

Date

Dear [Name of MP]

I would like to express my concern that our matchgoing traditions and heritage are being eroded.

This was brought into focus pre-season with comments from the Mayor of London Sadiq Khan who, seemingly in favour of a Premier League game being played overseas, said: "I think that's the way it's going. We've got seven Premier League clubs in London but when you look at the way the Premier League works, a lot of the revenue they receive is TV rights. Liverpool, the team I support, are currently on tour in America. I think the point the Premier League and some of the owners would make is, why can't their fans in those countries benefit from a competitive game?"

Football clubs throughout the country are rooted in their communities with rituals and a culture passed on through generations. Matchdays are vital for the area, for the local businesses and infrastructure. This idea threatens the soul of our national game.

It is also in direct opposition to the Football Governance Bill. Reintroduced by the Labour government, one of its primary objectives is the safeguarding of the 'traditional features of English football that matter most to the fans and local communities of clubs'.

What can matter more than where the game is played? Fans already pay the price of the modern game, our loyalty taken for granted with rising costs and contempt by the authorities and TV companies with rescheduled dates and kick-off times. Playing a match overseas shows zero respect for us the supporters or the competition.

We ask that you stand up for fans in your constituency and reject the Mayor's view. We also ask that you support the Football Governance Bill to ensure the great traditions of our game are maintained and not lost to greed.

This bill is to be discussed in parliament on 3 September, see attached. Please find the time to attend and stand up for the protection of our football clubs and the role they play in our communities.

Yours sincerely