Mr Richard Masters

Chief Executive

The Premier League

57 North Wharf Road

London W2 1HQ

27 July 2020

Dear Mr Masters,

**Re: Owners’ and Directors’ Test**

I am following up our letter to you of 20 April regarding the proposed acquisition of Newcastle United Football Club (NUFC) by Saudi Arabia’s Public Investment Fund.

We have since asked a leading corporate lawyer, David Chivers QC, to look at the Premier League’s Owners’ and Directors’ Test and devise a legally sound human rights element to it.

This change, if adopted, will enable the Premier League Board to disqualify a prospective owner/director on the grounds of contributing to human rights violations, including conduct that is in breach of the Premier League’s anti-discrimination policy.

I attach a copy of the proposed revision as an Appendix to this letter with an accompanying explanation. We will be publishing this advice with the new clause very shortly, and making this available to the media.

David Chivers QC asserts that this proposed revision is reasonable, measured, goes with the grain of best practice, and could be implemented without cutting across any other elements of the Premier League’s rules.

I am asking you to give careful consideration to what is proposed, wth particular regard to:

* The role of the Premier League Board in understanding and responding to the views of key stakeholders.
* The role of the Premier League Board in establishing a corporate culture that is aligned with the Premier League’s purpose and strategy, promotes integrity, and values diversity.
* The extent to which the Premier League might be empowered by having such a test in place, while being exposed in the absence of such a test.
* Relevant developments amongst other sporting bodies.

If you wish to explore this further, I would be willing to meet you with the lawyer who has framed this for us, David Chivers QC. Would this be of interest?

Yours sincerely,

  

Kate Allen

Director Amnesty International UK