

## Darlaston Town Football Club receive £300 donation from Accord



Accord Housing Association has made a £300 donation to Darlaston Town (1874) Football Club to support them through Covid-19.

The amateur, not for profit football club which is run by volunteers has been heavily impacted by the effects of Covid-19. Running costs have significantly increased to make the club a Covid secure environment with funds needing to be spent on signage, hand gel, disinfectant, gloves, masks and separate training equipment for each of the club's youth teams.

Darlaston Town (1874) FC Chairman Neil Chambers said "Like most amateur sports clubs our income streams came to an abrupt halt about 8 months ago, with finances stretched due to the additional expense to become and remain Covid-19 secure. We have relied heavily on the support and goodwill of the local community and local businesses.

Dr Chris Handy, Chief Executive at Accord said: "We believe strongly in supporting the communities we work in. Darlaston Town (1874) Football Club provide opportunities for children and adults to both take part and enjoy watching football. We are happy to help contribute to the club's Covid-19 response to ensure this well-loved local football club continues."

Valerie Vaz, MP for Walsall South added: "I am so proud of the achievements of Darlaston Town 1874 FC who are at the heart of the community in my constituency. This is a special club with a loyal fan base in Darlaston.

"The donation from Accord will make a real difference by helping the club continue their great work which benefits the health and wellbeing of local people."

The club based on the Bentley Road in Darlaston would usually receive around 600 - 1000 visitors per weekend, as people come to watch the club's many teams which includes youth groups and a ladies team.