



ParalympicsGB



Championing Change: Environmental Sustainability 2024 - 2028

Introduction

ParalympicsGB ten-year strategy, Championing Change, committed to reducing the organisation's environmental impact, highlighting environmental sustainability is an increasingly important issue for athletes, fans, corporate partners, UK Sport and other stakeholders. As a high performing sports organisation, we have an opportunity and an obligation to be a positive force for change for the wider Paralympic movement.

Our sustainability strategy has clear, authentic and realistic environmental sustainability goals that align with the expectations of our athletes and stakeholders, whilst safeguarding our organisation's future. It demonstrates our commitment to mitigating the negative effects of climate change on disabled communities and amplifying the voice they have at the table on climate adaptation and justice. Additionally, we continue to explore our role in environmental sustainability within the disability sports industry, knowing we can't make change without collaborating with others.



Disability and climate change

The impacts of climate change disproportionately affect disabled people; a recent Harvard study identified they are two to four times more likely to die or be injured in climate emergencies such as heatwaves and floods.

Yet **governments typically do not include the diverse needs of disabled communities in their climate adaptations and response**, which can create additional barriers. For example, added bicycle lanes may cause bus stops to become wheelchair inaccessible.

Furthermore, **many mainstream sustainability initiatives overlook considerations around accessibility and inclusivity** e.g. there is a lack of recycling information on packaging for people with visual impairments, or more sustainable travel options, such as trains, are often less accessible.



What does this mean for our environmental sustainability strategy?

Inclusion and accessibility are equally as important to us as tackling environmental climate change. So our actions need to be informed by both considerations. We also operate within a four-year cycle with concentrated peaks of activity around a Summer Paralympic Games meaning annual emissions reductions goals are not appropriate.

Our environmental sustainability strategy has been framed with the following principles in mind:



Consider the barriers to sustainability that disabled people may face



Shape goals which accommodate our Games cycles



Never compromise on accessibility



Strive for greater environmental sustainability without impacting our ability to deliver a best prepared team at every Games



Our environmental sustainability framework sets out clear goals and the strategic priorities:

GOALS	Reduce our environmental impact		Galvanise action across our sphere of influence		
MISSION	We will embed environmental considerations into our practices and processes and drive to Net-Zero		We will use our voice to inspire others to act, and demonstrate a commitment to make sustainability for the disabled community more accessible		
PRIORITY	1. Reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions	2. Minimise our demand on materials	3. Enable our athletes to educate and inspire on environmental issues	4. Support and empower the disabled community on their sustainability journey	5. Accelerate positive environmental change through our partnerships
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• By 2024, all our employees will have undergone sustainability training• Each year, evidence of contributing to environmental sustainability knowledge-sharing with our members and stakeholders to stimulate ripple effects across other organisations and nations that we have strong relationships with					

Reduce our environmental impact



Strategic priority 1: Reduce our greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

- By 2024, to understand our carbon footprint and what data we require to measure it annually
- By the end of 2025, reach Net-Zero across all our direct operations (Scope 1 & 2)
- By 2028, reduce travel related emissions through more mindful travel policies and methods
- By 2040, reach Net-Zero across Scope 3

Reduce our environmental impact



Strategic priority 2: Minimise our demand on materials

- By 2028, demonstrate over a 50% reduction in materials transported to the Games monitoring reductions over Games cycles
- By 2028, all Games procurement will be reused or donated, and we will divert all operational waste from landfill
- By 2028, we will have sustainable team kit and kitting out process

Galvanise action across our sphere of influence



Paralympics

Strategic priority 3: Enable our athletes to educate and inspire on environmental issues

- By 2026, there will be environmental sustainability driven learning and development opportunities / advocacy for all athletes to be able to partake in
- By 2028, we will have built sustainability into our campaigns and programmes delivered in collaboration with our athletes.

Galvanise action across our sphere of influence



Strategic priority 4: Support and empower the disabled community on their sustainability journey

- By 2028, be leading with examples of commissioning and championing academic research to further understand the unique barriers between disability and sustainability
- By 2028, have evidence of influencing policy change related to making sustainable practices more accessible and inclusive

Galvanise action across our sphere of influence



Strategic priority 5: Accelerate positive environmental change through our partnerships

- By 2025, we will integrate sustainable thinking into our partnerships
- By 2028, evidence of 2 new partners or partner-led programmes which demonstrate collective action to tackle sustainability challenges facing disability communities

Our strategy aligns with six of the UN Sustainable Development Goals

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REDUCED INEQUALITIES



Reduce inequality and promote social, economic and political inclusion...

...by using our influence to support disabled communities to overcome the challenges they face due to climate change

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RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



Ensure sustainable production and consumption...

...by minimising the volume of materials that we use and incorporating circular principles into our procurement

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CLIMATE ACTION



Take urgent action to combat climate change...

...by committing to reach Net-Zero GHG emissions across Scope 1, 2 and 3 by 2040

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LIFE ON LAND



Protect ecosystems and halt biodiversity loss...

...by aligning with the principles of the UN Sports for Climate Action Framework, which promotes greater environmental responsibility

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PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



Inclusive societies and institutions at all levels...

...by championing policy change and giving our athletes a platform to advocate for a more inclusive approach to the sustainable transition

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PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



Strengthen the means of implementation of the SDGs...

...by working with our commercial partners and supplier communities to collectively tackle challenges and accelerate positive change

ParalympicsGB environmental sustainability: one year progress update

1. Reducing our green house gas emissions

- We calculated our carbon footprint baseline and now understand the impact COVID had on our carbon emissions
- We have established our carbon reduction plan that will be reviewed annually
- We made more sustainable decisions for the Paris Games, with a particular focus around travel, kit, procurement and branding

2. Minimise our demand on materials

- 44.08% reduction in CO2 from procurement of items in Rio to Paris
- 4.78% reduction in CO2 produced by Paris kit compared to Rio kit
- 4.61 tonnes of packaging recycled at Kitting out for Paris
- All competition apparel products contained a minimum of 74% recycled materials
- 100% of our branding was sourced from Europe and 54% of branded materials were recycled
- 76% of items procured were recycled or repurposed
- 99% of ParalympicsGB food was either consumed or donated

3. Enable our athletes to educate and inspire on environmental issues

- Athletes Commission contributed and helped shape our Environmental Sustainability strategy
- 9 athletes engaged with our pilot environmental sustainability education programme

4. Support and empower the disability community on their sustainability journey

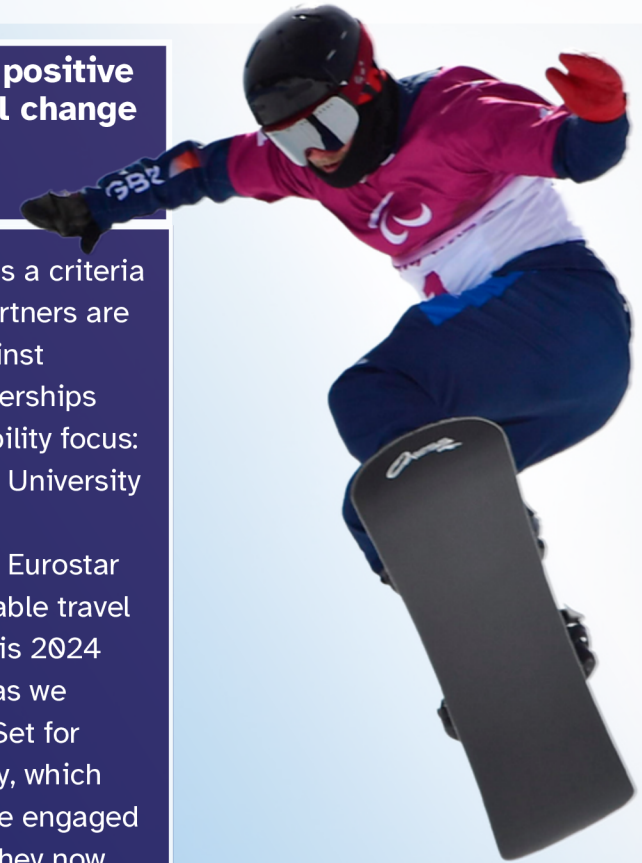
- As part of our new strategic partnership with Loughborough University we are developing a plan in how they can support us successfully deliver against this goal

5. Accelerate positive environmental change through out partnerships

- Sustainability is a criteria that all new partners are measured against
- Two new partnerships have sustainability focus: Loughborough University & British Gas
- Partnered with Eurostar as our sustainable travel partner for Paris 2024
- With British Gas we launched Get Set for Positive Energy, which saw 95% of the engaged pupils saying they now know more about sustainability, 58% have taken positive action towards a more sustainable future and 91% want to help protect the planet (86% before)

Plus:

- 91% of ParalympicsGB Staff undertook basic carbon literacy training



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