



Press Release

## **Sport Positive Summit Releases Sustainability Credentials of English Premier League Clubs**

**13 November 2019, London** – For the first time the environmental sustainability initiatives of all 20 top flight English teams, provided by and/or verified by the clubs themselves, have been collated into a league table.

The initial table released today, ranks all 20 current Premier League clubs on eight sustainability metrics; renewable energy, energy efficiency, sustainable transport, the reduction and removal of single use plastics, waste management, water efficiency, plant-based and low carbon food availability at matches and how clubs are communicating and engaging around their environmental sustainability efforts.

Arsenal, Manchester City, Manchester United and Tottenham Hotspur share top billing on the Sustainability Table, for activities across every one of the categories. Exemplary initiatives include a 3MW battery installation at Emirates Stadium reducing energy consumption, zero waste to landfill at the Etihad, rainwater collected at Old Trafford and used for irrigation and fan engagement through the website on environmental sustainability from Tottenham Hotspur.

The results show that every club has an active initiative on reducing single use plastic and supporting sustainable transport options for fans. 15 of the 20 clubs have vegan food options available on the concourses, and 16 clubs have water efficiency strategies in place. Through the research phase in collating the data, all clubs highlighted ambition to do more going forward and plans in progress or for the future.

The rationale of the choice of categories reflects the environmental impacts of putting on a football match at this level, as well as the capacity for football clubs to engage spectators through communication and engagement.

To gather the facts and statistics; an initial research phase was undertaken to amass information already in the public domain across these categories. Then each club was engaged with directly to verify the information found and populate missing information. This is the first time that this information has been provided and/or verified by every one of the clubs themselves at this scale.

Founder and CEO of Sport Positive, and the publisher of the Sustainability Table, Claire Poole, commented, “Our ambition by publishing this information is to educate and engage; both football industry professionals about what top-flight clubs are doing to reduce their environmental impact, and for interested fans to easily access what their club is doing.”

She added, “We are all on a journey when it comes to reducing our impact on the environment, and we hope more awareness about these initiatives will help drive increased ambition across football and other sports. Our aim at Sport Positive is to support sports organisations on this journey.”

The English Premier League Sustainability Table is a resource that will be continually updated, as clubs progress. Sport Positive is currently working on the same information for Bundesliga and La Liga and will continue with other football and sports leagues going forward.

You can look at the full English Premier League Sustainability Table here: <http://www.sportpositivesummit.com/epl-sustainability-table/>

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### **About Sport Positive Summit**

In collaboration with UNFCCC Global Climate Action, **Sport Positive Summit 2020** is the global meeting place for sports organisations effecting, or looking to effect, positive environmental impacts - taking place 17-18 March 2020 at Wembley Stadium *connected by EE*, in London.

The Summit convenes sports and environment stakeholders to support the advance towards a low carbon future for sports and the wider engagement of sports fans around sustainable development and climate change. It is an annual meeting place for the UNFCCC [Sports for Climate Action Framework signatories](#), as well as the wider sports community who are pursuing or enabling positive impacts through sustainability efforts.

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