



EPL Transfer Deadline 2026: Morgan Rogers Breaks British Record as Clubs Race to Beat 31 August Cutoff

Description

The EPL transfer deadline is nearly upon us, and this summer has already delivered some of the most eye-catching deals in Premier League history. With the window slamming shut on 31 August 2026, clubs have been spending at a breathtaking rate and the headline deals have truly redefined what it means to be an expensive British footballer. Here is our comprehensive guide to the EPL transfer deadline 2026 and the deals that have shaped the new season.

Morgan Rogers Breaks the British Transfer Record at Chelsea

The biggest deal of the summer belongs to Chelsea. Under the stewardship of Xabi Alonso himself a marquee appointment from Bayer Leverkusen the Blues moved decisively to sign Morgan Rogers from Aston Villa for a staggering £117 million, smashing the previous record for a British-born player.



Source: Manchester City FC official website ([mancity.com](https://www.mancity.com))

Rogers, 23, established himself as one of England's most exciting attacking talents at Villa Park, and his performances in the 2026 FIFA World Cup – including a starring role in England's run to the semi-finals – confirmed his status as a generational talent. Alonso's Chelsea will look to Rogers and Cole Palmer to provide the creative spark that drives their title challenge. Wearing the No.17 shirt at Stamford Bridge, Rogers has already spoken of his dream move and the ambition that attracted him to west London. For context on how Chelsea assembled their squad heading into this season, see our earlier [Chelsea 2026 transfer analysis](#).

Elliot Anderson: Manchester City Smash Their Own Record

Just days before Rogers's move was confirmed, Manchester City broke their own transfer record to sign Elliot Anderson from Nottingham Forest for £116 million. The deal, which eclipsed the previous British transfer record set by Jude Bellingham's £115 million move to Real Madrid in 2023, signals City's intent to remain at the summit of English football despite losing Rodri to long-term injury.

Anderson, 23, made a profound impression during England's World Cup campaign and his box-to-box dynamism has long attracted admiring glances from the Etihad. Pep Guardiola has spoken enthusiastically about the midfielder's "energy and intelligence", suggesting Anderson is viewed as a long-term cornerstone of the City midfield. His arrival from Nottingham Forest – a move that also significantly weakens one of City's rivals – is a statement of intent from a club that refuses to relinquish their grip on English football's upper echelons.



Source: Manchester City FC official website (mancity.com)

Liverpool in Advanced Talks for Barcola

While Rogers and Anderson have dominated the headlines, Liverpool may yet land the most dramatic deal of the window. Reports on Friday morning suggest the Reds are closing in on a £120 million move for PSG forward Bradley Barcola, with an agreement expected within the next 24 to 48 hours. If confirmed, the French winger would not only become the most expensive player ever signed by Liverpool but also surpass Rogers as the most expensive signing in Premier League history.

Barcola's pace, directness and ability to operate on either flank would give Andoni Iraola's side a genuine match-winner. It would also represent a significant statement of ambition from a club determined to return to the Champions League elite after finishing fifth last season. With the deadline approaching fast, Liverpool supporters will be watching their inboxes nervously.

Who Else Has Been Busy Before the Deadline?

Beyond the British-record deals, this has been a particularly active summer window across the Premier League. Arsenal – who claimed the title last season – have moved strategically to strengthen their squad. Manchester United, now under permanent manager Michael Carrick, have focused on building a cohesive side that suits Carrick's positional style. Tottenham, under Roberto De Zerbi, have also been active in reshaping their group, as covered in our earlier [Tottenham transfers analysis](#).

The summer of 2026 will long be remembered as the window that shattered financial boundaries. Whether Rogers, Anderson or Barcola ultimately justifies their fees will only become clear over the coming seasons – but for now, English football has once again demonstrated its appetite for the spectacular. For all the latest Premier League action, visit our [Sports section](#).

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