator is focused on "preparatory work" only until legal establishment of the IFR.
- On Friday, we announced David Kogan OBE as the Government's preferred candidate as the Chair for the IFR.