

# Leyton Orient Regeneration Fund

## Proposal document

Each of the scenarios set out in the Leyton Orient Fans' Trust (LOFT) 'disaster recovery' planning requires funds to be raised.

LOFT therefore proposes to its members that it set up a 'fighting fund' to be used in the event that one of those scenarios comes into play. The proposed title of this fund is the **Leyton Orient Regeneration Fund**, as the funds raised would be used to help regenerate Leyton Orient Football Club ('the club') or – in the event of the club's liquidation, a successor club ('phoenix club').

### Governance

The fund would be established as a separate bank account in LOFT's name. Any funds received into LOFT's main bank account for the fund (i.e. outside ordinary income from members with standing order subscriptions) would be transferred into the fund's bank account.

In accordance with LOFT's bank mandate, two signatures would be required for any withdrawals from the fund's bank account – signatories are LOFT's Treasurer (Peter Osborne), Secretary (Jonathan Kaye), Chair (Doug Harper) or Vice-Chair (Tom Davies).

LOFT would provide regular reports on the totals received and (should the fund be required) withdrawn from the fund, including but not limited to the Treasurer's Report at its AGM, and regular reports to members and on its website.

### Fund uses

The proposal is that the fund would be used to help regenerate Leyton Orient Football Club (or, in the event of liquidation of the club, a successor 'phoenix club') in the following scenarios:

- Negotiated sale of the club

If LOFT (either on its own or as part of a consortium) were to enter into agreement to buy the club from the current owner, all or part of the fund would be used to secure a supporter-owned (or part-owned) Leyton Orient FC.

- Administration

If Leyton Orient FC enters into administration, all or part of the fund would be used by LOFT (either on its own or as part of a consortium) to purchase the club from the Administrator and/or to pay off any Football Creditors as defined in the rules of the EFL or such League that the club plays in.

- Liquidation

If Leyton Orient FC is liquidated, all or part of the fund would be used – following a vote to reform a phoenix club – to assure the viability of such a club. For example: purchasing any club assets from the liquidator (whether physical, or intellectual property such as the club badge); securing the use of a stadium and any training facilities; covering any costs of setting up a new club; covering any operating loss in the first year(s) of operation.

### What the fund would NOT be used for

It is proposed that the fund would not be used to pay off all or part of any loan owed by the club to its current majority shareholder, Leyton Orient Holdings Ltd.

### Methods of receiving donations

LOFT proposes to accept donations in the following ways

- By direct payment to LOFT's main bank account – whether BACS payment or standing order at sort code: 08-92-99, account number: 65070198, account name: Leyton Orient Fans' Society Ltd (t/as Leyton Orient Fans' Trust)
- By PayPal at LOFT's website (note – each donation is subject to a fee of 1.9%-3.4% plus 20p, depending on total 'sales volume' per month)
- By a [GoFundMe](#) page to be advertised beyond the Leyton Orient supporter community (note – each donation is subject to a fee of around 8%)
- By cheque to LOFT's registered address (its Treasurer)

All funds received in the main bank account, plus any net funds (i.e. after fees) received via PayPal or GoFundMe for the fund, would be transferred periodically to the bank account for the fund.

### Target amount

An initial target amount is proposed for the GoFundMe page of £100,000 – LOFT believes this is achievable given that it has received several thousand pounds in unsolicited donations from members in the past 8 months. Further targets would be set by LOFT's Board if the initial target is achieved.

### Closure of the fund

It is proposed that the fund be kept open and funds held in readiness, until such time as one of the 'disaster recovery' scenarios comes into play, regardless of how long that may be.

No refunds of donations would be made if such a scenario does not come into play. The fund itself would only be sought to be closed at such time as LOFT is dissolved; the funds held would then be disposed of in accordance with LOFT's rules. As at February 2017, LOFT's rules on dissolution are:

103. The Society may be dissolved by the consent of three-quarters of the members who sign an instrument of dissolution in the form provided by the Registrar or by winding-up in the manner provided by the Act.

104. If on the winding up or dissolution of the Society there remains, after the satisfaction of all its debts and liabilities any property whatsoever the same is to be transferred to:

104.1 a sporting charity or sporting charities operating in the Area; and/or

104.2 one or more societies established for the benefit of the community operating in the Area; and/or

104.3 one or more societies established for the benefit of the community

in each case as determined by the members at a meeting called to decide the issue. Nothing belonging to the Society shall be transferred to any other society unless that society has in its rules a rule substantially in the terms of this Rule.

LOFT Board - February 2017