Liverpool has thrown its hat into the ring to stage the 2022 Commonwealth Games if Durban decides to relinquish its hosting duties for the event.

Representatives from the local authority have been liaising with sports minister Tracey Crouch and Commonwealth Games England about stepping into the breach if the South African city pulls out due to spiralling costs. The Commonwealth Games Federation (CGF) is expected to make a decision shortly whether Durban is able to host the event.

Continued on back cover

UK Sport defends value of Olympic medals

A report suggesting that the vast majority of the British public was not inspired by Team GB’s medal success at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games has been slammed by the chair of UK Sport.

Pro Bono Economics’ *Give us goal posts, not gold medals* report claimed that “only 7 per cent of Brits” were inspired to take up sport after the Olympic Games, and that money should be concentrated into creating better access to sporting facilities.

According to the survey, only 4 per cent of the population backed UK Sport’s ‘no compromise’ strategy, which sees resources pumped into sports that are likely to medal at major championships.

In contrast, 18 per cent said they would like to see more affordable fees for public sports centres, 14 per cent wanted the reinstatement of school and public playing fields “lost in a mass sell-off during the 1980s”, and a further 14 per cent wanted more support for local grassroots sport initiatives.

The report was backed by Paralympic legend, Baroness Tanni Grey-Thompson, and journalist Simon Kuper.

However, UK Sport chair Rod Carr said the research was “highly questionable”, and that to “undermine athletes value to society” was “hugely disappointing”.

“We believe the impact of investing in our athletes’ success has far reaching benefits for the nation,” he added.

“Our own extensive research across a number of years demonstrates clearly that Olympic and Paralympic success instills a sense of national pride and achievement, that improved facilities for elite athletes benefit local communities and that hosting major events inspires participation and boosts the economy.”

Carr also pointed out the £345m UK Sport will distribute during the Tokyo Olympic cycle is dwarfed by the £1bn grassroots quango Sport England will grant between 2015 and 2020.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=F3V8s_O](http://lei.sr?a=F3V8s_O)

Liverpool ‘ready’ to host 2022 Games

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Continued on back cover

Dreamland plans improvements

Vintage theme park Dreamland that was restored and reopened on the British coast in 2015 is undergoing further improvements during this off-season.

The theme park, in Margate, Kent, is landscaping a large area of the site and opening up a new garden boardwalk, as well as an array of art installations. Increased greenery and the addition of artworks will help create a more cohesive site experience, adding colour and improving the environment of the park.

Dreamland, famous for its Scenic Railway wooden rollercoaster, is also adding some new rides, including the Brooklands Speedway, the Wedgwood Tea Cups, the Crazy Mouse and a new Teddy and Betty Land. Other rides, like the Waltzers, that had their heyday in decades past, have been restored.

Details: [http://lei.sr?a=T6k8N_O](http://lei.sr?a=T6k8N_O)
Casement plans put forward

A planning application for Belfast’s proposed Casement Park stadium has finally been submitted after a 32-week consultation period.

Ulster Gaelic Athletic Association (GAA) revealed that 95 per cent of people that took part in the consultation are “in favour” of the project. Around 92 per cent of respondents believed that the project would bring “socioeconomic benefits”, while 91 per cent reckoned the stadium would add to the “quality of the environment”.

The venue, designed by specialist sports architects Populous, will have a total spectator capacity of 34,186 and will include mixed-use facilities throughout.

Plans to build the stadium were initially delayed when the capacity had to be reduced by 4,000 for safety reasons.

However, the new proposal has received a “positive report” from the region’s Safety Technical Group.

Michael Hasson, president of the Ulster GAA, said the organisation was “looking forward to the opportunities that the project development will provide.”

“We have seen across other major stadiums, all over the world, the transformational benefits the venues can generate – from a sporting, economic and cultural perspective,” he added.

“With Casement Park we look forward to the creation of new jobs, training and development opportunities, community facilities and a vibrant cultural hub in West Belfast.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=a6J3p_O

£3m fund for the underprivileged

A £3m fund to engage inactive people from poorer socioeconomic backgrounds will be launched in April by Sport England.

The pot forms part of the quango’s overall fund to tackle inactivity across the country. Around £250m is being spent on getting inactive people active over the next four years.

This £3m fund will be split into two pots: £2m to support larger projects which require funding up to £500,000; and a £1m fund for projects looking for between £10,000 and £100,000. The former will be aimed at people who have very little disposable income and who find it difficult to build physical activity into their lives. The latter will be focused on people who are less likely to have a steady income and have a background of prevalent alcohol and drug misuse.

Organisations with “bold ideas” about taking on this challenge can begin bidding for money from the Tackling Inactivity and Economic Disadvantage fund from mid-April. Money for this projects comes from Sport England’s National Lottery allocation.

Statistics from Sport England’s Active Lives survey revealed that 32 per cent of people in semi-routine or routine occupations (such as shop assistants and waiters/waitresses) are inactive compared to 17 per cent of people in managerial or professional occupations.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=S2F7B_O
**NGB ‘shocked’ by funding decision**

UK Sport has rejected representations made by six Olympic sports for Tokyo 2020 funding – a decision labeled “staggering” by Badminton England.

The national governing body (NGB) was among the unsuccessful group, which included Archery GB, British Fencing, Goalball UK, Table Tennis England and Great Britain Wheelchair Rugby.

The elite sport quango’s decision means that none of the sports will receive government or National Lottery funding over the 2017-2021 Tokyo investment cycle. If the organisations believe the decision to be unjust, they may launch a formal appeal via Sports Resolutions UK.

Liz Nicholl, the chief executive of UK Sport, said that none of the sports that made representations were able to “provide any critically compelling new evidence” that changed the assessment of medal potential.

Under UK Sport’s ‘no compromise’ approach to funding elite sport, sports that have been deemed to have a good chance of medalling at the Olympics will receive all the financial resources. However, a statement made by Badminton England shortly after the announcement said the governing body was “staggered”.

“Given the strength of evidence we were able to present to justify investment, we cannot believe UK Sport has concluded that they should stand by their decision and award zero funding to our GB programme,” said the strongly-worded statement. Details: http://lei.sr?r=a=G6p8v_O

**Plans tabled for Edinburgh surf lagoon**

The public consultation process has begun on a proposed outdoor surf park just half an hour from Edinburgh in Scotland. A derelict quarry would be transformed into Wavegarden Scotland in a multi-million pound operation by developers Tartan Leisure.

The company’s plans were put to the public during two open consultations, which took place between 22 and 27 of February.

If the response is positive, Tartan Leisure would file a planning application by the end of Q2. Teaming up with the Spanish wave technology firm Wavegarden, the disused Craigpark Quarry near Ratho would be turned into a lake. When the leisure park is in operation, Wavegarden’s wave generation system creates a unbroken series of consistently powerful waves catering to both experienced and beginner surfers.

“Wavegarden Scotland is a thrilling new concept in the adventure leisure industry,” said Andy Hadden, co-founder of Tartan Leisure. “If approved, it could position Scotland as a leading surfing destination as the country already has some world-class natural breaks. We’ve received fantastic feedback on our plans to date and we look forward to sharing them with the local community.”

If given the go ahead, Wavegarden Scotland will offer accommodation, a coffee shop and a recreation park. The site is close to the Edinburgh International Climbing Arena, doubling its appeal as an adventure destination. Councillor Gavin Barrie praised the project proposal, saying that “anything that encourages people, whether young or old, to lead an active lifestyle and enjoy all the benefits that come with it is likely to garner support across the city. Hopefully others will share my enthusiasm for development.” Details: http://lei.sr?r=a=j3y7H_O

**London 2012 medical chief elected as chair of the BPA**

Dr Nick Webborn – who acted as chief medical officer during the London 2012 Paralympics – has been elected as chair of the British Paralympic Association (BPA).

Webborn replaces Tim Reddish, who stepped down from the position following the end of his two-year term.

A “leading sports medicine specialist in the UK”, Webborn specialises in the area of disability and Paralympic sports.

He is a member of the International Paralympic Committee Medical Committee and a member of the World Anti-Doping Authority Prohibited List Expert Group.

Details: http://lei.sr?r=a=P8p6T_O

Greening said the wellbeing benefits from the fund could ‘last a lifetime’ for schoolchildren

**Sugar tax money to be spent on sport**

Sugar tax funding distributed to schools will go towards facilities to support physical education and after-school sports clubs, according to the education secretary.

Justine Greening revealed that the £1415m generated from the Soft Drinks Industry Levy will encourage pupils to have “healthier, more active lifestyles”.

Money from the fund will also go towards other after-school activities and healthy eating programmes.

Local authorities and multi-academy trusts will receive an allocation of money for schools and will be charged with making decisions locally on how the money is invested. Schools will benefit from the money from the 2018-19 academic year.

“Schools can really help our children get a healthy start in life from exercise and sport, and also from knowing what a healthy diet means,” said Greening.

“It’s not only good for them while they’re in education, but the health and wellbeing benefits can last a lifetime.”

Details: http://lei.sr?r=a=E5q7c_O

Chris Langridge and Marcus Ellis won a bronze medal at Rio 2016

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Eighth studio for boutique chain

Fitness operator Ten Health and Fitness is launching a 2,700sq ft (251sq m) studio in west London’s Fitzrovia at the beginning of May.

The studio will be its eighth in the capital city, and as well as offering Ten’s Reformer Pilates classes, physiotherapy, massage therapy, rehabilitation and personal training, it will also be home to athleisure brand HPE’s (Human Performance Engineering) first ever UK retail store.

Ten stocks a selection of HPE’s clothing at its other studios in Little Venice, Mayfair, St James, Chiswick, Hatton Gardens, Notting Hill and The City.

The Fitzrovia studio will also be home to the TenEducation programme – its external training for fitness professionals.

The training and education business offers industry-accredited courses to exercise professionals throughout the UK.

Its Dynamic Reformer course has been designed for Pilates teachers and personal trainers wanting to improve their equipment and training knowledge, as well as for physiotherapists, osteopaths, rehabilitation specialists, sports therapists and other exercise professionals.

“‘We’re really excited about the launch of TenEducation,’ said founder Joanne Matthews. ‘We’ve been talking about it for a couple of years now, and with such a wealth of professional experience and expertise within the company, we’re now ready to share it with a wider audience within the exercise and therapy sector.’

The fitness operator created TenAcademy – the UK’s first in-house REPS-accredited training and CPD (continuing professional development) programme – almost eight years ago.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=T6w3g_O

Alan Shearer opens Speedflex

Former England football captain Alan Shearer has opened a 760sq ft (70.6sq m) Speedflex studio at The Health Club in The Kingsley Hotel in Cork, Ireland.

The studio, which is open to both members and hotel guests, is Speedflex’s ninth such venture.

Sessions are performed in a group with up to 16 participants in a studio environment, offering high intensity interval training (HIIT) that use hydraulic machine-based technology.

The machines allow users to perform traditional exercises, such as squats and shoulder press, which generate personalised resistance levels so every individual can train at their own level.

Suitable for all ages and abilities, the harder a person pushes the machine, the more resistance they face.

A typical session includes a combination of Speedflex machines and auxiliary stations. The combination provides an ever-changing exercise experience and delivers the benefits of HIIT, but does so with minimum risk of injury and reduced post-exercise pain. During the session users receive live feedback through heart rate monitoring.

Shearer, who is a Speedflex director and ambassador, uses the training sessions three or four times a week.

Paul Ferris, Speedflex managing director, said: “Speedflex will bring something new to the members and encourage those who would otherwise not step into a gym to try it.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=w3s8K_O

Joanne Matthews opened the first Ten studio in 2007

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Details: http://lei.sr?a=w3s8K_O
**HEALTH & FITNESS**

**Millennials deliver ‘busiest ever’ January for Gym Group**

The Gym Group experienced a 21 per cent year-on-year increase in the number of member visits in during the first month of 2017, making it the firm’s busiest January ever. Over the course of the month, 379,000 extra member visits were recorded across the chain’s 89 sites.

The growth, according to The Gym Group, is being driven by a surge in ‘millennial’ customers visiting the gyms, with a members’ average age of 32. Student membership of The Gym Group grew by 23 per cent over the last 12 months, while 35 per cent of members in university cities such as Brighton and Nottingham were students. Details: http://lei.sr?a=e8Z7f_O

**North West leisure trusts to tackle inactivity**

Life Leisure’s actilife health programme has been adopted by two North West leisure trusts planning to tackle the issue of inactivity in the community.

The model, devised and implemented by the Stockport-based social enterprise, combines wearable technology (fitness trackers), an online interactive platform and remote coaching.

The scheme has been adopted by trusts Inspiring Healthy Lifestyles and Everybody Sport and Recreation, which deliver sport, fitness and community wellbeing programmes for Wigan Council and Cheshire East Council respectively.

Actilife is designed to help all people but particularly those taking part in less than 30 minutes of activity a week who may struggle to access, or be intimidated by, attending regular fitness sessions.

Participants use a fitness tracker to record their physical activity throughout the day which then syncs with an online portal that enables participants to monitor their progress. An actilife coach can access results via the online platform. Details: http://lei.sr?a=g4m9C_O

**Alliance secures UK-wide framework**

Facility development specialist Alliance Leisure has been appointed to lead a new UK leisure framework, which could help providers around the country save cash and time when it comes to developing facilities in their area.

As Denbighshire County Council’s (DCC) partner in the scheme, Alliance Leisure will be at the forefront of the delivery of design, refurbishment, construction, equipping and development of leisure centres, theatres, play, recreation and sports facilities across the UK public sector.

The two organisations have worked together on eight projects over the past four years and are now offering their expertise through the model. They say that the framework will make it easier and more cost-effective for public sector providers to develop and deliver leisure developments. The framework, available until January 2021, has a potential value of £750m, with the maximum cost of any project at £20m.

Hugh Evans (left) with DCC’s Paul Cluett and Alliance MD Jamie Groves

It is open to any public sector organisation including local authorities, leisure trusts and private limited companies operating leisure facilities on behalf of UK public sector clients. Alliance Leisure has selected a number of contractors, architects, specialist advisors and equipment suppliers, to provide services across a number of categories – such as feasibility studies, design management, construction, sourcing and provision of private funding. Details: http://lei.sr?a=5W3y5_O

**Gyms ‘should highlight drugs misuse’**

Gyms should display posters and mount social media campaigns to highlight the risks of drug misuse, a new health guideline says.

The guideline, which has been published by the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE), says that local authorities should work with venues, such as gyms, nightclubs and pubs, to target people who may use drugs, or are at risk from doing so.

The document, titled Drug misuse prevention: targeted interventions, says people in gyms “who are taking, or considering taking, image- and performance-enhancing drugs” should be targeted. Around one in 12 adults had taken an illicit drug between 2015 and 2016, equating to 2.7 million people.

The new guideline, which covers illegal drugs as well as ‘legal highs’, says that information should make people aware of support services and how to access online tools to assess their own drug use.

Professor Gillian Leng, deputy CEO at NICE, said: “We want to help prevent people at risk of drug misuse from taking drugs. We also want to prevent people who already use drugs from using them regularly and to excess.

“Local authorities, and public health teams in local government, will play an important role when helping to implement our recommendations on drug misuse prevention. We hope to see them bridging the gap and working together with venue owners, local health services and social care to help prevent drug misuse in people.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=N5m8z_O

Leng wants gyms to display posters highlighting the risks of drugs

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HOTELS

Eden Project hotel gets green light

The Eden Project in Cornwall has been granted planning permission to build a new 109-bedroom on-site hotel.

Accessibility, energy-efficiency and sustainability are the key features of the design by architectural studio Tate Harmer.

In order for the £8.5m hotel to blend into the surrounding countryside, and with the Eden Project’s famous two plant-filled biomes, its two blocks will be clad with prominent timber poles.

Existing features in the area, including old trees and stone walls, will be incorporated into the design of the grounds. A meadow and orchard, will be planted around the hotel.

“This building is a unique response to its local Cornish context and the philosophy of the Eden Project,” said Tate Harmer partner Jerry Tate. “Landscape is at the heart of the scheme, with local timber cladding and Cornish stone walls embedding the building into its setting.”

Dalata Hotels eyes UK expansion

Dublin-based Dalata Hotel Group is eyeing expansion in the UK after seeing its profits surge by 55 per cent.

The group’s profit before tax increased to £37.6m year-on-year as a result of a 28.8 per cent growth in revenue to £247.7m.

To capitalise on this growth, the company plans to build on its existing UK portfolio.

Dalata – which operates Ireland’s two largest hotel brands, Clayton Hotels and Maldron Hotels – operates 41 hotels and 8,000 rooms.

It has a current pipeline of 1,200 new rooms, with four hotels being constructed in Belfast and Newcastle, as well as two in Dublin.

There are also plans to build another property in Cork, Ireland.

Last year, Dalata opened seven hotels and approximately 1,600 rooms.

“Given our ambition to grow in the large cities of provincial UK, I was particularly happy to see the extent to which we outperformed the market in terms of growth in Manchester, Cardiff and Leeds,” said Dalata Group chief executive Pat McCann.

“We intend to expand our hotel portfolio, particularly in the UK, seeking new or existing hotel opportunities which match investment criteria.”

He added: “We have created a pipeline of 1,200 rooms in prime locations. These acquisitions and pipeline provide an engine for growth right through to the end of 2019.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=P8p6T_O
Billed as London's finest private member's club, The Lanesborough Club & Spa will launch in March 2017, offering hotel guests and members 'next level' fitness, wellness and lifestyle services.

Spread over a space of 18,000sq ft (1,672sq m), the 'luxury club for life' aims to offer a 360° approach to wellbeing for Londoners living and working in both the local area and further afield.

Benjamin Evans, The Lanesborough Club & Spa general manager, will oversee all management aspects.

Inspired by the Roman Bath Spa, interior design practice 1508 has created an elegant, exclusive sanctuary. Spa consultant Neil Howard oversaw the project.

“The Lanesborough Hotel is a traditional British institution, so when designing the spa, we used the hotel's heritage as inspiration to create a space with a modern but quintessentially English feel,” said Louise Wicksteed, creative director and partner at 1508 London.

Mia Kyricos, founder of strategic advisory firm Kyricos & Associates, told an audience at the World Spa & Wellness Convention in London that wellness communities grew by 19 per cent from 2013 to 2015, and are worth an estimated £23.6bn in Europe and £39.1bn in North America.

Kyricos moderated a panel on wellness communities on 26 February that also included Steve Nygren, president of Serenbe wellness community near Atlanta, US; Ben H Gill, international technical manager for One Planet Communities Programme; and professor Terry Stevens, founder and managing director of UK-based Stevens & Associates.

Stevens said that many of the things we are looking for in today's wellness communities are things we took for granted a few generations ago, when we often lived in smaller communities that offered social connections.

“Somewhere in this model of a traditional community, we find what it is we're looking for on this new horizon,” he said.

Nygren agreed, and said that new regulations have often moved us away from this model. “The truth is that the way we lived in our villages 80 or 100 years ago, we had all that we desired,” he said.

Things like local agriculture, social connections, and the ability to spend time in nature are all an important part of life at Serenbe and many other wellness communities.

At Bedzed, a community in south London developed by One Planet, residents know on average more than 20 neighbours by name, said Gill, compared to a national average of eight – pointing to a socially connected community.

Spa communities a ‘huge opportunity’
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Derren Brown’s ghost train will up the scares for 2017

Derren Brown’s new ride at Thorpe Park is about to take on a darker persona, with the attraction set to travel “to a horrifying new destination” in 2017.

Thorpe Park owner Merlin has promised that the ride, renamed Derren Brown’s Ghost Train: Rise of the Demon, will offer a “new deeper, darker, more intense journey” for the dark ride, which merges grand illusion, live action, virtual reality, special effects and physical movement to create an all-new experience.

The Ghost Train, which opened last year, was built for purpose to introduce new journeys over time, meaning it can be continually tweaked and updated to offer a new guest experience.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=E5J8d_O

New film sheds light on on Dundee V&A designs

The Victoria and Albert Museum (V&A) has released a new video exploring the architectural inspiration and complex engineering challenges facing its forthcoming branch in Dundee, Scotland.

The new film features interviews with the building’s architect Kengo Kuma, the executive director of Dundee City Council Mike Galloway and some of the engineers and builders charged with realising the ambitious vision for a cultural landmark capable of reigniting the city’s waterfront.

They explain how they are using advanced techniques to complete the structure, which will be formed of 20 different curving elevations and external walls designed to respond a cliff face in reference to the coastline of north eastern Scotland.

Construction work will continue throughout this year, with the building scheduled to officially open in 2018.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=Y2P2U_O

£11.4m for cathedral attraction

Lincoln Cathedral has received a Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) windfall of £11.4m to enhance the historic site with a new visitor centre.

As part of the £16m Lincoln Cathedral Connected (LCC) master plan, the building – which was completed in the 14th century and is currently home to one of the four remaining copies of the Magna Carta – will feature a visitors’ centre, café, shop and exhibition facility, while the Dean’s Garden will also be opened to the public for the first time.

The visitor centre will increase space to present the cathedral’s artefacts, many of which are not currently on public display. Money will also go towards the restoration and protection of the Exchequerget Arch, while floodlighting will be improved to ensure the cathedral is properly lit at night. Access for deaf and disabled visitors will also be improved.

“Lincoln Cathedral is one of England’s finest surviving architectural examples of Norman power and dominance,” said HLF CEO, Ros Kerslake. “With support from National Lottery players, restoration work can now begin along with the creation of a new interpretation centre. We’re particularly supportive of a complementary programme of activities aimed at doubling current school visit numbers.”

LCC said in a statement that work will start imminently, with a scheduled completion date of Q2 2020. LCC also said that the HLF investment would help attract an estimated 250,000 additional visitors to the cathedral each year, generating £50m of business to Lincoln over the next five years.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=Q8Y2w_O

£37m Gulliver’s plans approved

Plans to turn a former coal mine in South Yorkshire into a £37m theme park and resort have been approved by councillors.

The plan by Gulliver’s Family Theme Parks includes a family-oriented theme park with an indoor water play zone, self catering woodland lodges and tree houses, a 100-bedroom hotel and an array of attractions. The theme park will include a Nerf Zone, as well as an indoor climbing centre and Gully’s dream village – an area where children with life-threatening illnesses will be able to enjoy cost-free respite from their conditions.

In addition to the theme park, the development caters to the wider community, with multi-use nature trails for the public, a woodland adventure centre focused on outdoor activities, an education and ecology centre with forest classrooms and a free-to-use outdoor gym.

The 333-acre Pithouse West site was purchased from Rotherham District Council in September 2015, with the plans approved by Rotherham Council. The project has a final hurdle to clear, as the decision has been referred to Andrea Leadsom, secretary of state for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, who has 21 days to raise any objections before the project is signed off.

Construction is expected to start this year, with the first phase of development including the theme park to be open by 2020.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=Z7V7m_O

ATTRACTIONS
TOURISM

Space tourism: next frontier

The space tourism race is now well underway, after SpaceX CEO Elon Musk revealed two customers will be going on a flight around the moon as soon as late 2018. The wealthy pair will spend a reported US$70m (£56m) on the trip, with the anonymous individuals soon to begin training for the endeavour.

The journey of a lifetime will cover 400,000m (644,000km) and will take a week to complete, with the pair “slingshotted” around the moon and then returned to Earth. According to Musk, the mission would be completed on autopilot, with the passengers travelling without the aid of an experienced astronaut.

“Like the Apollo astronauts before them, these individuals will travel into space carrying the hopes and dreams of all humankind,” said Musk. “We expect to conduct all necessary health and fitness tests, as well as begin initial training, later this year.”

Brexit bonus for British tourism

Britain continues to be a must-visit destination, after more people travelled to the UK from overseas than ever before in 2016.

Predictions of a tourism surge in Brexit Britain – fuelled by a weaker pound making the destination more affordable to overseas visitors – proved accurate for 2016 as 37.3 million inbound tourists visited the UK.

A 3 per cent rise on 2015’s figures, visitors also spent £22.2bn in the UK, matching record figures from the previous year.

In North America, Britain’s strongest market, visitor numbers rose by 7 per cent, with 4.3 million people visiting from the US and Canada. In Europe, there were a record 25.3 million visitors, an increase of 4 per cent year-on-year.

“The strong growth in inbound visits demonstrates British tourism’s continued ability to compete for international visitors and deliver economic growth across our nations and regions,” said VisitBritain CEO, Sally Balcombe. “We must seize the opportunity to build on this, boosting visitor spending by driving home the message of welcome and value particularly in our high spending markets such as China and the US and the valuable European market.”

Britain’s tourism market is worth an estimated £127bn annually, creating jobs and boosting economic growth across its nations and regions. Last year, the government unveiled a series of measures designed to boost the domestic tourism sector.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=P8p6T_O

Musk’s company is the biggest competitor to Richard Branson’s UK-based Virgin Galactic, with both companies in competition to capitalise on the potentially super-lucrative space tourism industry. In December, Branson’s newest commercial spacecraft took to the skies for its first free flight since a fatal crash of the VSS Unity’s predecessor in 2014.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=N7q7A_O
Serpentine winner announced

Diébédo Francis Kéré, the award-winning architect from Burkino Faso, has been commissioned to design the Serpentine Pavilion 2017.

The Serpentine Pavillon programme, which began in 2000, sees an architect who has never built in the UK create a temporary summer pavilion in Kensington Gardens. Herzog & de Meuron, Jean Nouvel, Sou Fujimoto, SANAA and Bjarke Ingels Group – whose ‘unzipped wall’ structure was visited by more than 250,000 people in 2016 – are among the international architects to have previously taken part.

Kéré, who leads the Berlin-based practice Kéré Architecture, has been inspired by a tree that serves as a central meeting point for life in his hometown of Gando. His pavilion will be responsive and connect its visitors to nature. An expansive roof, supported by a central steel framework, will mimic a tree’s canopy, allowing air to circulate freely.

There will be four separate entry points, with an open-air courtyard in the centre allowing visitors to sit and relax during sunny days. In the case of rain, an oculus will funnel any water that collects on the roof into a waterfall effect, before it is evacuated through a drainage system in the floor to be used later for irrigating the park.

The roof and wall system will be made from wood that acts as solar shading during the day, and a source of illumination “as small perforations twinkle with the movement and activity from inside.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=n6s7B_O

Celtic reveals hotel and museum plan

Scottish football club Celtic has announced plans for a hotel and museum complex to be built next to the 47-time Scottish Premier League (SPL) champions’ home ground in Glasgow.

The proposal, which also includes a ticket office and retail store, will be submitted to Glasgow City Council for approval, with the development to come up outside the main stand of Celtic Park.

“The application is part of Celtic’s long-standing masterplan for the area, a vision which aims to deliver benefit to the club and our supporters and allow further regeneration of the East End of the city, something to which we are totally committed,” said a club statement.

“Celtic aims to be a world-class football club in everything it does. We are pleased to have made significant investment in recent years to develop the stadium and public realm area for the benefit of our supporters.”

Celtic’s 2009 masterplan by GD Lodge Architects and McInally Associates details housing, retail, leisure, office, civic and public realm developments.

The current plans are part of that wider scheme, which is integrated into Glasgow city’s regeneration strategy.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=F3T6g_O

The development will provide more space for the museum’s permanent collection

Controversially-funded museum revamp begins

A museum stripped of public funding after selling an Egyptian statue in its permanent collection to a private buyer for £15m is now using that money for an extensive refurbishment and expansion of its facilities.

Northampton Museum, which lost its Arts Council England (ACE) accreditation status in August 2014 as a result of selling the 4,500-year-old Sekhemka sculpture, started work on 19 February, putting its collection into storage ahead of an internal strip-out.

The museum will receive a sizeable extension between the former Gaol Block and Guildhall Road sections of County Hall, which houses the attraction.

The extension comes at a cost of £8m, with work expected to take around two years to complete. Heritage-building specialist Purcell will lead the redevelopment, which will include additional gallery areas, a new entrance exhibition space, an education suite and new shops.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=ABuyJ_O

V&A hidden facades ‘revealed’ for first time

The reinstalation of the Victoria and Albert Museum’s (V&A) Aston Webb Screen in London – previously a solid stone wall hiding the building’s Victorian boilers – has been completed, breaking down the separation between the street and the museum.

The last stone has now been placed in the modified, newly-open structure; signalling a major milestone in the V&A’s Exhibition Road renovations designed by architects AL_A.

According to the design team, “the screen is no longer a wall that separates, but one that reveals to the public for the first time the three architecturally and historically significant facades” that lie beyond.

The V&A judged the old screen to be restricting crowd flow at a time when numbers of visitors are steadily increasing.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=p5P5g_O
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Training ‘vital’ to good leadership

Leading and empowering teams is a complex effort, but effective communication, flexibility, trust and simply showing up are some of the most important aspects – according to a panel of spa leaders at the World Spa & Wellness Conference in London.

Reena Hammer, managing director of Urban Retreat; Josh Luckow, executive director of health and healing at Canyon Ranch; and Irene Forte, director of spas and learning development at Rocco Forte Hotels all spoke on the panel, held on 26 February.

Hammer, who manages a staff of 250 within Urban Retreat at London department store Harrods, said it’s important to make staff feel like they have the authority to make decisions and deal with problems on their own.

Forte echoed this sentiment, but said that the right training is also vital to give staff the skillset to make decisions and problem-solve. She said Rocco Forte also spends time training on different learning styles and emotional intelligence.

Luckow said it is important to leverage the passion of your staff in order to grow your business. “At Canyon Ranch, we have spiritual advisers, creative artists, medical experts – and each one of those has a distinct voice,” he said. “It’s about finding the commonality among all of us.”

Hammer said that for her millennial staff, using WhatsApp to communicate works well, but would not for other generations.

Forte agreed that integrating technology is key in inspiring millennials. She has developed an app, Map My Future, which helps younger employees see a pathway to a career in the company. The app has online training and a points system that can be redeemed for stays in hotels, spa treatments or skincare products.

Details: http://lei.sr?r=a=7C4N_O

Fitness training survey launched

EuropeActive has launched a survey to make sure the correct education and training is being given to fitness professionals across the continent.

European employers working in the fitness sector are being invited to take part in a 10-question survey to help the association understand what they expect from fitness trainers employed in clubs, at a time when the industry is changing with new concepts and advancements in digital technology.

Some of the areas covered in the questionnaire include the difficulty in finding and recruiting fitness trainers; what employers look for when recruiting; should instructors have additional education or training when working with certain populations, such as overweight clients or older adults; should there be a European standard for certifying personal trainers.

Last year, a separate EuropeActive survey found that to provide a sustainable service, the fitness sector needs to ensure staff stay connected to education and training beyond their basic qualifications.

The easiest way to describe the new recognition/endorsement process for qualifications, training and CPD known as a Skills Development Partnership. CIMSPA is currently developing new professional standards for all core occupations and technical specialisms within the sport and physical activity sector.

The easiest way to describe the new professional standards is as improved national occupational standards (NOSs) with a focus on employability. These professional standards will form the basis of all endorsements in the future. While the work progresses, we are endorsing training against the current NOS.

The endorsement process is straightforward – it involves uploading training content and mapping exercises via CIMSPA’s online portal. This is reviewed by the endorsement team and successful applications are awarded CIMSPA recognition and CPD points. The entire process – from content review to recognition – can take just 10 days.

I’m delighted to announce that more than 100 training providers are now seeking endorsement through CIMSPA, with more signing up each day. Premier Training International is one of the latest organisations to become a CIMSPA skills development partner, ensuring its training products and qualifications are listed on the CIMSPA directory, whose members include qualified and recognised fitness instructors, personal trainers, pilates instructors and group exercise leaders.

Launched in response to the concerns of employers frustrated by the variable quality of fitness staff ‘accredited’ by other registers, the new directory displays qualified exercise and fitness professionals who are recognised by, and members of, CIMSPA. The quality of members is guaranteed by ensuring they hold recognised qualifications delivered by CIMSPA-endorsed training providers and have maintained their competency through approved CPD.

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**Business Systems Manager**

*Salary - £28,259 - £31,806*

Integral in driving the ongoing development business at One Leisure is a Systems Manager who will work with the organisations senior management team to maintain and improve current initiatives and back office support functions. There are four key functions of the job role:

- The management and delivery of the corporate membership management system (currently Gladstone Plus2) and associated software.
- Management of One Leisure Direct Call Centre to continue to support the fantastic delivery of exceptional customer service.
- Business Intelligence is a growing area of the business that is driving business decisions and strategy, and therefore working with data to provide meaningful visualisations and suggestions will also be vitally important to the success of the individual and the business.
- To support the capital investment programme and continuous improvement of One Leisure, project management will be an essential part of this role. The successful individual will be expected to be well organised, methodical and be able to communicate effectively and confidently.

**Marketing Manager**

*Salary - £20,444 - £22,346*

Wishing to build on our continued successes we are keen to speak with marketing professionals who have ideally worked in the leisure sector, who are keen to help shape the future of One Leisure and who are experts in social media and marketing strategies.

- Putting our customers first is one of our key objectives so research into customer needs, customer satisfaction and the monitoring of activity trends and new fitness products is essential. Understanding our customers is crucial, so your experience in research and development will be used to identify and target market segments.
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- You will have proven knowledge and application of a wide range of marketing techniques and concepts.
- Your excellent oral and written communication skills with copy writing experience preferably will help you stand out from the crowd.

**Closing date for applications for both roles:** 6/03/2017

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For full details please visit [www.shenleyleisure.org.uk](http://www.shenleyleisure.org.uk)

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These posts will be subject to DBS checks. (Previously CRB)

For further details including job descriptions and person specifications are available from [www.exercisemovedance.org/blog/were-recruiting-again](http://www.exercisemovedance.org/blog/were-recruiting-again)

CLOSING DATE: 29TH MARCH 2017

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This is a tremendous opportunity for growth, continuing professional development and higher management pathways.

**Applicants will need:**

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- Gymnastics Coaching Qualification; Minimum Level 2 in one or more disciplines.
- Be available to work evenings and weekends.

Salary dependent on experience and qualifications.

**Gymnastics, Dance & Ninja Coaches & Trainees**

We are looking for experienced, motivated coaches and teachers who enjoy working with children who are willing and prepared to learn to teach and coach children across a multitude of disciplines.

Experience and qualifications in gymnastics, dance or martial arts preferred but full training can be given. There are full and part time opportunities and pathways to management for the right candidates. Must be prepared to work evenings and weekends.

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Company: Legacy Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK

CLUB MANAGER
Company: énergie group
Location: Green, UK

FACILITIES ASSISTANT
Company: GLL
Location: Islington, UK

REGIONAL PARTNER MANAGER
Company: Move GB
Location: London, UK

RECREATION ASSISTANTS (LIFEGUARDS)
Company: GLL
Location: Nationwide, UK

CATERING ASSISTANT
Company: GLL
Location: Reading, UK

PERSONAL TRAINERS
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Nationwide, UK

MARKETING MANAGER
Company: Huntingdonshire District Council
Location: Huntingdon, UK

RECREATION DIRECTOR
Company: Thames Valley Summer Sch
Location: South-east, UK

GYM INSTRUCTOR
Company: Warner School
Location: Warwick, UK

FOOD AND BEVERAGE ASSISTANT
Company: Legacy Leisure
Location: Barnbury, UK

SPORTS ASSISTANTS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Horfield, Bristol, UK

AREA SALES MANAGER
Company: eGym
Location: North Thames, UK

SWIM MANAGER
Company: Volair Limited
Location: Knowsley, UK

MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANTS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Hampshire, UK

MEMBERSHIP SALES ADVISOR
Company: Everyone Active
Location: South East, UK

LEISURE SERVICES DEP MANAGER
Company: Craven District Council
Location: Skipton, UK

PERSONAL TRAINERS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Nationwide, UK

EVENTS MANAGER
Company: One Hyde Park
Location: Hyde Park London, UK

TENNIS COACH
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Poole, Dorset, UK

SWIMMING TEACHERS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Ely, UK

CLIENT COORDINATOR
Company: Harrods
Location: Knightsbridge, London, UK

FRONT OF HOUSE MANAGER
Company: Harrods
Location: Knightsbridge, London, UK

MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANT
Company: Creative Fitness Marketing
Location: Nationwide

SALES AND RETENTION ADVISORS
Company: Brio Leisure
Location: Various, UK

CLUB PROMOTER (PART-TIME)
Company: énergie group
Location: Manchester Piccadilly, UK

MAINTENANCE MANAGER
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Penzance, Cornwall, UK

FITNESS MANAGER
Company: Ashford Leisure Trust
Location: Kent, UK

FITNESS MANAGER
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Staines, UK

ROVING GENERAL MANAGER
Company: énergie group
Location: National, UK

FITNESS INSTRUCTOR
Company: énergie group
Location: Manchester Piccadilly, UK

ASSISTANT REGIONAL DIRECTOR
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: North and Midlands, UK

AQUAZONE MANAGER
Company: Legacy Leisure
Location: Kettering, UK

MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANTS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Aylesbury, UK

DRY SIDE RECREATION ASSISTANT
Company: GLL
Location: Bristol, UK

DUTY MANAGER
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Aylesbury, UK

LEISURE ASSISTANT (LIFEGUARD)
Company: GLL
Location: Kensington, London, UK

GENERAL MANAGER
Company: The Gym Group
Location: London Edmonton Green, UK

DUTY MANAGER
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Stratford-upon-Avon, UK

OPERATIONS MANAGER
Company: Warwick University
Location: Coventry

TEAM LEADERS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Stratford-upon-Avon, UK

GENERAL MANAGER
Company: The Gym Group
Location: Chelmsford, UK

DUTY MANAGER
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Leicester, UK

BUSINESS SYSTEMS MANAGER
Company: Huntingdonshire DC
Location: Huntingdon, UK

GENERAL MANAGER
Company: The Gym Group
Location: London Wealdstone, UK

SWIMMING TEACHERS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Bristol, UK

PROJECT OFFICER (2 POSTS)
Company: Herts Sports Partnership
Location: Hatfield, UK

FRONT OF HOUSE RECEPTIONIST
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Bristol, UK

UK BUNGEE CREW - O2 ARENA
Company: Big Bang Promotions
Location: London, UK

SEASONAL EVENT ASSISTANT
Company: Big Bang Promotions
Location: Windsor, UK

SPORTS DEVELOPMENT WORKER
Company: Mind in Camden
Location: London, UK

LIFEGUARD
Company: Highgate School
Location: North London, UK

LIFEGUARDS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Nationwide, UK

MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANTS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Watford, UK

PARTNER CONSULTANTS
Company: Move GB
Location: Nationwide, UK

MEMBERSHIP CONSULTANTS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Fareham, UK

REGIONAL FACILITIES AND INVESTMENT MANAGER
Company: The Football Association
Location: Home Based (South East), UK

MEMBERSHIP SALES ADVISOR
Company: énergie group
Location: Forest Hill, UK

PERSONAL TRAINERS
Company: énergie group
Location: Nationwide, UK

BOATHOUSE ATTENDANT
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Cardiff, UK

BIKEABILITY CO-ORDINATOR
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Hounslow, UK

HEAD OF MARKETING & BRANDING
Company: Alive Leisure
Location: West Norfolk, UK

FITNESS INSTRUCTOR (PART-TIME)
Company: énergie group
Location: Dundee, UK

FITNESS MOTIVATORS
Company: Everyone Active
Location: Across Sutton, UK

SENIOR RECREATION ASSISTANT
Company: GLL
Location: Crystal Palace, London, UK

SWIMMING INSTRUCTOR
Company: Parkwood Leisure
Location: Nottingham, UK

MEMBERSHIP SALES ADVISOR
Company: énergie group
Location: Camberwell, UK

FITNESS INSTRUCTOR
Company: énergie group
Location: Camberwell, UK

DUTY SUPERVISOR
Company: Northampton Leisure Trust
Location: Northampton, UK

ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
Company: The Gym Group
Location: London Wealdstone, UK

GENERAL MANAGER
Company: Frinton Lawn Tennis Club
Location: Frinton-on-Sea, Essex, UK

DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF LEISURE AND WELLBEING
Company: West Lancashire D C
Location: Skelmersdale, UK

CASUAL BAR / WAITING STAFF
Company: Legacy Leisure
Location: Exeter, UK
Crowdfunding for Bowie lightning

The extraordinary life and career of music icon David Bowie could be marked with a gravity-defying lightning bolt sculpture in the London district where he was born.

Architect Zac Monro, arts collective This Ain’t Rock’n’Roll and sculptor Tom Carter have proposed the three-storey, 9m (29.5ft) tall steel memorial, which reimagines the famous bolt sported by Bowie on the cover of his 1973 album Aladdin Sane as a giant three-dimensional structure in the heart of Brixton.

The plans have been developed in consultation with Bowie’s management team in New York and London and have the support of the local Lambeth Council.

“It’s a monument that’s at once baffling yet immediately familiar – a reminder that there’s always another narrative,” said Charlie Waterhouse, of This Ain’t Rock’n’Roll.

“Startling, stupid and utterly joyous in equal measure, this is a piece of public art that the whole community can be proud of. It’s totally Brixton, utterly Bowie. Where the Man Who Fell to Earth fell to earth, a heartfelt tribute, from one London character to another.”

If given the green light, the bolt will be built in Tunsall Road, directly opposite Brixton Underground station, and next to the existing David Bowie mural – a focal point for tributes since the artist’s death in January 2016. It will be called ZiggyZag in reference to both its shape and Bowie’s extra-terrestrial Ziggy Stardust persona. Details: http://lei.sr?a=Z6F6N_O

Liverpool ready to host 2022 Games

Continued from front cover

However, South African sports minister Fikile Mbalula has conceded that the event may be too expensive to host.

Last year, Liverpool’s mayor Joe Anderson revealed that the city would be bidding for the 2026 Games. A City Council spokesperson told the BBC: “Liverpool is interested in hosting the Games in 2022. We heard rumours that Durban might be unable to deliver the Commonwealth Games in 2022 and have already indicated to the government that we are very willing to host them instead.”

After announcing an official bid for 2026, Anderson ordered a full review of Liverpool’s infrastructure. A City Council spokesperson told Leisure Opportunities that a bid for the Games four years earlier hadn’t yet been factored into the feasibility study.

However, when speaking to Leisure Opportunities last year, Anderson said he was confident about the city’s current quality of infrastructure to host such an event.

“As well as our football stadiums, we have the Wavertree Sports Park and athletics club, an Olympic pool at the Liverpool Aquatic Centre and a number of other, national standard centres,” he said. Details: http://lei.sr?a=R4f7T_O