

# leisure opportunities

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Daily news & jobs: [www.leisureopportunities.co.uk](http://www.leisureopportunities.co.uk)

Launching a legacy: London 2012 has had a positive effect on participation levels at clubs across the UK

## London's legacy 'already visible'

The London 2012 Games have had an immediate impact on the UK's sports sector – from grassroots levels right up to elite sport.

Evidence suggests that sports clubs, swimming pools and leisure centres – as well as national governing bodies – have seen an increase in people asking for advice on how to get involved in organised sport.

Swimming, cycling and rowing clubs have all experienced increased interest due to Team GB securing medals, while less prominent sports – including archery – have also benefited from Olympic media coverage (*To read more on the impact of cyclist Bradley Wiggins' heroics on British Cycling, turn to page 3.*)

To support clubs and centres in capitalising on the increased interest, Sport England has launched its digital legacy service, 'spogo' ([www.spogo.co.uk](http://www.spogo.co.uk)), in partnership with the Fitness Industry Association (FIA). The customer-facing service aims to make searching and finding physical activities as simple as other consumer-friendly online services.

Spogo is designed to make it easy for consumers to find the closest facility in which they can take part in a sport they have an interest in. The booking engine can be linked to a facility's own membership management system,

which will establish a seamless transaction process to drive new members.

Meanwhile, British Olympic Association chair, Lord Moynihan, has called for a comprehensive overhaul of the way sport is taught at UK school. Speaking at an Olympic press conference on 2 August, Lord Moynihan said that it is "wholly unacceptable" that half of Team GB's gold medalists in the Olympics have been privately educated, calling it "one of the worst statistics in British sport".

He said: "It's wholly unacceptable that more than 50 per cent of our gold medalists in London come from the private sector.

"It tells you that 40 per cent of all the medals came from seven per cent of the population (according to official figures, 7 per cent of people in the UK are privately educated).

"There is so much talent out there in the 93 per cent that should be identified and developed. That has got to be a priority for future sports policy. I have spoken about it many times and I will continue to speak about it until there is not breath left in me."

*• To read the thoughts of Ian Taylor, chief executive officer of SkillsActive, on the effect of Advanced Apprenticeships on the medal success at London 2012, turn to page 16.*



Crowne Plaza is one of IHG's nine hotel divisions

## OFT: IHG online hotel deals 'infringed competition law'

Hotel deals between InterContinental Hotels Group and Expedia and booking.com broke competition law, according to the Office of Fair Trading (OFT).

The OFT has issued a Statement of Objections, which alleges that agreements had restricted the ability to discount the price of room-only accommodation.

A formal probe was launched in 2010, with the activities designed to "increase barriers to entry and expansion" for other agents looking to gain market share.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=hopyt>

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## SPORT

# Council defers Afan Lido decision

Neath Port Talbot Council (NPTC) has deferred a decision on the multi-million pound Afan Lido development, which will provide a new leisure complex for residents in Aberavon.

The former Afan Lido was destroyed by fire in late 2009 and under the current plans is to be replaced with an expansive complex designed by Holder Mathias Architects.

A report put before NPTC cabinet members on 25 July had called for the new facility be built at the Hollywood Park site, rather than its former location on Aberavon Seafroft.

Plans have also been altered to provide an eight-lane, 25m swimming pool – two more lanes than originally put forward – following calls from local campaigners.

Facilities will also include a teaching pool; a fitness suite with a free weights area; and



Hollywood Park has been put forward as the site for the new Afan Lido

a four-court sports hall, although proposed enterprise units are no longer set to form part of the new development.

However, a NPTC spokesperson said: "The cabinet has deferred a decision on proposals for the new Afan Lido to a Task and Finish Group of the relevant scrutiny committee." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=l5k3C>

## Saracens secures long-term agreement with Allianz

Saracens rugby union team has agreed a new long-term stadium and sponsorship deal with Allianz, the German financial services company, worth a reported £8m.

The agreement will see Allianz become the club's main sponsor, while its new stadium and

community sports hub being built in Hendon, London, will be renamed Allianz Park.

Saracens chair Nigel Wray said: "We are now starting to realise our commercial potential. This deal is a massive step forward for us." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=r1KoT>

## BASIS announces new GSA partnership

BASIS (the British Association for Sustainable Sport) has announced the launch of a strategic partnership with the Green Sport Alliance (GSA).

It follows a roundtable session led by the two at the Beyond Sport Summit – held in London on 23-25 July – bringing together 50 international sports practitioners.

Nearly 150 professional and collegiate sports facilities from more than 18 leagues will come together in a bid to reduce ecological impact and to improve the performance of venues.

More details will be released in due course, with the respective boards to reconvene at the GSA Summit in Seattle, US, in September.

BASIS officially launched in October 2011 in order to help "educate, share best practice



BASIS aims to integrate sustainability issues into the UK sports sector

and integrate sustainability issues" across the UK-wide sport sector.

The association has also announced that its 2012 conference will take place at Cheltenham Racecourse on 20 September.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=13q7V>

## 'Wiggo factor' boosts UK cycling

British Cycling believes that the recent success of Bradley Wiggins – both in the Tour de France and the Olympic men's time trial – is going to have a "big, galvanising effect" on the sport in the UK.

Last month (July), Wiggins became the first Briton to win the iconic French road race and followed it up with a gold medal in the Olympic Games to become Team GB's most decorated athlete with seven medals now to his name.

One of the immediate results of Wiggins' success in La Tour was London mayor Boris Johnson's announcement that the city would bid for the UCI Track Cycling World Championships – to be held at the capital's Olympic velodrome.

Meanwhile, Visas's *London 2012 Games Spend Tracker* has reported a 5.1 per cent year-on-year increase in spending on bicycle shops, sales



Bradley Wiggins on his way to gold in the London 2012 men's time trial

and services – "a traditionally flat sector" – in the aftermath of Wiggins' Tour success.

- In addition to Wiggins' success, fellow cyclist Sir Chris Hoy has equalled rower Sir Steve Redgrave's record of five gold medals with victory in the team sprint event.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=C5O1q>

## Bristol Rovers receives stadium approval

Bristol Rovers Football Club (BRFC) has been given the green light to proceed with its new stadium on land next to the University of the West of England's Frenchay campus.

The Arturus Architects-designed project was approved by South Gloucestershire Council at a Development Control (West) Committee meeting held on 19 July.

At the centre of the scheme is a 21,700-seat stadium to provide a new home for the club. Gleds, Pegasus Planning Consultants and TPA were also involved.

Bristol Rugby Club will also relocate to the venue, which will meet all FIFA and International Rugby Union standards. Facilities will include a 1,280sq m (13,778sq ft) gym, a supporters club bar and a jogging track.



Arturus Architects are behind the design of the new 21,700-seat venue

BRFC chair Nick Higgs said: "For decades, the club has been searching for a suitable site to build a stadium. Numerous sites have been considered, but none have ultimately been proven to be viable."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=6b8Ho>

## Council agrees £45,000 study into Eastleigh leisure centre

Eastleigh Borough Council (EBC) will carry out a £45,000 feasibility study into options for future improvements to the Hampshire town's Fleming Park Leisure Centre.

In a recent meeting, EBC cabinet members acknowledged the role of the complex in

promoting active lifestyles and approved – in principle – investment in its facilities.

A report put forward options for improvements including a refurbishment of the existing site at a cost of between £7m and £12m.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=02y2w>

## University signs facility deal with Swansea City FC

Swansea University's Fairwood playing fields are to be transformed into a modern training facility under a new agreement with Swansea City Football Club (SCFC).

The Premier League club will lease the site from the university, with the site to be used as a venue for competitive games and training by the university's own teams.

Facilities will include eight full-size pitches – two of which will be all-weather; a dedicated training pitch for SCFC's squad; and medical/physiotherapy rooms.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h3k1F>



Faulkner Browns Architects designed the facility

## Legal challenges 'delay' Oxford pool development

Oxford City Council (OCC) has announced the development of a new £9.2m swimming pool has been "significantly delayed" as a result of continuing legal challenges.

The competition-standard pool will be built at Blackbird Leys Leisure Centre and will provide a new replacement for "older and expensive" pools currently open at Temple Cowley and Blackbird Leys.

Willmott Dixon has already been chosen to build the Faulkner Browns Architects-designed facility, which has been granted planning permission and is fully funded.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=I4n5E>

## Freedom Leisure completes Brighton energy schemes

Freedom Leisure has completed more than £134,000 of energy efficiency improvements at three facilities it operates in partnership with Brighton and Hove City Council.

The project started in April 2011 and has included the installation of modernised swimming pool systems, heating controls and eco-friendly lighting.

Prince Regent Swimming Centre, King Alfred Leisure Centre and Moulsecoomb Community Leisure Centre benefited, with 1.6m KW of electricity set to be saved.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=x4A3K>

### New system for Leisure Connection's hotel sites

Leisure Connection Hotel and Private Management has partnered with ClubWise to launch a new membership system at all nine of its Park Inn-based facilities.

The system allows customers to sign up for a membership online, while the direct debit details are simultaneously set up in the club's system to reduce process errors.

It also provides a solution in which customers can be kept informed of latest news and offers at Leisure Connection Hotel and Private Management-run facilities.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=i4Bop>



The club is the group's second to open in the UK

### Snap Fitness opens second UK club in Milton Keynes

Snap Fitness is to open its second UK club in Milton Keynes this month (August), with the club to include equipment from Octane Fitness, Matrix and Jordan Leisure.

The US group is the franchisor of more than 1,300 facilities worldwide and is looking to expand across the UK, with plans in place for between 75 and 100 locations.

The Snap Fitness concept aims to offer an affordable option for gym users, with its members paying on a month-by-month basis and having no contracts.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=E2T6X>

### Village Health and Fitness Clubs to offer SH'BAM

Village Health and Fitness Clubs has revealed it is to become one of the first UK operators to offer the SH'BAM group dance class to members across all of its sites.

It follows the recent UK launch of the product, which brings together basic dance styles into a 45-minute workout that uses simple moves for people of all abilities.

The group will continue to offer Les Mills products such as Bodycombat, Bodypump and Bodyattack in addition to SH'BAM, as well as CXWORX.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=G1k9m>

## FIA slams 'diet first' approach

David Stalker, CEO of Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has described claims that exercise plays no part in preventing obesity as "dangerous".

Responding to a new report – *Hunter-Gatherer Energetics and Human Obesity*, which claims obesity is more due to over-eating rather than sedentary lifestyles – Stalker warned of "over-simplifying the issue".

"The relationship between exercise, diet and other lifestyle factors which have led to rising levels of obesity is a complex one," said Stalker.

"I think it is overly simplistic and potentially dangerous to conclude from this research that exercise has no role to play.

"A diet high in fat, sugar and processed products has contributed to this epidemic. However, we should be wary of viewing physical activity through an obesity-tinted lens."



The new research involved academics from Tanzania, the UK and the US

The report, by a six-strong team including academics from universities in the US, the UK and Tanzania, studied the habits of the Hadza tribe, who still exist as hunter gatherers.

The report claims there is evidence that daily energy expenditure is an evolved trait which is unaffected by diverse lifestyles. The full report: <http://lei.sr?a=r2e2P>

## DC Leisure to deliver Sandwell complex

DC Leisure has been confirmed as Sandwell Council's preferred bidder to design and build a new £11m leisure centre and swimming pool complex in West Bromwich.

The facility is currently scheduled to open in early 2014 and will be delivered by DC Leisure in conjunction with Pellikaan Construction. Work is due to begin next year, subject to approval.

A 100-station fitness suite and dance studios will form part of the complex, along with a 25m pool, learner pool and a four-court sports hall.

The proposed complex will be located on the corner of Moor Street and Barton Street, with a planning application due to be submitted later this year. Work will start in early 2013.



The new facility will house a 100-station fitness suite and dance studios

Sandwell Council's Steve Eling said: "DC Leisure is a major player in the industry with all the skills, knowledge and expertise to give Sandwell a state of the art pool complex."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=f1N9j>

## Somerset health club completes Tritex installation

theclub at Cadbury House, one of the largest independent health clubs in the south west, has installed four new Tritex X-dream indoor bikes, following a £24,000 investment.

Members will be able to replicate the feel of riding a bicycle in an outdoor environment,

with the machines featuring real gears, brakes, handlebars and four terrain settings.

Virtual screens allow users to see where they are in relation to those on other bikes, which encourages a more competitive workout.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=UgDoj>

## PM promises healthcare legacy

London 2012's Olympic and Paralympic anti-doping facilities in Harlow, Essex, are to be transformed into a major new world-class resource for studying the impact of genetics and environmental factors on human metabolism.

The proposals have been welcomed by Prime Minister David Cameron, who said the new Phenome Centre – one of the first of its kind in the world – will ensure the UK becomes a world leader in healthcare and life sciences following the 2012 Games.

Cameron said: "This will take advantage of the extraordinary opportunities that lie in combining genetic data with the results of medical tests on tissues and blood.

It will allow us to understand the characteristics of disease and how these link into genes and our environment."



The Phenome Centre in Harlow, Essex, will be a 'world leading' facility

The aim of the new Phenome Centre is to help develop better and more targeted treatment for patients by investigating the phenome patterns of patients and volunteers by analysing samples – usually blood or urine – very rapidly and on an unprecedented scale.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=a75j>

## Enfield leisure centre revamp completed

Fusion Lifestyle has unveiled the new-look Albany Leisure Centre in Enfield, London, after completing work on an eight-month redevelopment programme costing £2m.

The facility contains a large gym with more than 70 stations of Life Fitness equipment and a free weights area; two new exercise studios; an indoor group cycling studio.

A 25m swimming pool with a separate learner pool and new changing areas are also among the facilities, as well as new café and an improved entrance and reception area.

Albany Leisure Centre is one of more than 60 facilities across London and the south east run by Fusion Lifestyle, with the project part of a wider investment in Enfield provision.



The new-look Albany Leisure Centre includes an indoor cycling studio

Tim Mills, director of business development, said: "This has been part of an £8.9m development programme of leisure centres in Enfield on behalf of Enfield Council."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=T4G3K>

## Stoke Mandeville plans £50,000 fitness investment

Buckinghamshire's Stoke Mandeville Stadium – the national centre for disability sport and home of the Paralympic movement – is to invest £50,000 in expanding its fitness offer.

The installation of new equipment will take place on 17 August and will see the facility offer

an additional 22 pieces of plate loaded equipment. The gym will reopen on 18 August.

Star Trac is supplying the equipment, while Matrix will provide Livestrong-branded bicycles and crank cycles.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=g0G2Y>

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## Leisure safety advice in the spotlight

The Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents (RoSPA) will run a free clinic at LIW2012. RoSPA's approach to leisure safety is that it should be "as safe as necessary, not as safe as possible".

On 18 September there will be a presentation titled As Safe as Necessary, outlining RoSPA's approach to leisure, using case studies to demonstrate how to strike the right balance when dealing with demands. David Walker, RoSPA's leisure safety manager will highlight key aspects.

On 19 September, Allison Spears, HM inspector of health and safety at the HSE, will present a seminar titled Health and Safety in Swimming Pools on why the guidance is being updated and what it should achieve for the sector.

## SportsArtFitness UK - The Green System

Flying the flag for a green approach in fitness facilities, SportsArt Fitness will be showcasing their New Green System which turns human energy into useable power.

The SportsArt 'Green System' uses a "pod" of fitness products attached to an inverter that harnesses human-generated power from exercisers and feeds this back into the power grid as useable energy. This is claimed to be the first "plug and play" solution of its kind for health club owners.

## Introducing Balanceability at LIW 2012

The UK's only accredited 'learn to cycle' programme for children aged 2½-6 will be introduced to the leisure industry at LIW 2012. It's being rapidly rolled out following support from Olympic cyclist Chris Boardman MBE and contract wins with Bourne Leisure and Pendle Leisure Trust.

The programme is a structured self-taught course available to schools, leisure centres and independent trainers. It combines unique ergonomic balance bikes with a schedule of activity that builds confidence, spatial awareness and skills.



Former badminton ace Gail Emms will make an appearance during the highly popular LIW Q&A sessions

## Team GB favourites to headline new live stage

LIW Live has been launched as a platform for exhibitors to display the best of their services on a live stage right in the middle of the show floor.

Some of the UK's leading Olympic faces will make an appearance, taking part in q&a sessions on LIW Live. Already lined up for this programme are 2012 medal hope Greg Searle and badminton ace Gail Emms, both attending with Precor, and the fantastic three time World Champion Beth Tweddle MBE, founder of exhibiting company Total Gymnastics who

will be showcasing their new programme, Gym Stars. Also taking part will be the cast of The Apprentice 2012, attending with contestant Stephen Brady and his new fitness company mysuccescoach.com.

The Biggest Loser winner Kevin McLernon will accompany Concept2 with plans to outline ways in which fitness providers can attract completely disengaged participants to their facilities. Swimwear brand Zoggs will also strut their stuff on the catwalk showcasing their newest ranges.

## Outdoor demo area/zip wire

Interactive family attractions specialist Innovative Leisure are set to supply the central feature of the Play & Attractions section at LIW 2012. Among the products being shown by the Leicester based company will be a fully operational SkyTrail High Ropes course, in addition to a Climbing Wall and, for the first time at the show, a Mobile Zip Line leading to the outdoor section of the show where Innovative Leisure will once again be operating an example of its Water Wars water balloon game.



Innovative Leisure will supply the central feature

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## Teamwork needed for GB tourism



**KURT JANSON**  
is policy director of  
Tourism Alliance

With the London 2012 Olympics now upon us, there is significant interest in our ability to host visitors from around the world and stage a memorable major international event.

Early subjects for scrutiny have been the immigration queues at Heathrow and the less than impressive performance of G4S in providing security. The concern being that any poor performance will be picked up by the estimated 20,000 international journalists attending the Games, thus adversely impacting upon the expected £2bn tourism legacy by dissuading people to visit the UK in future. This prospect is particularly worrying when the government has spent £27m on the "Britain is Great" campaign.

While all is being done to maximise the benefits to the UK of hosting the Games within some government departments, there is a lack of joined-up thinking across Whitehall. For example, if you are one of the burgeoning middle-class watching the Games in China (there are more than 1 million millionaires in China now and there will be 2.5 million by 2020) and think to yourself, "that looks like a country I'd like to visit", you face a number of problems.

First, the UK visa process continues to think all Chinese are economic refugees and treats you are such – something rather galling considering the relative economic performance of the two countries.

Then you have to pay more for a visa for the UK than you would pay for one to visit all the other countries in Europe combined. You then go to your travel agent and he tells you that the UK government has decided to charge your family £324 on top of the £296 you've just paid for visas.

At this stage, the agent also explains that the other reason that the package you are looking at costs much more than the one to France is that the UK also wants to charge you 20 per cent VAT on your stay, rather than the reduced rates on tourism services in the other European countries.

It is at this stage when you go home and tell the family that the Eiffel Tower looks beautiful this time of year...

## TOURISM

# London's 'performance' praised

London's Olympic tourism performance has been labelled "outstanding" by the European Tour Operators Association (ETOA).

The organisation underlined six areas in which the capital is outperforming some of the Games' previous host cities and delivering benefits for potential visitors.

According to ETOA, more than 60,000 foreign tourists are expected to stay in London hotels per night during the Games – up from 27,000 in Beijing and around 25,000 in Sydney.

London 2012 organisers are welcoming more members of the Olympic Family than previous Games, with half of the expected foreign visitors expected to come from this group. Meanwhile, accommodation remains available across London – offering rates at or below



ETOA has highlighted the "good news" for potential visitors to London

last year's prices – and ETOA believes the city has space for yet more visitors.

ETOA executive director Tom Jenkins said: "It is important to emphasise how well London is doing compared with other Games, and what good news there is for potential visitors."

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=H7E2j>

## European funding boost for Burren tourism initiative

The European Commission has approved funding towards a €2.2m (£1.7m) project to further integrate tourism and the natural heritage of the Burren on Ireland's west coast.

Clare County Council is leading the programme, which is one of more than 200 to

receive support through LIFE+ – the European Union's environment funding programme.

The Burren project will help ensure local tourism development complements the conservation of biodiversity among others.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=f7P2H>

## UK sector 'ready' for London 2012 Games

The UK industry is "ready" to ensure London 2012 is the "best ever" Games for both domestic and overseas visitors, according to Tourism Alliance chair Michael Hirst.

Hirst made the comments ahead of the first Olympic event at Cardiff's Millennium Stadium on 25 July – the women's football match between Team GB and New Zealand.

It is thought the sector could benefit by around £2bn as a result of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, with overseas visitor numbers already showing a 5 per cent rise.

London 2012 also gives the UK an important opportunity to market itself as a destination to tourists from emerging markets such as China, Brazil, Russia and India.



London 2012 is a key opportunity to market itself to emerging markets

• For more on UK tourism's prospects from the London 2012 Games, see left for Tourism Alliance policy director Kurt Janson's column.  
Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=i4w2t>



## ESPA partnership for Lifehouse

Lifehouse Spa and Hotel in Thorpe-le-Soken, Essex, UK has announced it has entered into a new partnership with international spa products and design company, ESPA.

It is one of the first major products to be undertaken at the spa and hotel following its rescue from administration earlier this year and represents a six-figure investment.

ESPA teamed up with Lifehouse as part of its year-long bid to secure partnerships with cultural institutions and experiential brands - which includes London's Serpentine Gallery.

Spa facilities - including 35 treatment rooms and a thermal area - remain unchanged, but it has been re-equipped to reflect ESPA's input and a retail area is also available.

Thorpe Hall Leisure, a company owned by Donald Emslie and Peter Murphy, purchased



Lifehouse Spa and Hotel will officially launch its ESPA spa in September

the Lifehouse Spa and Hotel out of the administration of Tangram Leisure earlier this year.

Emslie and Murphy have assumed overall responsibility for the spa and hotel, while Brian Hunter is operations director. Stephen Carter has been named non-executive director.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=S5g4O>

## Wahanda launches new online platform

Health and beauty marketplace Wahanda has introduced Wahanda Connect - an online booking system connecting businesses with customers.

The platform provides an end-to-end marketing solution which enables spa, salon, wellbeing, fitness and beauty professionals to get listed and sell to the end customer via Wahanda's network.

Firms who sign up to the service will receive access to an appointment system, providing a suite of tools which include the ability to sell on a number of platforms - such as Wahanda, and the supplier's own website or Facebook page.

A free scheduling tool and booking micro-site, appointment confirmations and SMS reminders are also included in the service.



CEO Lopo Champalimaud: "This is an exciting moment in our history"

The price point has been set at £30 per month and the booking data supplied by Wahanda Connect can be updated by operators to avoid double-booking and administrative errors.

Details: <http://lei.sr/?a=S9w7A>

## REN spa for Chapter Hotels' new Exeter property

Devon-based skincare brand REN has launched a spa at Chapter Hotels' latest property - the Magdalen Chapter, which opened its doors to guests in Exeter in June.

The spa opened on 24 July at the city's former 19th century hospital building, transformed

under the guidance of architects Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios.

Facilities include three single treatment rooms and one double treatment room, with REN therapies and products on offer.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=O3P7D>



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## ATTRACTIONS & MUSEUMS

### New board for Birmingham Museums Trust announced

A new board of trustees incorporating expertise from the arts, science and business sectors among others has been revealed for Birmingham Museums Trust (BMT).

It is one of the largest museums services to go to trust status and will operate attractions such as Thinktank and Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery.

BMT has already been confirmed as a Renaissance major partner by Arts Council England and will receive nearly £5.1m of funding over a three-year period.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=j9K4H>



The historic gallery building has been renovated

### William Morris Gallery to reopen its doors in August

William Morris Gallery in Walthamstow, London, has reopened following the completion of a £10m redevelopment.

Work included the revamp and extension of the Grade II gallery building to provide more exhibition space and the creation of a new learning centre.

The investment is part of plans to establish the gallery as an international centre of excellence for the study of William Morris – one of the foremost creative artists and original thinkers of the 19th century.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=y2l7l>

### New trust takes over control of Auckland Castle

The newly-established Auckland Castle Trust (ACT) is planning to restore and open up the County Durham property after assuming responsibility for its operation.

The trust aims to raise more than £10m over the next two years to realise its vision for Auckland Castle – the former home of the Bishops of Durham.

ACT is planning a centre for the History of British Christianity and to host exhibitions in conjunction with partners such as the V&A and the British Museum.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=c9t2i>

## HLF support for four UK museums

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has invested £15.9m in four major UK museum development projects – one in Dorset and three in London.

A £4.65m funding award – the largest of the four – has been handed to the Design Museum towards its move to the Commonwealth Institute building in Kensington.

John Pawson has redesigned the Grade II\*-listed property, which will see the museum move into a cultural quarter that already includes sites such as the V&A.

The V&A itself has also secured a HLF grant, with investment worth £4.3m going towards a restoration of the Europe 1600-1800 galleries back to their original Victorian design. Elsewhere, Imperial War Museum London secured £4.5m towards its new First World War Galleries.



Imperial War Museum London is among the four recipients of funding

Dorset's Tank Museum is the fourth recipient of funding and has secured £2.5m for a new Vehicle Conservation Centre in which visitors can learn more about armoured vehicles.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=N4T2u>

## Shannon Heritage to run Malahide Castle

Shannon Heritage has been appointed to operate Malahide Castle and Gardens in County Dublin, Ireland – its first move outside the Shannon area.

It follows a deal between the operator and Malahide Castle and Gardens – formed by Fingal County Council to oversee a €10.5m (£8.2m) investment in the attraction.

Shannon Heritage is set to operate the redeveloped castle – including a new museum and interpretation area – and a visitor centre in the old courtyard. The new and upgraded facilities will open in September.

John Ruddle, chief executive of Shannon Heritage, said: "The council is doing a superb job in the redevelopment of the castle and we look forward to building on this work."



Malahide Castle and Gardens will now be operated by Shannon Heritage

Shannon Heritage currently operates a number of attractions in Counties Limerick, Clare and Galway – including Bunratty Castle and Folk Park near Limerick.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H8F1W>

## New park director named by Oakwood Theme Park

Welshman Dominic Jones has been appointed as the new park director of Oakwood Theme Park – the attraction located across 80 acres (32 hectares) of Pembrokeshire countryside.

The 34-year-old has taken up the role after a career that has taken him to locations including

Hong Kong and Walt Disney World Florida, as well as Kenya and South Africa.

Jones also has experience of the UK sector, having worked at Madame Tussauds, Thorpe Park and Chessington World of Adventures.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=c9Y1S>

## £60m golf resort for Scotland

Wyndham Hotel Group is to operate a new hotel as part of a planned £60m golf resort development near Dundee under an agreement with MAP Property and Leisure Developments (Mappld).

The 187-bedroom hotel – Wyndham Grand The Angus – will be the first in Scotland to open under the group's flagship Wyndham Hotels and Resorts brand.

Designed by Archial and due to open in 2015, the hotel will also incorporate 10 two-bedroom lodges and will complement an 18-hole championship golf course which has been designed by 2011 Open champion Darren Clarke.

Hotel facilities will include a luxury spa with eight treatment rooms, a 20m infinity pool and a whirlpool, while a fully-equipped fitness suite and two dance studios are also planned.



It is Wyndham's first UK hotel outside London under its flagship brand

Mappld has now invested fully in the project, which will also boast a golf club, an academy and private residences. Plans are being finalised with a view to starting work next year.

The development will be located adjacent to the Forbes of Kingennie Country Resort. *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=J47EO>*

## Morgans to open Hudson-branded hotel in London

Morgans Hotel Group has announced plans to open and operate a new 234-bedroom luxury hotel in London during 2015.

Located in Great Scotland Yard, the Hudson London will occupy a 102-year-old building formerly used by the Ministry of Defence.

Westminster City Council has granted planning consent for the hotel, which is being purchased from the Crown Estate by Sansar Investments. Morgans has been appointed to operate the site in a partnership agreement. *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=f8Y6m>*

## Hilton unveils new London Wembley hotel

Hilton Hotels and Resorts has announced the opening of its "landmark" new hotel opposite London's Wembley Stadium – part of wider efforts to regenerate the area.

Both the exteriors and interiors of the 361-bedroom Hilton London Wembley have been designed by The Manser Practice to incorporate the "spirit of Britain".

Facilities include the LivingWell Health Club, with a 12-metre swimming pool, a sauna and steamroom, a whirlpool and a 24-hour gym for hotel guests.

Meanwhile, the ninth floor roof bar – Sky Bar 9 – will provide views overlooking Wembley Stadium, Wembley Arena and Wembley Way with an outdoor terrace for 150 people.



The new hotel forms part of London's wider Wembley City development

The property is part of Quintain's Wembley City scheme, which is revamping former exhibition lands surrounding the iconic stadium. *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=W1TtS>*

## Is honesty always the best policy?

**PHILIPPE ROSSITER**

is chief executive of the Institute of Hospitality



**G**iven the headlines which now appear on an almost daily basis, one might think that honesty in business, especially for those involved in financial services, is a quaint notion which harks back to a bygone era.

Too often one hears the callow reflection that if the 'rules' allow for an activity or certain course of action to be followed, then it must be acceptable. The truth, of course, is that rules and regulations are rarely 'water-tight', and the rapid advances of technology often far outpace the framework of any legislation leaving an inventive mind plenty of scope to 'interpret' the guidelines. As one hospitality manager said recently (in relation to the continuing tales of less than ethical behaviour on the part of certain bankers), 'it is not what they could do, it is what they should do that really counts'.

The key challenge in this current climate is for leaders to demonstrate that honesty is the best policy. Sadly, we have witnessed a woeful lack of observance of this principle, both in business and in politics. This has led to a lack of confidence in the ability of many businesses to conduct their affairs for the greater good, not only of their shareholders, but also of society. In politics, various scandals – personal and collective – unveiled by those who govern us, have also led to an up swell of apathy and cynicism among the population vis-à-vis the political elite.

At a time when the country requires decisive and honest leaders to move us out of recession, the country appears to remarkably bereft of any real talent. In a recent issue of *Management Today*, former Lloyds TSB CEO Sir Peter Ellwood said: "Arrogance, built on a lack of self-knowledge, is a disease that has brought down many once fine companies". For him, the overriding leadership quality is that of integrity.

This means not only engaging with people in an appropriate and honest manner, but also making sure that decision-making is about doing what is known to be right, even if the consequences might be adverse. Put simply, Sir Peter stresses that, "nothing is more important than integrity". We ignore this piece of advice at our peril.

## Confusion in the UK fitness market



### PETER MOODY

is partner and head of leisure and hospitality at Brook Street des Roches LLP and a LPF committee member

It's hardly surprising that, when someone receives a 144-page document, it takes a little digesting. And as a legal document, the contents are bound to be somewhat confusing. So it was in early June when Fitness First issued its Company Voluntary Arrangement (CVA) proposal.

The purpose of a CVA is to allow a company to avoid liquidation by reaching an informal but binding agreement with its unsecured creditors, usually involving rescheduling and reduction of debts.

Fitness First's creditors include numerous landlords, at whom the proposal was aimed; to assist it in divesting rental and other liabilities on less well performing and non-core units – a blow to those who had previously seen the operator as a strong tenant.

With more than 60 per cent of landlords affected to a greater or lesser (mostly greater) extent, a ripple of anxiety went through the marketplace – particularly when landlords realised Fitness First's intention was to divest itself of 60+ sites within six months. Despite an attempt to galvanise landlords to vote against the proposal, it was duly passed.

What could not easily have been predicted was the amount of confusion caused by the CVA and its effect on Fitness First, its landlords, other operators, and even on some of Fitness First's sub tenants. Seeing some landlords distrust for rent, despite a moratorium imposed by the CVA, gave the impression that 144 pages was too much to read and, even if they had, no-one had advised on the effect. Fitness First looked to offload sites to budget operators keen to snap up the cream but it quickly became clear that operators were better off going direct to landlords.

With the CVA approved, landlords were able to control the identity of fresh tenants. Some were even keen to market sites with sub tenants in occupation. What resulted is a frenzy of activity and time wasted by landlords and operators in a squabble over which sites are available and on what terms.

In short, confusion. But, on reflection, how much more calm and effective the activity would be with more attention to the detail of the scheme, and, dare I say it, some more focussed legal advice.

## PROPERTY

### 2012 RIBA Stirling Prize shortlist revealed

London's "seemingly simple, yet highly innovative" Olympic Stadium has been named as one of six buildings across the UK shortlisted for the 2012 RIBA Stirling Prize.

The stadium – currently the centrepiece of the Olympic and Paralympic Games – was designed by Populous and was completed in March 2011.

It forms part of a shortlist that also includes Belfast's Lyric Theatre and Hepworth Wakefield in West Yorkshire and has already picked up a RIBA Award this year.

Dublin, Ireland-based O'Donnell + Tuomey were the firm responsible for the "crafted and careful reincarnation" of the theatre on a suburban site in the heart of the Northern Ireland capital.



The Olympic Stadium is one of six shortlisted for the RIBA Stirling Prize

Meanwhile, David Chipperfield Architects oversaw the design of the "stunningly original" contemporary art attraction in Wakefield.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=x8N8P>

### Olympic Park proposals submitted

Plans for the new South Plaza within the post-Games Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park have been submitted by the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC).

The landscaped public realm at the heart of the South Park has been designed to establish a major new entertainment and activity hub for Londoners and visitors.

James Corner Field Operations – the firm behind New York's High Line, US – have drawn up designs for the South Plaza, which will feature a 12m (39ft)-wide tree-lined promenade.

The site is framed by the Aquatics Centre, the Olympic Stadium and the ArcelorMittal Orbit viewing tower attraction, with plans also including a series of outdoor "rooms".

A park hub next to the ArcelorMittal Orbit will feature a café, a box office and a rooftop



The new-look South Plaza area is set to open to the public in spring 2014

pavilion overlooking the park. It is hoped the South Park will open in spring 2014.

To read more about the transformation of High Line in New York, US, from a disused 1930s rail structure into a modern, ecologically-friendly city park, see *Leisure Management* 2012 Issue 1, p32: <http://lei.sr?a=X4K40>

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=F6K2H>

### RJ McLeod awarded Helix public realm contract

RJ McLeod has been awarded the public realm construction contract worth £8.5m as part of the £41m Helix regeneration project between Falkirk and Grangemouth in Scotland.

The public realm elements include the revitalisation of 100 acres (40 hectares) of vacant

land into an innovative 'people park' and the creation of a canal hub with visitor facilities.

Andy Scott's Kelpies – two 30m (98ft)-high stainless steel-plated horses' heads – are to form part of the canal hub.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=g9J6k>

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## Management and Operation of Cambridge City Council's Leisure Facilities



Cambridge City Council is seeking Expressions of Interest (EOI) from suitable leisure management contractors, including existing non-profit distributing organisations and private sector operators to enter into a contract to manage, develop and operate the Council's sports and leisure centres in line with the Council's strategic objectives for leisure. The Council is seeking innovative solutions to deliver key objectives, to improve access to sport and leisure across the Council's demographic, to reduce utility consumption and carbon emissions, along with an improved revenue position and other potential investment opportunities.

### The facilities that are to be included in the scope of this procurement are;

- Abbey Leisure Complex
- Cambridge Parkside Pools
- Kings Hedges Learner Pool
- Cherry Hinton Village Centre
- Jesus Green Outdoor Lido
- 6 Padding Pools

The Contract will be for a term of 7 years, and will include provision for a further potential extension of another three years. The proposed date for the decision to award the contract is May 2013, with the service to commence in October 2013.

In order to be included on the Council's select list to be invited to tender, potential bidders must complete a Pre-Qualification Questionnaire and demonstrate a proven successful track record including delivering innovative partnerships in a variety of areas within a leisure environment. The successful contractor will then be selected through a formal tender process.

Interested organisations can request a pre-qualification questionnaire from: Kevin Franklin, Associate Director, Strategic Leisure, The Whitehouse, Greenalls Avenue, Warrington, Cheshire, WA4 6HL.  
Telephone: 01398 361510 Email: [kfranklin1@btinternet.com](mailto:kfranklin1@btinternet.com)

The closing date for the return of completed questionnaires is 7th September 2012. It is anticipated that invitations to tender will be issued at the beginning of November 2012.



## Options Appraisal Tender Opportunity

Eastleigh Borough Council is inviting suitably qualified consultants to tender for an options appraisal for our prestigious leisure facility at Fleming Park, Eastleigh whilst also considering future uses of the remaining Fleming Park campus.

The consulting brief and contact details can be found at [www.eastleigh.gov.uk/FPARKtender](http://www.eastleigh.gov.uk/FPARKtender)

**Closing date: Tuesday 4th September 2012.**

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# Visitor Attraction Opportunity

## Durham City Centre

Durham County Council is seeking initial Expressions of Interest from companies that would be interested in developing or operating a new family-based visitor attraction at a prime site in Durham City centre.

This is a unique opportunity for a visitor attraction developer or operator to gain a presence in the historic city of Durham. Building on Durham's international status as a leading heritage tourism destination, the Council is keen to enhance the city's visitor 'offer' further with a new visitor attraction to help us take Durham into the Premier League of UK Destinations. The Council is looking for an attraction that will provide visitors with an exciting and entertaining 'experience', particularly for families and younger people. The visitor economy currently contributes more than £191m to the local economy and brings 4.1m visitors to Durham each year.

In particular, the Council wishes to understand if there is any interest in a highly visible building it owns in the city centre. If a sufficiently compelling and viable proposition comes forward - via this 'market testing' exercise - the Council can make this building available to a third party for 'fitting out' and operating as a new visitor attraction. The site is attractive as it is adjacent to Durham's main shopping area, and is within a short walk of both the Cathedral and the Castle.

If you have a visitor attraction brand / proposition – which you think would be ideal for Durham – the Council would like to hear from you, including ideas on how the proposition would be funded, developed, and operated.

**Should you be interested, please respond - via email - to: [rob.bailey@fivelinesconsulting.co.uk](mailto:rob.bailey@fivelinesconsulting.co.uk)**

Please provide background details on your company and any initial thoughts on the type of attraction you could potentially bring to Durham.

Further information will be provided to those companies that express an initial interest. There will also be an opportunity to discuss the project further with representatives of the Council.

Please submit an Expression of Interest by 12 noon on Friday 21 September 2012



## SkillsActive's Games event is a success



**IAN TAYLOR**  
is chief executive  
officer of SkillsActive

On 1 August – an evening that Team GB secured its first gold medals of the London 2012 Olympics – more than 100 key players from the sector gathered at an Games celebration hosted by SkillsActive.

Our aim was to celebrate the 2012 Games, and SkillsActive's contribution to it – 31 of our Advanced Apprenticeship in Sporting Excellence programme (AASE) apprentices are representing Team GB – and watching Michael Jamieson take silver in the 200m breaststroke was one of the highlights.

We were delighted to welcome Anna Hemmings MBE, Britain's most successful female marathon canoeist, a two-time Olympian and former SkillsActive board member, hosting the event. She also compered a question and answer session with me and our new chair Peter Rowley, which I hope proved a useful introduction and also highlighted our aspirations for the future.

As a former Olympian myself, I see many parallels between my time as an elite athlete and leading SkillsActive through a significant period of political funding and internal change. Athletes can bring many transferable skills to the world of business, as illustrated by the success of AASE.

AASE has helped 31 athletes competing in these Games to make the journey from talented athlete to world class performer. It is also supporting many more training for Rio 2016, while there are very successful initiatives in football, rugby (union and league), golf and cricket. Last year alone, more than half of our rugby union apprentices secured professional contracts.

We are now one of the largest delivery sectors in the UK economy with more than 11,400 completions per year via SkillsActive and a further 12,000 via Habia, the government-appointed standards setting body for hair, beauty and spa therapy. Three years ago, SkillsActive' footprint was 650,000 people across five sectors. Now it represents nearly 3 million people (including 2 million volunteers) and seven sectors such as sports, fitness and beauty among others.

## TRAINING

### Approval for Tourism and Culture Studio

A specialist school offering training for young people looking for a career in hospitality and tourism is to open in Liverpool after the proposals received the green light.

The Department for Education officially approved plans for the Tourism and Culture Studio School, which will be sponsored by Liverpool Community College (LCC).

Due to open in September 2013, the venue will provide project-based learning in partnership with traditional qualifications and work experience in the sectors.

It is expected the school will cater for 300 students aged between 14- and 19-years-old, with mainstream qualifications including GCSE English, Maths and Science.



The new school will cater for young people looking to enter the sector

Students will be able to learn entrepreneurial and life skills through the CREATE framework – including training and work experience.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=s109>

### Premier Training opens new venues

Premier Training International (PTI) has announced that it is to launch three new venues in Birmingham, with courses to begin on 3 September.

The new Birmingham Central site will be based at Stirchley Fitness First, with Birmingham North located on Shady Lane, Great Barr. They will join Birmingham South in Solihull.

All three will offer a range of courses designed for fitness professionals – including the Diploma in Fitness Instructing and Personal Training.

PTI area development manager Paula Priest said: "Birmingham is a huge area, and has many aspiring fitness professionals looking to take fitness qualifications and courses without having to travel across the city to do so."

• The training provider has also announced plans to open a new venue at David Lloyd



Premier Training is opening new venues in Birmingham and Liverpool

Knowsley, which will replace its previous Liverpool location at the David Lloyd Speke.

PTI area development manager Kayley Tobias said: "The demand for health and fitness courses in Liverpool has grown consistently in the last decade."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=U9F8B>

### Nuco launches course for new leisure entrepreneurs

Training company Nuco has launched a new course for leisure industry professionals looking to start up their own businesses.

The five-day, Level 3 Award in Aspects of Preparing to Start a Business course is designed to take attendees through all the

processes involved in setting up on their own on a step-by-step basis.

The course is fundable through the ELC funding system and Nuco Training is an approved supplier with ELCAS.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=P3D9g>

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As an employer of fitness professionals, you'll recognise the value of investment in training them to ensure they deliver the best possible service to your membership.

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## SAQ INTERNATIONAL

### Online Sports College

Health and Fitness professionals have a brand new opportunity to enter the world of sport and elite performance training with Speed, Agility and Quickness training experts, SAQ® International.

SAQ® distance learning diplomas allow you to gain NCFE-accredited qualifications from anywhere in the world and courses can be completed alongside your existing schedule and commitments.

Our new diploma, "Athlete Development Pathway – The First 20 Years", develops coaches who work with young and teenage athletes.

Also available are **Strength and Conditioning** diplomas. Tailored to a variety of sports, options include:

- Football
- Rugby
- Basketball, Volleyball, Netball & Handball
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- Cricket
- Hockey
- Racquet Sports

Enrol TODAY and take your first step towards a new career in sport!

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## MSc Health Rehabilitation and Exercise

**Mode:** Part-time, distance learning  
**Duration:** 18 months  
**Classes:** 10 two-day workshops  
**Days:** Fridays and Saturdays  
**Intakes:** September and January

The course enables enrolled students to study the pathophysiology of non acute health conditions, as well as suitable fitness tests and exercise prescription for individuals with diabetes, hypertension, cardiac rehabilitation patients and the obese. The course combines multi-disciplinary areas of clinical exercise physiology, exercise therapy, exercise psychology and medicine. **Places still available!**

**Apply today! 0800 0565 660**

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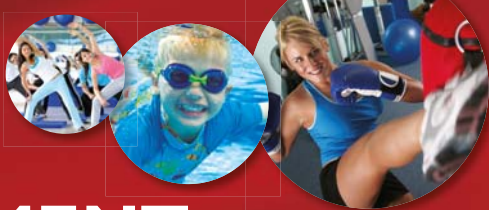
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# RECRUITMENT OPPORTUNITIES

## At Westminster Lodge Leisure Centre - St Albans

**Salary - Excellent package TBC**

*Everyone Active recently secured the 10 year contract to manage the new £25 million Westminster Lodge Leisure Centre in St Albans, scheduled to open late 2012.*

This most prestigious of facilities comprises 200 station gym, youth gym, studios, health spa, 3 pools, sports hall, climbing wall, café / bistro, crèche, softplay and is poised to become the highest income generating centre in the company.

We now require talented and dynamic individuals with a proven track record in succeeding to form our new exciting management team. Opportunities available:

- **SPA MANAGER**
- **SPA THERAPISTS**
- **GROUP EXERCISE COORDINATOR**
- **ASSISTANT MANAGER**
- **BISTRO RESTAURANT MANAGER**
- **HEAD CHEF/CHEF MANAGER**
- **FITNESS MANAGER**

A proven track record as a successful Head of Department, as well as embracing the Everyone Active brand is essential.

To apply, submit a CV and covering letter to Alison Norman, Contract Manager:  
[alisonnorman@slm-ltd.co.uk](mailto:alisonnorman@slm-ltd.co.uk)

**Closing date: Friday 17th August 2012**



**St Albans**  
City & District Council

Provided by St Albans City and District Council.  
Managed in partnership with Everyone Active.

*Everyone Active is an equal opportunities employer. Everyone Active is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. All applicants will be required to undertake checks and references prior to appointment.*

**[www.everyoneactive.com](http://www.everyoneactive.com)**

FOR FURTHER DETAILS ON THE ABOVE VACANCIES PLEASE VISIT:  
**[www.leisureopportunities.com/everyoneactive](http://www.leisureopportunities.com/everyoneactive)**

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## Head of Service - Commercial Development / Sport and Leisure

SALARY: Up to £43,000 per annum +  
Essential Car User Provision

**We are looking to recruit a Head of Service – to lead on the further commercial development of the Wigan Leisure and Culture Trust's (WLCT) sport and leisure business.**

This individual will bring their astute business knowledge and strong commercial focus of the leisure industry to this uniquely challenging role. We are committed to improving and growing our facilities and services across the areas we operate; in the North West of England, North Yorkshire and the West Midlands.

In this newly created post, you'll take us even further, by developing sound strategies to drive future success both within the current areas of our operation but also through the strategic development and growth of our business and client base.

Responsible to the Executive Director (Business Development), we are looking for someone who can demonstrate significant leadership experience within a similar operational/consulting organisation from within the Sport and Leisure sector.

You must be able to formulate, develop and implement relevant development and investment strategies along with the evaluation of opportunities for successful expansion of the business. This will include identifying opportunities for the submission of successful ITT bids.

With responsibility for a development team, you must be a skilled leader who can enthuse and inspire. You will also be a switched-on commercial thinker, able to immediately influence the commercial performance and development of our organisation.

It is essential that you are either educated to degree level or have an NVQ 4 and/or hold a professional qualification relevant to the area of service or equivalent by demonstrable competence

Benefits include, pension scheme, discounted membership and career development opportunities

This is a rewarding and exciting role with an employer that aspires to be an employer of choice.

**CLOSING DATE: Friday 31 August 2012 -5.00pm**  
**PROPOSED INTERVIEW DATE:**  
**Tuesday 11 September 2012**

**INFORMATION PACK & APPLICATION FORM AVAILABLE FROM:**  
**[www.wlct.org](http://www.wlct.org) and visit our vacancies page**



Hertsmere Leisure require

### 3 Duty Managers

Salary Range £16,563 - £19,731\*

Hertsmere Leisure requires three Duty Managers who place great importance on customer care, staff development, and facility standards, whilst working to both financial and strategic targets.

We require enthusiastic individuals, with proven supervisory skills to be responsible for the day to day managements and performance of the Centre in line with our procedures and in compliance with health and safety legislation. The posts are at the following locations.

**Duty Manager** at The Venue in Borehamwood - (NPLQ Trainer Assessor)

**Duty Manager** at The Centre in South Oxhey - (responsible for fitness)

**Duty Manager** at Bletchley Leisure Centre in Milton Keynes - (responsible for customer service)

The successful candidate will work as part of a three person Duty Manager team and must possess a current First Aid at Work qualification and for The Venue and Bletchley Leisure Centre an NPLQ and Pool Plant Operators Certificate (or the ability to gain these qualifications within 6 months of being appointed). Two years previous supervisory/management experience in a leisure environment is desirable along with a RLSS Trainer Assessor qualification for the Venue and a Level 2 Fitness Instructors qualification for The Centre.

**Closing date: 24th August 2012**

Hertsmere leisure in Rickmansworth require a

### Fitness & Sales Manager

Circa Salary £24,000pa\*

We are seeking to appoint a Fitness & Sales Manager, to complement our existing management team at the William Penn Leisure Centre Rickmansworth, Herts.

Reporting to the General Manager, you will be responsible for the day to day management of Beaumonts Health Club. This key role will include, amongst other things, deputising for the General Manager as and when required, line management of the fitness team, customer retention, and sales.

You will have previous management experience in a leisure environment and hold as a minimum a level 2 fitness qualification, in addition the successful candidate will hold a First Aid at Work certificate and NPLQ qualification or have the ability to gain these once appointed. The ideal candidate will also have knowledge and experience in sales and retention, including generating leads, marketing, and sales processes.

\* Dependent on successful completion of a 6 month probation period.

**Closing Date: 24th August 2012**

To apply for these positions, please visit our website, [www.hertsmereleisure.co.uk](http://www.hertsmereleisure.co.uk), call recruitment on 01727 744250 or email: [recruitment@hertsmereleisure.co.uk](mailto:recruitment@hertsmereleisure.co.uk)

These posts are exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and will be conditional upon a satisfactory disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau.

**Successful applicants will receive notification of an interview within 3 weeks of the closing date.**



Hertsmere Leisure promotes a positive attitude towards attendance at work.

Hertsmere Leisure is an Equal Opportunities Employer.



Registered Charity No: 1093653



## SPORTS & PARKS SERVICE

### Leisure Client and Project Officer

Ref: 13485-2

**£26,403 to £32,610 including LW**

Brent's Sports and Parks Service believes that working in partnership with contractors plays a vital role in the overall Council aim of providing good quality sports opportunities for all sections of Brent's diverse communities.

The Leisure Client and Projects Officer post is a fixed term contract until end October 2013. Working in a small team you will monitor and evaluate the performance of Brent's two leisure management contracts so that the services provided are continually developing and improving. The post holder will assist with the development of capital and revenue projects to improve and increase indoor and outdoor sports provision in the Borough and work to raise awareness of sporting opportunities amongst Brent's multicultural population. You will also assist with specific projects; implement different methods of consultation to identify community needs and support funding and quality accreditation applications for the service.

Closing date: Tuesday 21 August 2012.

Assessment & Interview date: Friday 14 September 2012.

To apply: Go to our careers website at [www.brent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs)

**[www.brent.gov.uk/jobs](http://www.brent.gov.uk/jobs)**

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**25 hours per week (potential full time position  
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We are looking for a dynamic, self motivated and confident individual to take on an exciting new role. This superb facility comprises a 25m swimming pool, fully equipped fitness suite, sports hall and climbing wall. The Club is programmed to cater for the needs of the School as well as a thriving health and fitness club, and outside schools and clubs.

Experience in managing a customer service strategy is essential. Applicants must also possess the skills and abilities to motivate a large and diverse range of staff. Excellent interpersonal skills will be essential in order to create a positive and innovative atmosphere.

All applicants must hold a current National Pool Lifeguard Qualification.

Benefits package includes a free lunch, contributory pension scheme, opportunity to join the Sports Club and child care voucher scheme.

**CLOSING DATE: 28 AUGUST 2012**

Application packs are available to download from the School's website at [www.harrow-school.org.uk/vacancies](http://www.harrow-school.org.uk/vacancies)

Or please contact: Claire Hampton, Personnel Secretary  
Harrow School, 5 High Street, Harrow, Middlesex HA1 3HP.  
Tel: 020 8872 8293 [personnelsecretary@harrow-school.org.uk](mailto:personnelsecretary@harrow-school.org.uk)

The School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and all successful applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with any past employer and the Criminal Records Bureau. Harrow School is an equal opportunities employer.

[www.harrow-school.org.uk](http://www.harrow-school.org.uk)

### Executive Manager

**HP02 (£40,629/£42,973 pa), 37 hours per week**

County Durham Sport is one of 49 national County Sports Partnerships. We are looking for an experienced Strategic Manager with a passion for sport and physical activity to lead the County Durham Sport team and ensure the delivery of Sport England funded projects and programmes. You will also play an active role in a new Strategic Partnership for Sport and Physical Activity in County Durham, alongside a range of key partners, with a key role of increasing participation across County Durham.

Following a review of the County Durham Sport structure, a number of new roles have been recruited recently. You will require strong management skills and will be required to implement an impact focused culture within a partnership context.

This is a flexible role, which will require occasional evening and weekend work. County Durham Sport is hosted by Durham County Council.

This post is subject to a CRB Enhanced Disclosure

Closing date: 17:00, 5 September 2012.

Interviews: 14 September 2012.

If you would like further information relating to this post, please contact Julie Russell, Strategic Manager - Sport & Leisure Development at [Julie.Russell@durham.gov.uk](mailto:Julie.Russell@durham.gov.uk)

For further information and to apply please visit:  
[www.durham.gov.uk](http://www.durham.gov.uk) or [www.countydurhamsport.com](http://www.countydurhamsport.com)

Please note CV's are NOT accepted.

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### Customer/Sales Advisor

**30 hours per week £11,926.13 p.a., plus target-related bonus**

Working across two sites, you will be a driven, passionate and focused individual, with outstanding customer service experience. Highly motivated, you will be experienced in working under pressure to increase revenue. The role includes outreach work, to gain memberships, and carrying out promotional events.

IT literate, including the use of spreadsheets, you will work to tight deadlines and targets. An excellent communicator, with good organisational skills, you will have worked within sales, preferably in a leisure environment. You will have a good knowledge of market segmentation and market research. Proficiency in membership conversion is essential, as is the ability to generate leads and convert these to memberships. Flexibility in working hours is required in order to target sales at optimum times, as this will include some evenings and weekends.

**CLOSING DATE: WEDNESDAY 15TH AUGUST 2012**

If you are interested in this post please download  
a pack from our website at [www.rfltrust.co.uk/careers](http://www.rfltrust.co.uk/careers)

### GENERAL MANAGER

Ilkley Lawn Tennis and Squash Club is already one of Yorkshire's leading sports clubs providing fantastic tennis, squash and fitness facilities in an outstanding location. The club is planning a major development and the General Manager will be key to ensuring that operational excellence matches the superb facilities.

This is a key role, where you will need to inspire and motivate a team to deliver exceptional service.

The ideal candidate will have proven leadership skills, a clear understanding of financial control, coupled with a demonstrable track record of exceptional delivery.

As the job holder you will also need to possess great interpersonal and organisational skills, together with a strong commercial awareness and the mind-set and skills to influence change

For further details please log onto [www.iltsc.co.uk](http://www.iltsc.co.uk)  
Closing date for applications: Friday 31st August 2012



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



Business Development Manager, *Triotech, Europe*  
Intramural Sport Development Co-ordinator, *University of Nottingham, UK*  
University Club Development Co-ordinator, *University of Nottingham, UK*  
Trainee Personal Trainer / Fitness Instructor, *The Training Room, Nationwide, UK*  
Sport Team Leader, *The Robert Gordon University, Aberdeen, UK*  
National Sport Manager, *Mencap, London, UK*  
Membership Advisor, *Herts Sports Village, Hatfield, UK*  
Kettlebell Instructor Award, *Creating Chaos, Various, UK*  
Outdoor Fitness Instructor, *British Military Fitness, Nationwide, UK*  
Sports and Facility Manager, *@WORLE, Weston Super Mare, UK*  
Become an Exercise to Music Instructor, *YMCA Fitness Industry Training, UK*  
Self Employed Life Coach - Opportunity, *energie group, Guildford, UK*  
General Managers required - Fusion-Lifestyle, *Fusion, London - various locations, UK*  
Museum Project Manager, *Wycombe District Council, Wycombe, UK*  
Clinical Exercise Specialist, *Open Age, Central London, UK*  
Sports Centre Health and Fitness Instructor, *Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK*  
Part 3 Qualified Architect, *S & P Architects, London, UK*  
Research Consultant, *The Sport, Leisure and Culture Consultancy, Haywards Heath, West Sussex / Flexible, UK*  
Customer/Sales Advisor, *Rosendale Leisure Trust, Rawtenstall, UK*  
Part Time Membership Consultant, *Everyone Active, Cambridge, UK*  
5 \*Spa Therapists, *Renard Resources, Nationwide, UK*  
Spa Manager, *Renard Resources, Various locations, UK*  
Spa and Leisure Manager, *Renard Resources, Aberdeen, UK*  
Marketing Communications Officer, *GLL, The Royal Arsenal, London, UK*  
Personal Trainer, *Energie Group, Dublin, Ireland*  
Duty Manager, *Ashford Leisure Trust, Ashford, UK*  
Active Leisure Vocational Learning Advisor 3 posts, *Babcock Training Ltd, Various, UK*  
Outdoor Leadership Centre Manager, *University of Derby - Buxton Campus, UK*  
Assistant Leisure and Operations Manager, *Vauxhall Recreation Club, Luton, UK*  
Duty Manager, *Hertsmere Leisure, Various locations, UK*  
Fitness and Sales Manager, *Hertsmere Leisure, Rickmansworth, UK*  
General Manager, *Ilkley Lawn Tennis and Squash Club, West Yorkshire, UK*  
Duty Manager Reigate and Banstead, *GLL, Redhill, Surrey, UK*  
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Various locations, UK*  
Sales and Fitness Supervisors, *GLL, Mile End, UK*  
Assistant Manager/ Customer Service Advisor, *Tone Leisure, Taunton, UK*  
Senior Development Manager, *GLL, Woolwich, London, UK*  
Spa Manager, *The Bannatyne Spa, Hastings, UK*  
Spa Manager, *The Bannatyne Spa, York, UK*  
Centre Manager, *Lightwaves Community Trust, Wakefield, UK*  
Head of Service, *Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust, Wigan, UK*

Duty Manager, *GLL, East London Wapping, UK*  
Endorsement Officer - Maternity Cover, *Skills Active Group, Central London, UK*  
Duty Manager, *Surbiton Racket & Fitness Club, Surbiton, UK*  
Sales Advisor/Club Promoter, *energie group, Redditch, UK*  
Duty Manager, *GLL, Hatch End, UK*  
Assistant Manager, *Tone Leisure, Churchill, UK*  
Duty Manager, *GLL, City of Westminster, UK*  
Group Exercise Instructor, *GLL, York, UK*  
Full-Time Therapist, *Spa Illuminata, London, UK*  
Spa/Leisure Manager, *Isle of Erika Hotel, Spa and Island, Argyll, UK*  
Spa Directors, *GOCO Hospitality, Germany, Italy, China and the Middle East*  
Spa Receptionist, *Dorchester Collection, London, UK*  
Specialist Activity Instructor, *Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust, Wigan, UK*  
Fitness Instructor, *Energie group, Soulbury, Leighton Buzzard, UK*  
University Club Development Co-ordinator, *University of Nottingham, Nottingham, UK*  
Club Promotional Staff, *energie group, Maidstone, UK*  
Senior Visitor Services Officer (Pavilion Gardens), *The Pavilion Gardens, Buxton, UK*  
Spa/Leisure Manager, *Isle of Erika Hotel, Spa and Island, Argyll, UK*  
Spa Directors, *GOCO Hospitality, Germany, Italy, China and the Middle East*  
Spa Receptionist, *Dorchester Collection, London, UK*  
Specialist Activity Instructor, *Wigan Leisure & Culture Trust, Wigan, UK*  
Fitness Instructor, *Energie group, Soulbury, Leighton Buzzard, UK*  
Club Promotional Staff, *energie group, Maidstone, UK*  
Senior Visitor Services Officer, *The Pavilion Gardens, Buxton, UK*  
Business Development Officer, *The Swimming Teachers' Association, Birmingham, UK*  
General Manager, *Sandwell Leisure Trust, Bromsgrove, UK*  
Senior Therapist, *Renard Resources, Gloucestershire, UK*  
Area Manager, *Fitness Agents, Midlands, UK*  
Swimming Teachers, *Edge Hill University, Lancashire, UK*  
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Membership Representative, *Reebok Sports Club, Canary Wharf, London, UK*  
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ETM and Fitness Instructors + Personal Trainers, *Kings Fitness and Leisure, Cheddar, Somerset, UK*  
Personal Trainer, *Energie Group, Rotherham / South Yorkshire, UK*  
Membership Sales / Duty Manager, *Energie Group, Croydon, London, UK*  
Membership Sales Advisor, *Energie Group, Forest Hill, UK*  
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All successful candidates will be required to undertake an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure and Child Protection Training. For further details and an application form, please contact Alex Rainbow (email: [alexrainbow@kingsfitness.co.uk](mailto:alexrainbow@kingsfitness.co.uk))

The closing date for applications is **Friday 17 August 2012 at 4.00pm.**

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To apply visit <http://jobs.wycombe.gov.uk>, or call our job pack recruitment line, tel: (01494) 421141 quoting TP1491.

As an equal opportunity employer we welcome applications from all sectors of the community. We offer a generous benefits package including flexible working and final salary pension scheme.

This post is supported by the National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund.





## 'Social ping pong club' to launch

Bounce, a social club mixing a late-night setting with table tennis, is to open in central London later this year.

The £2.5m venue – designed by Russell Sage – has been built on site where the game of table tennis was originally invented by John Jaques III.

The 12,500sq ft (1,161sq m) space will feature a raised restaurant seating up to 130, and overlooking the playing area with 17 table tennis tables.

A 40ft (12m) bar around the playing area also forms part of the club, which is the brainchild of entrepreneur and table tennis player Dov Penzik and the co-founder of All Star Lanes, Adam Breeden.

The duo teamed up with Joe Jaques – grandson of John Jaques III, to bring the concept to



The new concept will combine table tennis with an hospitality element

life. Joe, who continues to run the family firm, is a partner in the venture supplying the club with its oak table tennis tables.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=T6u8G>

## Novus Leisure acquired in management buy out

Private equity firms LGV Capital and Hutton Collins Partners have backed the management buy out of Novus Leisure – operator of the Balls Brothers and Tiger Tiger brands.

The pair have invested in Novus Leisure in a deal worth £100m, which will see existing

non-executive chair John Kelly and CEO Steve Richards remain with the company.

LGV and Hutton Collins will support an expansion of Novus' London portfolio, as well as entering cities such as Bristol and Leeds.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=y3y4w>

## MPs call for gambling laws overhaul

The Commons Culture, Media and Sport Committee has called for the reduction in centralised gambling regulation, with more power to be handed to local authorities.

It follows an examination of the Gambling Act 2005, which the committee's report has said "resulted in numerous inconsistencies and is not sufficiently evidence based".

High street betting shops and casinos are currently allowed to house up to four B2 gaming machines – offering stakes up to £100 and prizes worth up to £500.

However, the report revealed casinos should be allowed to house 20 B2-type machines and said limiting the number in betting shops has led to "clusters" in some high streets.

Committee chair John Whittingdale said: "The reluctantly permissive tone of legislation over the last 50 years now looks outdated.



The report calls for a decentralisation of regulations

"Our general approach in this report has therefore been to support liberalisation of rules and delegation of decisions to those closest to the communities that will be affected."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=H206x>

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