# Manchester United's Old Trafford Stadium Faces Water Leakage Amidst Heavy Rainfall



On Sunday, May 12, 2024, during a match against Arsenal, Manchester United's Old Trafford stadium experienced significant water leakage due to heavy rainfall. Despite prior incidents of leaking, the club has not yet fixed the roof problem. After the game, which ended in a 1-0 defeat for Manchester United, rainwater cascaded into the seating areas and even the away dressing room.

The club acknowledges that the roof has sporadic leaks but attributes the overwhelming influx of water primarily to an overwhelmed drainage system, not directly to leaks. Over 41mm of rain fell in the two hours following the game, with 25mm in just the first half hour, which is well above average and surpassed the total May rainfall of the previous year by 29mm.

Manchester United has previously considered replacing or repairing the roof, especially the one over the Stretford End, where the problem is most acute. However, the decision is pending a broader review of potential redevelopment options for Old Trafford, initiated over two years ago. This review gained momentum with the establishment of a taskforce, led by new minority owner Sir Jim Ratcliffe in March, which is looking at all regenerative possibilities for the stadium.

The ongoing stadium issues come amid broader concerns about the structural state of Old Trafford and the costs associated with either repairing the existing structure or opting for a complete rebuild, a project which could run into billions of pounds.