



**Sutton United**

**SUNS**

*the Sutton United Newsletter for Sustainability*

**Issue Six**

**January 2025**

**ENVIRONMENT**

**Assessment**

We submit updates into the LBS Green Mark scheme every couple of months and are confident that the many advances made this year will help us to meet the required standard to retain Level 2 certification.

We already recycle our waste, with zero to landfill, and are taking the necessary steps to ensure we comply in full with the new waste regulations that take effect from the end of March.

**Initiatives**

We continue to circulate posters as part of our Energy Efficiency campaign. The most recent poster has been circulated and a copy is on display on the club noticeboard. We also produce a monthly energy consumption/efficiency report and this helps shape our response towards our carbon reduction targets. Currently, there is scope for us to become more energy efficient.

We are currently exploring a boot recycling scheme, hopefully to both return footwear in good condition to beneficial use by others or to recycle boots that are beyond hope.

We are still operating has introduced a sponsored initiative to offer a 30p per cup discount on hot drinks on matchdays for any spectator who brings a reusable cup, and our caterers Alltime are tracking this.

We have now acquired two raised beds, which will be planted out once the warmer weather arrives. These will be used to enhance local biodiversity, and we plan to use these as herb gardens so that the produce can be used in our kitchens. The club's Foundation is also exploring the possibility of installing additional raised beds with wildflower planting to encourage pollinators. We are finalising arrangements to stage a competition with a local school or schools to design a bug hotel, which would then be constructed in a suitable place.

**SOCIAL VALUE**

Courtesy of the Paul Alan Project, our Lead Charity Partner, we now have four defibrillators available across the stadium and publicly accessible and PAP deliver regular training sessions and emergency first aid to help save lives.

The Supporters' Club arranged a Fans' Evening in November, in liaison with the Supporters' Trust. We have picked up so many new spectators in recent years that it was thought we should help supporters to get to know each other, but also the team manager, Steve Morison, and a number of players were present to talk to fans.

Walking football continues to flourish, every Wednesday morning, and now also features a dedicated session for those with Parkinson's Disease, which has generated a lot of positive feedback. Our disability football section is also thriving, with teams competing most weekends.

AS part of our Christmas celebrations, for our game on 21st December, another our Amber Army Day in association with Paul Carrick Brunson. This included carol singers, a fully kitted-out Santa with sweets for the younger fans and mulled wine for the young at heart.

We also organised a festive food donation scheme, in partnership with Sutton Community Works, Sutton Foodbank and the Community Food Shop

In partnership with Age UK (Sutton) our Foundation hosted a Christmas lunch for local pensioners and the children of Cheam Common Junior School, part of Leo Academy, came along to sing festive carols.

We were delighted and grateful to receive a donation of £3,000 from major Sutton employer Subsea7, supporting our community football sessions at the Phoenix centre in Wallington

Finally, we continue to talk to our friends at Sutton United Gambia F.C. to explore how we can help them to rebuild.

*Dave Farebrother CEnv*

**Sustainability Lead**