

Premier League clubs' spending on agents' fees rises to £272m amid Covid

Chelsea the biggest spenders at £35,247,822

In top four divisions, only Gillingham did not pay agents

Chelsea were the Premier League's biggest spenders on agents' fees across a period during which they signed Kai Havertz (left) and Timo Werner. Photograph: Darren Walsh/Chelsea FC/Getty Images

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Chelsea were the biggest [Premier League](#) spenders on agents' fees in the 12 months to the start of February 2021, data released by the Football Association shows.

The club invested heavily last summer to bring in Timo Werner, Kai Havertz and Ben Chilwell among others and spent £35,247,822 on agents' fees. Manchester City were the next-highest spenders with £30,174,615, and Manchester United spent slightly less: £29,801,555. The lowest top-flight spenders on agents' fees were West Brom, whose outlay was £4,222,059.

In total, clubs in this season's Premier League spent £272,220,223 on such fees between 1 February 2020 and 1 February 2021, despite clubs sustaining major losses because of the pandemic. The total was higher than the amount spent by top-flight sides between 1 February 2019 and 31 January 2020, when the figure was £263,368,860.

Spending on agents' fees was down by more than £9m in the [Championship](#) compared with the previous 12 months. Clubs in this season's second tier spent £40,753,529, with relegated Norwich spending the most (£6,827,037) and promoted Wycombe the least (£126,053).

Who spent what on agents' fees : Guide to England's top four divisions

Premier League	
Arsenal	£16,462,480
Aston Villa	£8,928,343
Brighton	£7,496,038
Burnley	£4,458,520
Chelsea	£35,247,822
Crystal Palace	£6,760,093
Everton	£14,071,886
Fulham	£9,347,927
Leeds	£7,034,943
Leicester	£12,518,018
Liverpool	£21,652,589
Manchester City	£30,174,615
Manchester United	£29,801,555
Newcastle	£11,349,953
Sheffield United	£7,081,018
Southampton	£6,804,154
Tottenham	£16,520,177
West Brom	£4,222,059
West Ham	£9,689,567
Wolves	£12,598,466

Championship	
Barnsley	£515,162
Birmingham	£1,260,934
Blackburn	£535,666
Bournemouth	£5,653,160
Brentford	£2,537,207
Bristol City	£1,581,986
Cardiff	£1,619,148
Coventry	£525,571
Derby	£1,093,744
Huddersfield	£1,752,064
Luton	£435,260
Middlesbrough	£1,394,501
Millwall	£255,715
Norwich	£6,827,037
Nottingham Forest	£2,189,016
Preston	£816,471
QPR	£691,587
Reading	£2,688,492
Rotherham	£184,469
Sheffield Wednesday	£722,988
Stoke	£3,082,295
Swansea	£2,157,388
Watford	£2,107,615
Wycombe	£126,053

League One	
Accrington	£27,545
AFC Wimbledon	£76,474
Blackpool	£79,416
Bristol Rovers	£62,108
Burton	£56,720
Charlton	£213,537
Crewe	£4,500
Doncaster	£110,299
Fleetwood	£35,948
Gillingham	£0
Hull	£543,238
Ipswich	£341,622
Lincoln	£92,627
MK Dons	£96,174
Northampton	£68,220
Oxford	£298,576
Peterborough	£185,293
Plymouth	£59,458
Portsmouth	£157,012
Rochdale	£25,258
Shrewsbury	£95,241
Sunderland	£406,207
Swindon	£21,632
Wigan	£25,000

League Two	
Barrow	£13,359
Bolton	£52,673
Bradford	£71,369
Cambridge	£20,398
Carlisle	£39,360
Cheltenham	£52,676
Colchester	£41,531
Crawley	£30,102
Exeter	£26,930
Forest Green	£79,372
Grimsby	£40,515
Harrogate	£50,118
Leyton Orient	£72,117
Mansfield	£66,045
Morecambe	£14,452
Newport	£41,442
Oldham	£25,890
Port Vale	£46,319
Salford	£137,884
Scunthorpe	£42,920
Southend	£26,253
Stevenage	£16,250
Tranmere	£29,926
Walsall	£31,214

Spending on agents was also slightly down in Leagues One and Two compared with the previous 12 months.

Among clubs this season in [League One](#) (total £3,082,105) Hull spent the most on agents (£543,238) and Gillingham were the only club to spend nothing in any of the top four divisions.

Salford were comfortably the biggest spenders among clubs in [League Two](#) this season, their £137,884 also a larger amount than was spent by 17 League One clubs. The [League Two](#) total was £1,069,115.