



27 April 2022

Mrs. Rachael Griffin
Senior Coroner
Coroner's Office for the County of Dorset
Town Hall
Bournemouth
Dorset BH2 6DY

Dear Mrs Griffin,

Regulation 28 Report – Emilliano Sala

Thank you for supplying a copy of your Regulation 28 Report, and we are pleased to be able to provide a full update on steps taken by the EFL since the tragic death of Mr Sala and the pilot of the light aircraft in which he was travelling.

Specifically, we have been asked to *'consider cascading to [our] members, and anyone else [we] consider will benefit from the information, the illegality of these flights and the risks associated with them, especially of a future death, in order to discourage the use of these flights.'*

You have also encouraged us to *'liaise with the CAA who can properly advise on the risks and what support would be of benefit to reduce the use of these flights and prevent future deaths'*.

We have noted that at paragraph 1(v) of the Report it is said that the EFL was contacted by the Civil Aviation Authority in September 2019 with an outline of the risks associated with these flights. Despite an extensive search we can find no trace of having received directly any such correspondence.

However, we are aware that the FA did receive contact from the CAA because this was formally reported to the body established by the EFL, Premier League, FA and Professional Footballers' Association to discuss and agree matters relating to employment of players – the Professional Football Negotiating and Consultative Committee (the PFNCC).

The PFNCC agreed that any guidance issued by the CAA should be shared with Clubs. The guidance was received in March 2021 and was promptly issued to all Clubs. A copy is attached by way of reference. A copy of the guidance also remains available to Clubs via our 'Club portal' system alongside all other key information documents that relate to Club operational matters. The EFL will reissue a link to the guidance in advance of each transfer window, so that it remains at the forefront of thinking about travel arrangements for players. This will extend to any updated CAA guidance that may be issued from time to time.

Ultimately Clubs have the legal duty to manage the risks associated with travel for employees and other individuals connected to the Clubs, but by ensuring this guidance remains available (with appropriate reminders) we can at least ensure it remains at the forefront of their minds when planning travel arrangements for current or prospective players.

We hope this response assists but remain willing to engage in any further discussions should this be necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Chief Operating Officer

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