



**Easy
Read**

Disability Football Plan 2024 to 2028

Football without limits



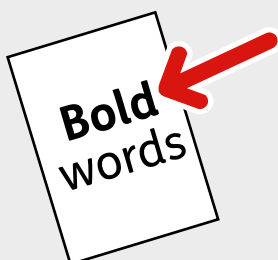
Easy Read



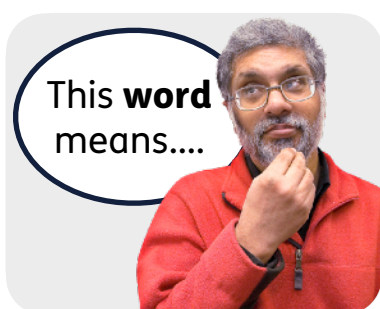
This is an Easy Read version of some information. It may not include all of the information but it will tell you about the important parts.



This Easy Read booklet uses easier words and pictures. Some people may still want help to read it.



Some words are in **bold** - this means the writing is thicker and darker. These are important words in the booklet.



Sometimes if a bold word is hard to understand, we will explain what it means.



[Blue and underlined](#) words show links to websites and email addresses. You can click on these links on a computer.

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About this booklet



This booklet is from The **Football Association (FA)**.

The **FA** is in charge of football in England.



We do things like make rules about football and run football competitions in England.



This includes **Disability Football**.

Disability Football is football that Disabled people play.



This booklet will tell you about our **Disability Football Plan: Football Without Limits** for 2024 to 2028.

The plan explains how we will help Disabled people take part in football in England in the next few years.

About our plan

What we have done



In 2021, we made a plan called **Football Your Way** to make sure that everyone in England can take part in football.

Over the last 3 years:



- **England Para Teams** have been doing well in football competitions around the world.

England Para Teams are made up of the best players who play Disability Football for England.



- More Disabled people have been playing **grassroots football**.

Grassroots football is when people who are not professional footballers play football in their local area.

What our plan will do



We want our new plan to help us with our goal to make football fair for everyone.



We promise to follow the rules about keeping people safe with our plan.



We hope that more Disabled people will want to take part in football because of this plan.



We want you to know that if you have a disability, there are chances for you to play football.



That could mean playing football for fun, or even trying to play football for England!

Disability Football in England



There are 9.8 million Disabled people in England.



Disabled people are less likely than other people to be active and feel included in sports.



7 out of 10 Disabled people want to be more active.



But only 4 out of 10 Disabled people feel like they have chances to be more active.



The Covid-19 pandemic and the **cost of living crisis** have made these issues worse.

The **cost of living crisis** is when prices go up a lot, and people cannot afford the things they need to live.



There are 2,103 Disability Football Teams in England.



More than half of these teams play **pan-disability football**.

Pan-disability football is when players with different disabilities and health conditions play together.



There are 42 different competitions called **leagues** for pan-disability football teams in England.



There are also many **impairment-specific football** teams in England.

Impairment-specific football is when only people with the same disability or health condition play together.



We run lots of sessions for Disabled people who want to play impairment-specific football for fun.



There are 7 impairment-specific **England Para Teams**.

Remember, **England Para Teams** are made up of the best players who play Disability Football for England.

These England Para Teams are for:

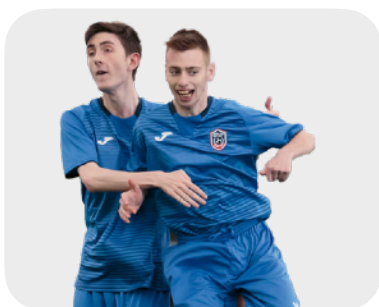


- Blind men and women, and **partially-sighted** men.

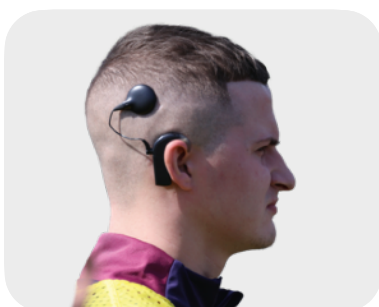
Partially-sighted means they cannot see very well.



- People who use a **powerchair** - this is a kind of electric wheelchair.



- Men with cerebral palsy.



- Deaf men and women.

Our priorities



This plan has **7 priorities**.

Priorities are the most important things that should be done first.

Priority 1: Help Disabled people play football

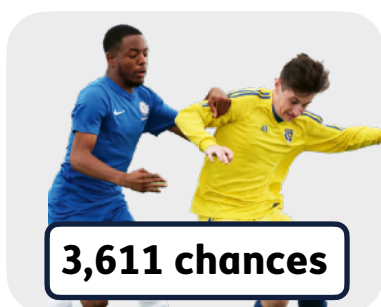


Priority 1 is about helping more Disabled people play football.

By June 2028, we want to have:



- 28,300 Disabled players in Disability Football in England.



- 3,611 chances for Disabled people to play different kinds of Disability Football in England.

We will help more Disabled people play football by:



- Giving Disabled children better chances to play football in a safe and fun place.



- Making it easier for schools and local football clubs to include Disabled people and help them play football.



- Teaching staff how to give Disabled people more chances to play football.



- Making Disabled football teams fun and easier to join.



- Using big football events and competitions to help Disabled people feel included in football.

Priority 2: The FA Disability Cup



This **FA Disability Cup** is a competition we run every year that shows off how good Disability Football is.



Priority 2 is about making sure that The FA Disability Cup keeps being the most important competition for Disabled players.

We will do this by:



- Making sure that we sell all the tickets to The FA Disability Cup each year.

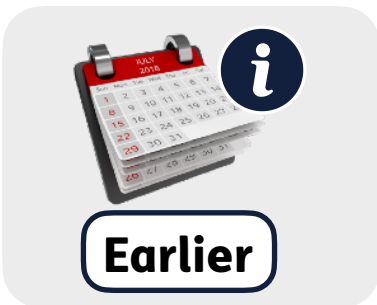


- Looking into which television and radio companies could show The FA Disability Cup on their channels.

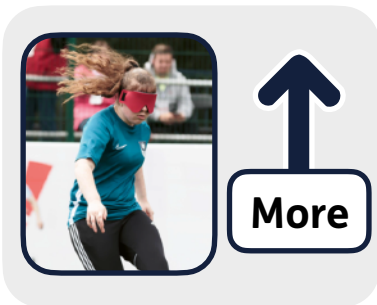
We will also:



- Share more information with the **media** - these are things like television, radio and newspapers.



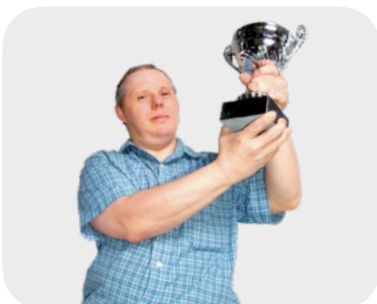
- Start sharing this information earlier.



- Try to have more women playing in The FA Disability Cup by 2028.



- Share the stories of people taking part in The FA Disability Cup so more people will want to take part in the future.



- Make going to The FA Disability Cup more special and fun by letting fans do things like hold the trophy.

Priority 3: The Para Talent Pathway



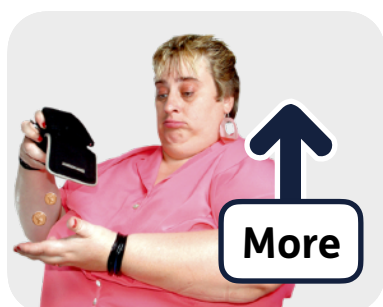
The **Para Talent Pathway** is how we find the best Disabled football players and help them get better at football.



Priority 3 is about:

- Moving more players to join the England Para Teams.
- Making the Para Talent Pathway a good experience.

We will do this by:



- Finding and training more Disabled players from very poor areas.



- Thinking about each player's needs and skills to make a training plan that works for them.

We will also:



- Move 10 players into England **Development Squads** and **Senior Squads** every football season.

Development Squads are where football players train so they can join Senior Squads.

Senior Squads are the main teams that play matches for England.



- Improve how we find and train Disabled female players and Disabled players from different backgrounds.



- Think of new ways to find and train Disabled players who are good at football across England.



- Help people understand how we find and train Disabled players.

Priority 4: Para Teams



Priority 4 is about helping the England Para Teams get ready to win top competitions.

We will do this by:



- Helping most Para Teams come 1st, 2nd or 3rd in competitions against other countries.



- Hiring more Disabled people from different races and with different disabilities to work in Para Football.



- Making England Para Teams better places for players so they feel happier and play football better.



- Working with other disabled sports to understand how to support different players and teams.

We will also:



- Work with football organisations like FIFA and UEFA to make sure that Disability Football is run well around the world.



- Help players get ready for life after they stop playing football.

Priority 5: Coach training



Priority 5 is about providing the best training for coaches of Disabled players and Disabled coaches.

We will do this by:



- Making sure that more Disabled people finish a basic coaching course.



- Helping more coaches finish our course about coaching Disabled football players.



We will also:

- Check that the coaches of the best Disability football teams are happy with our training courses.



- Make sure that coaches can learn new skills when they need to.



- Make a new course to help players become coaches after they stop playing football.

Priority 6: Tell people about Disability Football



Priority 6 is about helping more people learn about and support Disability Football.



We also want more people to see and talk about the information that we share about Disability Football online.

We will do this by:



- Working with different people and media organisations who can help us share information about Disability Football.



- Share what the Para Teams are doing at all times of the year.



- Letting more people know about chances for Disabled people to take part in football in their local area.



- Share more videos of Disability Football matches online.



- Teaching football clubs how to include Disabled people and make it easier for them to play football.

Priority 7: More money for Disability Football



Priority 7 is about getting more money to support Disability Football.

We will do this by:



- Asking organisations who support The FA to give more money to Disability Football and Para Teams.



- Working with organisations to help find more support and money for Disability Football.



- Showing the government how Disability Football can help them with their plans.

We will also:



- Show organisations how supporting Disability Football can help them make the world better.



- Work with Sport England to help more Disabled people play football and be active.



- Work together with the new England Football Charity and agree on how we can help each other.



- Find organisations that want to help Disabled people have the same chances as everyone else.

Find out more



You can find out how to play football in your local area by visiting the England Football website:
find.EnglandFootball.com



If you cannot find anything that you can take part in, please contact your local **County FA**.

Your **County FA** is in charge of football in your local area.



You can find out how to contact your local County FA here:
www.EnglandFootball.com/participate/leagues-and-clubs/county-football-associations



You can find out more about what we are doing to support Disability Football here:
www.EnglandFootball.com/play/Disability-Football

Contact us



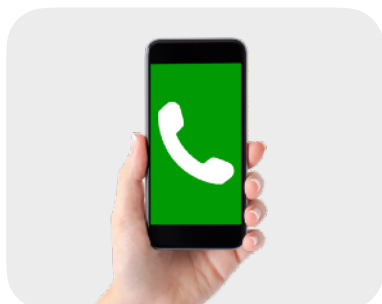
You can look at our website here:

www.theFA.com

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