



RANGERS SUPPORTERS TRUST
The Very Soul of the Club

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RANGERS' PIONEERING SHARE SAVE DEAL GOES LIVE

Thousands of Rangers fans are expected to sign up for a pioneering share-save initiative, which went live today.

The innovative scheme, which is expected to be used as a blueprint for other leading football clubs across the UK, enables Rangers supporters to invest at least £5.6m in the club's player pool and in youth development.

The share-save scheme – which has sparked interest from Arsenal executives who are considering adopting the model - was officially kicked off today by its architect, Malcolm McNiven, chairman of the Rangers Supporters Trust.

He said: "This trailblazing initiative is two-fold: fans can have a share in the club they support and a say in how it is run, while the club reaps the financial gains, which are invested in its future."

The long-awaited initiative, which was launched today at Glasgow's House for an Art Lover, will allow fans to inject a minimum £10 per month, with no limit, into the savings scheme. The cash will be used to buy shares in Rangers Football Club.

In return, fans who are members of the Rangers Supporters Trust will receive an entitlement to ordinary shares in the club – and a greater say in how the club is run.

Supporters who save £10 a month for a period of five years can expect to acquire around £600 of Rangers shares.

Because investors must first become members of the Trust, it is not considered to be a public offering of shares and therefore escapes red tape and associated administrative costs.

Because the purchase of the shares will be done in one monthly transaction by brokers Direct Sharedeal – of which Malcolm McNiven is Financial Director – costs will be further reduced, enabling the majority of the funds to go directly to the club.

The shares are bought and held in the Rangers Supporters Trust's name, meaning fans are not locked in and can extract their money at any time.

Commenting on the launch, Rangers FC Finance Director, David Joliffe, said: "The club is supportive of the scheme and of the aim to widen the share ownership of the club. What the club can and will do is facilitate the purchase of the shares by the trust via the issue of new ordinary shares in Rangers Football Club. This will obviously be dependent on the Rangers Supporters Trust Share-save being successful in raising funds directly from its members."

Supporters Direct – a government publicly-funded initiative designed to encourage community involvement in football clubs – is also backing the scheme.

Ian Davidson, MP for Glasgow South West – home to Ibrox stadium – also welcomed the initiative, which he says will encourage fans to invest in the club, pool their shares and seek a say in how the club is run.

"Enthusiastic and committed fans are the lifeblood of any team and this method of constructively involving them has my full support," he said.

The Arsenal Supporters Trust has confirmed that it aims to launch a similar scheme as soon as possible.

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