



**Sutton United**

**SUNS**

*the Sutton United Newsletter for Sustainability*

**Issue Eight**

**May 2025**

## **ENVIRONMENT**

### **Assessment**

Following the award of a score of 100% in this year's LB of Sutton Green Mark scheme, we were pleased to be able to demonstrate a reduction in our combined Scope 1 and Scope 2 CO2 emissions of 11.8% for the twelve months to May 2024 and 28.9% for the calendar year 2024. This is against our adopted target reduction of 5%. This means we qualified for the 70% reduction on our business rates from LB of Sutton.

We are confident of also being able to show a further reduction of at least 5% during 2025, as this will still incorporate the savings that arise from switching our kit van from diesel to electric, but looking further ahead we need to do more to reduce our gas and electricity usage. To help understand our electricity usage an energy audit has been undertaken and the results will be made available by the end of this month.

### **Initiatives**

We implemented the necessary steps with our waste contractor Biffa to ensure that we comply with the new Simpler Recycling Regulations, which took effect on 31<sup>st</sup> March.

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 have put in place a boot recycling scheme, to both return footwear in good condition to beneficial use by others, or to recycle boots that are beyond hope, and also plan to implement a scheme to collect items of kit specifically our friends at SUFC Gambia.

We accepted the offer from the supplier of a free water audit and the engineer did fit a new flush controller in one toilet block.

We are now planning where to place our two new raised planting beds.

In April our Business Club hosted a members' event to promote the benefits for businesses to switch to electric vehicles, where our partners The Ryan Canter Club promoted the installation of EV charging points.

## **SOCIAL VALUE**

The Paul Alan Project, our Lead Charity Partner, held a ground collection on 5<sup>th</sup> May when we hosted Woking, to raise funds more defibrillators and first aid training in the local area. It was their most successful collection so far, raising just under £1,500.

There will be further collaboration with The Prostate Project on 31<sup>st</sup> May, when we host a Men's Health Testing Event.

A charity game was held featuring our disability team in support of the Daniel Spargo Foundation, which seeks to work with young people, their teachers and carers to provide information about drug use to raise awareness about the abuse of drugs and alcohol.

On 24<sup>th</sup> May we again hosted a fund-raising game in support of Scarlett, a teenage girl who lost the use of her legs at age 11 when a rare condition ruptured her spinal cord. Scarlett's story and her ongoing treatment have been featured in several tv current affairs programmes.

Our Foundation is now partnering with the Speakeasy Club and Blokes Club to promote conversations around good mental health.

Congratulations to Danny Rix, who was chosen to represent the England Over 70s walking football team.

On 11<sup>th</sup> May our disability football section celebrated its tenth anniversary with all three of our pan disability teams playing games at the VBS Community Stadium against the Chelsea Foundation. Although the visitors won all three games (Sutton rarely play 11 v 11 matches or on a full-size pitch), it was a great day for players from both clubs and the spectators. Steve King, our Head of Disability Football who had the vision and drive all those years ago to set up the new section and overcome many hurdles to get us to where we are today, was recognised by being inducted into the Sutton United Hall of Fame before our game at home to Southend.

Our dedicated football and boxing sessions for those with Parkinsons Disease continue to be well supported.

Several members of our men's first team squad attended Muschamp Primary School in April to show off the National League Cup and Premier League trophy.

As mentioned above, we are hoping to collect old and unwanted kit and boots to send to our African friends at Sutton United Gambia, this would be in partnership with a charity whose main aim is to promote football in Gambia. We continue to try to raise the online profile of SUFC Gambia to help them try to find a sponsor or partner towards their annual running costs of £2,000

*Dave Farebrother CEnv*

**Sustainability Lead**