

# leisureopportunities

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## Mills criticises efforts to increase sports participation

Speaking at the ukactive Summit held in London on 7 November, Sir Keith Mills, founder of Nectar and Air Miles and former deputy chair of LOCOG, criticised the way in which efforts are being made to increase participation in sport.

Mills, who was asked to oversee the aborted attempt to merge UK Sport and Sport England, said: "We spend depending how you calculate it between one and two billion pounds of public money each year on sport.

"From school sport; local authority facilities; through to Sport England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland; UK Sport; 70-plus governing bodies of sport and so the list goes on. Many of them do a good job – but sadly, some don't. Most of these organisations are doing their own thing. We need to



Sir Keith Mills has spoken out about the efforts made to increase sporting participation

adopt a more strategic joined up approach."

Mills made his comments at the ukactive Summit, an event which brought together more than 400 delegates with an interest in improving the health of the nation by getting

more people, more active, more often.

At the Summit, ukactive launched a national ambition to turn the tide of physical inactivity, highlighting that a 1 per cent reduction in inactivity rates for five years would save an estimated £1.2bn.

Fred Turok, ukactive chairman, said: "Reducing inactivity is where we can deliver the biggest public health gains, tackle health inequalities and get the maximum financial return on our investment."

This call has been backed by Prime Minister David Cameron, who said: "Turning

the tide of inactivity is essential to the health of our nation. I am delighted to support ukactive and its drive for making physical activity part of the DNA of our country."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n6r6z>

### Concern as Soccerex conference gets the axe

Fears about disorder and disruption at next year's football World Cup in Brazil have been raised following the cancellation of Soccerex, a global football conference scheduled to take place in Rio de Janeiro next month.

The organiser of the event, also called Soccerex, claims that Rio's state government had called off next month's event due to concerns about ongoing civil unrest in the country. The government has strongly denied this, instead, a funding dispute was the real issue. *Continued on back cover*

### Dangerous beauty treatments warning

The UK's health inspectors have been warned about the potential dangers of new and often extreme and unregulated beauty treatments offered in spas and salons.

At a conference hosted by the Chartered Institute of Health in October, Wendy Nixon, a health and safety consultant, raised issues with a beauty treatment spas want to import from China which involves bathing in a tank of small eels.

Nixon said that the treatment could cause severe medical problems, particularly with people who wear loose-fitting swimwear.

The beauty industry has started to turn its back on fish pedicures after concerns were raised about the wellbeing of the animals and other concerns



Fish pedicures are being phased out by the industry

include the amount of unregulated, unlicensed teeth-whitening procedures on the market and the issue of hair-straightening products imported into the UK with concentrations of formaldehyde above legal limits. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=U7Q9r>

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## SPORT

# Medical centre gets FIFA accreditation

Perform, the sports science and medical centre at St George's Park in Burton-upon-Trent, has become the first in England to receive the coveted FIFA F-MARC accreditation, joining 36 elite medical facilities across the globe as a FIFA Medical Centre of Excellence.

The centre – operated under the Perform brand by medical group Spire Healthcare – offers a wide range of services including cardiac and health screening to performance analysis; nutrition; injury rehabilitation and clinical care pathways.

Being accredited as a FIFA Medical Centre of Excellence means it joins an exclusive 'world club' among other elite sports medical practitioners and will enable medical staff at Perform to interact, share ideas and research projects with other F-MARC-accredited centres.

St George's Park chair, David Sheepshanks CBE, said: "This is a richly deserved accolade for The FA's own medical team led by Dr Ian Beasley and Gary Lewin and our resident sports medicine team at St George's Park, part of Perform, Spire Healthcare, run



Perform at St George's Park recently partnered with Michael Johnson

by Phil Horton and Dr Charlotte Cowie."

The FA's head of medical services, Dr Ian Beasley, said: "Gaining F-MARC accreditation has been a dream first conceived when St Georges Park was still a building site.

"Football medicine and science has grown immeasurably over the last few years, and The FA take great pride in playing its part in this. The medical and science team at The FA see the F-MARC as a route to a close collaboration with the other 36 such centres around the world to promote excellence in football player care." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=h5R6E>

# Redeveloped ski facilities open in Ayrshire

Newmilns Snow and Sport Complex in Ayrshire has reopened its dry skiing facilities following a £1m redevelopment.

The complex, which originally opened in 1975, has undergone a seven-month transformation which has seen two new slopes built for both amateur and advanced skiers, replacing the original single beginner slope had been there previously.

The two new dry ski slopes, built by Barr Construction, measure 32m (104ft) and 10m (328ft) long and have two lengths of bristles to facilitate downhill skiing and manoeuvres for both skiers and snowboarders.

The project was made possible in part by Scottish Government funding, with £435,000 coming from the Rural Development Programme, as well as £78,411 from sportscotland's Sports Facilities Fund.

Sport minister Shona Robison said: "A key addition to the provision of quality winter



The facilities received £500,000 in government funding

sport environments, it will help promote and foster the development of snow sports in the south west of Scotland.

"With several of our athletes currently training towards the Winter Olympics and Paralympics in Russia early next year, this facility will also help develop further performance opportunities and racing skills." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=W9R8n>



## ukactive partner with Judy Murray

David Stalker, CEO of ukactive, has announced at the ukactive Summit held in London on 7 November, that the organisation will be joining forces with tennis coach Judy Murray in a bid to get families active.

"A key strategic objective of ukactive is to champion the importance of activity from the earliest possible stage. That means starting at home, encouraging fun and play for families," says Stalker.

As part of this partnership, ukactive will publish a report in the New Year outlining the health benefits of physical activity from the earliest years.

ukactive will join forces with Murray, mother of 2013 Wimbledon Champion Andy Murray, to promote simple games for families "to build physical literacy and confidence," as part of Judy's Set4Sport campaign, which has been supported by RBS since its launch in 2011.

Murray welcomed the announcement from Cancun in Mexico where she is a keynote speaker at the International Tennis Federation's Coaches Conference.



Judy is the mother of 2013 Wimbledon Champion Andy Murray

"I am excited to be joining forces with ukactive to raise awareness of the benefits of families getting up and active together," she said.

"This is not about training to be an Olympic Champion from the cot but helping children to have fun being active through play that builds confidence and the basis of skills that can help them win later in life."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k8X6T>

## £26m ice-rink and leisure centre opening in Streatham

Streatham's new multi-million pound ice and leisure centre, which will replace the Streatham ice rink that closed in 2011, is set to open on 18 November.

As well as a competition-standard ice rink with 1,000 seats, the centre will house a six-lane, 25m swimming pool; a 13m teaching pool; a four court sports hall and a fitness centre with 100 stations.

The development also incorporates a new Tesco superstore and 200 new houses.

The £26m project has been jointly funded by Lambeth Council and Tesco.

Streatham leisure centre had to close in November 2009 due to health and safety concerns. A structural survey identified that it would cost more the £3m for the centre to re-open whilst the hub was being built. The council's cabinet decided to close the centre permanently pending the new facilities.

A temporary ice rink in nearby Brixton will remain open until 18 November.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=d8a3u>



The new stand will increase capacity

## Franklin's Gardens rugby stadium set for revamp

Northampton Saints rugby club has submitted plans to Northampton Borough Council (NBC) for a £5.5m redevelopment of its Franklin's Gardens stadium.

Plans include replacing the ageing Sturtridge Pavilion with a new, 2,000-capacity North Stand which will increase capacity at the ground to almost 16,000. It is the last phase of a 12-year redevelopment of the stadium.

The planned works have already received initial backing from the council.

Council leader David Mackintosh said: "If approved, the larger stadium would see more rugby fans brought into our town.

"This can only be good for our local economy and give more Saints supporters the chance to cheer on the players in black, green and gold."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n7n4e>

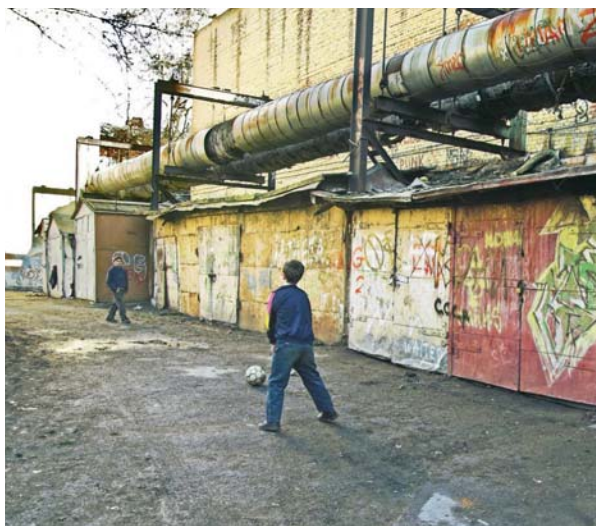
## Link between wealth and physical activity

A new report by Public Health England claims that people from lower socio-economic groups tend to have poorer access to environments which support physical activity such as parks, gardens or safe areas to play.

The report, *Social and economic inequalities in diet and physical activity*, focuses on the link between diet and obesity in low income areas.

Among its conclusions, the report states that low income households are also less likely to have disposable income for non-essential costs such as leisure time physical activity.

The report comes just days after ukactive chair Fred Turok made a call to "change the debate" from a simple focus on obesity to provide an equal recognition of physical inactivity as a "top tier public health priority". David Stalker, CEO of ukactive, said: "Studies have



Lower socio-economic groups have poor access to sport-friendly areas

shown that physical inactivity could be responsible for 17.5 per cent of all premature deaths in the UK. There is a clear link between activity levels and the environment in which you live and we need a resourced national strategy to be put in place to tackle this." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G9n2V>

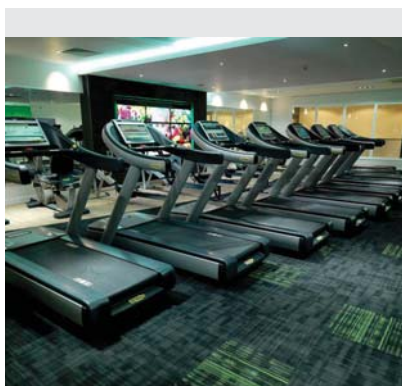
### Waggett builds anticipation for Psycle London concept

Former CEO of Fitness First, Colin Waggett, has spoken to *Leisure Opportunities* about his new indoor cycling concept, which will launch in central London next February.

Waggett says the objective of Psycle London is to be the most enjoyable fitness experience in London. "Psycle will feel nothing like a gym, or your typical indoor cycling class," says Waggett. "We will use music, the best instructors and inspiring design to put people in a positive frame of mind for exercise."

The class programme aims to be a fun workout, equally good for cardio and toning. "We've rewritten the rulebook," says programme co-ordinator Tim Weeks. "The classes are put together in a way that anyone and everyone can come in and enjoy. There is no competitive element."

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=R6fjY>



The gym features Technogym's Unity equipment

### New £1m gym for Ribby Hall Village in Lancashire

The health club at Ribby Hall Village in Wrea Green, Lancashire has launched a new £1m gym overlooking the golf course.

Ribby Hall was named Club of the Year at the 2013 ukactive Flame Awards. The new 413sq ft (38sq m) facility has more than 60 stations and has doubled the free weights on offer at the health club.

A spinning zone is equipped with Startrac's NXT Blade spin bikes and interactive eSpinners feature high resolution touch screens with embedded workouts, an ipod dock and wireless heart rate monitoring.

All equipment at the gym features interactive TV screens to allow members to personalise workout plans, as well as virtual training environments.

This latest project follows a refurbishment of the fitness studios and tennis courts and the opening of the archery centre earlier this year. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=8x2Y6>

## Exercise key for arthritis sufferers

Taking regular exercise could help improve the quality of life for those who suffer from arthritis, while also reducing medical costs, according to a new study partly sponsored by the US National Institutes of Health.

Researchers investigated results from a nationwide study, which examined 4,700 adults who had been diagnosed with, or were at risk of, arthritis of the knee.

In their findings the researchers were able to show that meeting national US physical activity guidelines could potentially add up to 20 days of good health in one year for patients.

Participants of the study were asked to wear an accelerometer for one week as the researchers measured their physical activity levels.

Once they had been measured, the participants were then split into three groups with physical activity and quality of life measurements being made at the start of the study and then again two years later.

The first group was made up of those who were meeting national physical activity guidelines. The second consisted of participants who were not active enough, but who did partake in some moderate to vigorous exercise at



Exercise could potentially benefit those who suffer from arthritis

times, while the third group featured people who were inactive.

It was found that the quality-adjusted life years of participants who kept up with the exercise guidelines were higher than those who were somewhat active or totally inactive.

The researchers were able to estimate that exercise could have the potential benefit of adding between 10 and 20 more days of good health every year for those who are suffering or were at risk of the condition. These benefits also contributed to reduced health costs.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=A7B2J>

## Runtastic launches story telling training tool

Fitness app Runtastic has launched a new feature that provides runners with stories as they work out, in an attempt to keep them motivated and entertained during their training sessions.

The Story Running feature has been designed to provide tales in correlation with the average 40-minute running times usually undertaken by users of Runtastic, with narratives ranging from the motivational through to adventure, travel and horror stories.

Each of the stories is specially designed in accordance with training interval curves, to enable them to act as training tools, with the tales using suspense, climax and emotional response to spur runners on at certain points during their workout.

"Our writers created characters which have to run throughout the story, from the first to the last minute," said script consultant Ines Häufner, who worked on the project. "We can



The stories aim to spur runners on at certain points of their workout

use your natural sense of urgency. There's someone coming after you, the main character, then you hear dogs barking... We make your running routine a really new and exciting experience."

According to its founder, Runtastic has seen over 50 million downloads in the last four years, with 35 million of those taking place in the last year. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=G2s6y>



## Strength training safe for children

Whether children can and should participate in strength training has been a contentious issue, but new research suggests it is safe and may encourage young people to be more active in their everyday lives.

A study published in the journal *Pediatrics* saw researchers randomly select 102 children between the ages of 10 and 14 and split them into two groups.

One group was given a 45-minute strength training exercise programme to adhere to twice a week, while the other group was assigned to continue with regular school gym classes.

Those that followed the strength training regime – which included crunches and bench presses – turned out to be stronger after the study, with both boys and girls improving their leg and arm strength after 19 weeks of training compared with those who went to gym classes.

It was also found that boys had upped their weekly exercise levels by 10 per cent, with the increased burning of energy equivalent to an extra 28-mile weekly bike ride.

There were no injuries during the study period. Both boys and girls improved their leg and arm strength after 19 weeks of training



The research has suggested that strength training is safe for kids

compared with those who went to gym class.

Dr Cordelia Carter, a pediatric orthopedist at the Yale School of Medicine in Connecticut, US, who was not involved in the study, commented: "The stronger your muscles are, the more fun it is to use them and once you feel that good post-exercise, you might want to continue it." Dr Carter also said that parents who can properly supervise their children and teach good techniques can encourage strength training at home or they can hire a trainer to make sure children learn the right way to train. *Details:* <http://lei.sr?a=K2k6G>

## St Ives leisure centre gets £4.3m revamp

Upgraded facilities at the One Leisure centre in St Ives, Cambridgeshire, have been officially opened following a £4.3m redevelopment by Huntingdonshire District Council.

The work included the addition of new changing rooms; an expanded gym space; a day spa and a five-lane, tenpin bowling alley.

The decision to upgrade the council-run facility came as a result of changing trends in local leisure, which have required the council to rework the centre to meet the growing needs of users, and to compete with privately-run facilities.

The centre's Impressions Fitness Suite has now been moved to a larger area to help cater for all types of gym-goer, with dedicated gym space now measuring 500sq m (5,381 sq ft).

The 120-station gym features an updated functional training area, additional cardio equipment, resistance facilities and a free weights area, with equipment provided by TechnoGym, PowerPlate, Trixter, Escape and Jordan.



The upgrades have been done to compete with privately run facilities

The gym is also coupled with a fitness studio area, supported by the creation of two separate fitness studio rooms giving enthusiasts the chance to experience the centre's expanded programme of classes.

The new Pure Day Spa gives users access to innovative heat experience rooms in combination with a range of health and beauty treatments. *Details:* <http://lei.sr?a=B4R2B>



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**UFI IBRAHIM**  
is chief executive  
officer of British  
Hospitality Association

Statistics relating to the hospitality and tourism industry are well known; employing 10 per cent of the UK workforce, equating to more than 2.7 million people. Britain's fourth largest industry, hospitality accounted for 27.7 per cent of total UK net jobs growth over 2010-2012.

Those in the industry are proud of our contribution to the UK economy, and the aim of the Tourism and Hospitality Campaign, launched in autumn 2013, is to spread the message far and wide, ensuring MPs in all political parties are aware of the huge role our industry plays in the economy.

The politically-focused Campaign for Tourism, led by the British Hospitality Association (BHA), includes 33 representative bodies from all aspects of the tourism industry including the Tourism Alliance and attractions, historic houses, heritage sites, B&Bs, hotels, restaurants, palaces, language schools and destinations. To launch the campaign, letters were distributed far and wide, aiming to trigger debate and set out key areas for policy change.

As the leading agenda-setter of the hospitality and tourism industry, the BHA acts on behalf of a 40,000 strong community of members and we are firm believers in the power of collective action.

At an international level, the BHA, together with support from the UKCVA, the CBI, Institute of Directors and the British Chamber of Commerce has been proactively campaigning for swift visa reform which makes it easier and less expensive for Chinese tourists to visit the UK. In addition, the BHA has been working directly with the Home Office and the UK Border Agency to identify the issues and their impacts on the UK economy.

These examples are just a snapshot of some of the work carried out by the BHA, its members, partners and industry representatives. Importantly, they demonstrate that by working together, by pooling our skills, resources and opportunities and focusing on the next generation, the hospitality and tourism industry can and will ultimately achieve the status and recognition it deserves in the UK from the government and all major political parties.

## HOTELS

# Boutique hotel set for Plymouth

Plans are in progress to transform the historic Melville building in Plymouth's Royal William Yard into a destination boutique hotel.

This will be the second site for hoteliers, the Ashworth family, which owns the Watergate Bay Hotel in north Cornwall, which claims to offer a ski resort by the sea feel, with its own beach, 'active relaxation' spa and varied food offering, including 15 Cornwall.

The second site will be altogether more urban; transforming Melville, which overlooks a marina and courtyard, into a 60-bed hotel, with two restaurants, a cocktail bar, members club, 25m swimming pool and events space.

Will Ashworth, Watergate Bay Hotel managing director, says his team are planning to create something truly unique for the region: "We have a distinctive approach to hospitality and active relaxation lies at the heart of what we do. Our north Cornwall hotel has its own special sense of style and tone, and our aim is to take this and develop it in a way that is right for Royal William Yard."

Leader of Plymouth City Council, Tudor Evans, welcomed the development: "This fits



The hotel could be added to Plymouth's Royal William Yard

in with our plans for growth, particularly in the tourism and visitor sector, where developments such as these will help the city broaden its accommodation range to include higher-end, quality hotels. This is great news, helping to spread the word about Plymouth, Britain's Ocean City, as a fantastic place to be."

Planning permission is now getting underway and the Watergate team are liaising with architects, Gillespie Yunnice, Plymouth City Council and English Heritage. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=j5C2E>

## Middle Eastern visitors spend most on hotels

Middle Eastern visitors spend more on hotel stays than other travellers when visiting the UK, spending almost 60 per cent more per night on a room than the average rate, according to figures published by Hotels.com.

Published in the *Hotels Price Index*, the figures show that visitors from the region had increased their rate of spending by 8 per cent in the first half of this year, by spending around £180 on a hotel room per night compared with the national average rate of £108.

The index also revealed that Brazil and Mexico are tied in second place, with visitors from each country spending £141 each night for their stay, while Argentinians came in fourth with a spend of £136.

Most countries out of the 39 measured had increased spend on hotel stays in the UK, though nine nations remained at the same level or decreased their average hotel spend when compared with last year. The greatest decline came



Middle Eastern visitors spend an average of £180 per night on hotels

from Japanese visitors, who spent 9 per cent less on their hotel stays, at an average price of £126.

It was also found that for shorter-haul travellers to the UK, the highest paying Europeans were the Norwegians who spent £127, a 6 per cent increase on last year. The last 13 places on the list of 39 were made up entirely of European countries. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=v9s5F>



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## Cornwall cleans up at British Travel Awards

For the fifth consecutive year, Cornwall has been voted the nation's favourite holiday destination, by winning the Best UK Holiday County or Region category in the British Travel Awards.

Head of Visit Cornwall, Malcolm Bell, says the fact that Cornwall has retained the title since 2009 shows that the county is adapting to market demands. "Even during uncertain times, Cornwall is reinventing itself to give visitors reason to return time and time again. But most importantly, such a high profile accolade showcases Cornwall to a new audience which is vitally important in order to grow our visitor base."

The Eden Project has also retained the title of Best Leisure Attraction for the third year in a row and the National Maritime Museum in Falmouth claimed silver in the Best Heritage Attraction. Looe also took Silver for Best UK Coastal Resort. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=a2p6k>



Tour de France 2012 winner Bradley Wiggins

## The 'Wiggins effect' could boost British tourism in 2014

VisitEngland has announced its tourism highlights for 2014, while also anticipating that British tourism could receive a boost from a so-called 'Wiggins effect' created by the success of British cycling and the hosting of the start of the Tour de France in Yorkshire next year.

The tour begins at the Grand Départ in Leeds on 5 July, with London's iconic Mall forming the finishing point of the third and final English stage.

Some of the regions along the cycling route have already begun preparations to make the most of the expected tourism boom by establishing events related to the Tour. In its Travel Trends release, VisitEngland states that the cycling market is growing by 10-15 per cent per annum and will be worth over £3bn by 2015. It also claims that its own research has found that 3.8 million people are keen to go cycling while on holiday. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=k5C4W>

## Economic recovery tourism-lead

The tourism sector is leading the way in the UK's economic recovery, according to a new report.

UKinbound, the trade association representing the UK's inbound tourism sector, released the report at a parliamentary reception hosted by MP John Penrose and designed for politicians to meet representatives from the various sectors.

The report revealed that tourism to the UK is leading the way in UK economic recovery, outperforming other sectors and showing steady employment growth.

The report tracked and benchmarked the performance of UKinbound's 330 plus members, using statistics gathered from a membership survey, the results of which were compared with and supported by official national data.

In addition, the tourism industry was compared with the services, manufacturing and construction industries using Markit/CIPS index linking.

The results showed that out of all six



Inbound tourism is leading the way in economic recovery

categories, inbound tourism was the clear leader. Key findings were that 66 per cent of UK tourism businesses have reported an increase in sector activity, while almost 40 per cent of UK tourism businesses have hired extra staff over the past year. In addition, 54 per cent of UK tourism businesses have expressed confidence that the sector will see significant growth in 2014. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=T5Z4b>

## Edinburgh Castle named top attraction for third time

Edinburgh Castle has been named the top UK Heritage Attraction for the third year running in the prestigious 2013 British Travel Awards.

The historic site was the only Scottish attraction to make the shortlist and is Scotland's number one paid-for tourist attraction,

bringing in more than 1.2 million people a year.

Mike Cantlay, chair of Visit Scotland, commented: "With bumper visitor figures and continued accolades from visitors, the castle continues to be the jewel in Scotland's tourism crown." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=X5a5R>

## Musicals a bigger draw than sport for tourists

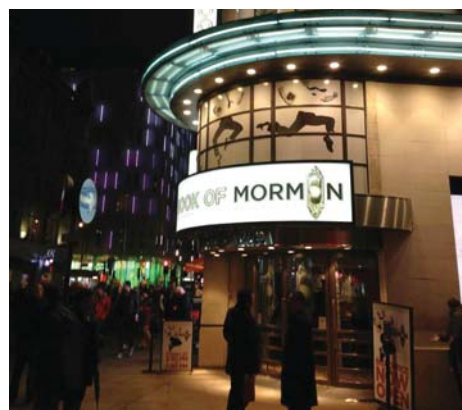
Last year's Olympic Games were widely credited with providing a massive boost to tourism in the UK but more overseas tourists visited the theatre than live sporting events, according to new figures.

Of the trips made to the UK by foreign visitors, over a year, 2.8 million people bought tickets for a musical or play compared to the 1.3 million who attended any form of sporting event, according to VisitBritain.

Musicals have proved popular to foreign visitors, making up 64 per cent of all theatre visits, with plays accounting for 25 per cent of theatre visits.

Not only did more tourists flock to Britain's theatres but they also spent more, with the average spend for the non-theatre goer being £600 while the theatre-keen spent an average of £983.

Sports events brought in a total tourist spend of £1.1bn while those visiting theatres eclipsed that tally, bringing in £2.7bn during the year. The data also revealed that overseas theatre-goers



Foreign visitors make up 64 per cent of all theatre visits

were very London-centric. Twenty-four per cent of holiday visitors who stay in London will go to the theatre while just 9 per cent of overseas holiday visitors staying in the West Midlands and northwest of England visited the theatre. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=u5N2X>





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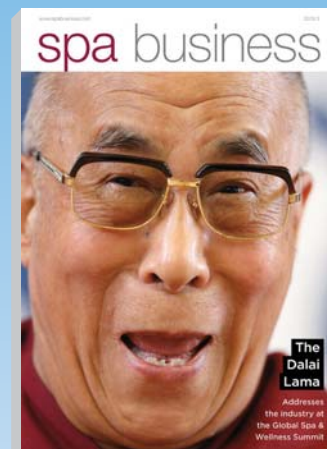
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# £21m boost for heritage landscapes

Nine precious landscapes across the country are to be restored with £21m funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to boost rural areas and provide long-term social, economic and environmental benefits to the areas.

The nine sites to receive funding are Coigach and Assynt in Scotland, the New Forest in Hampshire, Humberhead Levels in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire, Ingleborough Dales in Yorkshire, North York Moors, Lough Neagh in Northern Ireland, Rusland Valley and Fells in the Lake District, Derwent Valley in Yorkshire and East Wight on the Isle of Wight.

HLF's Landscape Partnership (LP) programme – which has now been running for a decade – is the most significant grant scheme available to landscape-scale projects. To date more than £160m has been invested in 91 areas across the country.

"The nine schemes we are supporting this year have all demonstrated a need for urgent conservation work to the natural and built



The New Forest in Hampshire is one of the nine areas selected for funding

heritage as well as reconnecting communities to these places," said Drew Bennellick, head of landscape and natural heritage at HLF. "They are important on many levels, including being an integral part of our health and wellbeing and a significant contributor to the tourist economy.

"The UK's amazing countryside is under ever-increasing pressure and we must act now to make sure it continues as one of our greatest assets." Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Z5K9f>

## Alton Towers closes ride after parts hit guests

Alton Towers' new £18m Smiler rollercoaster was forced to shut down after some of the ride's wheels fell off and hit four people in the front carriage.

A spokesperson for the park said that some "small guide wheels" had come off The Smiler as it was being pulled up an incline.

The spokesperson said the ride was able to complete its circuit and no evacuation was necessary. A number of the plastic guide wheels were flicked onto a teenager and three adults on the front row of the train, while the other guide wheels were caught by the safety netting.

The 14-loop rollercoaster has had its share of problems since opening. The ride shut for four days in July after a piece fell off the track and 48 people had to be rescued. In August the ride also closed for five days due to "technical issues". The injured people in the latest incident were



The Smiler was forced to shut after guide wheels fell off hitting riders

treated on site by park staff and did not need treatment by the ambulance service.

The park has carried out an investigation and it was deemed that the ride could be reopened on 7 November – two days after the initial shutdown. Details: <http://lei.sr?a=s8r6H>



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## L'Oreal likely to become a major player in spa market

The spa industry could gain a major player if talks by L'Oreal to buy spa brands Carita and Decl  r come to fruition.

L'Oreal has announced it is in exclusive negotiations to acquire the two companies from Japan's Shiseido for around  193m.

Shiseido has made its first annual loss, and the disposal is thought to relate to this, as it focuses on its core assets.

L'Oreal said the two spa companies are "inspirational and complementary," and that they grew into some of the world's largest cosmetic providers under Shiseido's management. L'Oreal products division president An Verhulst-Santos said: "Decl  r and Carita are two beautiful, prominent beauty institute brands, particularly well-established in western Europe. Their growth perspectives, especially internationally, are very promising," *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=F2r5Q>*



Moddershall Oaks has confirmed a big expansion

## Expansion planned for country spa retreat

Moddershall Oaks, a country spa retreat near Stone in Staffordshire has been granted planning permission to expand its facilities.

The expansion is being part – funded through the Rural Development Programme for England, which is jointly financed by DEFRA and the European Union. Altogether the expansion is costing  550,000.

The family run spa business, founded by the Holland family in December 2000, has developed from a small day spa to a destination spa employing more than 50 staff.

The aim of the new development is to "enable the business to host double the number of day spa visitors, providing them with a wider choice of thermal, relaxation and dining facilities".

The new facilities include landscaped outdoor spa garden and courtyard terrace, with a raised vitality spa pool; a Finnish kelo sauna cabin; feature showers; an outdoor log fire; a spa deli and bar area and a fireside spa lounge. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=C4Z8X>*

## Sanctuary spa closing next May

The Sanctuary spa in Covent Garden, London is to cease operations after 36 years in business on 31 May next year.

The closure of the ladies-only spa follows a decision in July to close three other Sanctuary high-street boutique spas.

The Floral Street retail store adjacent to the Covent Garden spa will also cease trading in September 2014.

The PZ Cussons group, which owns The Sanctuary, said that one of the factors in the decision to shut the Covent Garden spa is that more and more day spa guests are choosing to spa at home.

Catherine Ferma, Sanctuary spa director, said: "We have taken the difficult decision to close The Sanctuary spa in Covent Garden. This decision has been based on a number of factors including the current redevelopment of Covent Garden which will turn it into the epicentre of theatre world, restaurant and retail



The Covent Garden closure follows three The Sanctuary spa closures in July

and the rising costs associated with being in a listed building.

Ferma said that development of the product range will be a key focus for the brand moving forward.

"As the trend towards spa-ing at home is growing, our Sanctuary spa product business is thriving. We are launching The Sanctuary spa products in new markets globally." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=s4k7J>*

##  10m Galgorm expansion gets green light

The Galgorm Resort and Spa in County Antrim, Northern Ireland has received planning permission for a major extension which will include a new leisure wing.

Environment Minister Mark H Durkan announced approval for the plans which will see the addition of 48 guest-rooms, a swimming pool and a fitness centre.

It is predicted that the extension will create 60 new jobs full and part-time positions when work is completed in 2015.

Durkan said: "The new addition to this award winning resort will benefit tourism in mid-Antrim, providing high quality accommodation in an area that is the gateway to the Glens of Antrim and the scenic north coast.

"My Department is committed to delivering swiftly for business and preventing



The  10m expansion of the Galgorm Resort and Spa will be completed in 2015

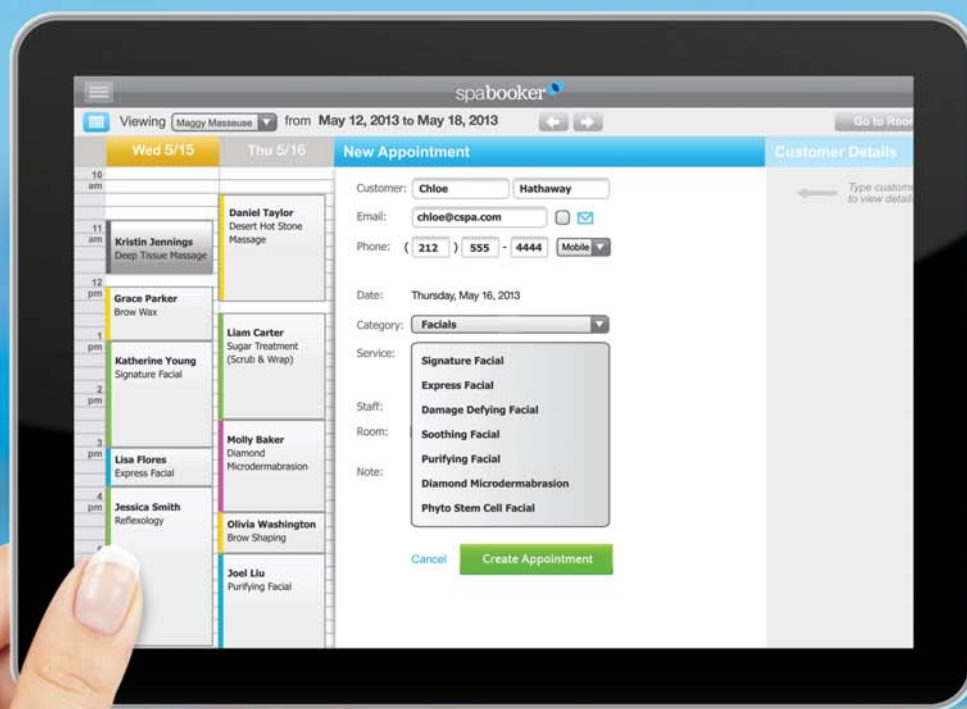
delays for those seeking to provide significant investment. While some of the groundwork was laid in an earlier planning approval, this amended scheme was turned around in under eight weeks."

Galgorm Resort & Spa is set in 163 acres and currently has 75 guestrooms and a large Thermal Spa. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=j5n8W>*



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The Link Centre houses the Swindon Ice Arena

## Nine leisure and golf centres put on the market in Swindon

Swindon Borough Council is looking to sell a portfolio of nine leisure and golf businesses in and around Swindon.

The properties include leaseholds on six leisure centres and three golf courses and the council said it is looking to sell the lot either as one package or as two separate portfolios.

The package includes The Link; Delta Tennis Centre; Croft Sports Centre; Dorcan Leisure Centre; Health Hydro; Haydon Centre; Broom Manor Golf Complex; Highworth Golf Course and Moredon Par 3 Golf Course.

The properties are being brought to the market by independent property adviser GVA on behalf of the council. According to GVA, the portfolio has achieved an annual turnover of £5.1m, with 33,000 members/leisure card holders, and 1.9 million casual daily fee users per annum. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=n9d9e>*

## Scarborough Leisure Village plans gain council approval

Councillors in Scarborough have approved proposals for a multi-million pound leisure village, which will include a new 2,000-seat football ground, leisure facilities and an eight-lane swimming pool.

Cambridge-based developer Wrenbridge Land will lead the project which will see a return of the Scarborough senior football team to the town, which was previously forced to play in nearby Bridlington, owing to a lack of facilities.

The development will include an artificial floodlit pitch, with spectator facilities as well as an outside multi-use games area.

The work is being funded in part by the sale of land at the former stadium in Scarborough and the sale of spare land at the development site, with further funding expected to come in grants from Sport England, the Football Foundation and the England Squash and Racketball Association as well as borrowing worth £6.3m. *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=Y4c2v>*

## Oxley Holdings buys Royal Wharf development

Singapore-based property developer Oxley Holdings has exchanged contracts to buy London's Royal Wharf, from Ballymore Group.

The company is paying £200m for the 37 acre (15ha) site which has extensive River Thames frontage. Planning consent is in place for a 363,000sq m mixed use development, with 3,385 homes, a school, shops, offices and river-side restaurants.

Speaking for Oxley Holdings, Alvina Tan says it is too early to list the specifics of what the scheme will include, however it promises to be "an outstanding mix of leisure, commercial, retail and educational facilities, creating an entirely new district for the increasingly trendy east London."

Oxley chief executive, Ching Chiat Kwong, says this is an exciting opportunity to create something special for London: "It has over 500m of river frontage with a Crossrail station 1km away. Oxley will create a vibrant district and the opportunity cannot be missed."

Oxley is a lifestyle property developer



Oxley Holdings has bought the Royal Wharf development for £200m

specialising in residential, commercial and industrial projects in China, Malaysia and Cambodia.

Acting for Ballymore, Knight Frank identified Oxley as a key buyer. Charlie Hart of Knight Frank says: "Oxley have arrived with a bang and will no doubt offer a very exciting contribution to the London market. They have very similar values to Ballymore which has great implications for our market." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=4H6w5>*

## Preston regeneration plans revealed

Plans to regenerate Preston city centre have been unveiled, with the aim of breathing new life into the faltering city centre.

Preston council's scheme includes creating an office quarter, building a new cinema, increasing the number of homes in the city centre and revitalising the city's leisure and culture offering.

Plans are already afoot to make major improvements to the city's transport system as part of the City Deal, which the council sees as complementary to the revitalisation plans.

"The plans set out the policies and proposals that will help manage the new development to help deliver something new for Preston," reads the council's report. "Something that will bring people from all sections of the community back into the city centre to work, live and spend – reversing the trends observed across the country."

As part of the push for more retail and leisure facilities, the plan recommends a new city cinema centre and is inviting submissions "which provide evidence to support any potential city centre locations for a new cinema".



The plans would see a complete revamp of Preston's city centre

A portion of vacant shops left empty due to the changing retail environment and growth of internet shopping could also be filled with various leisure offerings as an alternative.

The proposals will see the historical Preston Market continue to operate, but at a smaller size to remain viable.

Babs Murphy, chief executive of the North and Western Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, said: "The proposed city centre plan is a clear indication that things are starting to move forward for Preston." *Details: <http://lei.sr?a=N7F3m>*





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## TENDER NOTICE

### INVITATION TO TENDER FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF A FOOTBALL CENTRE AT WORTHING LEISURE CENTRE, WEST SUSSEX

Worthing Borough Council is currently seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified and experienced organisations to undertake refurbishment works of the existing Football Centre at Worthing Leisure Centre, West Sussex.

The work will consist of but may not be limited to the design and build of a small sided football facility to replace the existing water based all-weather provision football facility.

Estimated contract value is in the region of £350,000.

It is anticipated that the project will be undertaken in Spring of 2014 and it is anticipated that the project will be completed within a 2 month period.

Organisations who wish to express an interest must do so by emailing [Susannah.caws@adur-worthing.gov.uk](mailto:Susannah.caws@adur-worthing.gov.uk)  
Deadline for Expressions of Interest is 29th November 2013.

Tendering opportunities for the Councils are now managed on our e-sourcing solutions system In-Tend and it is advised that as part of the Expressions of Interest process you register on our portal. Registration is completely free and you can access the site by using the following link: <https://in-tendhost.co.uk/adur-worthing/asp/Home>

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## Golf Course Partnership Opportunity

Sefton Council currently owns and manages two public golf courses located in Southport and Bootle. In support of the joint aims of improving the quality and the financial performance of both facilities, the Authority is seeking expressions of interest from suitably experienced golf course development and/or management agencies.

As the custodian of these strategically important and popular local facilities, the Council has identified a number of fundamental principles that any prospective partner agency needs to satisfy:

- The need to retain the ethos of accessible, affordable pay and play golf facilities
- The ability to bring investment capacity to improve the range and quality of golf facilities
- To offer a partnership that will serve as a catalyst for regeneration within the respective areas

The Council is open to exploring innovative ways of structuring any prospective partnership to secure maximum value and arrangements that deliver mutual benefits.

To register your interest and to access a prospectus providing information about the two courses, you are directed to the 'Opportunities portal' - 'the chest' [www.the-chest.org.uk](http://www.the-chest.org.uk).

The closing date for the submission of development opportunity ideas and partnership proposals is Monday 13th of January 2014.

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We are inviting suggestions as to how the centre could be operated to achieve this and in particular how the site can be managed to maximise the use of the facilities at all times and attract new participants from specific target groups. Ideas are also welcomed regarding the structure of rent and for facility improvements which are sympathetic to the park and it's beautiful surroundings.

Suggestions and ideas put forward through this process will help to inform the development of the lease terms and the process to procure a tenant for the facility, which will take place later in the year.

To receive a market sounding information pack, please contact the Recreation Development Team on 01202 261333 or [recreation.development@poole.gov.uk](mailto:recreation.development@poole.gov.uk)



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## Swimming Instructor

Required: 2 Male & 2 Female

Salary: £1,800-£2,000 / month TAX FREE

Five (5) years related working experience. High school Diploma and full swimming teachers certificate and a Lifeguard trainer/assessors certificate. Must have experience in teaching swimming to all age groups and be able to initiate and maintain on-going training schedules to both beach and pool lifeguards in accordance with the SAUDI ARAMCO lifeguard training modules, which covers all aspects of being a lifeguard. The training shall be to a high standard and prepare the lifeguards for their 6-monthly lifeguard trade test. Must be competent and experienced at administering a large, comprehensive 'learn to swim' program for all ages and abilities and have patience to handle customers/patrons which will include adults, children and infants. Shall be fully conversant with procedures set out in the Saudi Aramco Swimming Pool And Beach Normal Operating Procedures. Must have valid lifeguard qualification.

## Horse Riding Instructor

Required: 4 (either Male or Female)

Salary: £1,800-£2,000 / month TAX FREE

Five (5) years related working experience. Horse Riding Instructor must have BHS (British Horse Society) Instructor level qualification or equivalent. Knowledge of Pony Club Organization and activities is Optional. Instructor must have a practical and documented experience of at least 5 years in the related field. The Instructors should have references showing his/her competence in training in the respective field.

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## Tennis Coach/Instructor

Required: 2 Male

Salary: £1,800-£1,900 / month TAX FREE

Five (5) years related working experience. College Degree in Physical Education is preferred. Must have High School diploma and Diploma/Certificate in related area. Instructor must have a practical and documented experience of at least 5 years in the related field. The Instructors should have references showing his/her competence in training in the respective field.

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Required: 2 Male

Salary: £2,000-£2,200 / month TAX FREE

Five (5) years related working experience. College Degree in Physical Education is preferred. Must have High School diploma and Diploma/Certificate in related area. Instructor level qualification or equivalent for SOCCER, BASKETBALL, BASEBALL ETC... Must have experience in the area of sports and recreation with three (3) years as head coach. Shall be proficient in the sports he supervised and know all the rules of several sports, knowledge of equipment involved and be able to teach beginners in the fundamentals and willing to work on a flexible schedule including weekends and evenings. Must be able to earn the respect of colleagues and community members.



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**HealthWise Coordinator**, GLL, South Oxfordshire, UK  
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**Duty Manager**, GLL, South Oxfordshire, UK  
**Junior Development Officer**  
**The Swimming Teachers' Association**, Walsall, UK  
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**Business Development**, Gerflor Ltd, Warwick - National Role & Travel, UK

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## Rio and Soccerex play blame game

*Continued from front cover*

While there is no doubt Soccerex has been cancelled, there is confusion over the reasons for doing so, as parties involved in hosting and operating the conference have accused each other for the move.

Rio's state government said the event, run by the UK-based Soccerex, had failed to raise sufficient private funds to cover the cost of the three-day conference and that it was not prepared to fill the gap with additional funding.

The organisers of the event said that they would be taking legal action against the responsible authorities in Rio with a statement reading: "Preparations for the event were well advanced with content planned, speakers confirmed and partnerships in place.

"To be summarily cancelled in such a cavalier fashion, having hosted 33 events over five continents is extremely frustrating, but nevertheless it has happened and is in contravention of all the contractual obligations of the Rio state government, who have been notified of our intention to instigate legal proceedings for compensation."



Anti-government protests in Brazil have turned violent on occasion

Despite the cancellation of the event, FIFA has played down talks of heightened security fears for the World Cup. A sharp fall in the value of the Brazilian currency has sparked a number of protests this year, many of which have turned violent.

Protesters have complained about corruption and the levels of spending on hosting both the 2014 World Cup and the 2016 Olympic Games, which many feel could be better spent on public services, better public schools, hospitals and transportation.

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=q4z8G>

## Tesco launches face scan advertising

Tesco is installing face-scanning technology at its petrol stations which can target specific advertising based on facial recognition and location.

The technology, developed by Lord Alan Sugar's digital signage company Amscreen, will use a camera to identify a customer's gender and approximate age. Using the data, it will then screen an advert tailored to that specific demographic.

The system, which will be rolled out to 450 Tesco forecourts across the UK is already installed at a network of leisure sites across the UK. With 44 units across 44 Powerleague 5-a-side football domes, the technology reaches a weekly audience of more than 300,000 people with a sporty mind-set.

The screens, placed in reception areas, capture visitors as they enter and leave the Powerleague centre, giving specific data about how long people were looking at the adverts for and how many people saw each one.



The system is being rolled out at 450 Tesco garages across the UK

The move has sparked concerns from privacy campaigners about the growing use of the technology, but Amscreen chief executive Simon Sugar has said that the OptimEyes technology does not store images or recognise people, and simply "works out gender and sorts customers into one of three age brackets".

Details: <http://lei.sr?a=u9y7b>

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- Arts Council +44 (0)20 7333 0100  
[www.artscouncil.org.uk](http://www.artscouncil.org.uk)
- ASVA +44 (0)1786 475152  
[www.asva.co.uk](http://www.asva.co.uk)
- BALPPA +44 (0)20 7403 4455  
[www.balppa.org](http://www.balppa.org)
- BHA +44 (0)845 880 7744  
[www.bha.org.uk](http://www.bha.org.uk)
- BiSL +44 (0)20 8780 2377  
[www.bisl.org](http://www.bisl.org)
- CMAE +44 (0)1334 460 850  
[www.cmaeurope.org](http://www.cmaeurope.org)
- CIMSPA +44 (0)845 603 8734  
[www.cimspa.co.uk](http://www.cimspa.co.uk)
- CPRE +44 (0)20 7981 2800  
[www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk)
- English Heritage +44 (0)870 333 1181  
[www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk)
- FSPA +44 (0)2476 414999  
[www.sportsandplay.com](http://www.sportsandplay.com)
- Fields in Trust +44 (0)20 7833 5360  
[www.fieldsintrust.org](http://www.fieldsintrust.org)
- HHA +44 (0)20 7259 5688  
[www.hha.org.uk](http://www.hha.org.uk)
- IAAPA +1 703 836 4800  
[www.iaapa.org](http://www.iaapa.org)
- IEAP +44 (0)1403 265 988  
[www.ieap.co.uk](http://www.ieap.co.uk)
- Institute of Hospitality +44 (0)20 8661 4900  
[www.instituteofhospitality.org.uk](http://www.instituteofhospitality.org.uk)
- LPF +44 (0)1462 471932  
[www.leisurepropertyforum.org](http://www.leisurepropertyforum.org)
- Natural England +44 (0)845 600 3078  
[www.naturalengland.org.uk](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk)
- People 1st +44 (0)870 060 2550  
[www.people1st.co.uk](http://www.people1st.co.uk)
- REPs +44 (0)20 8686 6464  
[www.exerciseregister.org](http://www.exerciseregister.org)
- SAPCA +44 (0)24 7641 6316  
[www.sapca.org.uk](http://www.sapca.org.uk)
- Sports Aid +44 (0)20 7273 1975  
[www.sportsaid.org.uk](http://www.sportsaid.org.uk)
- Sport and Recreation Alliance +44 (0)20 7976 3900  
[www.sportandrecreation.org.uk](http://www.sportandrecreation.org.uk)
- Sport England +44 (0)8458 508 508  
[www.sportengland.org](http://www.sportengland.org)
- Springboard +44 (0)20 7529 8610  
[www.springboarduk.org.uk](http://www.springboarduk.org.uk)
- SkillsActive +44 (0)20 7632 2000  
[www.skillsactive.com](http://www.skillsactive.com)
- Tourism Management Institute +44 (0)1926 641506  
[www.tmi.org.uk](http://www.tmi.org.uk)
- Tourism Society +44 (0)20 8661 4636  
[www.tourismsociety.org](http://www.tourismsociety.org)
- ukactive +44 (0)20 7420 8560  
[www.ukactive.org.uk](http://www.ukactive.org.uk)
- VisitBritain +44 (0)20 7578 1000  
[www.visitbritain.com](http://www.visitbritain.com)
- World Leisure +1 250 497 6578  
[www.worldleisure.org](http://www.worldleisure.org)