**Press Release**

**Bradford Bulls Foundation to stay in the city**

The Bradford Bulls Foundation is delighted to announce it is to stay in the city of Bradford and will continue to deliver Rugby League and multi-sports activities to local communities.

The Foundation, which is the Club’s official charity, has always played an incredibly important part in encouraging participation in our great sport, signposting talent to community clubs and helping to ensure playing talent is nurtured.

It will continue to work in partnership with schools, community clubs, voluntary groups, the public sector and businesses to provide high quality courses, assemblies, coaching and healthy recreation to people of all ages, including its school holiday camps.

Other priorities for the Foundation are the promotion of mental health awareness and mental health well-being; healthy eating; physical health and fitness; anti-drugs awareness; anti-bullying messages; and extra-curricular education which promotes the personal, mental and social well-being of our young people.

Warren Evans, Chair of Trustees for the Foundation, said “While we are obviously disappointed with the recent developments which mean the Club is to temporarily play games at the Tetley’s Stadium in Dewsbury, the Foundation understands that this decision has not been taken lightly and will enable it to ensure the long-term sustainability of our historic club.

“The Foundation’s role will become even more critical and we will work closely with the Club to ensure that the Foundation’s visibility throughout the district will be used to maximum effect, helping the Club to see its plans to fruition, supporting its fantastic supporters and engaging the fans of the future.

“The Trustees and staff of the Foundation very much look forward to Bradford Bulls’ return to the city and we will do everything we can to make it feel like they have never been away.”

The Bulls Foundation has a great deal of experience and expertise in social impact activities and welcomes the opportunity to help local business deliver their community support objectives. Please contact Paul Mitchell at **paul.mitchell@bullsfoundation.org** for more information.

**- ENDS -**

**Notes to Editors**

**Programmes we deliver**

Rugby league and multi-sport development and community work with schools and the 10 community junior rugby clubs in the Bradford district. Three staff and seven casual coaches currently deliver:

* Sky Try – helping more children participate in rugby league by introducing them to the sport through coaching sessions in schools and community clubs.
  + Direct Reach – 13,800 young people actively engaged over a year
* Bulls Back Onside – free fitness training for 35-65-year-old men
  + 70 participants taking part in 40 sessions over a 12-month period
* Asian Sports Foundation (ASF) coaching sessions in targeted areas including skills, fitness and resilience:
  + 40 families over a 12-month period
* Rugby league school holiday camps for 7-14-year olds
  + 200 children take part each summer
  + Half-term and Easter camps also held
* Community Clubs’ Challenge Cup Competition
  + Teams of all age groups from Bradford’s 10 community clubs participating in a Foundation-run knockout competition
  + Three finals evenings held on the Odsal Stadium pitch
  + Trophies and medals for winners
* England Talent Pathway – programme of 16 advanced skills sessions for established junior players with community clubs receiving with the objective of progressing in the sport:
  + 80-100 junior players
* Community events (local authority etc.) showcasing the foundation and providing activities:
  + Engages 1,000+ people in activities
  + Indirect reach of 20,000+
* Bradford Bulls RLFC match day experience for those who come through our various programmes
  + Up to 1,000 attendees
* Mental Health Programme - activities for sectioned and in-the-community mental health service users (adults 16+) from Lynfield Mount Hospital:
  + Inclusive multi-skilled sports sessions
  + Sessions from an occupational therapy specialist
  + Stadium tours and heritage talks
  + Tickets to Bradford Bulls home games and free merchandise

The sessions have been designed to help build resilience, confidence and an environment conducive to bringing users out of their shell.

* Bullettes, Luvabulls and ‘*Move & Groove*’:
  + Dance & Fitness for Bulls’ cheerleaders and young cheerleaders
  + Roll-out of a simple fitness exercise video to music to get blood flowing and brains thinking for the school day ahead. Produced by Bullettes for use in schools, this is to encourage health and wellbeing in all primary schools in Bradford