

leisure opportunities

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FIA appoints agency for rebrand

The Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has appointed Mr B & Friends to create a new brand for the association. To be unveiled at the FIA Summit on 22 November 2012, the rebrand will look to champion physical activity in all forms.

David Stalker, CEO, FIA said "Our new brand will exist to accelerate the advancements of the sector and to deliver our unchanged mission: to get more people, more active, more often. To achieve this, we need to develop more, learn more, innovate more and deliver more. As the sector's representative body, this is our promise to our members, stakeholders and consumers.

"Through our new brand, we hope to bring the sector together to generate new and sustainable pathways to achieve more than it can by acting individually.

"We're now working with Mr B & Friends to establish the detail that underpins the new brand and strategy to bring it to life."

Simon Barbato, managing director, Mr B & Friends added: "This is a significant appointment for Mr B & Friends. To help shape the



The current branding will be replaced in November

brand of the FIA which represents many stakeholders and influencers in the sector, means that we have an opportunity of helping set the tone for an increasingly broadening sector.

"Fitness, activity and wellbeing isn't just the reserve of a sector, it's something that's becoming part of everyone's everyday conversations. We are excited by the challenge."

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=i4C7r>



Goodhew (left) with Parkwood CEO Andrew Holt

Duncan Goodhew joins Parkwood Leisure board

Parkwood Leisure has announced the appointment of former Olympic gold medalist Duncan Goodhew as its new chair and non-executive director.

Considered a seasoned lobbyist, Goodhew is the co-founder of the Youth Sports Trust and founding director of the Sports Aid Trust.

He said: "I've seen how crucial sport and physical activity is to our communities and country, so it is very exciting for me to join the Parkwood Leisure team."

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=d2W7M>

Consultation begins on 'Climate Change Park'

The public has been invited to air their views on plans to develop Hazlehead Park near Aberdeen into the country's first Climate Change Park. The initiative is run by Greenspace Scotland and aims to help park managers take practical steps to adapt the design and management of parks to maximise climate change benefits.

Plans include grass cutting regimes, creating wildflower meadows or planting trees, to green roofs for park buildings and water management schemes.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=on7Y7>

Leisure Connection gets cash injection

Management company Leisure Connection has announced a €9.3m re-capitalisation.

According to a statement, the cash injection from investors will fund the group's "ambitious growth plans" as it looks to add to its portfolio of 70 leisure facilities.

Julian Nicholls, chair of Leisure Connection, said: "We have a strong market offering across the public sector and in the private sector.

"The next 12 months are going to be very exciting for the business as we continue to enhance our market leading proposition and encourage even more people to get active."

Leisure Connection's managed sites range from health and leisure



Leisure Connection has "ambitious growth plans"

facilities to swimming pools and leisure centres to private clubs, national sport centres and hotel health clubs and spas.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=N8S9e>

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SPORT

Youth Sport Strategy for Scotland

The Scottish government is to look into new ways to increase physical activity levels in young people.

Sport Minister Shona Robison said that a new Youth Sport Strategy will be developed, which will include the first ever Young People's Sports Panel - consisting of 16 people between the ages of 14 and 24 who are passionate about sport and want to make a difference.

The panel will be developed by sportscotland, in partnership with Young Scot, and will be tasked with engaging young people across Scotland to find ways of increasing the profile of school sport and getting more young people motivated and involved in the lead up to the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Robison said: "The strategy we will now develop will look at what more needs to



Young people will be able to voice their opinion over sports strategy

be done to make sport and physical activity a habit that stays with young people throughout their lives.

"That could mean making PE lessons in school more enjoyable, making sure we offer older secondary pupils a reason to keep active and forging better links with local sport clubs.

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=05k5l>

Questions mount over future of Scottish gymnastics

The future of the Scottish Gymnastics Association (SGA) has been cast into further doubt after the national governing body issued redundancy notices to its entire development and high performance staff. The move comes just two weeks after sportscotland

began an official inquest into dealings at SGA following "serious allegations of misconduct by senior management".

As part of the inquest, sportscotland pulled all public funding from the association. Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=04w3K>

Murray backs plans for tennis academy

US Open Champion and Olympic tennis gold medalist, Andy Murray, has joined his mother, Judy, in calling for a new national tennis academy to be set up in Scotland.

Speaking to the BBC earlier this month, Murray said a new tennis academy would make a big difference to the sport: "One of the things that is missing is a focal point for tennis that a lot of the promising juniors can go to practise at and have the best coaching. I think it would make a big difference."

The Murrys have received a positive response from Scotland's first minister, Alex Salmond: "This is certainly in line with the Scottish government's ambition to improve young Scots participation in sport.



In an interview, Murray said the academy would make a big difference

"We'll be exploring this with the Murrys and their team over the next two months and we hope to make an announcement in this regard in the near future."

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=f5v3R>

Sainsbury's invests in disability sport

Supermarket chain Sainsbury's has launched an inclusive PE training programme for teachers which aims to ensure disabled children can take part in sport in mainstream schools.

Sainsbury's Active Kids For All will see the company invest £1m in teacher training courses which will help more than 500,000 disabled pupils and children with special education needs to be included in school PE lessons.

Justin King, CEO of Sainsbury's, said: "While teaching and support staff undoubtedly have the skills, knowledge and competencies to deliver sport to disabled children and young people, not all have the confidence to fully include disabled children within their PE lessons. That is why we have worked with the Home Nations Disability



The new deal will see the company invest £1m in training courses

Sport Organisations to develop Sainsbury's Active Kids For All."

The company will also extend its sponsorship of the British Paralympic Association to support them through to Rio in 2016. *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=z71j>*

Government reveals 10-point legacy plan

The government is to invest £1bn in youth sport as part of a 10-point plan to ensure a lasting legacy from the London 2012 Games.

Published by sports minister Hugh Robertson, the plans also include the £300m transformation of the Olympic Park into the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park; an annual £125m investment in elite sport in the run up to the 2016 Games; and support for the Join In programme to build on the spirit of volunteering.

Other initiatives mentioned in the plans include bringing 20 major sporting events to the UK by 2019 and the continuation of Sport England's £135m Places, People, Play initiative. A new School Games programme will also be introduced and there are plans for increasing emphasis on PE lessons at school.

Andy Reed, chair of the Sports and Recreation Alliance, welcomed the plans.

"It's really pleasing to see that the minister of sport has set out a clear and transparent



The plan includes further investment in youth sport

plan to achieve our legacy goals," Reed said. "His commitment to providing regular updates shows that the government is not shying away from the legacy challenge ahead of us." *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=J7V9l>*

Physiotherapists report an increase in 'Olympic injuries'

Physiotherapists have reported a 'sharp spike' in the number of sports injuries this summer - thanks to the public taking to sports fields and tracks trying to emulate their Olympic heroes. According to private health group BMI Healthcare, it has seen a 20 per cent

increase in sports-related injuries and accidents during the "summer of sport".

Among the sports associated as causing the most injuries this summer are running, tennis and going to the gym. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Z3F5R>*

Historic QEII stadium reopens following revamp

The Grade II-listed QEII stadium in Enfield, North London, has been officially reopened following a £3.5m redevelopment project.

The venue's athletics facilities were upgraded this summer, finalising a phased revamp which began in 2011.

QE II, which is the home ground of Enfield Town Football Club, now has a new six lane track, two long jump/triple jump strips/pits, high jump and shot put areas and improved changing rooms. *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=h8uzH>*



Rugby will be one of the sports to benefit

Lottery winners fund Scottish sports centre

The UK's biggest ever Euro Millions winners - Colin and Chris Weir - have pledged to fund a new £1.2m indoor arena at the National Sports Training Centre in Largs, Scotland. The couple - who live in Largs - scooped £161m in the lottery in July 2011 and have now pledged £900,000 to fund a multi-use indoor 3G sports hall which will be used for football, rugby and a wide range of other activities, for the community and performance sports people alike.

sportscotland will contribute the remaining £300,000, which will be used to develop other support services surrounding the 90mx40m facility.

Tennis courts open in London's Larkhall Park

Lambeth Council has invested £250,000 in two new floodlit tennis courts in Larkhall Park, Stockwell.

The courts are part of the council's 2012 Olympic games legacy strategy and will open to the public on 22 September.

Sally Prentice, cabinet member for culture, sport and the Olympics on Lambeth Council said: "We've all been inspired by the Olympic and Paralympic Games, and in Lambeth we're determined to create a genuine legacy by making sure our residents have access to top facilities."

DC Leisure secures Horsham contract

DC Leisure has been awarded a new contract by Horsham District Council to manage three leisure centres - The Pavilions in the Park, Steyning Leisure Centre and Billingshurst Leisure Centre.

The 10 year contract, which will start on 1 December 2012, includes a detailed performance monitoring system to ensure that participation, quality of service and building maintenance targets are met, along with investment proposals. The deal was the result of a tendering process that saw five organisations submitting bids with three making it onto a shortlist.



The Gym Group currently operates 23 clubs

The Gym Group secures Gloucester Quays location

Budget health club operator The Gym Group has secured a deal to open a site at the £60m mixed-use Gloucester Quays development in Gloucester.

The company is investing £1.5m in the 16,000sq ft club which will house more than 170 stations and has been designed to attract more than 4,000 members.

The news follows The Gym Group reporting an "outstanding year" in which it saw continued turnover and membership growth despite a "flat market place".

In 2011, the chain expanded its portfolio from 10 to 16 gyms and has continued its expansion this year with 23 sites currently in operation. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=yY1k>

Forest Hill Pools reopen following £8.9m revamp

Forest Hill Pools leisure centre in Lewisham, South London has reopened following an £8.9m redevelopment of its facilities. Designed by Roberts Limbrick Architects and built by Willmott Dixon, the venue is owned by Lewisham Council and operated by Fusion Lifestyle.

The improved facilities at the centre now include a 25m swimming pool with spectator area, a 16.7m learner pool and health club with two exercise studios.

DLL launches 'DLicious' concept

Health club operator David Lloyd Leisure (DLL) has unveiled a new 'fast fitness food' concept for members who are looking to improve their diets as part of a healthy lifestyle. The DLicious menu is one of the first of its kind to be launched by a large chain in the UK and has been developed by chefs, nutritionists and health experts.

Inspired by the Paleolithic diet and the 40:30:30 concept of healthy and balanced foods, the DLicious approach aims to help members feel energised throughout the day as well as get results during their workouts.

Andy Lowe, DLL's head of food and beverage, said: "We're incredibly excited about DLicious. No mainstream operator on the high street is offering a truly healthy approach to



The concept will be rolled out across DLL's 80 club-portfolio in the UK

eating and lifestyle. We're using ingredients that are more natural, pure and therefore better quality, with less processed food, salt, sugar and additives. There are now fewer starchy carbohydrates and more good ones, and options comprising ingredients free from gluten are also available." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=yY1k>

Green light for £7.4m Wyre leisure plans

Wyre Council has backed plans to invest £7.4m in the borough's leisure centres.

The improvements will include the creation of an extreme sports facility at Thornton Leisure Centre, a luxury day spa facility and dance studio at Poulton Leisure Centre and an upgraded centre and new swimming pool at Garstang Leisure Centre.

The plans follow a comprehensive review of leisure provision, which recommended wide-ranging improvements to the three centres.

Councillor Lynne Bowen, cabinet member with responsibility for sport and leisure at Wyre Council said: "I'm looking forward to moving forward with a project that is set to bring great benefits to the residents of Wyre.



Plans include a new swimming pool at the council's Garstang centre

"Not only do we aim to massively improve sport and leisure facilities, we also aim to improve financial performance by turning subsidies into surplus, delivering better value for money and ensuring that the council is prepared for future cuts to funding. Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=h91zf>

£10m flagship leisure centre to open in Wakefield

Wakefield Council has announced that the new £10m flagship Sun Lane Leisure Centre will open to the public on 20 October.

The facility will include a six-lane, 25m pool with moveable floor; a 13m x 7m studio and training pool; a 100-station health and fitness

suite; a multi-use group exercise studio; a spa and wellness suite with steamroom and sauna; a café; and a 130-capacity spectator viewing area for the pools.

The NPS North East-designed complex was delivered by Willmott Dixon Construction.

FIA chief: legacy is for everyone

David Stalker, chief executive of the Fitness Industry Association (FIA) has called for the entire active leisure sector to play its part to ensure a successful legacy from the 2012 "summer of sport".

In a keynote speech given at Leisure Industry Week in Birmingham, Stalker said the aim of all legacy plans should be to make the UK the "most active nation in the world".

To achieve this aim, he said the industry needs to work together through partnerships, bringing together strategies which together can have a greater impact than the sum of their component parts.

"This is not the FIA's legacy to deliver but the sectors", Stalker said. "The FIA is the facilitator, creating partnerships and pathways to help deliver more people, more active, more often. To all businesses in our sector, I say that if you don't have a legacy strategy, in a few years we will have missed the biggest opportunity, and it will all come tumbling down."

"We will lose the chance to be seen by the government as the people who can make a difference - there is lots that we can do but we need the whole sector to get behind it. Together we can achieve more."

Stalker also highlighted the importance of the role played by the FIA Research Institute - particularly in convincing the government



Stalker gave his keynote speech in Birmingham

that the active leisure sector can become an important part of a preventative health care system. He described the institute's nationwide UK Fitness Centre Health and Wellbeing Investigation as a significant step towards gaining credibility in the corridors of power.

"The government will not pass any of the £2bn health budget to us unless we provide hard evidence that what we do - and how we do it - works to improve people's health," he said. "The pilot statistics were game changing and the nationwide study will provide evidence that could save the health service millions of pounds through reducing cardio risk factors."

Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=m4Poc>

Health Club Awards 2012 winners revealed

The winners of the Members' Choice Health Club Awards for 2012 have been announced during an awards event at the Hilton Metropole hotel in Birmingham.

Around 500 industry professionals gathered for the gala dinner - held for the second time during the Leisure Industry Week (LIW) - during which winners were announced for 31 different categories. Everyone Active was given the award for the best national chain, beating David Lloyd Leisure and Energie Fitness for Women for the title.

Pure Gym was both named the best budget chain as well as best medium chain (10-30 clubs), with Fit4Less (silver) and Fitness4Less (bronze) making the final three in the budget category.

Pure Gym Southampton was named best club in the UK (for clubs with more than 2,000 members), narrowly beating Pure



A group picture of all the Members' Choice Gold Winners for 2012

Gym Aberdeen (silver) and Everyone Active Spelthorne Leisure Centre (bronze).

Energie Fitness for Women, Eastbourne won the Club of the Year award for clubs with less than 2,000 members, edging Thornton Hall Country Health Club (silver) and Crown Spa (bronze).

For the full list of winners see: <http://lei.sr?a=r8N4x>



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Why work in hospitality?



PHILIP ROSSITER
is chief executive
officer of Institute
of Hospitality

The lack of status and poor image of hospitality amongst many parents, teachers and careers advisors have been a feature of the industry in the UK for many years. In part this stems from the biased view indoctrinated into children from a very young age that academic careers are better than vocational careers. Yet although deep-seated, this attitude is now being shifted due to the current economic conditions.

The renewed focus on apprenticeships is one example of this, and there are a number of compelling reasons why hospitality today is a more attractive career choice than it's ever been. Firstly, unlike many other sectors, hospitality is a growth industry. Hilton Worldwide, Accor, Whitbread, IHG, and De Vere have all announced significant numbers of new UK jobs recently.

Secondly, hospitality's 260,000 establishments are spread throughout the UK, contributing to the wealth and social life of every single local authority, as well as providing local employment.

Thirdly, this autumn's increase in tuition fees has led to a 7.5 per cent drop of applications at English universities. Given this situation, there is some evidence that A level students are gravitating towards qualifications with a clear route into employment. At the University of West London, for example, the number of students enrolled in hospitality and tourism management degrees bucked the trend and actually increased this year.

In 2011, research sponsored by the Institute of Hospitality found that only 7.7 per cent of UK hospitality management graduates were unemployed six months after graduation. This gives colleges and universities a sound basis to promote such degrees as education for employment.

Finally, some young people are looking for alternatives to higher education. Hospitality's low barriers to entry mean that there are roles for everyone at every level and those who show talent and ambition can occupy management positions while still in their twenties. Put simply, the sector offers unrivalled opportunities for career development, travel and early responsibilities.

HOTELS

UK market strong despite EU slump

The European hotel investment market continues to struggle amid the scarcity of debt and economic uncertainties within the Eurozone.

Figures from investment and services organisation HSV London show that the investment market has fallen by 16 per cent during the first eight months of 2012 and the company expects the stagnation to last "at least until the end of the year".

The first eight months of 2012 saw hotel investment activity in Europe total around 3.5bn euro (£2.8bn).

Troubles with the single currency are reflected in the fact that the majority of investment during 2012 has been based in the UK, where volume reached more than 1bn euro (£800m), 46 per cent of overall single asset investment volume. In London some 12 premium hotels (with a market value of above



InterContinental Westminster - one of the recently sold developments

75m euro, £6m) changed hands including the four-star Cavendish London for just under 200m euro (£160m).

A number of hotel development sites have also been sold in London, including the InterContinental Westminster and Hilton Bankside. In addition, the Odeon Site in Leicester Square has recently been acquired by the Edwardian Group.

Hilton confirmed for Ageas Bowl development

Hilton has been confirmed as the hotel for the ongoing stadium development in Southampton, Ageas Bowl, the home of Hampshire County Cricket Club and test match cricket venue.

Expected to open in 2014, the six storey hotel will be operated by Sanguine Hospitality,

with which Hilton Worldwide already operates a number of hotels. Eighty five of the 171 rooms will double up as corporate hospitality venues on match days.

Denizen Contracts has secured the contract to develop the hotel.

London 2012 boosts yield for city's hotels

The Olympics and Paralympics gave the London hotel market a major boost, allowing an almost 50 per cent increase in room yield, according to figures from PKF Hotel Consultancy Services.

Whereas London hotels usually discount rates in August, while the corporate market takes a break, room rates went up from an average of £110.22 to £165.05. This boosted the yield by a huge 48.5 per cent, to £135.35.

Although hotel occupancy in the regions fell by 2.4 per cent, to 75.6 per cent this year, yields were up 3.2 per cent to £47.35, thanks to an increase in room rates. This improvement has been attributed to the trend for staycations.

Partner for Hotel & Hospitality Consultancy Services at PKF, Robert Barnard, says: "After a



The 2012 Games provided London hoteliers with a boost in room yield

lacklustre July, hotels across the country were eventually able to make the most of one of the most highly regarded sporting events in living memory. In over 30 years in the industry, I can't recall ever seeing a year on year increase in rooms yield of almost 50 per cent." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=c9R7r>

Watergate Bay Hotel opens spa

When the Asworthy family - the owners of the Watergate Bay boutique hotel in Cornwall, UK - opened the new £3m spa at the hotel they opted to move away from the hushed, clinical approach and challenged the traditional way of thinking in spa design.

Stride Treglown and Household, the designers who worked on the Cowshed Spa, were responsible for creating a warm, lived-in space, complementing the easy-living feel embodied in the rest of the Watergate hotel, which overlooks the Newquay bay and sits next to celebrity chef Jamie Oliver's 15 Cornwall restaurant.

Blue and white stripes are used to add interest to walls and cushions add colour. The ambience is more exuberant than soporific, in keeping with the active spa team.

Creative director at Household, Sarah Page, says the design allows the guests to find whatever they need to leave the chaos behind: "You're taken on a journey to discover what fits your mood, whether that's hideaways, social hubs, lookouts, foodie treats, feet-up, snooze spots or sun-spots."



The new spa includes a timber-decked terrace with outdoor hot tubs

Facilities include three treatment rooms, an infinity pool, a cardio suite, timber-decked terraces with outdoor hot-tubs and a café area for chilling post-treatment.

Manicures and pedicures take place in arm-chairs overlooking the sea accompanied by a handpicked soundtrack. The traditional spa uniforms have been replaced by colourful, jersey clothes from White Stuff.

The spa menu has an emphasis on dynamic massage and people create their own treatment from a range of options: where, how long and whether they want deep, relaxing, hot rocks or a mixture. *Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=e8B7l>*



Susie Ellis, chair and chief executive of GSWS

New GSWS report explores industry's talent gap

A new report has been published to help the global spa industry deal with a gap between job opportunities and qualified candidates. The Spa Management Workforce & Education: Addressing Market Gaps report, released by the Global Spa and Wellness Summit (GSWS), examines the difficulties the industry faces in hiring qualified management personnel.

Developed by SRI International (founded as Stanford Research Institute) for the GSWS, the report identifies the root cause of a high demand for talent and proposes recommendations to address the workforce gap. The report shows that while there are 130,000-180,000 spa managers working in the industry globally, only 4,000 students are currently enrolled in some form of spa management or training programme.

The report was commissioned by the GSWS after 95 per cent of delegates attending its 2011 Summit reported lack of training/education was the greatest challenge facing the industry, and hiring qualified spa managers and directors the largest obstacle to the continued growth of their own businesses. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h3H0l>*

Women-only Grace Belgravia to launch

An exclusive women only club is gearing up for a November launch in Belgravia, central London. Described by its CEO, Kate Percival, as a destination spa with a medical practice, Grace Belgravia offers an integrated approach to healthcare and wellness.

Designed by Studio RHE, facilities at the 11,500sq ft (1,400sq m) site will include a gym, run by personal trainer Matt Roberts; nine treatment rooms; a heat wet experience; hammam; herbal sauna; Vichy treatment room; dry flotation room; tepidarium and chill out areas. All treatments will be unique to the club and exclusive product brands are being used, such as Kerstin Florian, Swiss Perfection and bespoke Ila products.

The team behind the enterprise has vast experience of the sector and Dr Tim Evans, apothecary to the Queen, has been named the spa's medical director. He has been tasked with co-ordinating a team of pre-eminent medical consultants attached to the club.

Percival says it is more than just a spa: "Our vision was to create a place where women could come for all their health and wellbeing needs



The spa will be located in London's Belgravia

under one roof: a place where the best doctors, complementary practitioners and therapists work together to create a truly nurturing and caring experience. The team has already received approaches to develop the brand in Asia, the Middle East and some European cities, but for now the focus is on the London site. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=4P1S7>*

Dover hotel to open channel swimmers' spa

The Dover Marina Hotel in Kent is taking a new direction for next year, by investing in a spa. The hotel's health club, which is open to non-guests as a membership club, will be refurbished and taken upmarket.

Spa facilities will be added to the mix and the main target market is slightly unusual - people who are training to complete the increasingly popular swim across the English channel. Many people train for the event in the area and all wellness packages at Dover Marina Hotel will be built around this. Spa Creators is currently advising the hotel on the design and mix of treatments. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=F6D4V>*

Staycation or StayBreak?



KURT JANSON
is policy director of
Tourism Alliance

There has been a lot of talk of UK residents undertaking staycations rather than travelling overseas due to the economic downturn. And on the face of it the figures are rather compelling. In 2011, UK residents took only 36.8m overseas holidays, down 8.6m on the 45.4m overseas holidays that they took before the economic downturn in 2007. This decline in overseas holidays has resulted in the UK's tourism deficit, which was running at over £20bn, to fall to just over £13bn per annum in the space of just three years.

On the other side of the coin, the number of UK residents undertaking holidays at home has increased by 6.2m to 53.7m since 2007. The difference of 2.4m between the overseas holidays and the UK holidays means that – while some domestic holidays are substitutes for overseas holidays – many UK residents are taking less holidays.

It is also interesting to compare the types of holidays being foregone overseas with the types of additional holidays that are being undertaken in the UK. In 2011, UK residents took 30.9m overseas holidays of 4+ nights. This was 6.1m (16.5 per cent) fewer than in 2007. Surprising then, that although the total number of domestic holidays has increased by 6.2m since 2007, the number of holidays of 4+ nights being undertaken in the UK has risen by only 450,000.

So, rather than taking a long holiday at home instead of a long holiday overseas, UK residents are undertaking short breaks instead. This accounts for the poor increase in domestic visitor expenditure compared to the large increase in visitor numbers. Since 2007, domestic holiday expenditure has risen by only £2.4bn (12.0 per cent). Considering that inflation was 14 per cent over this period, the 11.9 per cent increase in domestic tourism should have generated a further £1bn in domestic tourism revenue.

This data is important for UK destinations and businesses. Those that recognise that overseas holidays are being substituted for weekend breaks in the UK and devise their marketing and products around this stand a much better chance of benefiting from the "staybreak" trend.

TOURISM

Global tourism to hit 1bn landmark

With a record 467 million tourists travelling in the first half of 2012, the global tourism industry is set to reach one billion international trips by the end of the year – for the first time ever.

The figures, from the United Nations' World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO), suggest that despite ongoing concerns over the global economy, international tourism demand continues to show resilience. The number of international tourists worldwide grew by 5 per cent during the six months to 2012 – compared with the same period in 2011.

Asia and the Pacific (up 8 per cent) was the fastest growing region for the total number of trips made (combining in- and outbound travel) while the return of tourist flows to Tunisia and the rest of North Africa resulted in Africa seeing a 7 per cent increase in traveller numbers.

However, the Middle East (0.7 per cent) remained stagnant, casting further worries over the sustainability of some of the ambitious tourism infrastructure being built there.



Photo: Louisa Pugh and Veroa Sotiriou/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

International tourism demand remains resilient

Taleb Rifai, UNWTO secretary general, said: "Amid the current economic uncertainty, tourism is one of the few economic sectors in the world growing strongly, driving economic progress in developing and developed countries alike and, most importantly, creating much needed jobs." Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=b5n9r>

VisitBritain to market transport pass overseas

VisitBritain has been appointed by Transport for London to act as its management agent to distribute the Oyster card overseas. The card allows discount travel on the London transport network and encouraging people to use it will allow them to make the most of sightseeing.

Jaco Coetzee, head of retail at VisitBritain, says: "TfL will be able to use our extensive overseas network and retail operation to reach millions of international travellers who come to the UK each year." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h3W4m>

UK tourism to receive a boost from Games

A survey of communications experts in 24 countries has shown that 99 per cent expect the 2012 Games to encourage more people from their country to visit the UK.

The research, undertaken by global PR group ECCO, also revealed that the coverage of the Olympic and Paralympic Games abroad has resulted in the public in foreign countries having a more positive perception of UK services and products.

The behaviour of spectators also went some way to improving perceptions of British sports fans as well as the British public in general being seen as friendlier than was previously the case. The report follows research from VisitBritain that found that London 2012 will improve the UK's appeal abroad,



The capital is set to benefit from a big increase in inbound tourism

after 80 per cent of tourists last year felt at least "very welcome" during their stay. The national tourism agency sponsored a question to the Civil Aviation Authority's poll of nearly 9,000 departing tourists, which has been undertaken over the last three years. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h19C>

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Entering a year of opportunities



PHILIP VILLARS

is managing director of Indigo Planning and a member of the Leisure Property Forum

It's now six months since the government first set out its streamlined national planning policy and guidance in the form of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF). Since then, there has been much debate about how this new regime will affect leisure industry and its ability to deliver new development where it is most needed. There was no specific section devoted to leisure in the NPPF, however; so is the leisure sector, its role in the national economy and its growth (and everyone's quality of life) being overlooked?

It's actually among the detail of these proposals that the government sets out its position and where recognition for the role the sector plays can be found. The term 'leisure' is used sparingly over 200 paragraphs and yet it's possible to gain an understanding of which direction the NPPF is taking plan makers and decision takers. Section 8, titled 'Promoting healthy communities', refers to the need to plan positively for development which includes sports venues and pubs so clearly relates to many leisure uses.

It requires local authorities to have plans which are based on up to date assessments of the needs, both qualitative and quantitative, in their area, the surpluses and deficits and the opportunities. The leisure industry and its advisors are well placed to help provide this information. It is also an opportunity to help influence the debate.

To take things forward in a positive way, the NPPF also states that local plans need to include policies to deliver leisure development. Such uses constitute main town centre uses, consistent with previous government policy in PPS 6, and this can create tensions. The emphasis is delivery within the centre.

But what if this isn't feasible? Many local authorities are now being 'encouraged' to update, and where absent provide, local plans and this presents an opportunity for those in the leisure industry to get involved and make the case.

With localism high on the government agenda this opportunity must be grasped so that the industry can take its rightful place as the economy starts to grow again.

PROPERTY

Mayor takes charge of Olympic Park's future

London Mayor Boris Johnson has taken over the chairmanship of the London Legacy Development Corporation (LLDC). The announcement follows the news that Johnson has moved Daniel Moylan – who had only been chair of LLDC since June this year – to spearhead a new aviation policy unit.

Making the announcement, Johnson said the Olympic Park and the continued regeneration of east London were "top priorities" and ones which he will "personally oversee".

Johnson said: "Securing the future of the Olympic and Paralympic legacy and building on the regeneration of east London is a matter of huge importance to me personally.

"It is vital that I continue to be at the forefront of the decision-making, driving forward



Johnson will personally oversee the Olympic Park's legacy plans

the huge task of delivery. The chairmanship of the LLDC will enable me to do just that, building on what has already been achieved.

"Daniel Moylan is a gifted politician with a superb brain. I've asked Daniel to take on one of the most important challenges of my second term – the vital task of driving our aviation policy."

Sports research institute proposed

A world class sports research institute could be on the cards for East Manchester.

The project is one of the proposals put forward in a masterplan for the east side of the city which aims to create jobs and attract visitors.

The proposed sports research institute and diagnostic facility would support high performing athletes across a range of sports.

Work carried out by Manchester City Council highlighted that many academic, health and sports-related organisations in the city would benefit from such a facility.

It is backed by Manchester City Football Club (which recently announced its own, separate plans for a City Academy in East Manchester, click HERE for more information), Sport England and other



The location of the new sports institute would be in east Manchester

professional sports bodies. Other elements of the proposed Beswick Project Masterplan, include a new leisure centre, with public swimming pool and multi-court space and a sixth form college. Read more: <http://lei.sr?a=K8k7L>

Council to withdraw attractions plans for Tynemouth

North Tyneside Council (NTC) has revealed it will withdraw plans for the creation of a new visitor attraction and events space on the site of Tynemouth's outdoor swimming pool.

The proposed scheme would have brought the site back into use and was an integral

element of a £4.5m funding application to the Coastal Communities Fund (CCF). However, the CCF administrator has advised the local authority to abandon the outdoor pool part of its application in light of opposition to the proposals from local campaigners.

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Leisurely pursuits

The leisure sector is holding up well against the economic turbulence and more young people are opting for a career in the industry.

As the economic woes of the UK continue, there is a sector that seems to have weathered the storm better than others – leisure. As employers ranging from fitness clubs to major hotel chains announce large job-creation programmes, it seems that there has never been a better time to begin a career in leisure. But how exactly do you get started and where?

First rung of the ladder

Nigel Wallace, development director at training specialist Lifetime, says that one of the key factors for job growth in leisure is the success of apprenticeships.

"With unemployment figures remaining at the forefront of public attention and many students across the country searching for their first step onto the career ladder, the leisure and fitness industry is certainly one to explore," says Wallace. "The sector has experienced steady growth over the past

year and is one that offers an abundance of training for school leavers and young people to set them on their way into apprenticeship programmes. Young people enrolling on apprenticeship programmes have the opportunity to gain employment or work placement (paid or voluntary) with some of the country's leading health club or leisure

"A university degree is always useful - but what employers look for is experience"

centre operators. Practical apprenticeships provide an appealing and engaging solution for young people and can open the door to their dream career."

Debra Stuart, CEO of Premier Training International, adds that the sector's increasing popularity can be attributed to the relatively low barrier to finding that first job

and the variety that the sector offers. "The leisure industry offers a wide range of opportunities for young people," says Stuart, "and is particularly suited to those who are less academic and would rather take a vocational training route to their career."

"Generally young people enter the industry as either activity leaders – running weekend and holiday kids clubs – or as leisure attendants, lifeguards and fitness instructors."

"The training for these roles can be accessed either through a private training provider who can deliver the knowledge and skills prior to commencing employment, or through an apprenticeship or vocational training route where the knowledge and skills are gained 'on the job' while at work."

Degree vs. vocational

So do the increases in university tuition fees combined with the success of

Daisy Leahy

What initially attracted you to leisure?

I was a figure skater from the age of 10 and since then I have been training with some of the top skating coaches in the UK. A few years ago I auditioned for the ice skating show, *Holiday on Ice*. However, when I didn't get the call I started to think about other career options and realised that there were a lot of interesting opportunities within the fitness industry.

How did you enter the industry?

I decided to throw myself in at the deep end and apply for the Level 2 course in gym instruction with national training provider Lifetime. I applied for the scheme back in July 2010 and then started their three week course in October. After finishing the course I stayed in Bristol with Lifetime to do another three courses with them.

How did you find your current job? Was it easy to find?

My Lifetime tutors Natalie and Mark were so helpful and motivating. Little did I know that they would actually be vital to my first step onto the career ladder. Natalie actually put me in touch with a pilates instructor who was looking for someone to cover her classes while she was on maternity leave.



Did the training course you undertook put you at an advantage in getting your job?

Being part of the course was too good an opportunity to miss and choosing a location away from Swindon, where I lived, forced me out of my comfort zone and helped to increase my motivation.

Experiencing life in a new city and running my own business has been such a rewarding experience and I love being able to exercise as part of my job.

What are your career plans for the next five years?

I feel as if I have achieved so much in such a short space of time and moving to a new city and setting up my own business has really transformed my life. I'm now earning a lot more than I was before and working much

more sociable, flexible hours in a job which I love.

Any advice for graduates looking for their first job?

My advice to anyone thinking about furthering their qualifications and signing up to a training course would be to just go for it, it provides endless opportunities and you receive so much help and support. It's also a great chance to meet other like-minded people and possible business associates for the future. It's important just to get yourself out there and make a name for yourself.



Premier Training is one of the largest training providers in the active leisure industry

apprenticeships mean that there is no longer a place for graduates in the leisure industry? Not so, according to Jonathan Davies, MD of The Training Room.

“A university degree is always useful in any industry but the majority of entry level positions in the fitness industry now require an accredited vocational qualification,” he

says. Young people considering the industry might want to think about a gap year to get some vocational qualifications and then spend 12 months getting valuable experience. Once they have this under their belt they could remain in the industry or return to university or ideally do both and work while they study. Personal training, for

example, is ideal for this as it is flexible and transferable across the UK and abroad.”

Stuart agrees and points out that graduates with leisure-related degrees probably have a different plan for their career to a school leaver who has entered the industry via an apprenticeship. In either case, however, experience is crucial.

CASE STUDY

Lewis Quinn

What attracted you to the leisure industry?

With a natural talent and passion for sport, I always knew that I wanted a rewarding career in the health and fitness industry.

How did you enter the industry?

I began my training aged 16, taking advantage of the flexibility of Premier Training's courses to schedule my Active IQ qualifications around college. I used my 2010 summer holidays to gain my Level 2 certificate in gym instruction in just three weeks.

The following year I worked hard to complete my Level 3 Certificate in Advanced Personal Training and Certificate in Sports Conditioning over the summer holidays. I then continued to stay on top of my game through continued professional development courses with Premier.

Where are you working and what is your position?

After graduating, I began working as a self-employed personal trainer, offering personal training sessions at the local gym as well as in clients' houses and local parks.

With a growing client base, including the Salford City Reds, I've just opened my own studio in Manchester



where I focus on personal training and strength conditioning.”

Did the training you undertook put you at an advantage?

The training courses gave me a huge advantage, as clubs like the Salford City Reds take the courses into account when looking for a personal trainer. I believe my qualifications set me apart from the rest as they have helped me put myself in line for a number of job opportunities.

Is there anything you would do differently if given the chance?

I think I made the right move by getting into the leisure industry at such a young age as I think it's the best time to obtain as many qualifications as I can!

What are your career plans?

I'd like to work as a personal trainer for a few more years, but eventually I would like to work more with sports teams.

Any advice for graduates looking for their first job?

Having achieved my qualifications and opening my own studio, I believe the best thing for graduates to do is to volunteer – paid or unpaid. I'm a strong believer in this as it has given me that added edge because it showed people in the industry that I was willing to work for free.



"University is more suitable for those who want to take the academic route into the sector," she says. "Degrees such in sports science or leisure management offer an excellent grounding for anyone whose ambitions are to climb the ladder to management in the leisure industry."

"However, whilst a university course will certainly provide the knowledge required to work at a more senior level, often these courses do not provide the vocational skills needed for the hands on approach needed at grass root level. For example, a student

▲ Lifeguarding is a popular first job
▶ The Register of Aquatic Professionals (RAPs) will launch later this year and will look to simplify the sector's qualification structure

leaving university with a degree in sports science will still need to achieve a vocational qualification in fitness instruction or complete a bridging course before being recognised by the Register of Exercise Professionals (REPs) and be able to work on the gym floor with clients."



Jane Woodhead

What attracted you to the leisure industry?

I am totally passionate about sport and fitness and leading a healthy lifestyle. As a runner, triathlete and boxing coach I felt I wanted to give something back and try to inspire other people to fall in love with sport in the way I have. I also wanted to learn more about the body and muscles and the way they work and can benefit from different exercises.

How did you enter the industry?

I discovered The Training Room's flexible learning programme which really appealed to me. This meant I could continue in my full time job and at the same time attend The Training Room's Personal Trainer course at the weekends.

This was superbly structured and organised making it easy to balance full-time work and part-time training and study.

How did you find the course/apprenticeship?

I did a large amount of research and I also inquired at various gyms and The Training Room came highly recommended.

Where are you working and what is your position at the moment?



I am balancing my full-time job with teaching spinning and boxercise at DW Fitness in Bromborough, Wirral and at DW in Hunts Cross, Liverpool and at Fit For Free in Liverpool. I also cover classes at the Village Hotel in Wirral. I also coach boxing at Wallasey Amateur Boxing Club three times a week and I am currently training to be a Body Combat instructor.

How did you find these opportunities?

Determination. I personally visited several gyms and spoke to the managers on a one to one basis – I find this far more beneficial than simply sending your CV out.

I also received tremendous support from the head tutor in Liverpool, Lyndsey Todd.

Did the training course put you at an advantage in getting your job?

Definitely – if I hadn't done it I wouldn't be doing what I am now. Is there anything you would do differently if given the chance?

No. It was a fantastic course and has enabled me to go on to complete many other courses, including my Kettlebell Instructor course and Body Combat Instructor course.

What are your career plans for the next five years?

To build up more PT clients and teach more classes – and broaden my expertise in this area even further.



REPs and RAPs

Although being REPs accredited isn't a legal requirement, being a REP member does add credibility to the CV of a fitness professional. Holding a membership card signifies that a fitness professional has met nationally agreed occupational standards and has been independently verified as competent in the workplace. It is a useful accreditation to have and more people each year are joining the scheme.

So successful has REPs been that SkillsActive, which runs the REPs scheme, has this year introduced a similar new professional register for the aquatics sector. Called Register of Aquatic Professionals (RAPs), the scheme will be owned and operated by SkillsActive and developed in partnership with employers.

Designed to become the single qualification framework structure for the industry, RAPs will look to provide verification that those working in the sector are fully qualified to perform their role.

The qualifications accepted by RAPs will only include courses offered by the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), the

Swimming Teachers' Association (STA) and The Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS).

A spokesperson for RLSS says the introduction of RAPs will have a positive effect on the way aquatics qualifications are provided in the UK. "RAPs aims to simplify the qualification structure and raise the professionalism of the employees," she says. "Essentially RAPs is seeking to create a clear

career in aquatics and provide the employers with a tool of verifying the ability of current or future employees."

The future of leisure

So what does the future hold for the leisure industry? It might be resilient now, but what can a young person new to the industry expect the sector to look like in a few years' time? The industry leaders seem unified in their predictions - it's all about the funding.

"Changes in HE funding can already be seen in the increased interest in our courses"



Matthew Goodhew

The elegant Belmont Hotel situated near Leicester train station, joined forces with Leicester College's Apprenticeship Training Agency (ATA) to hire its first Apprentice, Commis Chef Matthew Goodhew. Matthew said: "In August 2012, the 12-month apprenticeship will come to an end and I will be fully trained. I love working at The Belmont Hotel and I'm really grateful to Leicester College for creating this opportunity."

The Hotel's Operations Manager, James Bowie Jr, said it made "absolute economic sense" to work with Leicester College's ATA to source and recruit apprentices for the hotel.

He said: "The ATA sources the candidates, handles recruitment and provides apprentices. It's a mutually beneficial partnership, satisfying our service objectives and the teaching objective of the college."

"The introduction of Further Education Loans for older adults (over the age of 24) will provide opportunities for a wider range of people to access funding for education," says Debra Stuart. "This is due to commence from August 2013."

Davies adds that this, coupled with the increasing cost of Higher Education, can only mean more interest in vocational training. "I think the biggest change for our industry will be the changes to university funding," he says.

"We are already starting to see significantly more interest in our training course as young people consider alternatives to the traditional university route."

"This has been reflected in the uptake of our personal trainer courses which, at the end of the financial year, was up 17 per cent on the previous year."

"I think in return we may need to produce more advanced and specialised qualifications so we can provide the continued learning experience and levels of knowledge the top universities would offer." • www.leisureopportunities.co.uk

How to ensure a lasting legacy?



IAN TAYLOR
is chief executive
officer of SkillsActive

Following on from this amazing summer of sport may prove difficult; we are presented with a real challenge. How can we convert these feelings of euphoria which we have all shared into something tangible?

SkillsActive played its part in the Olympics, assisting with the development of 31 Team GB athletes, through the AASE programme. Paralympian Oliver Hynd wowed us all winning gold in the pool, whilst other AASE alumni Tom Daley and Rebecca Adlington both secured medals.

One direct way in which SkillsActive has already contributed to the Olympic's legacy is through our Mayor's Legacy programme. We were able to train almost 12,000 young Londoners, leaving them with lasting skills which they have used to benefit their local communities. Legacy is about sustainability. Our sector is one of the largest deliverers of apprenticeships, with a total of 22,040 apprentices having been certified by us in the last year alone. However we can do more. SkillsActive, by sharpening its focus and clarifying its role within the active leisure, learning and well-being sector is aiming to super-charge its efforts.

One way we have done this is with the Skills Protocol Employer Leadership Group (SPELG). By working with SPELG we aim to achieve a clear, simpler and better skills provision for the industry which is cost effective for employers and employees.

We've also supported the development of the Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity, which will greatly benefit the sector.

Another major step forward has been the creation of a Single Qualifications Framework. It is made up of 57 qualifications and is currently being used by 24 Awarding Organisations.

Its not just about empty talk, it's about definitive and meaningful action. We are in a position to not just inspire a generation, but as a Sector Skills Council we are able to actively motivate and guide a generation, helping them to fulfil their true potential.

TRAINING

RAPs launches for swimming professionals

SkillsActive has launched a new professional register for the aquatics sector, designed to become the single qualification framework structure for the industry.

Called Register of Aquatic Professionals (RAPs), the scheme will be owned and operated by SkillsActive and developed in partnership with employers.

RAPs will look to provide verification that those working in the sector are fully qualified to perform their role. The qualifications accepted by RAPs will only include courses offered by the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), the Swimming Teachers' Association (STA) and The Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS). The three industry bodies are currently working together as equal partners to develop a new qualification framework for each aquatic role (teaching, coaching, maintenance and lifesaving), as part of efforts to provide consistency across the sector and clarity to employers.

The initial launch of RAPs will be later this year and will be based primarily on existing



RAPs will be launched fully later this year

qualifications from ASA, STA and RLSS. This will be followed by a transition to the new single qualification framework by 2014.

RAPs members will also have the opportunity to progress to The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sport and Physical Activity upon obtaining relevant qualifications and experience. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Uoqit>

Volunteering by BME groups at 'record levels'

Record levels of adults aged 16 to 24 and people in black and ethnic minority (BME) groups have volunteered in the last 12 months.

The latest Taking Part survey, published by the DCMS, reveals nearly three in 10 BME adults volunteered, compared with only two in 10 when the survey began in 2005-06.

More than 30 per cent of 16- to 24-year-olds in England did some volunteering in the past year, compared with just 24.7 per cent in 2005-06.

The survey, which collects data on participation in leisure, culture and sport in England, shows that 74.6 per cent of adults visited a heritage site in the last year - the highest proportion since the survey began.

There were also increases in the number of adults visiting a museum or gallery and



The Olympics have had a positive impact on volunteering numbers

engaging in the arts within the last year.

When it came to sport, the statistics showed more adults are taking part than at any time since the survey began. Nearly half of those questioned said they had participated in at least one session of 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport in the past week.

Icon Training offering fully-funded training

Icon Training has been awarded additional funding to deliver its Ofsted Grade 1 tailored packages in the workplace. As a result the company is offering 500 funded places in connection with its Aquatics, Studio Instructor

and Customer Excellence training packages. Companies looking to take advantage of the training opportunity have until 31 October to register their interest. For more information and to register, visit <http://lei.sr?a=e1nZ>

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The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful candidates will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure from the CRB.

For further details on this post and all our current vacancies, including our requirements for flexible working, please visit www.barnsley.ac.uk or contact our 24-hour recruitment line on 01226 216 821.

CLOSING DATE FOR THE ABOVE POST IS FRIDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2012

Disability Inclusion Officer

(Children and Young People) - Job Ref No DSD36F

36 hours per week for 18 months

Salary: £24,646 per annum, plus £798 Inner Fringe Allowance

We need an enthusiastic and experienced person to develop and manage a disabled children and young people's project. The purpose of the project is to develop and deliver a range of sports, leisure and physical activities throughout Epping Forest District for disabled children and young people.

The post holder will support the development and sustainability of the project. The project will work with local children and young people and their families and build positive relationships with them in order to support the process of enabling them to determine what services and activities they need and want to take part in, to increase their participation in sport and physical activity.

For further information please contact James Warwick on 01992 564350.

For an application form contact Human Resources on 01992 564291.

Epping Forest District Council



Closing date: Friday 19th October



Wellsway School
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Sports and Fitness Centre Manager

Location: Keynsham (nr Bath/Bristol), UK.

Salary: £30-35K

Closing date for applications: 18th October 2012

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www.wellswayschool.com/news/appointments/sportscentremanager

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Senior Duty Manager

Post Number: PLCU2802

Grade/Salary: Grade 7 SCP 26 - 31 £22,221 - £26,276

Hours of Work: 37 hours per week

Location: The Pods, Ashby Road, Scunthorpe, DN16 1AA

A committed and versatile individual is required to lead the Duty Management Team in the efficient and effective day to day operational management of The Pods.

You must hold valid pool lifeguard, first aid at work and pool plant operator's qualifications. Experience of working and leading staff in a sport and leisure facility, including a proven track record in customer service and service development, is essential.

You must be computer literate, physically fit and prepared to work weekends and evenings.

Any offer of employment on this post will be subject to receipt of a satisfactory Enhanced Disclosure from the Criminal Records Bureau.

The full version of our Recruitment of ex offenders and Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure procedure can be accessed from our website at www.northlincs.gov.uk/jobsandcareers

Please apply for this job online at www.northlincs.gov.uk/jobsandcareers.

The job description and employee specification are available on the latest council jobs section of the website.

Please send completed application forms to transaction.team@northlincs.gov.uk

Closing date: Thursday 18 October 2012 at noon.



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The Lee Valley Regional Park Authority (LVRPA) is now looking to fill the following vacancies based at Head Office in Enfield, North London:

Operations Officer

£23,976 - £30,390 pa (subject to evaluation)

Fixed Term Contract until March 2014

Following on from the superb London 2012 Olympic Games, you will play a part in the opening of our fantastic Olympic sites: Lee Valley VeloPark, Lee Valley Hockey Centre and Lee Valley Tennis Centre, as well as ensure excellent levels of customer service and operations are maintained across all Lee Valley Venues and Parklands. Providing operational cover when required, your remit will also include customer experience, monitoring budgets and ensuring training and development schedules are adhered to. Results focused and with a Leisure or Operational Management qualification at degree level, you will have expert knowledge of leisure venue management. Up to speed with health & safety regulations as well as financial and procurement systems and regulations, you should be able to juggle conflicting demands and be adept at planning and managing projects.

Closing date: 12 October 2012

Interview date: 26 October 2012

Assistant Performance Officer

£18,915 - £23,274 pa (subject to evaluation)

Fixed Term Contract until March 2014

The performance of the Lee Valley Parklands and Venues is crucial in ensuring a first class visitor experience and making the Lee Valley Park a great place to visit. Assisting the Performance Officer with the day to day running of the contract monitoring at all sites, you will maintain and develop the Quality Management System, liaise with contractors when carrying out inspections as well as complete venue monitoring checks and customer journey quality audits, submitting monthly reports of your findings. Educated to GCSE level or equivalent with excellent organisational skills, you must have knowledge of leisure award and accreditation schemes, quality management and assurance practices. With an understanding of health and safety regulations, you will have experience with performance management or monitoring including auditing.

Closing date: 12 October 2012

Interview date: 26 October 2012

If you have the desire to build on the success of the 2012 Games and ensure a lasting legacy for future generations to enjoy at Lee Valley venues and open spaces, please complete an application form, found on our website leevalleypark.org.uk and return it to: jobs@leevalleypark.org.uk or The HR Team, Myddelton House, Bulls Cross, Enfield EN2 9HG. Alternatively, please call **01992 709 839** for an application pack.

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Regional Manager, *The Gym Group, Various, UK*
Business Development Director, *Sport Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK*
Receptionist / Duty Manager, *The Hogarth Group, West London, UK*
Lifeguard, *Everyone Active, Stratford Upon Avon, UK*
Personal Trainers - Hire the gym, *R Fitness, Kensington, London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *At Home Fitness, Nationwide, UK*
Personal Trainer, *R Fitness, Kensington, London, UK*
Project Officer, *Herts Sports Partnership, Hertfordshire, UK*
General Managers, *The Gym Group, Various, UK*
Operations Director, *Sport Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK*
Sports Development Officer (full time post), *Hertfordshire Sports Village, Herts, UK*
League Operations Manager, *Soccersixes, Nuneaton, Warwickshire, UK*
Sports Development Manager, *Westway Development Trust, London, UK*
Camps Supervisors, *Tone Leisure, Churchill, UK*
Experienced Health / Fitness professionals wanted.
Ten Pilates, *Central London, UK*
General Manager, *Northern Lincolnshire, UK*
Senior Duty Manager, *North Lincolnshire Council, Scunthorpe, UK*
Ballet and Tap Dance Instructors, *Everyone Active, Sutton, London, UK*
Golf Services Manager, *Sport Aberdeen, Aberdeen, UK*
Operations Officer, *Le Valley Regional Park Authority, Enfield, UK*
Full Time Customer Sales Advisor, *DC Leisure, Buxton, UK*
Female Pilates Instructors, *Active Connection, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*
Female Fitness Instructors, *Active Connection, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia*
Assistant Performance Officer, *Le Valley Regional Park Authority, Enfield, UK*
Fitness Instructor, *GLL, Hillingdon, London, UK*
Leisure Assistant, *GLL, Various locations, London, UK*
Athletics Coaches, *GLL, London, UK*
Administration Manager, *University of East London, London, UK*
Football Coaches, *The Sports Factory, New Jersey, United States*
Managing Director, *Wicksteed Park, Northamptonshire, UK*
Trainee Personal Trainer/Fitness Instructor The Training Room, *Nationwide, UK*
Lifeguard/Recreation Assistant (Part Time), *Lensbury Club, Teddington, UK*
Venue Manager (The Sugarhouse), *Lancaster University, Lancaster, UK*
Lifeguards (F/T and P/T), *The Hogarth Group, West London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Gateshead, UK*
Fitness Manager, *Everyone Active, London, UK*
Personal Trainers, *The Gym Group, Various locations, UK*
General Manager, *The Gym Group, Various locations, UK*
Courses Coordinator, *GLL, Thame, UK*
Membership Sales / Duty Manager, *energie group, Enfield, UK*
Centre Worker, *Lightwaves Community Trust, Wakefield, UK*
Duty Officer, *Lightwaves Community Trust, Wakefield, UK*
Shift Manager - Permanent, *Huntingdonshire District Council, St Ives, UK*
Standards Verifier NVQ/Apprenticeship - Part Time, *Pearson, Nationwide, UK*
Manager - Fitness and Spa, *Pyramids Centre, Portsmouth, UK*
Assistant Director - Operations, *Le Valley Regional Park Authority, Enfield, UK*
Leisure Contracts Manager, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Female Fitness Operations Manager, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Female Fitness Instructors x4, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Sports Coaches, *LeisureForce, Saudi Arabia*
Development Officer (Older Peoples Activity), *Sport Aberdeen & Aberdeen City Council, UK*
Development Officer (Community Sport Hubs), *Sport Aberdeen & Sport Scotland, UK*
Assistant Leisure and Operations Manager, *Vauxhall Recreation Club, Luton, UK*
Beacon Programme Head Coach, *GLL, Crystal Palace National Sports Centre, UK*
Health and Fitness Instructor (Gym), *Tone Leisure, Hybridge, UK*
Duty Manager, *Swansea Tennis Centre, Swansea, UK*
Sports Facility Manager, *Barnsley College, Barnsley, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Energy Group, Canterbury, UK*

Supervisor - Swimming Pools, *Vivacity, Peterborough, UK*
Customer Service Advisor, *GLL, Britannia, Hackney, UK*
Aerobics Instructor, *energie group, Southend on Sea, UK*
Funding and Capacity Officer, *Nottingham City Council, Nottingham, UK*
Sports and Facility Manager, *Teignmouth Community School, Teignmouth, UK*
General Managers, *Fusion, London, UK*
Divisional Business Manager, *Fusion, London, UK*
Membership Sales Manager, *Fusion, London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *energie group, Ely, Cambs, UK*
Sales Advisor / Club Promoter, *energie group, Ely, UK*
Membership Sales Consultant, *energie group, Newbury, UK*
Fitness Instructor, *Energy group, Soudbury, Leighton Buzzard, UK*
Increase Your Earning Potential, *Energy Group, Swindon, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Energy Group, FittLess Swindon, UK*
Sales Manager, *Milon Industries, UK, UK*
Site Fitness Co-ordinator, *Sandwell Leisure Trust, West Midlands, UK*
Freelance Internal Verifier, *Sportswise, West Midlands and London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Various locations, UK*
Recreation Assistant, *GLL, City of York, UK*
Aesthetics Sales Representative, *Beauty Leaders, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*
Sales Representative - Skin Care, *Beauty Leaders, Abu Dhabi, UAE*
Brand Supervisor - Skin Care, *Beauty Leaders, Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates*
Membership Consultant / Duty Manager, *Energy Group, Croydon, UK*
Operations Manager, *Paragon Creative, West Midlands, UK*
Supervisor, *Paragon Creative, West Midlands, UK*
Various Positions, *360 Play, Various, UK*
Regional Manager, *The Gym Group, Various, UK*
Operations Officer, *Le Valley Regional Park Authority, Enfield, UK*
General Manager - York's Chocolate Story, *Continuum, York, UK*
Resort Manager, *Gulivers Theme Park, Warrington, UK*
Head of Marketing, *Visit Peak District & Derbyshire, Chesterfield, Derbyshire, UK*
Full-Time / Casual Spa Therapist, *Sopwell House, St Albans, UK*
Senior Hair Stylist, *Crystal Spa and Lounge, Saint Petersburg, Russia*
Spa Therapists, *Crystal Spa and Lounge, Saint Petersburg, Russia*
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Spa Therapists, *GLL, Islington, London, UK*
Senior Spa Therapist, *GLL, Islington, London, UK*
Assistant General Manager, *The Gym Group, Various locations, UK*
Customer Service Advisor, *GLL, Barnet, UK*
GP Referral Facilitator, *GLL, Royal Borough of Greenwich, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Birmingham, UK*
Duty Manager, *GLL, Bayswater, UK*
Assistant Manager, *GLL, Waltham Forest, UK*
Assistant Manager Health, *GLL, Hamersmith & Fulham, UK*
Membership Sales/ Duty Manager, *energie group, Kilburn, London, UK*
Assistant, *Portishead Open Air Pool, Portishead, North Somerset, UK*
Assistant Sales Support Manager, *Pure Gym Limited, National, UK*
Level 1 and 2 Gymnastic Coaches, *Tone Leisure, Watlington / Wellington, UK*
Sales Advisor/Club Promoter, *energie group, Greater Manchester, UK*
Sales Manager, *Everyone Active, Staines, Middlesex, UK*
Full time Membership Consultant, *Everyone Active, Sunbury on Thames, UK*
Sales Manager, *Everyone Active, Sunbury on Thames, UK*
Leisure Attendants, *Tone Leisure, Taunton, UK*
Recreation Assistant, *Tone Leisure, Kingsbridge, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Body Reform, Canary Wharf, London, UK*
Personal Trainer, *Pure Gym Limited, Various locations, UK*
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Children's Activity Co-ordinator

£18k to 21k pro rata for 30 hours pwk

This role has the ability to earn additional salaried income



A state-of-the-art wet and dry leisure centre providing a fantastic all-round leisure experience is currently looking for a self-motivated Children's Activity Co-ordinator to join them in Harlow.

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You will develop and programme all wet and dry courses and activities within the centre ensuring they are popular activities that are planned, staffed, that inspire repeat visits and within budget.

Our ideal candidate will have an understanding of the types of courses or activity sessions that are popular with children and have exceptional planning, communication and people skills. You will also have the ability to organise individuals, teams and tasks. Experience of coaching and working in leisure would be advantageous.

Therefore if you are self motivated, enthusiastic and also keen to make a difference by providing fun activities for children to participate in then we wish to hear from you.

Application forms are available by telephoning 01279 621512 or email lborwick@harlowleisurezone.co.uk please supply your name and address.

Closing date for all applications 14th October 2012. If you do not hear from us within three weeks of the closing date please assume you have been unsuccessful on this occasion. Interviews will be taking place week beginning 29th October

Harlow and District Sports Trust - Harlow Leisurezone, Second Avenue, Harlow, Essex CM20 3DT

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At Home Fitness helps Personal Trainers run fitness businesses training customers at home. We set high standards and have quality partnerships with industry leaders like The Training Room and Discovery Learning. We only accept the very best Personal Trainers so that we can guarantee exceptional service to our customers.

Find out if you're good enough at the Selection Zone:
www.athomefitness.co.uk/selection-zone

Farnborough scheme signs up Vue

Plans for a new cinema and restaurants in Farnborough have taken a major step forward after a formal agreement was signed by Rushmoor Borough Council, developer St Modwen and cinema operator Vue.

The planned development at The Meads - which is owned by St Modwen - forms a key part of the regeneration of the town centre and will include a number of new restaurants totalling 35,000 sq ft as well as the Vue cinema. Planning permission has now been granted and the cinema is scheduled to open by mid-2014.

The first two phases of St Modwen's regeneration plans for Farnborough are already complete. A 77-bedroom Travelodge hotel, a Wetherspoons pub and a 24-hour budget club by The Gym Group are already open.

James Stockdale, development surveyor at St Modwen, said: "This is a great step forward in our on-going work to improve the leisure and retail facilities in Farnborough town centre for the local community."



The Vue cinema will form part of mix-use complex

"We know from our initial consultations that local people have been crying out for a cinema for some time. It will be a real benefit to the area, delivering a much-needed boost to the town's night-time economy." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C7S9C>

Bargoed multiplex cinema given green light

Caeprhilly County Borough Council planners have given the nod for a multiplex at Bargoed town centre in Wales.

The council will build the cinema and negotiations are currently underway with a commercial cinema operator to lease it.

Councillor Ken James, cabinet member for regeneration, says this is fantastic news for the area: "We don't currently have a multiplex within the county borough and with a population of 17,000, it is a much needed leisure facility." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=m6A1l>

Rank's takeover of Gala Coral in stalemate

Casino operator Rank Group's planned takeover of rival Gala Coral has been held up indefinitely by competition concerns.

The deal, which would result in Gala becoming a part of Rank, was initially announced by the two companies in May.

The takeover was conditional upon receipt of UK merger control clearance, with a deadline for the green light being set as 19 September.

The Office of Fair Trading (OFT), however, referred the £205m sale of Gala to Rank to the Competition Commission in August over fears that the deal would be anti-competitive. If successful, the merger would create the UK's largest casino group.

With the formal deadline having now passed without a ruling by the Competition Commission, Rank's offer is no longer binding and the deal has entered a state of limbo.



Gala Coral approved the Rank deal in May 2012

In a statement, Rank stated that it was and "nevertheless continuing to assist the Competition Commission with its inquiry" and would continue its discussions in relation to appropriate amendments to secure the deal. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=J7q4W>

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