

FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT IMPACT REPORT

2025 - 2026



ACCREDITED
UNIVERSITIES
PART OF ENGLAND FOOTBALL



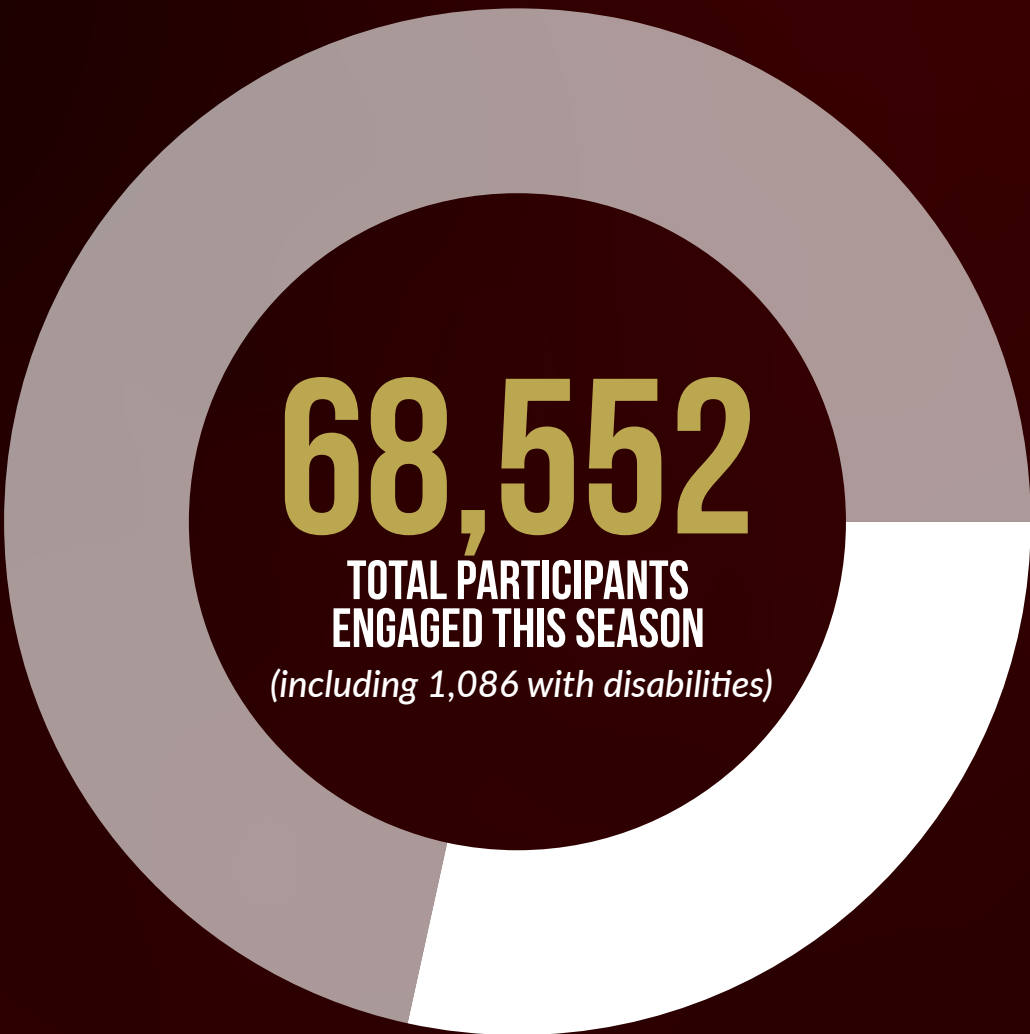
BUCS
British Universities
and Colleges Sport



FOR
ALL

OVERVIEW

PARTICIPANTS



49,063 Recreational participants engaged this season 19,489 Total Competitive Participants

30 Universities using BUCS Play for IMS programmes

WORKFORCE

345 Number of Students engaged in BUCS Development Opportunities



244 Female Students in Leadership Pathway



105 STUDENT REFEREES RECEIVING CPD

MEMBER SERVICES



242 MEMBER ENGAGEMENTS +72 AVERAGE NPS SCORE FOR ALL BUCS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS



173 Unique students attended Club Committee Leaders Events

102 Total number of paid staff and volunteers that received CPD from BUCS

ACCREDITATION AND FUNDED PROJECTS

89 TOTAL NUMBER OF ACCREDITED UNIVERSITIES

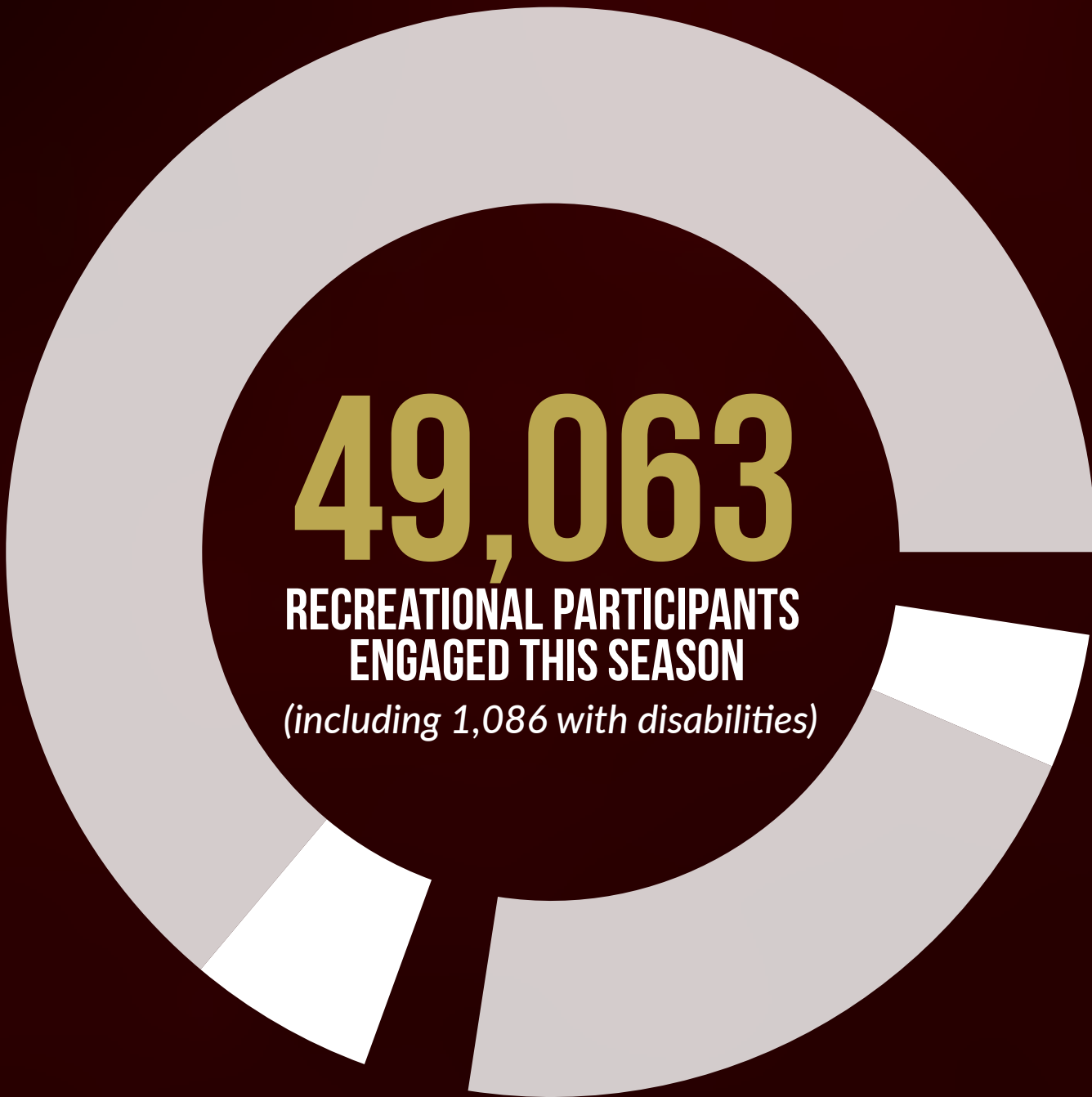


8 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS 743 new participants engaged this season

4 REFEREE DEVELOPMENT HUBS 66 new referees qualified this season

PARTICIPANTS

RECREATIONAL



35,338
INTRAMURAL
PLAYERS

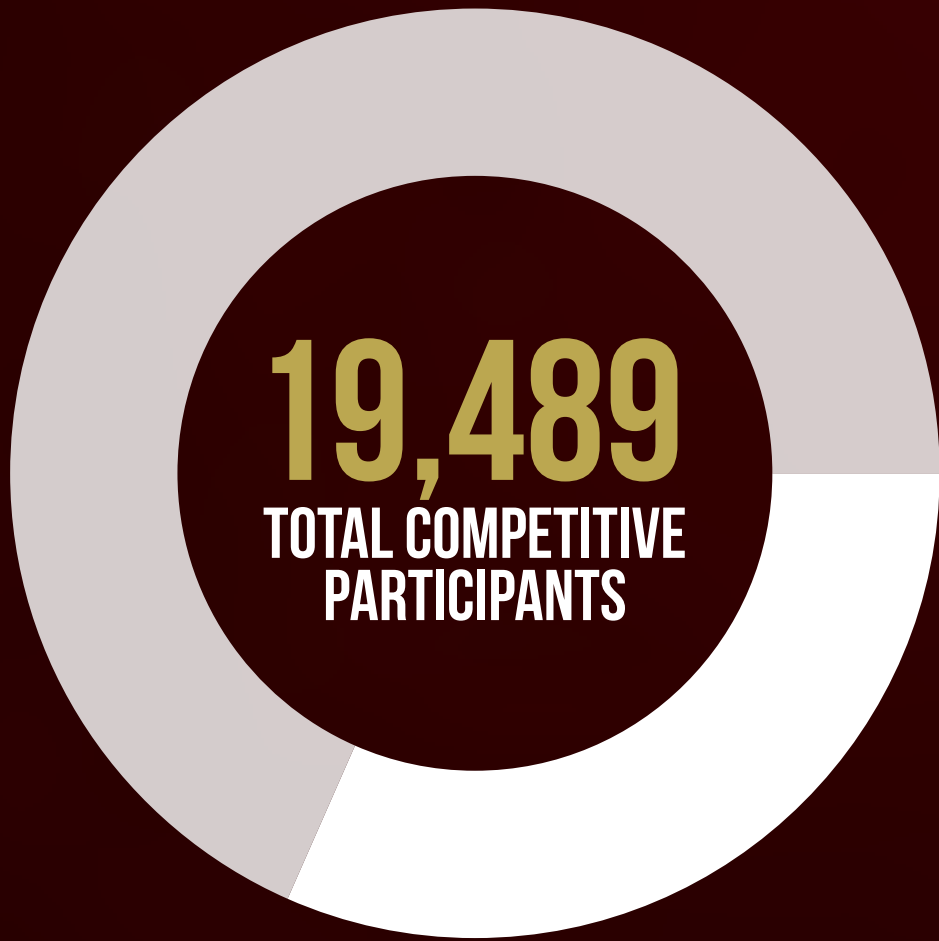
92% Male
8% Female

13,084
TURN UP
AND PLAY

84% Male
16% Female



COMPETITION



13,334
MALE COMPETITIVE
PARTICIPANTS
68.4%

6,155
FEMALE COMPETITIVE
PARTICIPANTS
31.6%

WORKFORCE

618 STUDENT COACHES



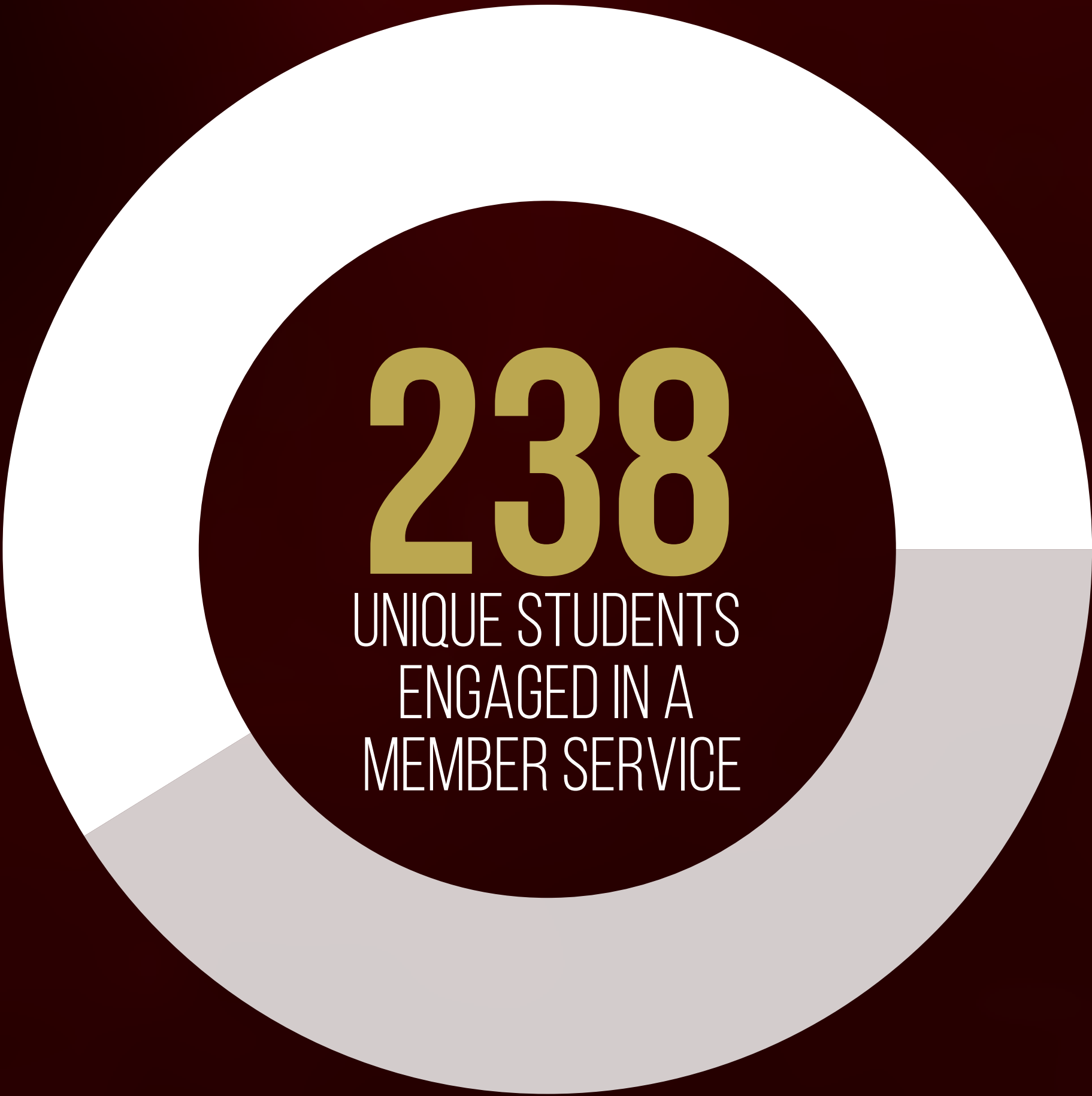
436 STUDENT REFEREES



279 STUDENT PLAYMAKERS



MEMBER SERVICES



140
FEMALE
21 from historically underrepresented groups

98
MALE
17 from historically underrepresented groups

"Club Committee Leaders was a very informative, interactive and enjoyable day that helped equip myself with conflict resolution and skills to do my role. It was really useful speaking to other universities to hear about their experiences and how they differ."

STUDENT AT UNIVERSITY OF EXETER

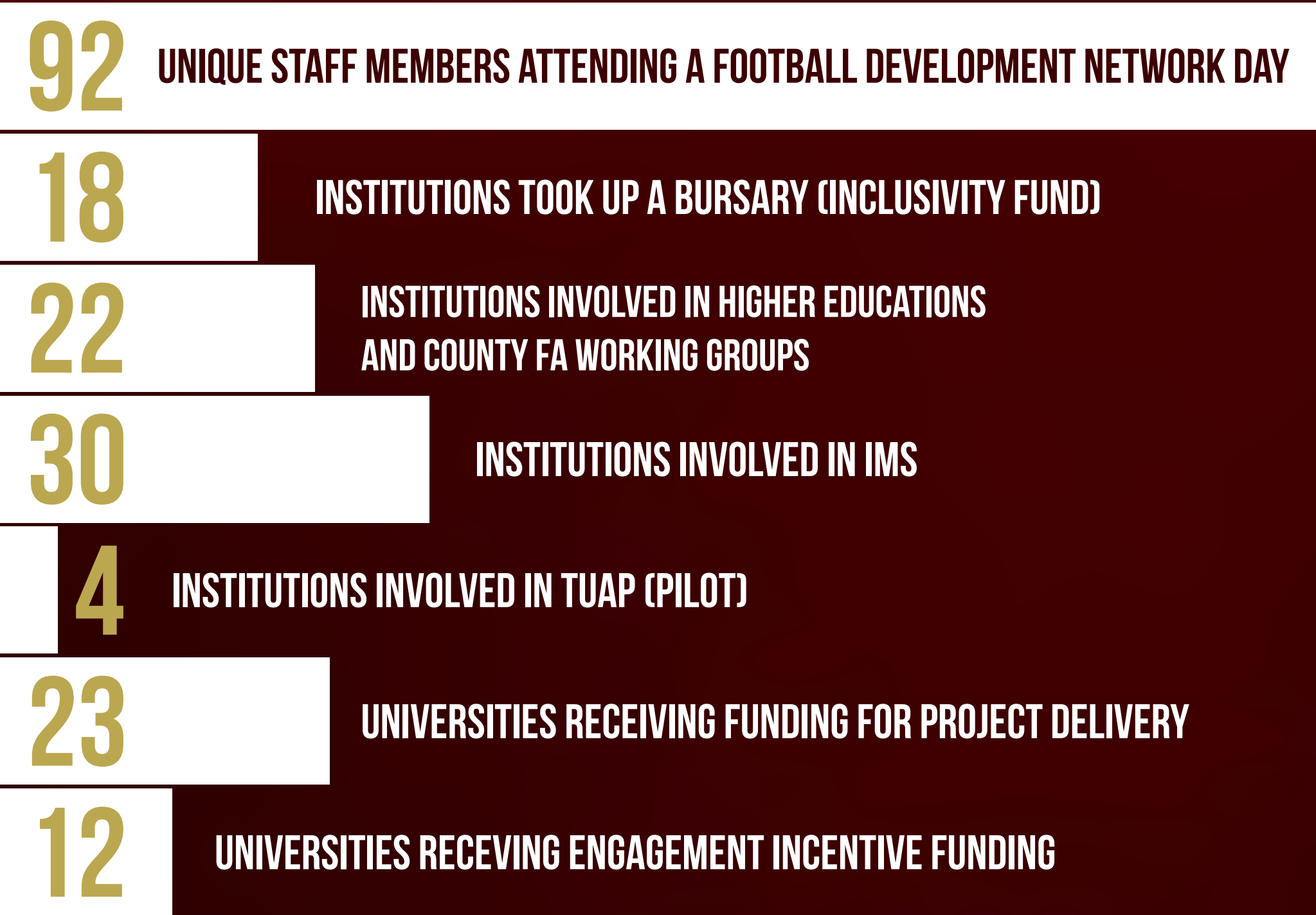
+62 AVERAGE NPS SCORE FOR ALL BUCS FOOTBALL DEVELOPMENT EVENTS

ACCREDITATION

Accreditation is an operating model which aims to unite the delivery of football under consistent standards to raise both the equality of access of football provision and the quality of that provision.



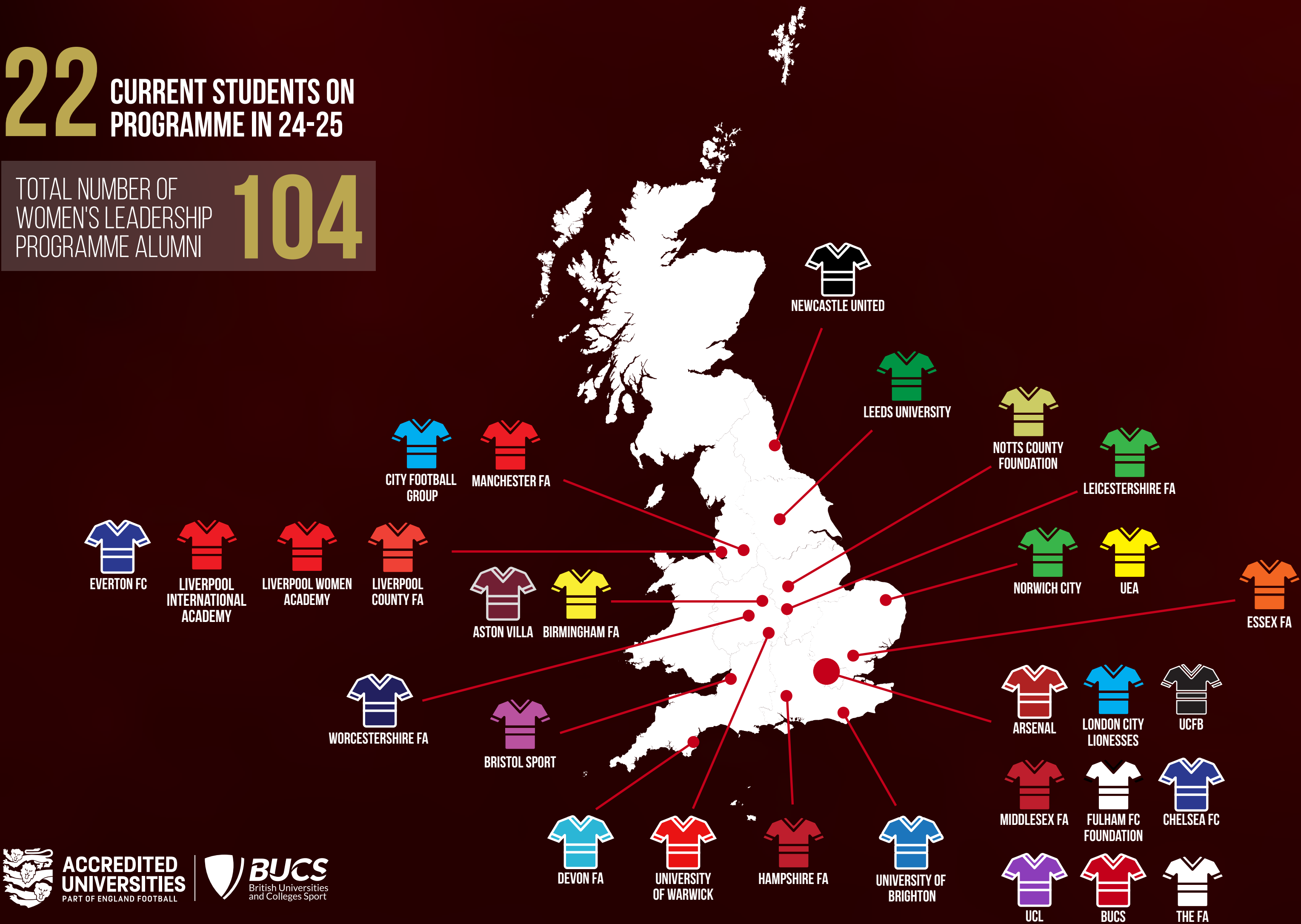
102 paid staff attending CPD were from 49 higher education institutions and 7 other organisations across the sector.



WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

22 CURRENT STUDENTS ON PROGRAMME IN 24-25

TOTAL NUMBER OF WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME ALUMNI 104



“The FA & BUCS Women’s Leadership Programme has been such a valuable and inspiring experience. Coming into the programme with little knowledge of the football industry, it has really opened my world up and shown me how many opportunities there are within sport. It has helped me grow in confidence, understand my own leadership style, and feel more excited and empowered to pursue a career where I can make a meaningful impact, particularly within women’s football and community engagement.”

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME COHORT 7 PARTICIPANT



EMERGING CLUB LEADERS

To make volunteering in Football a viable pathway for development for young people at university in off-pitch roles to drive the growth of community clubs.

 **54** TOTAL STUDENTS INVOLVED
OVER 1775 TOTAL HOURS VOLUNTEERED

PROJECT CORE ELEMENTS:

- 1. Placement at National League System (Step 3-6) or Women's National League (Tier 3-4) club in 1 of 6 roles
- 2. A Learning & Development Programme delivered by industry experts with both online and in-person CPD to support student's personal development

NORTH-WEST REGION

University Academy 92
Manchester Metropolitan University
UCFB Manchester
Liverpool John Moores University
Liverpool Feds
FC United of Manchester
Trafford
West Didsbury & Chorlton
Cheadle Town Stingers
Avro
Curzon Ashton
Chadderton
Irlam

NORTH-EAST REGION

Northumbria University
Birtley Town
Newcastle Blue Star

YORKSHIRE REGION

Leeds Beckett University
Sheffield Hallam University
York City Ladies
Handsworth

EAST MIDLANDS REGION

Nottingham Trent University
Loughborough University
Leicester Nirvana
Southwell City
Coalville Town

LONDON REGION

UCFB Wembley
Royal Holloway University of London
Uxbridge
Chertsey Town
Wingate & Finchley
Chatham Town
Actonians WFC

WEST MIDLANDS REGION

University of Warwick
Rugby Borough WFC



For more information
please see the 24/25
Impact Report

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS

PROJECT FOCUS AREAS:

1. Inclusive Football Participation

2. Women's Recreational Football



£15,500

OF FUNDING PROVIDED
8 DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



743

New participants engaged this season

57

Activators Developed

REFEREE DEVELOPMENT HUBS

PROJECT OUTCOMES:

- 1. Upskill new referees
- 2. Retain and develop
- 3. Create an inclusive workforce

£6,000

4 OF FUNDING PROVIDED
CURRENT PROJECTS

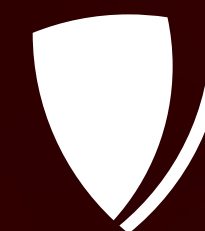


66

NEW STUDENT REFEREES QUALIFIED



**ACCREDITED
UNIVERSITIES**
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