



“I have been working in Family Support and Child Protection since 2017. During that time, I have worked with Solidarity Sports and know many other colleagues who have worked with them too. The children and young people who Solidarity Sports known to me, have been children facing considerable hardships and challenges. For example, children who have been taken into care, children who have parents who are experiencing mental health difficulties, children whose family are experiencing poverty, children who experience domestic violence at home between parents or conflict in their families, children who themselves experience the emotional impact of all these problems, and children who need lack activity/fun/exercise. This list is by no means complete. As a social worker, I have the highest regard for the work that Solidarity Sports do to help some of the most disadvantaged young people in our borough. Some of the children I work with have experienced high-level support from mentors, they have been able to attend regular fun activities, and they have even had opportunities to go on holiday and travel abroad. These have been immensely positive experiences for these children/young people and their families/cares. For example, I have noticed that this helps young people with their confidence, their self-esteem, their sense of achievement, and their capacity to develop skills and have experienced beyond their own lives.”

- **Christopher Smallwood, Principal Social Worker, Family Support and Child Protection, Team 5, Hammersmith & Fulham Council.**