

Richard Kone has completed a move to Championship side Queens Park Rangers in a club record transfer for Wycombe Wanderers.

The striker, aged 22, signed his first professional contract with the Chairboys in January 2024 and went on to score 25 goals in 74 appearances, winning the Sky Bet League One Player of the Season award in April as well as the club's Players' Player of the Season prize.

Chief Football Officer Dan Rice commented: "Richard's form for Wycombe over the past 18 months has attracted plenty of interest in him from a number of clubs in this country and overseas, and although we have made every effort to keep him at Wycombe by making a series of substantial contract offers, we understand and respect that he wants to progress his career at a higher level.

"We have been clear that we would only accept an offer for Richard or any player which is right for our football club and in this instance QPR have met our valuation, and agreed to a deal which entitles us to future payments based on Richard's success with his new club.

"For a player to go from non-league to the Championship in such a short space of time speaks volumes for his own hard work and talent, but also the support he has received from many different people at Wycombe Wanderers, who should all be proud of the part they have played in helping him progress at an incredible rate.

"We are a club which places great emphasis on the development of young players and Richard is the latest success story, and somebody that other young players should aspire to follow. We thank him for all his efforts and contributions here at Wycombe and wish him every success at QPR and for the rest of his career.

"Together with Mike Dodds (Head Coach) and Tom Stockwell (Director of Football Strategy and Data Intelligence), we have planned for this eventuality for a long time and will continue to ensure our squad is as strong as it can be in all areas of the pitch before the transfer window closes."

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## **Dan Rice**

Chief Football Officer and Interim Chairman

Mike Dodds added: "It has been a real pleasure to work with Richard and have him as part of this squad during my time at the club so far. It was clear from the start that he had fantastic potential and we were fully aware that he was a player that many other clubs would want to prise away from us.

"While we'll miss him both as a player and as a person around the place, it's a great move for him and he leaves with nothing but our very best wishes and appreciation for everything he's done for the club and the memories he's given to the supporters.

"His departure provides opportunities for other members of the squad as well as for new signings to take on the mantle of scoring goals for us, and we move forward continuing to work as hard as ever to bring success on and off the pitch for this club."