

## **Incorporation summary from Matt Robinson, Board member**

- Following the changes to the county funding model, whereby all club affiliation fees are paid centrally to the LTA and then the LTA allocate income to counties, the LTA has recommended that counties consider incorporating (which means setting up as a company).
- The link between clubs and counties such as Middx is now no longer direct and Middx need to manage their own membership process with our tennis playing venues and members
- The process of incorporating means that venues will become legal members of the newly incorporated entity and therefore the relationship between venues and Middx will be maintained
- Middx think this is the right thing to do and have been taking legal advice along the journey
- We have concluded that becoming a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (a CIO) is right for us and it means that unincorporated venues (such as tennis clubs) can become members
- The Middx management board will become trustees of the charity
- An updated Middx constitution is being drafted whereby our members will be consulted over key matters and will need to approve key decisions at future AGMs
- We also hope that by becoming a charity it will help us to continue to raise external sponsorship income to further invest in the Middx county operations, and we will be able to claim gift aid on any donations
- We are close to finalising the new constitution and, once signed off by the management board, we plan to call an EGM to approve it and the process of becoming a CIO
- We hope to get this process completed in Q1 2024

MR 11/12/23