

# SPIRIT OF SHANKLY

NEWSLETTER TO MEMBERS

ISSUE 1 | SEPTEMBER 2022



## Spirit of Shankly and Liverpool Football Club launch groundbreaking Supporters Board

On Wednesday 17 August 2022 Spirit of Shankly and Liverpool Football Club entered a new era of fan engagement with the launch of the Supporters Board, which puts fan representation at board level.

The new Supporters Board will bring challenge, opportunity and renewed hope with the potential to define the future of our club and set an example for others to follow. Crucially, it gives supporters a legally binding role in Liverpool FC's decision-making processes for the first time in the club's history.

Key impacts of the new board include supporters being informed of major changes, consulted on significant changes and providing consent (or not) for existential issues affecting LFC (such as joining a breakaway league). Crucially this is now contractual and embedded in the Club's Articles of Association, effectively future proofing the agreement.

**These are exciting times, and we are grateful for the input from fellow supporters already received and would like to assure all fans that their concerns will be raised with LFC in due course.**

## Welcome to your new monthly SOS newsletter

Spirit of Shankly (SOS) is proud to launch our newsletter to members. Our Chair Joe Blott and SOS committee hope this will help to keep members up to date with the work of our supporters' union, in which we all play a part.

**If you participate in an initiative relating to the aims of SOS and wish to update members via this newsletter, send details to Chair Joe Blott on: [chair@spiritofshankly.com](mailto:chair@spiritofshankly.com)**

# Community spotlight: Benefits, debt & housing advice service funded by Spirit of Shankly

Did you know that Spirit of Shankly helps to fund a community initiative in Anfield offering an advice service to local residents on issues such as housing, welfare benefits and debt?

Operating in conjunction with Vauxhall Law Centre and Homebaked Bakery, solicitors are on hand every Monday from 10-12.30 to offer expert advice. The service started in November 2021 and has provided hundreds of Anfield residents with free legal support. All sessions are held in Homebaked Bakery on Oakfield Road.

**Some residents have received ongoing support beyond an initial advice session, for example, after a benefit claim has been refused, a debt relief order has been required or when homelessness or a rat infestation has been identified. These are real life issues in L4.**

Many community resources are under severe threat from rising energy costs at present. We will continue to work with Homebaked and Vauxhall Law to deliver this vital service for local residents for as long as possible.



## Welfare Benefits

Our specialist welfare benefit advisors assist on all welfare benefit matters from benefit entitlement checks through to online appeals. We can assist with representation at Tribunal and the Upper Tribunal.



## Debt

Our debt-advice service is here to help you to address your debts by offering long-term solutions. Debts we can help you with include utility bills, fuel bills and unsecured loans.

**Every Monday 10am - 12.30pm**

Funded by Spirit of Shankly, Liverpool Supporters Union

Contact 0151 360 7777 or [advice@vauxhallawcentre.org.uk](mailto:advice@vauxhallawcentre.org.uk) 

# Spirit Of Shankly: Know your membership benefits



**Why join SOS?**

- ✓ LFC accountability
- ✓ Lead supporter campaigns
- ✓ Drive community initiatives
- ✓ Fan representation
- ✓ Away travel & events
- ✓ Credit Union

**Spirit of Shankly is the UK's first independent supporters' union. We believe in upholding and respecting the values of Bill Shankly which helped to make our club great.**

Every year we support hundreds of supporters who find themselves in dispute with Liverpool FC or the game's authorities on a wide range of issues. We give voice to and campaign for our members and Liverpool supporters locally, nationally and worldwide. Our representatives have an open and positive relationship with Club officials, but we always hold them to account.

We believe LFC and its supporters should be a positive force for good within the local community and stand against discrimination of any kind.

**Help to grow the union! Spread the word, encourage family and mates to join SOS too: [spiritofshankly.com/membership/](https://spiritofshankly.com/membership/)**

## European away ticket collections debacle

In August LFC told fans of its plan to continue with ticket collection for European away games this season. This is a plan that means travelling supporters have to collect their match ticket in a specified location in the city where the fixture is being played, typically on the day of the game.

**Spirit of Shankly is completely opposed to this practice.**

We are pleased that after representations from the Supporters Board and other fan groups, LFC has agreed to hold discussions with fan representatives on this matter.

**Find out more about Spirit of Shankly's position on this issue:**

**[spiritofshankly.com/european-ticket-collection/](https://spiritofshankly.com/european-ticket-collection/)**