



Sunrisers v Stars in year one of the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy. Photo: Getty Images

Dec 03, 2020 12:00 GMT

Forty-one female players sign full-time domestic contracts

The eight teams within the new women's Regional set-up have today confirmed their allocation of professional players – meaning 41 female cricketers have now signed full-time domestic contracts.

In June of this year 25 players signed regional retainers. Today's announcement adds a further 16 players to the list of contracted professionals and confirms that all 41 have progressed on to full-time terms.

The recruitment process was driven by the eight regions and their respective Regional Directors of Women’s Cricket.

Northern Diamonds	Thunder	Central Sparks	Lightning
Hollie Armitage	Georgie Boyce	Evelyn Jones	Kathryn Bryce
Beth Langston	Alex Hartley	Marie Kelly	Sarah Bryce
Linsey Smith	Emma Lamb	Issy Wong	Bethan Ellis
Phoebe Graham	Ellie Threlkeld	Emily Arlott	Lucy Higham
Jenny Gunn	Hannah Jones	Gwenan Davies	Abbey Freeborn
Western Storm*	Southern Vipers	South East Stars	Sunrisers
Dani Gibson	Georgia Adams	Alice Davidson-Richards	Naomi Dattani
Sophie Luff	Tara Norris	Sophia Dunkley	Cordelia Griffith
Fi Morris	Paige Scholfield	Tash Farrant	Amara Carr
Georgia Hennessy	Lauren Bell	Bryony Smith	Jo Gardner
Nat Wraith	Maia Bouchier	Aylish Cranstone	Kelly Castle
Alex Griffiths			

ECB Managing Director of Women’s Cricket, Clare Connor, said: “We’re delighted that these 41 young women are able to call themselves full-time professional cricketers and we wish them every success.

“The introduction of these 41 professional players, in addition to our 17 Centrally Contracted England Women’s players is the most significant step forward for the women’s game in recent years.

“In terms of the health of women’s cricket in England and Wales, we cannot overestimate the importance of these 41 players having the opportunity to train and work on their skills full-time, with access to high quality coaching and facilities across the eight regions.

“Today’s news is not only wonderful for the players themselves, it represents a step change for our whole domestic game and for young girls who will now be able to see more opportunity and aspiration in front of them.

“When you add in the profile opportunity of The Hundred next year, the

landscape looks even more exciting. After a challenging year in the wake of the pandemic, I'm really pleased with the progress we've made in 2020, just one year after launching our action plan to transform women's and girls' cricket."

ENDS

Notes To Editors

**Sixth contract funded by Western Storm and Glamorgan CCC*

Attached is an infographic: Transforming Women's & Girls' Cricket - Year 1 in Numbers

You'll find all ECB Media Releases and associated resources on our [Newsroom](#) >

PRINCIPAL PARTNER



PRINCIPAL BROADCAST PARTNER



BROADCAST PARTNER



COMPETITION SPONSORS



ECB CORPORATE PARTNERS

Contacts



H Cowen

Press Contact

Communications Manager - Performance (they/them)

England Women's team

hen.cowen@ecb.co.uk

+44 (0)7585 987 302