

## **EVERTON FAN ADVISORY BOARD STATEMENT**

The Everton Fan Advisory Board (FAB) notes today's announcement that Blue Heaven Holdings (BHH) and the Friedkin Group (TFG) have reached agreement over the terms of the sale of BHH's majority stake in Everton Football Club. We are encouraged by the statement from TFG about its aim to bring stability to our club and the group's commitment to sharing their vision for the future of the football club and our new stadium at Bramley-Moore Dock.

For several years, Evertonians have lived through an anxious and stressful time. The club has faced ownership uncertainty, points deductions, transfer budget limitations, and - once again - the supporters find the club at the wrong end of the league table. Throughout all these grey days, the loyalty and unswerving devotion of the Everton fanbase for the club we love and the community in which we live has been constant and strong—a beacon of light in the darkness.

It is our hope that TFG recognises that the most important and influential stakeholder of Everton is its supporters. FAB representatives have previously met with prospective bidders, and we would strongly encourage TFG to take a similar approach in engaging with us, so that we can help them to understand what supporters expect from any new owner. Our club has untold potential, and harnessing the passion of Everton supporters can be a critical factor in helping drive us to success.

To this end we have produced a set of principles and considerations based on input from the regular fan engagement sessions that we have held. These questions are adjoined to the values and traditions that are embedded in our hearts and souls as handed down through generations of Evertonians.

Dave Kelly, Chair of the Everton FAB stated that: "Everton FC is one of the greatest sporting institutions in club football. The FAB hopes any new ownership will nurture, invest and, most of all, recognise that their role as the steward of Everton FC is to run the Club in partnership with the supporters, in a way which embraces its heritage, sustainability, creativity and commercial potential"

"The FAB recognises that there are still hurdles to overcome before final signatures are made on the deal, and as always, expect the appropriate rigour to be applied by the relevant authorities. We also hope that through engagement with the fanbase, TFG will gain an even greater appreciation of Everton's unique blend of deep local roots and global reach, and they should be thrilled and honoured at the prospect of owning this great Club of ours."

Everton Fan Advisory Board 23 September 2024