



Paul's first career was in the Royal Air Force as a logistics officer, taking early retirement in 2006 in the rank of group captain to become CEO of the Football Foundation, the biggest sports charity in the world by revenue. Working closely with the Premier League, the Football Association, and the UK Government via Sport England, the Foundation distributes c. £135 million per year to improve grassroots community football/sports facilities and uses football and other sports to develop individuals and communities, especially those in deprived communities.

After 14 years, Paul retired for a second time in 2020. Since then, he has developed a portfolio of non-executive roles, including Chair of Welsh Boxing; Chair of the Chartered Institute of Procurement and Supply, a global professional membership, vocational training and awarding organisation for procurement and supply professionals; lay (independent) member of the House of Commons Standards Committee, regulating the conduct of Members of Parliament; Chair of the Royal Air Force Sports Federation; and acting as permanent independent member of the Harrow School Complaints and Appeals Committee.

Paul has also ventured into the commercial world, having accepted an offer to join the Board of Pitchbooking.com, the market-leading scheduling and payments solution for sports facilities in the UK, to advise its commercial growth strategy as its only non-executive (non-founder/non-funder) Director. Paul has an MA from Kings College, London, a post-graduate diploma in Engineering Business Management from the University of Warwick, is a Fellow of the Chartered Institute for Procurement and Supply and was awarded an MBE in 2021 for services to football.

Paul Thorogood MBE

Welsh Boxing

