The English Federation of Disability Sport has launched a strategic plan to guide its work through to 2017. ‘Active for Life’ aims to increase positive participation in sport so disabled people are able to enjoy regular sport and physical activity in any field they wish to.

Funded by SportEngland, the initiative looks to develop an effective sports system, which will engage with disabled people. The strategic focus will give disabled people key roles as volunteers, leaders and coaches.

Budget gym operator PureGym has reached agreements to open 24 new fitness centres in key locations throughout the UK.

The announcement follows the news in May of a £50m investment in Pure Gym following its acquisition by affiliates of CCMP Capital Advisors LLC.

The group has used the investment to acquire six sites in London, five in Manchester, and two each in Edinburgh, Glasgow, Leeds and Liverpool, as well as others to be announced.

The first of the new sites is set to open in Leeds in September with the rest following in a few months. Founder Peter Roberts, who was re-appointed chief executive of PureGym last December, said that in addition to the 24 new sites the group plans to open a further 20 gyms throughout the UK by the end of 2014.

“We are delighted to have acquired a further 24 sites. With an equity base of £135m and a profitable and thriving business PureGym is aggressively expanding with plans to have 150 operating clubs by 2016”.

PureGym currently has over 50 locations and more than 260,000 members. Details: http://lei.sr?a=U6Voi

Heritage tourism worth £26.4bn

Heritage-based tourism is worth £26.4bn to the UK economy – £5.8bn higher than the previous estimate published in 2010 according to recent research from the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF).

The new report also suggests that heritage is playing an increasingly important part in the choices of Brits who decide to stay in the UK for their holiday – over a quarter of all UK holiday activities undertaken by UK residents now involve heritage.

HLF published its first report on heritage tourism, Investing in Success, compiled by Oxford Economics, in 2010, based on data from 2007. The report analysed the impact of the heritage-based visitor economy and established that the sector made an even bigger contribution to UK GDP than the advertising, car manufacturing or film industries. Details: http://lei.sr?a=Yaf2o
ECB to survey recreational cricketers

The England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) has launched the first ever national survey of recreational cricket throughout England and Wales.

The survey will give club cricketers the opportunity to have their say on all aspects of the recreational game and influence its future development.

Devised as part of the ECB’s new strategic plan, Champion Counties, the survey is designed to give ECB a greater understanding of how best to serve the needs of recreational and grassroots cricketers at all levels.

The findings will support ECB’s plans to invest more than £96m into community cricket over the next four years across all of its 39 County Cricket Boards in England and Wales.

ECB chief executive David Collier said: “It’s vital that our recreational game continues to grow so we can nurture the next generation of potential England stars and maintain cricket’s position as the nation’s number one summer sport. There’s never been a better time to be involved in cricket with more opportunities to play the game than ever.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=T3V3V

Andy Reed re-elected as Alliance chair for two years

Andy Reed has been re-elected as the Sport and Recreation Alliance chair for the next two years up until the Alliance’s annual general meeting in 2015.

Reed, who was awarded an OBE in 2012 for services to sport and the community, said: “The Alliance has made great strides in the past two years – introducing constitutional reforms, leading the sector into exciting new policy areas and providing more valuable services to our members.”

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

Schools physical activity programme launches

Sports coaching company, Premier Sport, has revealed plans for a new schools physical activity programme aimed at giving more young people the chance to be active and stay active. The Inspire programme consists of six parts, which are carried out between key stages: Inspire to Nurture; Achieve; Excel; Compete; Engage; and Feel Good.

The programme will measure pupil progress and attainment, based on agreed outcomes with each school, allowing staff to easily measure progress.

By working with teachers rather than replacing them, Premier Sport is looking to increase the provision of PE, physical activity and school sport. Premier Sport is a founding member of The Compass Association (TCA), a trade body that supports and promotes physical activity and sports providers working with schools and local communities.

The aim of the programme is to promote sport in a fun and positive environment.

Details: http://lei.sr?a=U4x7v

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Scotia to capitalise on Murray

Sportscotland and Tennis Scotland have launched a four-year investment stream aimed at capitalising on Andy Murray’s Wimbledon win and the increased interest towards the sport.

Sportscotland is investing £5.8m into tennis in Scotland over the next four years to help modernise and develop the sport’s structure by improving facilities and widening access.

The objectives are to grow participation rates, increase the sport’s accessibility, and provide suitable environments to develop athletes performance levels on the court.

The new investment will improve tennis facilities in Scotland – both in clubs and courts in public parks – and increase the sport’s accessibility for those looking to emulate Scotland’s Wimbledon and multiple Grand Slam champion. In addition, the new money will enhance the regional development team at Tennis Scotland, which will help to further increase participation, develop closer links between schools and places to play tennis, opening up better pathways for the sport. Details: http://lei.sr?a=E5A0b

British Cycling to rebrand and re-energise

British Cycling is looking to re-energise its Social Cycling Groups initiative by rebranding it and by launching a new social media campaign to support it.

The online Social Cycling Groups scheme aims to improve grassroots participation by connecting cyclists to each other and enable them to create and join groups and rides in their own geographical areas.

Launched in June 2012, the social network has so far attracted around 19,000 people to sign up and British Cycling estimates that more than 2,500 bike rides have been organised using the site (www.goskyride.com/social).

The governing body has appointed marketing agency Ear to the Ground to devise the new brand and campaign for the service. Ear to the Ground is currently undertaking a research project which will be used as a basis for a brand refresh and campaign that will be promoted across the social media channels. Details: http://lei.sr?a=A5L8Q

Deputy PM backs bid to bring 2018 Gay Games to UK

Deputy prime minister Nick Clegg is backing a bid to host the 2018 Gay Games in London.

Founded in 1982, the Gay Games attracts around 10,000 athletes, artists and activists from across the world to participate in more than 30 sport and culture events.

“We’ve shown what we can do with the Olympics in 2012, but it’s through events such as the Gay Games that the legacy of the Olympics will live on for London,” said the deputy prime minister. Details: http://lei.sr?a=KsL7b

Welsh communities receive £1.5m injection for sport

Sport Wales has announced a £1.5m injection of National Lottery funding into communities across Wales in some of the most deprived areas in an attempt to increase the opportunity for people to lead a more active and healthy lifestyle.

Children living in areas of poverty, those living with disabilities and those in areas identified as having low areas of income, will be among those to benefit from the new funding, which will come via the Sports Wales Calls for Action programme. Details: http://lei.sr?a=z6L2V

Man City planning major expansion of Etihad

Manchester City football club has revealed multi-million pound plans to expand the Etihad Stadium by up to 12,000 seats.

The club had an average capacity of 99.1 per cent in its Premier League games last season and the investment into the stadium expansion is thought to be around £50m.

The plans will see the south stand increased by 6,000 seats, then depending on public reaction and ticket sales next season, the north end could also be expanded by the same number, bringing the total capacity to 60,000 seats. Details: http://lei.sr?a=R8C8B

Stadium and bowls greens in Rotherham to remain open

Rotherham Stadium and several bowling greens are set to stay open following a council rethink.

The Herringthorpe Stadium and four bowling greens across the borough will remain open following council consultations with users and other interested people to find a solution to avoid closure.

The clubs – Valley Park, Barkers Park, Greasbrough Park and Maltby Coronation Park – will continue to run after indicating a willingness to continue to maintain their own greens. Details: http://lei.sr?a=stP6L

Sportscotland wants to capitalise on Murray’s success at Wimbledon

Sportscotland and Tennis Scotland have launched a four-year investment stream aimed at capitalising on Andy Murray’s Wimbledon win and the increased interest towards the sport.

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The plans would bring the capacity to 60,000
£3m revamp for Cheam site

A leisure centre in Cheam, Sutton, is set to get a £3m upgrade.

As part of the upgrades, the boilers, heat exchangers and the main pumps and filtration system for the pool will be replaced.

Almost £600,000 will also be spent on an upgrade to the main reception area, better lighting, new decoration and improved disability access.

The works will add 25 years to the life of the centre, which will close for up to six months during the revamp.

A large cut of the funding will be spent fitting a new roof as the current one is leaking.

The investment will also see new guttering and rainwater pipes installed as well as repairs being made to the brick and plasterwork for a new air ventilation system.

The centre has been in operation since 1938 and is currently run by Everyone Active. It is estimated that work will be complete by May 2016. Details: http://lei.sr?a=BgGx

Hove leisure centre plans four years away

The start of construction on a new £40m leisure centre planned for Hove, East Sussex, is at least four years away, according to a new council report.

A project board said that the current King Alfred Leisure Centre is currently outdated and suggested that the council moved plans forward to build a new centre, not necessarily in the same location as the current facility.

New facilities at the proposed centre will include a 50m pool, a teaching pool and a leisure pool.

Both the Coral greyhound racetrack and a site on Ellen Road, Hove, have been suggested as other possible sites for the new centre. By moving site, the council has said it would mean no gap in leisure centre provision and a reduced cost of around £7m.

A planning application is to be submitted in April 2015 with work starting on construction between April 2017 and July 2018. Details: http://lei.sr?a=Pqdz

Sefton Council launches new outdoor gyms

A collection of 37 new outdoor gyms have been launched across the borough of Sefton in Southport.

The new gyms, manufactured by Caloo, are free to use and are intended to encourage residents to use outdoor spaces in addition to improving health, wellbeing and the amount of physical activity.

The gyms were funded by NHS Sefton and have been installed and maintained by Sefton Council’s Parks and Greenspaces team. Details: http://lei.sr?a=x5B5

Tottenham sports centre to be refurbished

The White Hart Lane Community Sports Centre in Tottenham, London, is set to be refurbished after Haringey Borough Council (HBC) secured a deal with a charity, which is estimated to save the council £478,000 a year.

HBC has appointed an independent charity to manage the facility, which has just secured a council-approved 50-year lease.

Proposed refurbishments include ten new five-a-side and one full size football pitches, new indoor and outdoor tennis courts and a fitness suite. Details: http://lei.sr?a=w36m

Obesity still rising despite increase in exercise

New research shows that American people have become more active over the last decade, although these improvements have done little to stem the nation’s obesity problem.

In more than two-thirds of the nation’s counties, men and women have both increased their exercise levels according to a report by the University of Washington. However, for every 1 per cent increase in physical activity, prevalence of obesity fell by just 0.11 per cent.

The revamp will double the size of the fitness suite

Farnworth Leisure Centre to get £1m revamp

A leisure centre in Farnworth, Bolton is getting a £1m revamp following a grant of £278,000 from SportEngland.

The additional funds will be added to the £700,000 being invested by the Brackley Street Leisure Centre Trust.

The revamp will see the development of a new almost double-size fitness suite and changing rooms. The fitness suite is set to feature house 59 workstations, all of which will be fitted with new equipment.

Work is expected to start in September. Details: http://lei.sr?a=PqE8k

The revamp will add 25 years to the life of the leisure centre

The centre has been in operation since 1938 and is currently run by Everyone Active. It is estimated that work will be complete by May 2016. Details: http://lei.sr?a=BgGx

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Planning permission has now been submitted for a new £13.5m sports and swimming complex in Blackburn town centre that will replace the Waves Water Fun Centre, which is partly based on the Darwen Leisure Centre Site.

The joint project between Blackburn with Darwen Council and Blackburn College will provide swimming pools but also a larger 80-station fitness suite, a dance/aerobics studio, sauna and steamroom and two multi-purpose sports halls.

The scheme aims to reduce the running costs of the existing outdated Waves complex and reduce the subsidy.

Building will start by October 2013 with the sports halls ready for September 2014 and the swimming pools are set to open in the second quarter of 2015.

The 26-year-old Waves will be demolished and the site sold for development by the council. Blackburn with Darwen borough’s executive board approved its £8.5m share of the cost in April 2013, with the college providing in excess of £5m. Details: http://lei.sr?a=zon7y

Selby District Council has revealed plans for the replacement Abbey Leisure centre complex - which was destroyed by fire last year.

The new facilities will take around 30 months to complete with the old centre in the process old being demolished. The plans will have a footprint of 1,851sq ms (19,900sq ft) nearly half that of the previous building.

The new centre will feature a larger gym, six-lane swimming pool and an outdoor all-weather sports pitch.

The construction, which will reportedly cost around £9m will resemble “a simple, crisp box”, with large windows around the building. It will also include a seven-metre-high window looking into the pool. Plans for a replacement centre are subject to planning application, which is to be considered on 31 July. Details: http://lei.sr?a=M1W1b

The Goodwood Hotel and Health Club in West Sussex, England, has announced an upgrade of its 1,725sq ft (160sq m) gym facilities to include the latest Precor equipment. The health club has a membership capacity of 2,000 people and is also used by hotel residents. Other facilities include the Waterbeach Treatment rooms - offering both traditional and holistic treatments, a swimming pool, sauna, steam room, whirlpool spa and gym. PGA championship golf courses are also available. Details: http://lei.sr?a=u2uU

Goodwood Health Club upgrades gym facilities

New plans for Selby Leisure Centre after fire

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The Importance of reputation management

UFI IBRAHIM
is chief executive officer of the British Hospitality Association

"The restaurant secrets all diners should know" scream the headlines. An author has written a new book about the food industry. The latest in a long line of scandals to hit the hospitality industry, this so called ‘real life expose’ is everywhere – in the press, online, tweeted and re-tweeted, the list is endless. Coupled with the horsemeat scandal which caused mayhem for hotels and restaurants across the land with its daily revelations and headlines like “we’ve been eating horse for months” and “horsemeat scandal breathtaking” have become far too familiar for those of us in the hospitality industry.

While there’s absolutely no doubt that the health of our customers and the integrity of our member hotels and restaurants remains the number one priority, explosive headlines and ‘insider secrets’ do little for the credibility of our industry. For every restaurant or hotel bar keeping a “blacklist for rude customers” and “deliberately adding extra items to the bill”(we’re not aware of any!) there are a hundred more working hard to go the extra mile; to offer great value and make all the difference between an average experience being ranked and rated, the number one priority, explosive headlines about communication – using authentic and outstanding experience.

With the proliferation of social media, every mouthful being tweeted about, every experience being ranked and rated, the importance of reputation management in our industry cannot be overestimated. We’re not talking about manipulation, we’re talking about communication – using authentic conversations to successfully market online (and offline) reputation.

BHA partner TrustYou, a firm specialising in online reputation management, has written a new book on the importance of reputation management in our industry. For more information on TrustYou, visit www.trustyou.com

HOTELS

Olympic Park hotel for Stratford

Starboard Hotels has made the first commercial deal with Lend Lease and London & Continental Railways (LCR) at The International Quarter in Stratford City, which will result in the development of a new hotel complex.

Starboard Atlantic Hotels, a joint venture between Starboard Hotels and Union Hanover Securities, is to build a 275,000sq ft (25,548sq m) hotel. It will feature up to 500 bedrooms comprising the design-led Urban Villa extended stay hotel and an upmarket internationally branded hotel.

The complex, which is scheduled to open in 2016, will overlook the former 2012 Athletes’ Village, now known as East Village.

It is also directly adjacent to Westfield Stratford City, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park and Stratford International station.

The complex, looking over the 2012 Athletes Village, will open in 2016

Kristy Lansdown, Lend Lease’s project director, said: “The new commercial hub is set to capitalise on the world-class infrastructure which was put in place for the London 2012 Olympics and is one of the best connected places in London.” Details: http://lei.sr?a=n6i1c

England’s ‘oldest purpose-built hotel’ up for sale

The Grade II-listed Red Lion Hotel in Salisbury, Wiltshire – claimed to be the oldest purpose-built hotel in England – has been put up for sale.

The historic coaching inn dates back to the 13th century and has been brought to the market by property adviser Christie + Co at an asking price of just under £3m.

The town centre hotel has 51 individually-designed guestrooms, restaurant, bar, and five conference and banqueting rooms with capacities up to 120. Details: http://lei.sr?a=E6u1e

Menzies Hotels Group goes on the market

Menzies Hotels Group is looking for a new owner after its parent company Cordial Hotels entered administration.

A price close to £100m has been put on the 15-hotel chain, which has locations across Britain.

Christie + Co is handling the sale, which includes properties ranging from 18 to 212 bedroom locations.

Six of the hotels are operated through leasehold, while the rest operate through freehold. KPMG took control of Cordial Hotels in May after the company defaulted on a £165m loan. In July 2011, underwent a management buyout when its previous parent company – Piccadilly Hotels – also went into administration.

Any potential buyer would receive the entire hotel chain although offers will be considered for individual hotels or groups of hotels. Details: http://lei.sr?a=m7z3c
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**Futuristic centre for Dudley Zoo**

Dudley Zoo has revealed design plans of the proposed Trilobite building – a futuristic education and conference centre with a nod to the site’s ancient history.

The new building, which is being designed to recreate the historic Dudley Bug fossil - the fossilized outer shell of a creature famous to the region that is similar to a modern day horse shoe crab.

It will incorporate a centre for zoology, geology and education with a link to the limestone Stores Cavern beneath the zoo site.

The centre will showcase Castle Hill’s history as part of a prehistoric seabed, educating visitors about the trilobite, also known as the Dudley Bug, while linking to animals and conservation work, and explaining how limestone and coal are key minerals to the region's industrial heritage.

Major £10m plans for Castle Hill are already under way with a new visitor entrance in the pipeline to transform the lower levels of the zoo’s 40-acre site to link with the Black Country Living Museum and Dudley Canal Trust. Details: http://lei.sr?a=q2C6u

**Visitor numbers surge at Mary Rose Museum**

The Mary Rose Museum in Portsmouth has welcomed more than 52,000 visitors since opening on 31 May this year.

The new museum was built around the hull of the ship and is being designed by leading Wilkinson Eyre Architects and Pringle Brandon Perkins+Will.

The boat-shaped museum showcases 19,000 artefacts associated with it.

In June, Portsmouth Historic Dockyard has hosted 80,000 national and international guests visiting the HMS Victory, The National Museum of the Royal Navy, Action Stations, HMS Warrior 1860 and addition to the family – The Mary Rose. Details: http://lei.sr?a=us19x

**Family friendly museum shortlist revealed**

Six museums have been announced on the shortlist for the Telegraph Family Friendly Museum Award.

Picked from 20 possible candidates, the finalists has been selected by a panel of judges led by Jenny Abramsky, Heritage Lottery Fund’s chair, alongside BBC arts editor Will Gompertz, Telegraph head of arts and entertainment Andrew Pettie and director of kids in museums, Dea Birkett.

The six shortlisted museums are; Brixham Heritage Museum, Devon; Horniman Museum and Gardens, London; National Maritime Museum, Cornwall; Nature in Art, Gloucester; North Lincolnshire Museum; and Nottingham Contemporary Gallery.

Anonymous families will test the six museums over the summer.

Over the Summer, anonymous families, acting as undercover judges, will test the shortlisted museums. The winner will be announced by judges in September. Details: http://lei.sr?a=oz69a

**Scottish Museum of Flight secures funding from HLF**

The Heritage Lottery Fund has announced its support for the next phase of a development plan to transform the National Museum of Flight in East Lothian, Scotland.

The £3.6m project will see National Museums Scotland restore two nationally significant Second World War hangars and create new exhibitions within them.

The project will conserve the original building fabric and will also restore the hangars to their original condition. Details: http://lei.sr?a=aOyDf

**Major new Science Gallery to launch at King’s College**

King’s College London has outlined its intention to open an innovative venue for science and art collaboration in London Bridge following two capital funding awards totalling £7m.

The college intends to open a science gallery at its Guy’s Campus, a centre for biomedical research, in 2015 following confirmation of funding of £3m from the Welcome Trust and £4m from Guy’s and St Thomas’ Charity towards a funding target of £12m.

A potential site of 2,000sq m (21,530sq ft) in London Bridge, opposite The Shard, has been identified as the site that will include exhibition galleries, a theatre, café, courtyard and informal meeting spaces to create a new London creative space.

The gallery will host exhibitions, events, performances and festivals that bring “science, technology and health into dialogue with the arts and design in an unprecedented way, inspiring new thinking and driving innovation”. Details: http://lei.sr?a=zyZ6V

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The Department for Culture, Media & Sport (DCMS) has announced details of funding for all its bodies - including a five percent slice to international tourism, with no cut to domestic tourism.

The zero per cent cut to VisitEngland’s core grant-in-aid has been met with great positivity from the organisation, which said that it was “reassured” by the government’s commitment to tourism in England.

A spokesperson from VisitEngland said: “We recognise the public purse is under ever increasing pressure so we are delighted that tourism’s significant contribution to the economy has been recognised by the Secretary of State, Maria Miller, and Tourism Minister, Hugh Robertson, in securing this settlement.”

Tourism in the UK is on the rise and is worth an estimated £97bn. Growth in the sector has seen a steady rise across the country thanks to various campaigns promoting Britain overseas combined with successes of international events such as the London 2012 Olympic Games. Details: http://lei.sr?a=g7j4G

London hits record numbers for overseas tourism

Visits from overseas tourists to London have hit record numbers, according to the latest International Passenger Survey figures.

During the first quarter of 2013, 3.4m tourists came to London, a 4.2 per cent boost on the same period in 2012.

Expenditure over the same period saw a significant increase – reaching £2.1bn during the quarter – meaning London has seen increased expenditure from overseas visitors for seven consecutive quarters. Details: http://lei.sr?a=E0a5A

Scotland sees increase in visitor-spending

While visitors to Scotland have decreased over the past year, spending has seen a sharp increase, according to official figures.

The Office of National Statistics has reported that spending by overseas visitors was up by 22 per cent, while visitor numbers saw a decrease of nine per cent.

Domestic visits to the country saw an increase of 10 per cent on the start of 2012, with domestic spending also seeing a slight increase.

Visitors from North America and Europe both fell, however, visits from emerging markets such as India are beginning to rise.

Scotland’s Tourism Development Agency has started an online and social marketing campaign linked to broadcasting, which began with the airing of BBC Scotland’s Hebrides nature programmes.

The agency is also spending £400,000 on TV advertisements to be aired in both the USA and in the UK, showcasing Scottish golf. Details: http://lei.sr?a=ooG8g
The government has launched a new funding initiative aimed at boosting cultural tourism across England.

The Cultural Destinations scheme will offer grants between £250,000 and £350,000 to projects that look to develop cultural offerings and attract tourism on a local level.

Arts Council England (ACE) is investing £3m into the programme, which will run from March 2014 for up to three years.

Cultural Destinations looks to develop new arts events and festivals; holiday packages and cultural experiences; as well as training, audience and visitor research and familiarisation visits.

ACE will operate the fund in partnership with Visit England and up to 15 consortia could benefit from it.

Minister for Tourism Hugh Robertson said: “This partnership will provide a boost for local arts organisations, help the tourism sector build on 2012 and make a strong contribution to economic growth.”

Culture Minister Ed Vaizey added: “Bringing together the culture and tourism sectors in a scheme like this is an inspired concept.

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Cultural Destinations looks to develop new arts events and festivals; holiday packages and cultural experiences; as well as training, audience and visitor research and familiarisation visits.

ACE will operate the fund in partnership with Visit England and up to 15 consortia could benefit from it.

Minister for Tourism Hugh Robertson said: “This partnership will provide a boost for local arts organisations, help the tourism sector build on 2012 and make a strong contribution to economic growth.”

Culture Minister Ed Vaizey added: “Bringing together the culture and tourism sectors in a scheme like this is an inspired concept.

Queen re-opens historic Abbotsford House

The Queen has reopened the historic Abbotsford House in the Scottish Borders following a 22-month transformation of the 180-year-old building.

The reopening follows a five-year campaign to save the property and its collections following the death of Dame Jean Maxwell Scott, the last of Scott’s descendants to live in the historic house.

The Abbotsford Trust has since raised over £12m to redevelop Abbotsford into a world-class visitor attraction.

Two new rooms have been added to the public tour and modern interpretation techniques have been used to appeal to a new generation of visitors. Nearby the historic house, a modern visitor centre now stands, featuring an exhibition showcasing the author Walter Scott’s life, work and global legacy.

The work has been funded by grants and donations from private and public sources. Major funders include the Heritage Lottery Fund, The Scottish Government and Historic Scotland, Scottish Borders Council, Scottish Enterprise, private individuals and a number of charitable trusts.

Fundraising for Abbotsford remains ongoing as an additional £2.5m is still required to create an endowment to secure the attraction’s future running costs. Details: http://lei.sr?a=l2t6k

 Hundreds of brilliant cultural events are staged in cities, towns and villages across the UK each year and this fund will be instrumental in promoting them to the 26 million overseas tourists who visit England annually, and the 104 million Britons who venture out on ‘staycations’ each year. “Our fantastic cultural sector is one of the top reasons why tourists choose to holiday here, and is key in attracting the £97bn contribution that tourism makes to the British economy each year.”

Details: http://lei.sr?a=L3h6q

Cultural Destinations scheme will offer grants of up to £250,000
Cordea Savills, the property investment-company, has purchased the Vue Cinema in London’s Leicester Square for £23.46m on behalf of a UK pension fund client.

The nine-screen cinema, seating 2,500 people, lies in the heart of London’s West End. It was rebuilt behind the Art Deco façade in 1993 and is the only remaining multiplex on Leicester Square.

The asset is the first to be purchased as part of a new mandate of £100m to be invested in properties with Retail Prices Index or fixed rental increases.

The property comprises a 22-year leasehold interest from freeholders Gascoyne Estates and is being acquired at an initial yield of over 8.25 per cent with fixed annual rental increases of 2 per cent.

Lucy Winterburn, director of investment, said: “The robust fundamentals of the location and covenant plus the attractive leasing structure should make this asset a strong performer relative to our client’s performance objective.”

Cordea Savills was advised by Cortex Partners, with Fineman Ross acting on behalf of the vendor, Helix Property Advisors. Details: http://lei.sr?a=m7V4E

The Greenfield Valley Trust (GVT) has been awarded £60,000 and a ‘first round pass’ to finalise plans before submitting a bid for £900,000 from the Heritage Lottery Fund to finance a proposed museum. The trust is planning to open a centre themed around the Greenfield Valley Heritage Park, near Holywell in north Wales.

GVT is looking to create a museum to explore the history of the site, which dates back to the 18th century. The trust has said that if museum plans go ahead there would be a “tremendous positive impact” on local businesses and the wider community. Details: http://lei.sr?a=WiR9E

A new £280m race track in Blaenau Gwent, south Wales, will be built after receiving approval from local councillors.

The development, which will be built near Ebbw Vale, will generate an estimated £50m annually for the economy and was given unanimous backing during a meeting of the county borough council.

The project covers 830 acres (335 hectares) of land and will be built by the Heads of the Valleys development Company (HVDC).

The track will be one of the largest ever privately led investment programmes in the history of UK motor sport and will create around 3,000 new jobs during the construction phase. The first phase of development will see the construction of the race circuit in addition to a hotel and commercial and retail complexes.

The track will be 3.5m (5.6km) long and will also feature a karting track and off-road driving facilities. Details: http://lei.sr?a=d9K2G

Developers have resubmitted plans for a £1.3m relocation of Lostock Sports Club in Bolton, Greater Manchester, after the initial time frame for planning permission expired.

The proposed development has seen bowling facilities, which were initially approved, removed from the plans while two rugby pitches, a cricket pitch, a clubhouse, car park and equipment storage container are included.

The developer, Persimmon has bought an additional strip of land to accommodate the needs of the club. Details: http://lei.sr?a=Q8v0n

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More details regarding this tendering opportunity are available to view within London South Bank University’s e-tendering system.

Details on how to register and express interest can be found at: www.lsbu.bravosolution.co.uk

The closing date for Expressions of Interest is the 26th August 2013.

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Views sought from potential partners for the development of the leisure and tourism offer in the Portrush area

Coleraine Borough Council owns and manages two leisure sites within the town of Portrush, which are both under utilised and have potential for redevelopment.

**The sites are:**
- Portrush Recreation Grounds – a traditional mix of outdoor sports facilities
- Dunluce Centre - family entertainment centre

The Council is seeking views from organisations which may have a role to play in the development of the land and facilities – either as funders or developers/operators. The aim is to provide a complementary blend of facilities and activities that meet the needs of the resident community and can also optimise the appeal of the area to attract more domestic and international tourism.

Portrush is only 50 minutes from Belfast by car and ten miles from the Giant’s Causeway, which attracts 700,000 visitors per year.

Initial considerations have been given to the type of facilities and activities that would fit within the area which is a traditional family resort and flanked by an area of outstanding natural beauty.

**The Council is seeking initial views and innovative ideas which will:**
- Enhance the regeneration opportunities in Portrush by increasing the number and duration of stay by visitors.
- Bring inward investment from the commercial sector (the Council will consider asset-based propositions and schemes that will result in an overall improvement in land use).
- Provide improved facilities and activities that meet the leisure needs of local people.

A Business Opportunity Prospectus and questionnaire can be downloaded on: [http://www.colerainebc.gov.uk/tenders/](http://www.colerainebc.gov.uk/tenders/)

Your views will be used to help formulate an Open Day or further market engagement. Deadline for feedback is Monday 2 September 2013.

Contact: colerainebc@v4services.co.uk  Tel. 01785 211616

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Lord Sebastian Coe has praised the dedication of the thousands who have signed up as sports volunteers through sport makers - Sport England’s Olympic and Paralympic volunteering legacy programme.

Speaking after meeting the 50,000th sport maker - 24-year-old Scott Preece - Lord Coe said: “It’s wonderful to see how these sport makers are fuelling the legacy of the Games by getting out there and helping others in the community play sport.

"The games makers really opened our eyes to the contribution volunteers make to sports and it’s inspiring to hear how sport makers are making a difference in communities.”

Preece is one of 38,000 out of the 50,000 sport makers who have dedicated at least 10 hours of volunteering in sport. Sport Makers was launched in October 2011 with the aim of signing up 40,000 people to do at least 10 hours of volunteer work - a milestone predicted to be passed around the anniversary of the Olympic opening ceremony. Every Sport Maker who signs up is trained shown the opportunities to get involved in sport locally.

Preece added: “The birth of my daughter and overcoming my heart problem really gave me the motivation to make changes in my life. As well as becoming a sport maker I’ve gone back to college to gain a qualification that will help me get a job that matches my healthy lifestyle.” Details: http://lei.sr?a=n1G0l

SkillsActive partners with 1st4Sport

SkillsActive, the Sector Skills Council for active leisure, learning and well-being has announced a partnership with 1st4Sport Qualifications, a developer of award qualifications in the same sectors.

1st4Sport has been heavily involved in the sector, engaging in partnerships with the FA, RFU, ECB and LTA to build qualifications that aim to strengthen the industry.

SkillsActive CEO, Ian Taylor, said: “Our work with awarding organisations goes a long way to maintaining the high levels set by the industry, to ensure its employees are fully qualified and competent, and 1st4Sport Qualifications is the perfect organisation to partner this work.”

1st4Sport Qualifications education director, Tony Dallimore, added: “We look forward to working with SkillsActive on a variety of qualifications.”

In a statement SkillsActive also said that 1st4Sport’s consistent levels of excellence will ensure that standards remain relevant to the employers. Details: http://lei.sr?a=V4i9o

The groups will work on qualifications that meet the needs of the industry
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FLAME Leisure Centre of the Year Award

Farahm Leisure Centre was crowned Leisure Centre of the Year for the second time at the ukactive FLAME Awards. The competition was fierce especially with five other centres managed by Everyone Active on the shortlist.

Ian Cook, Leisure Centre Manager said, “We are delighted to have been named Leisure Centre of the Year 2013. Our staff have shown a dedication to our customers that is second to none and this commitment has been recognised with this national award for a second time. It’s testament to all the hard work that we have put in for many years and the fantastic team of colleagues working throughout the centre delivering the Everyone Active experience.”

Everyone Active has previously been awarded the FLAME Leisure Operator of the Year award for three years running, in 2010, 2011 and 2012, as well as the Amateur Swimming Association’s Operator of the Year in 2009, 2010 and 2012, and numerous QUEST Awards, National Fitness Awards and Health Club Awards.

Everyone Active secures new contracts to manage leisure services

The biggest local authority contract in the leisure industry has recently been won by Everyone Active, adding 14 centres in Brent, Ealing and Harrow to its management portfolio. Contracts have also been secured with Cotswold District Council, Aylesbury Vale District Council and Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council in 2013, bringing the total number of local authority partners up to 34. With the addition of the Brent, Ealing and Harrow centres, for which management is being transferred in the coming months on a centre by centre basis, the total number of centres Everyone Active operate will be 94.

Everyone Active embraces Change4Life

Everyone Active has seized the opportunity to align its annual open event, which invites people into centres every year for free taster sessions and access to facilities, and capitalise on the national impact of the Public Health England’s Change4Life campaign. There are 67 Leisure Centres operated by Everyone Active participating in the open day to mark the one year anniversary of the London 2012 Olympics Opening Ceremony.

“Everyone Active and Change4Life have a shared message: adults should be aiming for a minimum of 150 minutes of activity per week for the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, said David Bibby, Managing Director at Everyone Active. “We constantly strive to offer exciting, inclusive sports and leisure activities at great value, so we are always keen to invite local communities into our centres and help them stay active in daily life.”

To find out more about Everyone Active and how you could join the best activity team in the country visit www.leisureopportunities.com/everyoneactive

© CYBERTREK 2013 Twitter: @leisureopps Read Leisure Opportunities online: www.leisureopportunities.co.uk/digital
ASSISTANT AQUADOME MANAGER

Part of Jersey’s largest and most popular family hotel, this exciting facility – with its state of the art gym, fantastic leisure and swimming pool, steam and sauna - provides a unique experience for our hotel guests and private members, and with the introduction of the UK’s first Flowrider® in surf and body boarding machine in, we also offer unique career opportunities for the right applicants.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and highly motivated individual with a successful track record of supervisory experience in a similar environment. You must have a passion for customer service and thrive under pressure. You should also have a good understanding of health and safety, and the marketing and promotion of leisure facilities.

Technically you need a current NPLQ, a valid IRSM Pool Plant Operator’s certificate, and preferably a gym qualification and the Pool Lifeguard Trainer Assessor Award.

In return we offer an attractive salary, self contained en-suite accommodation and all the benefits of working on a delightful island.

Please apply in writing to:
Ed Dubberley, Personnel Manager
Merton Hotel, Belvedere Hill
St Saviour, Jersey JE4 9FG
Tel 01534 754306 Fax 01534 733121
Email: edubberley@mertontotel.com
www.seymourhotels.com

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WELLBEING & CULTURE DIVISION

Customer & Visitor Services Manager at Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum

27 hours per week  Salary: 28,452 to 31,760 p.a. (Grade H)

Following a major new build, costing in the region of 6 million, Cheltenham Art Gallery & Museum is seeking an experienced and highly motivated heritage and tourism professional for this key role. Supporting the Museum, Arts & Tourism Manager, this is an excellent opportunity to make a significant contribution to our exciting and challenging opportunities for self motivated and enthusiastic individuals to join our established and lively Sport and Active Leisure Team as part of the public health service.

You will play a leading role in the coordination of a range of sport and physical activity programmes which aim to get more people participating in healthy and active lifestyles.

**Young Peoples Activity Officer (Communities)**

Ref: CANS109

**Full time, Grade 6 £19,187 - £21,719pa**

Fixed term contract until 31 July 2016

We are looking for someone with strong partnership skills to further enhance our work with Looked After Children, NEETs and with early years settings and schools linking into PSHCE and our identified young peoples health priorities. You will work creatively to engage young people from these groups in raising their levels of physical activity.

**Young Peoples Activity Officer (Sports Development)**

Ref: CANS110

**Full time, Grade 6 £19,187 - £21,719pa**

Fixed term contract until 31 July 2016

Developing stronger community sport is an essential part of creating a sporting habit for life for all young people. Your role will be to support clubs, coaches and other partners to offer a high quality sporting experience to the young people of our city.

**Sport Participation Officer (Club Development)**

Ref: CANS111

**Full time, Grade 6 £19,187 - £21,719pa**

Fixed term contract until 31 July 2016

York has a vibrant community sports network, your role will be to support the further development and delivery of high quality community sport. You will be working with a range of partners including clubs, national governing bodies, public health partners and coaches to develop community sports provision in York.

**Older peoples Activity Officer (Communities)**

Ref: CANS112

**Full time, Grade 6 £19,187 - £21,719pa**

Fixed term contract until 31 July 2016

Building on our work of getting more older people active you will be working with care settings and various health agencies to offer more opportunities those who are less active. You will have strong communication skills and the ability to create, maintain and develop new partnerships with organisations whose aims match ours.

**HEAL Project Officer**

Ref: CANS113

1 Day per week, Grade 4 £15,745 - £17,375pa (pro rata)

Fixed term contract until 31 March 2016

We are looking for someone to support our highly successful HEAL (exercise referral and recommendation) programme and their clients. You will be an enthusiastic, committed and organised individual with excellent communication skills.

This authority is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We require the successful applicant to undertake an enhanced DBS check.

Please contact Neil Gulliver or Jo Gilliland for an informal discussion about these roles on Tel: 01904 553377.

Please apply online https://jobs.york.gov.uk. If you are unable to access the internet please call 01904 551619 (8.30am – 5.00pm, Mon - Fri) to request an application pack quoting the appropriate reference number.

Closing Date: 19th July 2013

Interviews will be held on: 5th, 6th and 8th August 2013

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**SPORTS CENTRE DUTY MANAGER JULY/AUGUST 2013**

St Aubyn’s School requires a Sports Centre Duty Manager. An application form and job description can be downloaded from the school website at www.staubyns.com or can be obtained by calling 020 8504 1577. Applications and CVs are to be forwarded to the Sports Centre Manager either by email or by post to the address below.

**CLOSING DATE 2ND AUGUST 2013.**

St Aubyn’s School, Woodford Green, Essex IG8 9DU

L.Harnwell@staubyns.com www.staubyns.com

St Aubyn’s is committed to equal opportunities and the safeguarding of its pupils. All applicants are subject to an enhanced DBS check.
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National Lottery Awards shortlist

The National Lottery Good Causes has revealed a list of 49 projects that will compete in this year’s National Lottery Awards.

Over 900 lottery-funded programmes had entered this year’s awards with a panel of judges coming up with a shortlist of 49 split over seven categories reflecting the different areas that receive National Lottery Funding: arts, sport, heritage, health, environment, education and voluntary/charity.

The winners will now be decided by public vote with those chosen receiving an award trophy and £2,000 towards their project.

In the sport category, three Sport England projects are among the seven finalists to feature.

The Active Villages project in Devon, works with small communities across the region, giving people in rural areas the chance to participate in sport. Us Girls creates sporting opportunities for ladies in disadvantaged communities. Ping! brings table tennis to communities across England in fun and unique ways, by putting tables in unusual locations such as cathedrals, zoos and train stations, engaging more than 600,000 people since the programme began in 2010. Details: http://lei.sr?a=L3c7R

Center Parcs unveils Venture Cove at Elveden Forest

Center Parcs has announced the opening of Venture Cove – a £70m family water playground located in its indoor Subtropical Swimming Paradise at its Elveden Forest location.

Venture Cove is split into two areas – Venture Bay, which will feature a shallow pool heated to 30 degrees centigrade, a two-lane multi-slide, spraying fish, slide and water fountains, and Venture Harbour, which will have a mix of open and enclosed slides, water spouts, water cannons and giant tipping ‘fishing’ buckets. Details: http://lei.sr?a=bp6b

QE2 set to become all-suite hotel

The QE2 will be carrying out repairs to enable the voyage. Oceanic Group, an Asian cruise company, will be operating the QE2 until the repairs are complete.

The QE2 will travel to an unamed location in Asia

Dubai shipbuilder Drydocks World and Oasisic Group, an Asian cruise company, will be carrying out repairs to enable the voyage. The final destination of the vessel has not yet been revealed. Details: http://lei.sr?a=00R7z

More than 900 programmes entered this years awards...