



Alice Capsey has earned her first professional contract. Photo: Getty Images

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ECB fund sixth professional contract at each women's regional team

Each women's regional team will have an additional professional contract this season with the ECB funding a sixth contract per team for 2021/22.

With Northern Diamonds and Thunder set to fund additional contracts, it will take the number of professional players in the women's regional structure from 41 to 51. Including the England Women Centrally Contracted players, there are 67 professional women's cricketers in England and Wales.

Clare Connor, ECB Managing Director of Women's Cricket, said: "It's absolutely fundamental to the future of women's and girls' cricket in England and Wales that we're able to continue increasing the depth of our regional game by offering more professional contracts to our players.

"We cannot overstate the impact that a new professional structure is having on our game. We've already seen the positive impact it has had on players' performances in a relatively short space of time. The players are thriving, raising standards across the game and deepening the potential talent pool for England Women.

"Just as important is the visibility of these players, showing young girls that cricket is a game that can offer them a professional future.

"Professionalising the women's game is a significant chapter for our sport and I'm thrilled that we're able to continue that momentum by increasing the number of professional contracts on offer."

Central Sparks	Lightning	Northern Diamonds	Southern Vipers
Emily Arlott	Kathryn Bryce	Hollie Armitage	Georgia Adams
Ami Campbell	Sarah Bryce	Jenny Gunn	Lauren Bell
Gwenan Davies	Bethan Ellis	Bess Heath	Maia Bouchier
Abbey Freeborn	Kirstie Gordon	Beth Langston	Charlie Dean
Eve Jones	Lucy Higham	Katie Levick	Tara Norris
Issy Wong	Marie Kelly	Linsey Smith	Paige Scholfield
		*Sterre Kalis	
		*Rachel Slater	

South East Stars	Sunrisers	Thunder	Western Storm
Alice Capsey	Amara Carr	Georgie Boyce	Dani Gibson
Aylish Cranstone	Kelly Castle	Alex Hartley	Alex Griffiths
Alice Davidson-Richards	Naomi Dattani	Laura Jackson	Georgia Hennessey
Danielle Gregory	Jo Gardner	Hannah Jones	Sophie Luff
Tash Farrant	Cordelia Griffith	Emma Lamb	Fi Morris

Bryony Smith	Grace Scrivens	Ellie Threlkeld	Nat Wraith
		** Phoebe Graham	

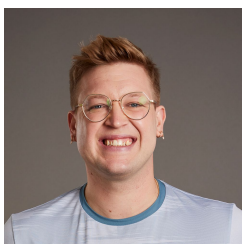
Notes To Editors

* Sterre Kalis and Rachel Slater funded by Northern Diamonds Regional Host, Yorkshire CCC

** Phoebe Graham funded by Thunder Regional Host, Lancashire CCC

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