leisure opportunities

13 JANUARY - 23 JANUARY 2012 ISSUE 571

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£1bn legacy strategy announced

Culture secretary Jeremy Hunt and Sport England have announced details of a new five-year youth and community strategy that aims to create a participation legacy from the 2012 Games.

The new initiative will lead to more than £1bn of National Lottery and Exchequer funding invested in growing the number of people taking part in sport at grassroots level between 2012 and 2017.

Every secondary school across England is to host a community sports club and atom is earmarked for opening up school facilities to public use. Meanwhile, county sports partnerships are poised

to be given additional resources in order to help establish effective links between schools and sports in the community and support national governing bodies.



An additional £100m is available for new facilities in "popular" sports

Other commitments include a £40m local sport fund to help authorities improve provision and £100m more for new facilities in popular sports. Details: http://lei.sr?a=h5g2n



The site has interested a range of "major players"

Interest shown in Battersea Power Station

London's Battersea Power Station is set to go on the market early this year after a "number of major players" were said to have expressed interest in the site.

The sale of the 55-acre (22-hectare) former power station site is being handled by Ernst and Young after the previous owner was put into administration last month.

A major £5.5bn redevelopment scheme had been proposed for Battersea Power Station, which sits within the Vauxhall, Nine Elms, Battersea Opportunity Area regeneration zone of south London.

GLL spa concept for Surrey leisure centre

Social enterprise Greenwich Leisure has opened its latest Spa LONDON location at the revamped Rainbow Leisure Centre in Epsom, Surrey.

The new Spa LONDON at Rainbow Leisure Centre joins the brand's two existing sites located in Bethnal Green and Swiss Cottage, London and includes four treatment rooms. A relaxation area, a steamroom and

a monsoon shower are also included as part of the centre's new spa area, which offers therapies and treatments using Elemis and Jessica products. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=t1D5Q

UK parks to share £19m Lottery cash

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and Big Lottery Fund (BIG) has announced that 11 UK parks are to receive a share of £19m towards restoration and refurbishment schemes.

More than £11m worth of confirmed funding has been allocated to seven parks by the HLF, while £7.8m of joint HLF/BIG funding has been awarded to a further four locations.

Bentley Park in Doncaster (HLF) and Worth Park in Crawley (HLF/BIG) both were awarded a £2.4m grant, which was the largest share of the latest funding announcement.

Meanwhile, Manchester's Alexandra Park has been awarded a joint £2.2m grant for a major revamp of the Victorian amenity, which



London's Forty Hall, recipient of a £1.7m HLF grant

will include the restoration of historic features. Other confirmed HLF grant recipients included Forty Hill Park, London (ε1.7m); Cyfarthfa Park in Merthyr Tydfil (ε1.96m); and Grosvenor Park in Chester (ε2.3m).

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Leisure Opportunities is published fortnightly by The Leisure Media Company Limited, Portmill House, Portmill Lane, Hitchin, Herts SG5 1DJ, UK and is distributed in the USA by SPP, 75 Aberdeen Road, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. Periodicals postage paid @ Manchester, PA POSTMASTER Send US address changes to Leisure Opportunities, c/o PO Box 437, Emigsville, PA 17318-0437. The views expressed in print are those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of the publisher The Leisure Media Company Limited. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form or by means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recorded or otherwise without the prior permission of the copyright holder. Printed by Warners Midland plc. ©The Leisure Media Company Limited 2012 ISSN 0952/8210

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SPORT

Legacy boost for 350 sports groups

Sport England has announced an Olympic legacy funding boost worth £17.4m to be shared among 350 community groups in a bid to help improve sports facilities.

The support is being made available through the Inspired Facilities fund, which is part of the £135m Places People Play programme financed by the National Lottery.

Among the projects to receive funding is the upgrade of a 35-year-old clubhouse at Great Ecclestone cricket

club, Lancashire, to include disabled access (£50,000). A £50,000 grant has been made available towards the replacement of the roof at Worcester Citizens' Swimming Pool, which has a number of leaks threatening its future.

Elsewhere, a boxing club in Oxford has been awarded £46,000 to help fund the acquisition of a new permanent home venue.



Oxford Boxing Academy received £46,000 as part of the announcement

Hugh Robertson, minister for sport and the Olympics, said: "We want to use the Olympic and Paralympics next summer to inspire a generation to get involved in sport."

Sport England chair Richard Lewis added: "We've had unprecedented demand for this fund, which has really hit the mark with sports clubs." Details: http://lei.sr?a=d5O6A

Swansea watersports venue work to get underway

Swansea Council has revealed that construction work is set to get underway on a £1.4m scheme to establish Swansea Bay as a new Centre of Excellence for watersports.

OPCO Construction has been chosen to deliver a new building to include changing facilities; a multi-purpose space; and an area to store specialist watersports equipment.

Kite-surfing, kite-buggying and stand-up paddle boarding are among the activities proposed for the venue, with lifesaving courses also earmarked to take place at the centre.

£5m surfing complex planned for Bristol

Work on a new £5m inland surfing facility in Bristol could start as early as next year under plans unveiled by osteopath Nick Hounsfield and corporate marketing director Tobin Coles.

Hounsfield and Coles are working with Chris Hines, the Eden Project's former director of sustainability, for Wavegarden UK - the first centre of its kind in the world. A number of potential sites have been earmarked for the development, including the

13-acre (5.3-hectare) former sports field located alongside the Portway in Avon Gorge. An exhibition of the plans is to take place to enable residents to help shape the project.

It is anticipated the facility will offer "perfect" surfing waves up to 1.6m (5.2ft) high on a



450m (1,476sq ft) man-made lake and providing a 55-second ride for experienced surfers. Hounsfield said: "Wavegarden is ambitious

but achievable. It will be a fantastic place, close to Bristol city centre, that everyone can enjoy all ages, all backgrounds and all abilities."

Cage Cricket plots UK roll-out

A consortium led by former England cricketer Sir Ian Botham has appointed Capita Symonds to help drive forward the development and UK roll-out of the new Cage Cricket concept.

Launched in June, Cage Cricket is a new "urban form of cricket" and has been devised by Lawrence Prittipaul - a former Hampshire cricketer - and Trevor McArdle following four years of trial and development.

The concept aims to provide young people with an opportunity to play cricket in urban areas where local playing space and opportunities to join a cricket club are not provided.

Cage Cricket is played on a basketball-sized court and involves six players, with each player taking up one of six zones per over. The game tests batting, bowling and fielding skills.



Cage Cricket aims to increase opportunities in the sport in urban areas

The concept has already been successfully piloted in a number of schools and communities across the UK, with the aim now to expand its reach throughout the country.

Sir Ian said: "If someone can go from beach cricket to playing for the West Indies, then why can't we have a vehicle that does the same in our urban areas?

Work starts on £6.3m Bridgwater pool

Sedgemoor District Council has announced work is underway on a £6.3m swimming pool, which will form part of Bridgwater's Trinity Sports and Leisure Centre.

Somerset County Council; BAM; Futures for Somerset: and leisure trust 1610 are also involved with the scheme, which follows the opening of dry facilities in November.

A 25m, six-lane swimming pool; a training pool; and changing rooms are being built as part of the latest Scott Brownrigg Architects-designed phase of work, which will be completed in spring 2013.



Volleyball England aims to increase participation

New beach volleyball funding scheme launches

Volleyball England has opened the new 2012 Beach Volleyball Capital Investment Initiative to increase the number participants and spectators in beach sports.

Support has been made available through Sport England and will see £400,000 spent over a three-year period within Volleyball England's existing Go Spike campaign.

The national governing body is aiming to construct 10 permanent multi-court beach centres by 2013, which will be partner-funded and part of a legacy programme for beach volleyball.

Oxford City sports facilities completed

A new Community Arena sports facility is to open at Oxford City Football Club later this month, which has been created with the help of Sport England funding.

The complex has been built at Marsh Lane in Marston and will include a 3G full-size synthetic football pitch; six floodlit netball courts; and a pavilion.

OCFC and Oxfordshire Netball have also provided funding to the £2.1m development, as well as England Netball, the Football Foundation, Oxford City Council; and Oxford Sports Council.

'World-class' VeloPark plans submitted

The Olympic Park Legacy Company has submitted plans for a "world-class" VeloPark, which will see London provide some of the best cycling facilities in Europe.

A 1-mile (1.6km) road cycle circuit and around 5 miles (8km) of mountain bike trails are to be built around the existing Velodrome and BMX track as part of the Lee Valley VeloPark.

A series of loops to the west of the Velodrome and a large single loop to the east will feature as part of the road cycle

circuit, which is to replace the old Eastway Cycle Circuit. Meanwhile, the mountain bike trails will form a loop from the north-east corner. The Games-time BMX facilities will also be regraded as part of the proposals.



The VeloPark scheme will be located to the north of the Olympic Park

A team comprising Hopkins Architects; Hargreaves Associates; LDA Design; Allies and Morrison; Atkins; and AECOM have drawn up the VeloPark vision. The development will take place to the north of the Olympic Park.

Oldham Community Leisure in drive to boost participation

A new scheme designed to encourage more people from deprived areas to take part in sport is to be launched early next year by Oldham Community Leisure (OCL).

Energize will provide a programme of activities and opportunities alongside Oldham

Athletic Community Trust; The Oldham College; and Community 1st Oldham.

OCL revealed the project has a target of 10,000 new attendances at sports sessions between January and July 2012, with £14,000 contributed by Community 1st Oldham.

£250,000 renovation for Bury St Edmunds facility

Abbeycroft Leisure has announced plans to carry out an extensive £250,000 refurbishment of the fitness facilities at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre in Suffolk.

Matrix will supply 110 pieces of equipment for the new-look gym, which will offer the Virtual Active experience to simulate climbing, running and hiking.

A new functional training area is also proposed by the leisure trust and social enterprise for Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre, which will boast a TRX suspension training area and a Power Plate zone.



Dixon will help members reach their fitness aims

LA Fitness teams up with Weight Watchers

Weight Watchers and LA Fitness have unveiled a new activity partnership, which is designed to help more than 1.2 million UK members adopt healthier lifestyles.

The 12-month venture will offer complimentary support in activity and healthy eating advice and will use the 2012 Games to inspire people to become more active.

Meanwhile, the partnership will also see LA Fitness creative director and television personality Alesha Dixon work in conjunction with both groups to help members achieve weight loss and fitness targets.

ISG nets £3.5m Enfield leisure centre contract

ISG has started work on a "challenging" project to redevelop Southgate Leisure Centre after it was awarded the £3.5m contract for the scheme by Enfield Council.

The work first involves the construction of a temporary structure to re-house facilities – including a gym; a spinning studio; and a dance studio – ahead of the demolition of most of the existing building.

Work will then start on the creation of a new centre to include the current pool, which will remain open throughout the project and will also receive an overhaul.

Girls-only scheme for Borders

Borders Sport and Leisure Trust (BSLT) has launched a new pilot initiative offering local teenage girls free gym access at its flagship TriFitness facility in Galashiels.

Based on the Fit For Girls project run by sportscotland and Youth Sport Trust, the trust aims to encourage girls between the ages of 11- and 16-years-old to adopt more active lifestyles.

More than 400 young people from Galashiels Academy will receive exclusive access to the TriFitness facility every

Saturday afternoon over an eight-week period. TriFitness will open outside of normal operating hours on a Saturday afternoon as part of the initiative, with the girls to have access to the facilities between 2pm and 4pm.

An induction to all cardiovascular and resistance equipment and an activity programme



TriFitness will open outside of normal Saturday hours for the initiative

that will be designed to meet individual needs forms part of the initiative.

BSLT's Emily McGowan said: "We know that there are many barriers to exercise for the 11-16 age group, including social pressures, not wanting to take part in mixed activities, and cost." Details: http://lei.sr?a=Woz2B

New UK distributor for Les Mills classes

Les Mills International (LMI) is to be the exclusive distributor for Les Mills group fitness programmes in the UK after reaching a deal with Fitness Professionals (FitPro).

The agreement will see LMI acquire the division of FitPro which has been responsible for the distribution of Les Mills programmes in the UK.

LMI will work alongside FitPro to ensure a smooth handover, with the Les Mills UK office based at FitPro's current offices until May before relocating to east London.

FitPro founder and CEO Brent Hallo said: "This new arrangement enables us to focus on growing our global business and to re-focus on our services including conventions, training and exercise products."

LMI will be able to offer its programmes "directly" to UK club partners

LMI CEO Phillip Mills added: "LMI will be able to offer an excellent package directly to its UK club partners, including access to the latest marketing material and resources to maximise class attendance in clubs."

New gym part of Rochdale school refurbishment

A new extension and a 112sq m (1,206sq ft) gym have been completed as part of a wider £9.1m revamp of the Matthew Moss High School in Rochdale, Greater Manchester.

The new fitness suite forms part of the Building Schools for the Future project, which

commenced in July 2010 and is expected to be fully completed by Easter 2012.

Precor has equipped the school's new fitness suite with its Experience Series range, which comprises Adaptive Motion Trainers treadmills and bikes featuring the P8o console.

Mosaic buys first freehold site

Mosaic Spa and Health Clubs has revealed that it has made its first move into ownership after buying Shrewsbury's Welti Health and Fitness out of administration.

The group operates a number of clubs around the UK. most of which are under the Fitness Express and Imagine Spa brands, and has confirmed the acquisition of its first freehold site.

Welti Health and Fitness has more than 2,500 members and comprises a large gym and two separate exer-

cise studios, as well as a kinesis zone, a boxing ring and a free weights area.

Facilities also include a swimming pool with a sauna and steamroom; six indoor and eight outdoor tennis courts; and a nursery. Following the deal, the venue is to be renamed The Shrewsbury Club.



Welti Health and Fitness will now be renamed as The Shrewsbury Club

Downing Corporate Finance, a venture capital trust that acquired a stake in the business last August, funded the deal. Further investment is also planned to improve facilities.

Mosaic managing director Dave Courteen said: "We very much hope to take the business to the next level."

Scots 'not adopting' healthier lifestyles

Many people across Scotland understand how to adopt a healthier lifestyle but do not make the necessary changes to their behaviour, according to a new report from NHS Health Scotland

Knowledge, Attitudes and Motivations to Health highlights an ongoing gap between how people perceive their own lifestyle and how healthy they actually are. The report uses the findings from a section of the 2012 Scottish Health Survey and includes health topics such as alcohol con-

sumption, physical activity and diet.

More than half (52 per cent) of those questioned felt they were physically active enough to remain healthy, although only 39 per cent actually met current recommendations.



Scots are not making the required changes to ensure a healthier lifestyle

Meanwhile, 41 per cent described themselves as a "very light or occasional drinker" and 21 per cent as a "light but regular drinker" despite exceeding the recommended limits. Details: http://lei.sr?a=U1d5Q p

£800,000 DL Kids facility unveiled in North London

David Lloyd Leisure has announced the launch of its new £800,000 DL Kids facility as part of a wider £1.85m investment in its Finchley racquet and fitness club in London.

The purpose-built area features two activity rooms, an interactive classroom, a sports hall

and a play frame, offering a range of term-time and holiday programmes for young people.

DL Kids aims to complement the way in which children learn during pre-school and school time, with a number of activities including arts and crafts; sports; and role play.



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Elemis signs new UK spa deals

Elemis, one of the UK's leading spa and skincare brands, has continued its expansion after confirming the addition of five new UK spas to its portfolio this winter.

Among the venues to partner with Elemis is The Garden Spa at The Bath Priory Hotel, which features four treatment rooms - including one double room - and an indoor pool.

Another signing includes Fullerton Place Spa at Shortflatt Tower near Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which has four treatment rooms.

hammam, steamroom and an outdoor hot tub and now offers a range of Elemis therapies.

Two venues in West Yorkshire have also partnered with Elemis - Wood Hall Hotel and Spa in Wetherby, which has two treatment rooms, and The Potting Shed Spa in Batley. Meanwhile, Elemis has also joined forces with



The Bath Priory Hotel's Garden Spa is among one of the five new deals

The Rush Salon Group's flagship salon in the centre of London – The House of Rush – which spans two floors.

An Elemis spokesperson said: "These spas are new to the portfolio and offer their guests a unique and wonderful experience, allowing them to leave their cares at the door."

New services provider for beauty sector

The UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES) has announced that Habia is to deliver key training and business development services across the UK's hair and beauty sector.

UKCES has appointed the group as its preferred provider of "universal services", including National Occupational Standards; apprenticeship frameworks; and qualification-related activities.

Habia secured the UKCES deal, which covers a mini-

mum three-year period commencing 1 April, following a comprehensive commissioning process that took place last year.

Alan Goldsbro, chief executive officer of Habia, said: "This is great news for the hair and beauty sector as it shows that the development



Habia is set to deliver services such as National Occupational Standards

of qualifications and standards for our industries is of national importance.

Habia's bid for the universal services contract was part of a collaborative partnership with four other sector bodies, including SkillsActive and People 1st.

Wyndham Grand London reopens Blue Harbour Spa

Wyndham Grand London Chelsea Harbour has announced the reopening of its Blue Harbour Spa, following a two-year refurbishment.

Facilities such as the six treatment rooms including one for disabled guests – are among the new additions to the spa, while the 17m

indoor swimming pool and sauna area have benefited from improvements.

Following the refurbishment, the spa has seen the introduction of Ireland-based brand Voya alongside products from Susan Molyneux and Aromatherapy Associates.



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Fresh HLF application for **Bromley Museum plans**

Bromley Council has approved revised proposals for a first stage application to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), which will help support the planned extension of Bromley Museum, London.

A previous bid for support was unsuccessful, although the council has now drawn up a reworked submission. A decision will be made by the HLF this summer.

Bromley Council is looking to improve facilities at Bromley Museum with a café; a landscape viewing platform; and additional exhibition spaces for local artefacts.



Bletchley Park was an important wartime venue

Grade II listed status for Bletchlev Park's Block C

Bletchley Park's Block C, in which the Enigma Code was cracked during World War II, has received Grade II listed status from heritage minister John Penrose.

The building is at the heart of plans to turn the site into a heritage centre, and housed the first high-speed data processing machines used to crack German codes.

Last month, it was revealed Google had donated £550,000 towards the first phase of the £15m project and helping to provide match funding needed to draw down a £4.6m Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

Stoke museum bids to protect collections

Stoke-on-Trent's Wedgwood Museum is to start work "in earnest" to raise funds needed to protect its collections relating to the historic 250-year-old pottery group.

It follows a High Court judgement in late December 2011 that ruled the museum's collections were not held in trust and could be sold off in order to pay off a multimillion pound pension fund deficit.

The museum's collections currently include more than 100,000 documents and manuscripts relating to Josiah Wedgwood and his renowned pottery company.

£9m BMAG project moves forward

A £9m development to create new galleries exploring the history of Birmingham at Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery (BMAG) has moved forward, with the internal fitout now set to begin.

Thomas Vale Construction has handed over the new Birmingham History Galleries to staff following work to restore and refurbish part of the Grade II*-listed museum building. West Yorkshirebased Redman Design is behind the proposals.

Due to open in September,

the project has involved the creation of more than 1,000sq m (10,764sq ft) of space, including four "distinctive" galleries exploring the city's history from medieval times to 1945.

A fifth Your Birmingham gallery will examine the character and identity of the city and its people, which will be shaped by contributions



The new Birmingham History Galleries are due to launch in September

from local residents. The Heritage Lottery Fund awarded a £4.9m grant in 2009.

Birmingham City Council cabinet member for leisure, sport and culture Martin Mullaney said: "This exciting project, which will tell the story of Birmingham's great global history, is now moving into the final stage."

New-look Accreditation scheme launches

A new-look Accreditation scheme for UK museums and galleries has been launched to focus on issues currently affecting attractions, such as collections development.

Arts Council England (ACE); CvMAL: Museums, Archives and Libraries Wales: Museums Galleries Scotland; and the Northern Ireland Museums Council have drawn up the new-look scheme.

Accreditation, which is the recognised quality standard for UK museums and galleries, aims to outline

good practice and the revised scheme places a greater emphasis on visitors' needs.

ACE chief executive Alan Davey said: "Our ambition is for more people to experience and be inspired by museums and galleries."



The programme has now reopened to applications, with four organisations including Shakespeare's Birthplace Trust already achieving full Accreditation after testing the new-look process. Details: http://lei.sr?a=V7x7D

At-Bristol appoints new chief executive

At-Bristol has confirmed that Phil Winfield, director of the INTECH Science Centre and Planetarium in Winchester, will replace Dr Goéry Delacôte as chief executive.

Winfield has been responsible for leading INTECH through its transition from small

local charity to become a major educational attraction. He will join At-Bristol in April.

Last July, it was revealed Dr Goéry Delacôte would be stepping down from the post after more than six years to become president and chief scientific advisor of At-Bristol.

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'Crucial' year for tour operators

Some UK travel companies and tour operators will have to "radically" alter business models to adapt to new market conditions and survive in 2012, according to KPMG.

The advisory firm said 24 operators went into administration last year and expects more to follow over the next year, with the high-volume model in "terminal decline".

KPMG highlighted the growth of low-cost carriers; online booking; and ongoing economic uncertainty could make 2012 one of the "most challenging" for the sector.

Fuel cost and Air Passenger Duty increases will also have an impact on tour operators over the coming 12 months, with KPMG outlining five steps that businesses should consider.

The firm recommends investment in online and mobile technology; the offering of



KPMG is expecting more UK tour operators to struggle throughout 2012

"dynamic products" to meet changing customer needs; and focussing on cost reduction.

Elsewhere, KPMG said tour operators and travel companies should look at ensuring a range of "strong brands in high margin spaces", while maintaining a healthy balance sheet.

Ireland's national body to promote Dublin's tourism

Fáilte Ireland, the national tourism development authority for Ireland, is now responsible for Dublin's tourism promotion as part of a government shake-up of arms-length bodies.

Dublin Tourism is to be merged with its parent organisation as part of a rationalisation being undertaken by minister for transport,

formed a valuable role in promoting the capital, but inevitably there has been considerable overlap with the work of Fáilte Ireland."

tourism and sport Leo Varadkar. Varadkar said: "Dublin Tourism has per-







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Isle of Wight in line for £3m tourism boost

A new private sector-led organisation is to be created with the help of £3m of public funding to promote the Isle of Wight as a visitor destination under plans announced by the council.

Isle of Wight Council (IWC) is planning to consult with the island's tourism sector on the proposals, which will lead to the establishment of the new destination management organisation.

According to the local authority, the proposals will comply with government tourism policy that includes

the creation of partnership-based tourism organisations led by the industry. IWC cabinet member for the economy and the environment George Brown said:"In these

most difficult of financial times it is an important commitment of the council to consider allocating a significant sum to tourism for the next nine years."



A new industry-led group is to be set up in order to promote the island

2012 - a year of opportunity in Wales



EDWINA HART is Welsh Assembly Government minister for business, enterprise, technology and science

e start 2012 in Wales with a new UK consumer marketing campaign, which will show people how they can have a 'proper holiday' during 2012. The TV adverts feature real people who have been disappointed with previous trips abroad, where the usual 'fly and flop' holiday left them with no memories or experiences.

This Visit Wales marketing campaign goes beyond the conventional approach of telling people what's good about Wales – it actually shows real people having a fantastic holiday in Wales and should ensure that Wales really does stand out from our competitors in the UK and internationally.

As London is gearing up to deliver the 2012 Olympic Games later this year, Wales is also playing a big part in the delivery of the Games. Cardiff is one of a number of host cities for London 2012. Wales – of course – has produced great athletes, not least because we have enviable training facilities created by nature. One of those assets is our coastline. This year, Wales becomes the first country in the world to open a dedicated path along its entire coast. It has already been named by Lonely Planet as the greatest region on earth to visit in 2012 and will help to attract more visitors to our coastline and provide a real boost to our economy.

Our priority for 2012 is to make sure that investment in quality continues through these tough economic times. At the end of last year, I launched the Economic Growth Fund. Any offers will be time limited to ensure grants are taken up and used before the end of 2012 and the closing date for applications is 31st January 2012 so businesses need to move swiftly.

We have also launched a scheme specifically targeted at the Tourism industry — 'Building for 2012'. The winter period is traditionally a time when tourism businesses can upgrade their facilities with a minimum of disruption. The 'Building for 2012' project is a call to SME tourism businesses across Wales to invest in quality, in readiness for spring 2012. Again, the opportunity will be time bound and projects will need to be completed before 31 March.

HOTELS

Firmdale secures new funding

Firmdale Hotels, the operator of boutique hotels in London and New York, US, has secured £188m from Barclays Corporate in order to fund the next phase of its expansion plans.

The latest facility includes the provision of financial support for new developments, such as the group's latest scheme – a 92-bedroom property at Ham Yard, London.

More than 20 residential apartments and retail units also form part of the project, which will see the hotel

become Firmdale's seventh in the capital.

Barclays has also agreed to refinance Firmdale's existing facilities over a three- to five-year term, which will help provide security of liquidity for the duration of the period.

Firmdale director Malcolm Soden said: "Our banking relationship is critically important to



 $Firm dale\ Hotels\ already\ runs\ boutique\ hotels\ in\ London\ and\ New\ York$

not only our existing business but also to our growth aspirations.

"Having already provided development finance for five of our hotels over the years, Barclays have once more stepped up to the plate and enabled our new Ham Yard development to progress."

Travelodge announces 2012 hotel opening plans

Travelodge, the UK-based budget hotel operator, has announced that it is to launch 41 new properties across the country during 2012 in a move expected to create 1,000 jobs.

The 41 new hotels represent an investment of $\pounds 246m$ and will expand the group's portfolio to

537 properties. The openings include the 500th Travelodge in Stratford, east London.

Last month, Travelodge announced that it had added nearly 150 more locations to its list of target sites across the UK, including a number of "tourism and event hotspots".

Majority of UK consumers 'use vouchers'

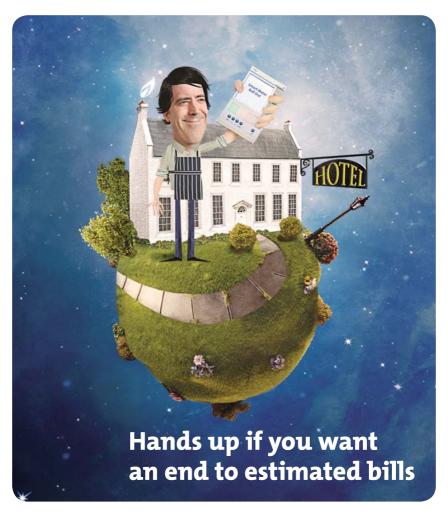
New research from Deloitte and BDRC Continental has revealed that more than half of UK consumers (59 per cent) have used a special offer youcher when dining out.

According to the latest Taste of the Nation poll of 3,000 consumers, 18- to 34-year-olds are the group "most engaged", with 67 per cent using vouchers. However, just 25 per cent admitted they went out more often than usual as a result of establishments offering vouchers and Deloitte believes it may be time for eateries to cut back on such deals.



Only a quarter of Britons go out more often where a voucher is offered

Jon Lake, corporate finance director in Deloitte's licensed retail group, said: "Some [operators] will find it difficult to determine the most effective method for phasing out vouchers and increasing their customers' average spend while retaining their loyalty. However, our research indicates it could be achievable." Details: http://lei.sr?a=T5M8Y



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New artistic director appointed to Tate Liverpool

Francesco Manacorda, director of Turin, Italy-based contemporary art fair Artissima. has been named as the new artistic director of Tate Liverpool from April.

The ex-curator of Barbican Art Gallery will succeed Christoph Grunenberg, who is to become director of Kunsthalle Bremen. Germany, after 10 years at Tate Liverpool.

Tate Liverpool executive director Andrea Nixon said: "We are very much looking forward to his artistic vision and experience contributing to shaping Tate Liverpool's future programme."



Parkwood will maintain the existing programme

Parkwood nets Crawlev's **Hawth Theatre contract**

Parkwood Leisure has secured a 10-year management contract for the operation of the Hawth Theatre in Crawley, West Sussex, from the local authority.

The deal with Crawley Borough Council is scheduled to commence on a February and will see Parkwood Leisure maintain the current programme of events and further develop its existing facilities.

Hawth Theatre currently offers an 855seat main auditorium and 146-seat studio, as well as an amphitheatre set in the adjacent woodlands; a restaurant; and bars.

£1m+ for Scottish museums and galleries

More than 260 accredited museums and galleries throughout Scotland are in line to benefit from support totalling in excess of £1m allocated in the Scottish Government's 2012-13 draft budget.

Funding will be distributed by Museums Galleries Scotland on behalf of the government and comprises revenue (£970,000) and capital (£100,000) support.

A total of £400,000 of revenue funding will be made available to accredited venues, with the remainder to be ring-fenced for Recognised Collections.

BP renews cultural sponsorship

BP is set to invest £10m in the British Museum; the National Portrait Gallery; the Royal Opera House; and Tate Britain after renewing its sponsorship of the arts institutions.

The company will provide funding over a five-year period as a result of the deal, which is one of the largest long-term corporate investments in the UK's arts industry. Each of the four institutions have existing partnerships with BP and will now secure a greater amount of funding to help further develop programmes.



Culture minister Ed Vaizey said: "This is a significant investment, with £10m going directly towards the staging of world-class exhibitions and performances."

British Museum director Neil MacGregor said: "BP's renewed commitment to the Museum allows us to ensure that our six

million visitors a year will continue to have the opportunity to experience important loan exhibitions for the next five years."

Tate director Nicholas Serota added: "BP's continued support over the next five years will be vital as we rehang the displays in 2013 following completion of major building works."

New chair for Arts Council of Northern Ireland

Bob Collins, former director-general of Ireland's national broadcaster RTE, has been named as the new chair of the Arts Council of Northern Ireland (ACNI)

Northern Ireland culture minister Carál Ní Chuilín has confirmed the appointment of Collins, who will serve a four-year term and replaces outgoing chair Rosemary Kelly.

Ní Chuilín has also confirmed that David Alderdice; Anna Carragher; Noelle McAlinden; Katherine McCloskey; and Paul Mullan had been appointed to the ACNI board.

£4m Hastings gallery to launch in March

Hastings' new £4m Jerwood Gallery, which will enable the Jerwood Foundation to display its collection of contemporary British paintings, will open on 17 March.

Designed by HAT Projects, the contemporary art attraction is part of a wider £9m redevelopment of the East Sussex resort's Stade area.

Capital and running costs for the Jerwood Gallery will be entirely funded by the foundation, and it is expected the building will act as an "important catalyst" in the town's regeneration.

The gallery will incorporate more than 500sq m (5,382sq ft) of exhibition space, including a 180sq m (1,938sq ft) space for temporary programmes, as well as a sculpture courtyard.



The HAT Projects-designed venue forms part of a wider redevelopment

Jerwood Foundation chair Alan Grieve said: This is the culmination of the initiative to make a new home for Jerwood's collection of 20th and 21st century art."

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PROPERTY



Local authorities back Silverstone masterplan

Aylesbury Vale District Council and South Northamptonshire Council have approved plans put forward for a comprehensive development of Silverstone.

A 20-year vision for the British Racing Drivers' Club-owned venue has been drawn up to safeguard its long-term future as an international motorsport facility.

The decision to approve the outline plans subject to section 106 agreements - conforms with the February 2009 Silverstone Development Brief. A kart track; an outdoor stage; a Museum of Motor Sport and three hotels are among the proposals.

Green light for Turnstone's St Neots leisure scheme

Huntingdonshire District Council has approved plans put forward by property group Turnstone Estates for a new 32,000sq ft (2,973sq m) leisure scheme in St Neots.

The development is designed to revitalise the town centre and will boast a six-screen cinema; four restaurant buildings; and a public plaza, as well as residential units.

Turnstone managing director Chris Goldsmith said: "We are very much looking forward to delivering these long-awaited leisure facilities to St Neots and the surrounding area."

Royal Albert Docks shortlist announced

Newham Council has said that eight developers have been shortlisted to come up with proposals for the redevelopment of the Royal Albert Docks site in east London.

Dauphin Holdings Group; Muse Developments; Salmon Harvester Properties; Wrenbridge Land; and St Modwen Properties are in the running to develop the 35-acre (14-hectare) site.

Micro World Developments; Canary Wharf; and Sinowest Construction Group also feature on the shortlist, with a developer to be appointed by September.

Peel submits latest MediaCityUK proposals

Manchester-based real estate investment company. The Peel Group, has submitted plans for the latest phases of mixed-use development at MediaCityUK in Salford.

It is expected the new additions will create 459,000sq m (4.9 million sq ft) of space to the east of the existing facilities, which opened at Salford Quays last year.

Among the outline plans submitted to Salford City Council is 26,000sq m (280,000sq ft) of hotel space and 2,500sq m (269,000sq ft) of leisure facilities.

Office space, residential units and retail outlets are also proposed as part of the plans, along with public spaces. The development site spans more than 10 hectares (24.9 acres).



The latest phases are to the east of the existing MediaCityUK complex

Environmental considerations have also been taken into account, with water features and green roofs, the retention of trees and enhanced pedestrian/cycle access included.

Operators chosen for 2012 facilities

The Olympic Park Legacy Company (OPLC) has said that it has appointed operators to manage the Aquatics Centre, Multi-Use Arena and ArcelorMittal Orbit following the 2012 Games.

It means that the futures of six of the eight permanent Olympic venues are now secured, with leisure trust Greenwich Leisure (GLL) to operate the Aquatics Centre and Multi-Use Arena.

Meanwhile, Balfour Beatty WorkPlace is to operate the ArcelorMittal Orbit attraction

and has also been chosen to co-ordinate the maintenance of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park once reopen from 2013.

The contracts will provide 86 apprenticeship places per year, while combining two venues into one deal will ensure the Aquatics Centre will require no additional public subsidy.

GLL will operate the Aquatics Centre (above) and the Multi-Use Arena

Baroness Margaret Ford, chair of the OPLC, said: "GLL and Balfour Beatty WorkPlace will play a key part in the creating a Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park that is a thriving visitor destination with world-class sporting venues both affordable and accessible to the public." Details: http://lei.sr?a=p3I5a

National Trust welcomes planning framework report

A new report from the Communities and Local Government select committee urging "significant changes" to planning reforms has been welcomed by the National Trust (NT).

The committee of MPs has called for the removal of a default 'yes' to development from

the new National Planning Policy Framework, following a review of the document.

Earlier this year, the NT had raised concerns the planning strategy had placed short-term economic gain ahead of other considerations, including the protection of the countryside.

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The Council is looking to re introduce the service in April 2012 and is inviting expressions of interest from companies with suitable experience to provide a seasonal service from start of April to end of September each year over a period of 3 years. The successful contractor is to provide a comprehensive service to include boats (pedabos, rowing boats), life jackets, oars, man power (supervision), ticketing, heath and safety and any other liabilities.

Interested parties are required to complete a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire which will be dispatched 30th January 2012 with a return date of 10th February 2012 to demonstrate suitable company experience to enable the Council to create a short list.

Short listed companies will be invited to make a detailed tender submission between February and March 2012 for an initial 3 year contract with the option for the Council to extend the contract for a further 2 years. Tenders will be evaluated in accordance with the project evaluation matrix and best value principles. Contract commencement will be in April 2012.

If you would like to discuss this

opportunity further, please contact: Martin Hussey, Cultural Business

Development Officer, Tel: 0208 313 4351

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PTI unveils Suspended Movement course

UK-based provider Premier Training International (PTI) has announced the launch of its new CPD Certificate in Suspended Movement Training, which has been on offer since late December.

The first of the courses. which are due to take place from the end of February 2012, have been designed for fitness professionals looking to learn more about suspension training techniques.

Available at a number of selected PTI venues, the new one-day course

will provide an understanding of the theory and safe application of effective methods and includes a variety of exercises.

PTI sales and marketing director Victoria Branch said: "Courses such as the Certificate in Suspended Movement Training allow learners



The first of the new one-day courses will commence in late February

the opportunity to offer their clients a new and stimulating way to exercise.

"The methods and techniques acquired over the day are designed to integrate seamlessly with other training modalities so as to enable trainers to enrich the breadth of training provision that they can deliver to client."

De Vere unveils new apprenticeships

A new apprenticeship programme, which has been designed to offer "high quality" employment opportunities to young people is to be unveiled by the De Vere Academy of Hospitality.

Due to formally launch on 1 February 2012, the De Vere Apprenticeship scheme is to last for at least 12 months and will see all candidates employed across the group.

The programme has been devised following consultation with the National Apprenticeship Service (NAS)

and now complies with new national standards

for apprenticeships. De Vere Academy managing director Kellie Rixon said: "The De Vere Academy now has an even more robust structure that will allow more young people to become stars in the catering, hospitality, and service sectors.



De Vere's apprentices are to be employed across the hospitality group

"We are grateful for this further collaboration, support, and development being undertaken with NAS.

NAS chief executive Simon Waugh added: "The new delivery model proposed by De Vere meets the comprehensive quality standards for apprenticeship." Details: http://lei.sr?a=I8p5r

Business leaders support £1bn Youth Contract

The leaders of the four largest employer organisations have backed the government's £1bn Youth Contract, which aims to create job and learning opportunities for young people.

The British Chambers of Commerce, the Confederation of British Industry, the British

Retail Consortium, and the Federation of Small Businesses all support the initiative.

It follows a round-table discussion headed by deputy prime minister Nick Clegg, which also saw representatives from Hilton Hotels and InterContinental Hotels Group attend.

Strictly shape up with Springboard



GARETH EDWARDS is education director at The Springboard Charity

hile we all looked forward to Christmas and the well deserved break with family and friends, our thoughts have inevitably turned to shedding those excess pounds that we have accumulated following the parties, pies and profiteroles.

Now it's time to turn those good intentions into brilliant deeds for 2012 by signing up for The Springboard Charity's Latin Aerobics sessions. Strut your stuff as the Virgin Active Zumba-trained instructors guide you through salsa, samba and reggaeton steps at some of London's top hotels.

Springboard and partners Virgin Active have teamed up with Marriott Grosvenor Square, Rennaissance St. Pancras, Lancaster London, The Tower Hotel and Grosvenor House Hotel, so you'll be strictly sweating in some of the best venues in town.

The good news is that the cost of this programme is less than joining a gym, so you're improving your health and having a great time all at a very reasonable cost. And don't forget you'll also be helping to raise vital funds for a charity that directly supports young people, disadvantaged groups and unemployed people by helping them get meaningful opportunities to get a job in the hospitality and leisure sector - one that's managing to hold its own during this difficult economic climate and there is a demand for new talent to enter the industry.

The sessions started on 9 January at the Grosvenor House Hotel, and will run every Monday for six weeks. You won't even feel like you're working out because the fun factor takes over as you immerse yourself in the latest aerobic dance craze! Get all your friends, family and colleagues involved to boost your drive and confidence. Don't think of it as a workout, think of it as a party!

We're aiming to get 600+ people signed up to take part and, with the Olympics just around the corner, there couldn't be a better time to get involved. Get fit as you dance the winter blues away! As Len Goodman might say: "It's got be worth at least a seven!" Details: http://lei.sr?a=W1x9O















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Apprenticeships

Lead the future at The Gym

The Gym Group, the UK's fastest-growing low-cost gym operator, is seeking to recruit a number of exceptional General Managers and Assistant General Managers.

Backed by £29.5m of funding, The Gym Group has already opened 18 sites, with seven more opening soon and a pipeline that'll see a portfolio of 40 clubs by the end of 2013. Each club has an annual turnover in excess of £1m a year, for which managers have P&L responsibility.

These roles require extraordinary managers with proven entrepreneurial flair and commercial ability, as well as the skill, energy and determination to drive and grow the business. We're looking for managers who enjoy having the freedom to take charge of all aspects of an operation.



General Managers

Salary: £27.000 - £30.000 + bonus + optional PT income

We're looking to recruit four exceptional General Managers for new and soon-to-be-opened sites in:

- Norwich
- LutonBristol
- Birmingham

The role

- For Norwich and Luton, to oversee the launch of the brand new facilities
- Responsible for driving and delivering the ongoing commercial performance of the business, which is expected to have an annual turnover in excess of £1 million
- · Responsible for co-ordinating marketing activities
- A very hands-on leadership position, responsible for recruiting the club's team and for managing them to success
- The opportunity to Personal Train for up to 10 hours per week and keep 100% of the income you generate from this work
- Reports directly to a Regional Manager

The candidate

- . Must be at least REPS level 2 qualified
- Must have at least two years' management experience within the health and fitness industry, including responsibility for delivering the commercial performance of a business area
- Must have experience as a General Manager overseeing all business areas within a fitness facility
- Must be passionate about customer service and be entrepreneurial in the way you'll manage the new club
- Will have a proven track record in driving sales and coordinating local marketing activity, as well as of recruiting and managing a successful team

Assistant General Managers

Salary: £16.000 - £18.000 + optional PT income

We're looking to recruit five exceptional Assistant General Managers for soon-to-be-opened sites in:

- Norwich
- Luton
 London Wood Green
- Bournemouth
- Swansea

he role

Membership and sales administration processes are largely managed online. This means your role is focused on:

• Assisting with the launch of the brand new facilities

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- Driving brand standards and customer service levels
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 Recruiting, training and managing personal trainers for the club
- The opportunity to Personal Train for up to 10 hours per week and keep 100% of the income you generate from this work.
- · Reports directly to the General Manager

The candidate

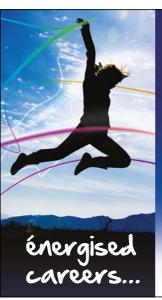
- . Must be at least REPS level 2 qualified
- Must have at least two years' operational gym management experience within the health and fitness industry
- Preferably, you'll have experience of driving sales activities from lead-generation campaigns
- Must be passionate about customer service and enjoy engaging with our members
- Experience of managing personal trainers with a 'leading from the front' management style

HOW TO APPLY:

These are both extremely varied roles that offer excellent opportunities to develop with a vibrant and growing business. They are both very hands-on, so you'll need to be outgoing and ready to get involved in every aspect of running a gym.

If you see yourself as an industry-leader of the future, please apply in confidence by submitting your CV and covering letter, with details of your current salary package, via The Gym Group recruitment website, www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/gymgroup





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£26,135 - £29,271 per annum plus membership of Civil Service pension scheme

Full details of this post can be viewed on www.nms.ac.uk

For further information and an application pack, please visit www.nms.ac.uk telephone 0131 247 4094 (answerphone) or e-mail: applications@nms.ac.uk stating reference NMS11/197. Closing date for completed applications is Thursday 26 January 2012. It is anticipated the selection event for this role will be held on or around Tuesday 7 February 2012.

National Museums Scotland is committed to being an Equal Opportunities Employer. www.nms.ac.uk

OPERATIONS / COMMERCIAL MANAGER

Salary Range £26,000 - £29,000 per annum + Performance related bonus and other benefits.



Blackpool Zoo is one of the UK's most established medium sized zoos, and in recent years the zoo has gone through a rapid modernisation and development process



The Zoo is operated by Parques Reunidos, one of Europe's largest leisu and attraction operators which specialises in the tourism/leisure sector. Parques Reunidos currently operates 71 parks around the world and attracts over 25.8 million visitors annually

We are currently seeking an Operations/Commercial Manager, dedicated to giving our visitor's a great day out. Reporting to the Zoo Director on a dayto-day basis you will be part of the senior management team, with a remit to develop; exploit and manage all secondary spend opportunities whilst ensuring that the park is running smoothly and efficiently.

The operations manager must have the ability to maintain and build upon our reputation, ideally coming from an environment where health and safety and customer service are paramount.

The role will involve motivating and managing a team, dealing with visitors, personnel, accounting and facilities. The ideal candidate will also have the ability to self-motivate and problem solve and enjoy working in a busy environment.

You will be an experienced senior leisure professional, an accomplished and experienced team leader, combining strategic and business awareness with the ability to influence and collaborate across the whole organisation. You will understand leisure best practice in the UK and or Europe and have delivered steady growth and innovative commercial developments, IT literacy, planning and presentation skills are essential.

Closing date 3rd February 2012

Please send a detailed CV and covering letter explaining why you wish to be considered for this post to Mrs Anita Bubbins, Personnel Manager, Blackpool Zoo, East Park Drive, Blackpool, Lancashire. FY3 8PP or by email to anita.bubbins@blackpoolzoo.org.uk

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This advert will have a hyperlink to your website, where you can list all the job vacancies in your company.



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Football Strategy Officer Social Inclusion Officer



Organisation: Leicestershire & Rutland County FA (LRCFA) LRCFA working across Leicester City Type of contract: 5 year fixed term

Closing date: Friday 10th February 2012 Salary: Football Strategy Officer £24,000 - £26,500

Social Inclusion Officer £19.000 - £22.000

Can you make a difference to the future of grassroots football in Leicester City? Leicestershire & Rutland County FA has two new vacancies to support the country's largest

Football Foundation award into grassroots football facilities. The Leicester City Football Investment Strategy consists of 4 Multi Use Games

Areas, 3 full size artificial grass turf pitches and 7 changing room/club house facilities associated with 9 partner clubs across the City. The roles will focus on the delivery of the Investment Strategies football development and business plans and support the County FA Strategy and FA National Game Strategy. Funded through Leicester City Council and the Football Foundation, both

positions will be employed by the LRCFA and form part of the existing Football Development Team. For further information regarding each of the two positions, please view

the individual Job Profiles.

HOW TO APPLY

Please send your CV with a covering letter detailing why you feel you are suitable for the role to Jobs@LeicestershireFA.com Please use the job title as the subject of your email. Interview dates: Week commencing Monday 20th February

If you have any queries regarding the roles, please contact Kelly Ellis County Development Manager on 07949 731153.

Leicestershire & Rutland is committed to equality of opportunity and welcome applications from all sections of the community.



For more details on the following jobs visit www.leisureopportunities.co.uk or to advertise call +44 (0)1462 431385



General Manager, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK Assistant General Manager, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK Full and Part Time Instructors, Kieser Training, London, UK Dual role Fitness Instructors and Sales Promoter/ Adv, énergie group, Bracknell, Berkshire, UK Recreation Assistant - 2 days (14 hours) per week, London South Bank University, UK Sports Centre Duty Manager (Full time), Abingdon School, Abingdon, UK A Fitness Instructor/Class Instructor, The Winston Churchill School, Woking, UK Duty Manager, Westminster Academy, London, UK Regional Manager, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK Self Employed Instructors, Kirklees Active Leisure, Yorkshire, UK Recreation Attendant, Everyone Active, Various locations, UK Relief Duty Manager, Everyone Active, Various locations, UK Membership Consultant, Everyone Active, Various locations, UK Duty Manager, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Middlesex, UK Human Resources Advisor, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Woolwich, London, UK Operations / Commercial Manager, Blackpool Zoo, Blackpool, UK General Manager, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Kentish Town - Borough of Camden Active Lifestyles Manager, Imperial College London, London, UK Children's Activitity Leader, Everyone Active, Staines, UK Visitor Manager, The Trentham Estate, Stoke-on-Trent, UK Operations Managers x2, Kent County Council, Gravesend, UK Business Sales Manager, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, London, UK Duty Manager - Swiss Cottage, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, London, UK Gymnastic and Trampoline Coaches, Everyone Active, Fareham, UK Experienced Health / Fitness professionals wanted. Ten Pilates, Central London, UK

Visitor Services Manager, National Museums Scotland, Scotland, UK Gym Manager, Pure Gym Limited, Nationwide, UK Client Services Manager, AsiaSpaBooker/ GramercyOne, Singapore Chief ExecutiveKent County Council, Gravesend, UK Chief Executive, Boccia England, Nottingham, UK General Manager, Bootcamp Pilates, Fulham, London, UK Sales Manager / Sales and Marketing Manager, Eden Fitness, London , UK Sports Assistant, Part Time, 4 posts, Fixed-Term, Loughborough University, UK Duty Manager, Loughborough University, Loughborough, UK Fitness Instructors, Newark & Sherwood District Council, Newark, UK Lifeguard, Oxford Brookes University, Oxford, UK Personal Trainer, Pure Gym Limited, Walton on Thames, UK

General Manager, Continuum, Portsmouth, UK Membership sales advisors, Energie Group, Harrow, london, UK Fitness Manager, Everyone Active, Hertford, UK Dual Fitness Instuctor & Sales Promotor/Advisor, énergie group, Redditch, UK L2 Fitness Instructor, Energie Group, Nottinghamshire, UK Membership sales advisors, Energie Group, Harrow, london, UK IoS Quality and Subcontracting Manager, Institute of Swimming, Loughborough, UK Fitness Instructor / Personal Trainer, Energie Group, Milton Keynes, UK Fundraising Officer, Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), East Mids Region, UK General Manager - Rivermead, Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Berkshire, UK Part Time Cafe Assistant, Jubilee Hall Trust, Covent Garden, UK Assistant General Manager, The Gym Group, Various, UK Chief Executive, Kent County Council, Gravesend, UK General Manager, The Gym Group, Various, UK Deputy Manager, Namco Operations Europe Ltd, Luton, Bedfordshire, UK Group Gym Manager, Dacorum Sportspace, Hemel Hempstead, UK Project Manager, EZ-Runner Systems Ltd, Nationwide, UK Salesperson, EZ-Runner Systems Ltd, Nationwide, UK Sports Massage Therapist, Ten Pilates, London, UK Operations Manager, Bristol Aquarium, Bristol, UK Regional Manager, The Gym Group, Various, UK Full and Part Time Instructors, Kieser Training, London, UK Spa Therapist, Sofitel London St James, London, UK International Business Development - Asia, GramercyOne, Singapore Client Retention Manager, GramercyOne, New York, United States Client Services Manager, Asia, SpaBooker/ GramercyOne, Singapore Customer Support Specialist, SpaBooker/ GramercyOne, Germany Client Services Manager, Asia, SpaBooker/ GramercyOne, Singapore Coaches Wanted, Bury FC Community Trust, Bury, UK General ManagerContinuum, Portsmouth, UK Operations Managers x2Kent County Council, Gravesend, UK Personal Trainer, The Gym Group, Wood Green, UK Assistant General Manager, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK General Manager, The Gym Group, Various locations, UK Client Services Manager, AsiaSpaBooker/ GramercyOne, Singapore

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Visitor ManagerThe Trentham Estate, Stoke-on-Trent, UK

Self Employed Instructors, Kirklees Active Leisure, Yorkshire, UK

General Manager - Bristol, The Gym Group, Bristol, UK

Join Our Team!

SpaBooker by GramercyOne, is the leading online booking, point-of-sale and business management software for the spa industry. Thousands of spas benefit from the #1 web-based system and SpaBooker is the chosen supplier of Hilton Hotels Worldwide and Six Senses.

GramercyOne is a rapidly growing, dynamic company headquartered in the United States and looking to continue its growth and support of clients throughout the world.

We are looking for intelligent professionals that thrive in a fast-paced, results oriented environment and have an exceptional work ethic.



The primary role of the Client Retention Manager will be to identify and retain accounts that may not be utilizing their system to its utmost potential. This position will work directly with the Vice President of Operations to meet and exceed retention targets, while also working with the implementation and customer support teams to ensure a positive overall experience for the client.

For immediate consideration, please submit a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to careers@gramercyone.com "Cliert Retention Manager, New York" must appear in Subject line of e-mail for consideration.

International Business Development Asia

As a member of the International Business Development team, you will be based in Singapore and responsible for new business acquisition by selling into corporate hospitality and wellness prospects across Asia and report to the VP of Sales. Core responsibilities include building a pipeline of opportunities (ideally through industry contacts), analyzing client requirements, presenting software capabilities to senior management and technology teams, designing a full scope solution to cover multiple locations and preparing RFPs.

For immediate consideration, please submit a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to careers@gramercyone.com "Intt Biz Dev - Asia" must appear in Subject line of e-mail for consideration.

Customer Support Coordinator New York

We are currently seeking articulate, energetic, confident, entry-level individuals with a college degree and brainpower to spare. To make it on the GramercyOne team you must be technology savvy, organized, able to multi-task and comfortable communicating on multiple platforms including phone. e-mail, internet and social media.

For immediate consideration, please submit a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to careers@gramercyone.com "Customer Support Specialist" must appear in Subject line of e-mail for consideration.



- Do you want to work with an innovative, growth-oriented computer software company to establish and build a new Singapore office?
 - Do you have a hospitality and/or spa and wellness background?
 - Do you understand the value of cloud-based computing solutions?
 - Are you a proven self-starter?
 - Do you have experience implementing and supporting large, multi-site software solutions and managing pilot locations for hospitality or spa brands?

If so, we'd love to talk to you.

As a member of our international team you'd be responsible for ensuring the success of our relationships with existing and new clients across the Asia Pacific region, reporting to our VP of Operations.

Our software solution is sold on a monthly subscription, so it's important for our clients to use it effectively to extract value so their business sees tangible results and we maintain a happy client.

For immediate consideration, please submit a cover letter with salary requirements and resume to careers@gramercyone.com "Client Services Manager, Asia" must appear in Subject line of e-mail for consideration.

Emails sent to any other address, or any phone calls, will result in the candidate being immediately removed from consideration.



GramercyOne is an Equal Opportunity Employer

For more information on these roles and to find out more about GramercyOne, go to: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/gramercyone

leisure opportunities

Daily news & jobs: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

Card charges face UK crackdown

The government is planning to bring forward new legislation to tackle "excessive" card surcharges imposed by businesses such as travel and entertainment operators.

It follows Office of Fair Trading recommendations and will lead to a ban on charges for all forms of payment, not just debit cards.

The ban will be enforced across "most retail sectors" and will ensure the UK becomes the first nation to introduce forthcoming EU legislation due by late 2012.

Mark Hoban, financial secretary to the Treasury, said: "[Consumers] have a right to understand the charges they may incur up front and not be hit through a hidden last minute payment surcharge.



The new ban on "excessive" charges will apply to all forms of payment

"We're leading the way in Europe by stopping this practice. The government remains committed to helping consumers get a good deal in these difficult times."

New family entertainment centre opens in Stevenage

DP Leisure has opened a second 360 Play family entertainment centre at Stevenage Leisure Park in Hertfordshire, following the success of its first venue in Milton Keynes.

The new 24,000sq ft (2,230sq m) venue, which is housed within the former Liquid and Envy nightclub, is approximately a third larger than the company's inaugural facility.

DP Associates designed the 360 Play centre, which boasts three main zones covering physical play, creative play and skills play on ground floor level. Read more: http://lei.sr?a=S4kof

Leisure firms 'neglecting' over-65s

The majority of leisure and hospitality businesses in the UK are "neglecting" the growing over-65s market, according to new research published by Barclays Corporate.

A total of 160 senior executives across the sector were surveyed as part of the study, with 88 per cent claiming to be "either engaged or highly engaged" with the demographic.

However, 62 per cent said their businesses did not offer any "specific services of products" towards over-65s and 82 per cent of those having no plans to introduce any in the future.

Just 3 per cent of firms polled are planning a major investment in provision for the over-65s market, despite its projected growth of 1.4 million people over the next five years.

Mike Saul, head of hospitality and leisure at Barclays Corporate, said: "This lack of tangible engagement with a generation that has,



Just 3 per cent of operators plan to invest in over-65s

for decades, shaped what leisure is in the UK should be something of a wake-up call.

"As the industry struggles against multiple headwinds, it would be a mistake to overlook the opportunities this healthier ageing population presents." Details: http://lei.sr?a=toJ8N

ADDRESS BOOK

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