



## LONDON BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST

LEADER'S OFFICE, WALTHAM FOREST TOWN HALL, FOREST ROAD, WALTHAMSTOW, LONDON E17 4JF  
TELEPHONE: 0208 496 4611/4154. EMAIL: LEADER@WALTHAMFOREST.GOV.UK

Shaun Harvey  
Chief Executive  
The English Football League  
EFL House  
10-12 West Cliff  
Preston  
PR1 8HU

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017

Dear Mr Harvey,

### Re; Leyton Orient Football Club

I am writing to you regarding the future of our local football club, Leyton Orient.

I recently wrote to the Football Association regarding the current problems at the club and I understand from their response that they have been in contact with the EFL on this matter specifically.

You will be aware that at a recent HMRC hearing, the court ruled that the club's owner has until the 12<sup>th</sup> June to pay the debts or sell the club. Whilst this decision gives the club some breathing space in terms of its immediate survival, it is essentially a stay of execution. I can tell you that the situation on the ground is extremely grave indeed.

There are reports in today's London Evening Standard which claim that the club has not been able to pay some of its staff. This is now affecting the lives of people who rely on the club to make a living, and as the largest single body of professional clubs in European football, I believe that the EFL must take this matter seriously, particular with regards to the actions of the owner at the club.

The very existence of one of the oldest sporting institutions in the country is at risk, and I would like to know how the EFL plans to help Leyton Orient survive, particularly when its current problems are not of its own doing?

Yours sincerely,

  
Cllr Chris Robbins

Leader of Waltham Forest Council