



**To: Richard Masters – CEO of Premier League, Mark Bullingham – CEO of Football Association**

This week has seen football make the headlines for all the wrong reasons. It is clear that our beautiful game has an ugly underside when it comes to violence against women.

With arrests and charging of high profile football players for domestic and sexual abuse, as well as protests from fans at the signing of a known rapist, it's time for the FA and Premier League to confront a culture of gender-based violence.

This issue is not solely about individual players, but the industry that supports them; the clubs they play for, the leagues they compete in and the academies that train them. To prevent any more players committing gender-based violence, football authorities must commit to a Gender-Based Violence Charter which addresses prevention, intervention and accountability.

Now is the time for the FA and Premier League to show which side they are on when it comes to violence against women and girls. This means clubs committing to changing their culture, recognising that violence is rooted in inequality and driven by the need for power and control.

We are calling on the FA and Premier League to:

- **Introduce mandatory training for all players, managers, coaches and owners on gender-based violence.** This should cover domestic and sexual abuse, consent, healthy relationships, the impacts of violence and bystander intervention. It must be developed and delivered with specialist women's organisations and organisations 'led by and for' Black and minoritised women.
- **Introduce a Tackling Gender-Based Violence Charter for clubs to sign up to that sets out minimum standards for policies and action to tackle unacceptable behaviour.**
- **To adopt clear sexual misconduct policies and protocols with the power to impose appropriate consequences and disciplinary action on players, from suspension without pay to lifetime bans.**
- **For Academies to introduce prevention programmes for young people that take a "Whole Club Approach"** to eliminating violence against women in football. This means consulting local specialist organisations, enforcing clear standards of behaviour, implementing policies in responding to allegations (with recognition that players themselves may experience abuse) and providing access to confidential support for those concerned about harm they may cause or have caused.

Football players and the teams they play for have a unique position in shaping the attitudes of boys and men. Their behaviour both on and off the pitch is influential, and transforming the culture in football will have a seismic impact on wider society.

Yours sincerely,

**The End Violence Against Women Coalition**  
**The Three Hijabis**  
**Level Up**

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