

leisureopportunities

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Spending to soar during 2012 Games

UK consumer expenditure is expected to reach £750m during next summer's Olympic and Paralympic Games, according to a new report published by Visa Europe.

The research – published to mark Visa's 25th anniversary as an Olympic Games sponsor – found that the UK economy will benefit from an extra £5.1bn by 2015 as a result.

According to the *Golden Opportunity – London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games Expenditure and Economic Impact* report, it is anticipated that there will be a £1.14bn increase in economic output during the Games.

Longer-term impacts of the event will see an additional £1.37bn worth of economic output per year and nearly 18,000 additional jobs per year, along with anticipated growth of 3.5 per cent.



Leisure and travel sectors are to be among the winners from the Games

Leisure and travel will be among the biggest winners, with the hotel industry expected to see a £122.6m uplift and the entertainment and food sector receiving a £81.5m boost.



The new funding will help increase participation

£2.6m funding boost for disability sport

Efforts to increase the number of disabled people participating in sport and to ensure grassroots sports is more inclusive have received a £2.6m boost.

Sport England revealed that five groups – British Blind Sport; Cerebral Palsy Sport; Dwarf Sport Association UK; UK Deaf Sport; and British Wheelchair Sport – will share £1.1m, which will be directly funded to advise and guide other organisations.

An additional £1.5m of Exchequer funding has been awarded to the English Federation of Disability Sport (EFDS).

Fitness First to unveil budget arm

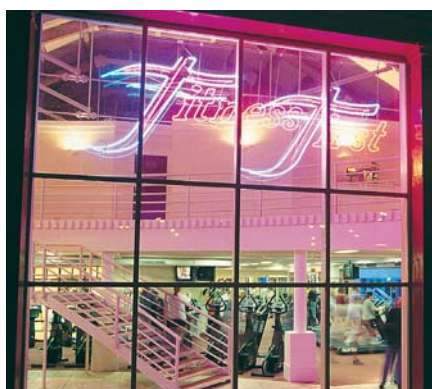
Health club operator Fitness First is to launch a new budget gym brand called Klick Fitness.

The chain will be rolled out following the conversion of existing Fitness First clubs in at least eight locations, which will include Bromborough, Bradford, Manchester, Sheffield, Stoke, Wakefield, Aintree and Ipswich.

Nine Fitness First clubs were closed earlier this month, with the operator planning to reopen them as Klick clubs in September.

Jason Worthy, head of central operations for Klick, told *Leisure Opportunities* that the launch of the clubs will be phased.

"The first set of clubs will open during the week commencing 5 September and the



Nine clubs will be converted into Klick budget gyms

second batch during the week of 19 September," Worthy said. "This is a market that we expect to grow very quickly."

Klick Fitness is to offer both monthly (£9.99) and annual (£99.99) membership options.

New plans give public control of services

Prime Minister David Cameron has called for individuals and local communities to be given more control over public services as part of reforms to increase freedom and choice.

In a speech on 11 July, Cameron said public services such as leisure and recreation facilities are operated under a "take-what-you're-given" culture that fails to enhance life quality.

It follows the publication of a new White Paper – *Open Public Services* – setting out the government's new approach to reforming the provision of public services across the UK.

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SPORT

Wolves plans new £6m academy

Wolverhampton Wanderers Football Club (WWFC) is to develop a £6m Football Academy as part of a wider £50m investment earmarked for the Compton Park area.

The Premier League club is partnering with the University of Wolverhampton; St Edmund's Catholic School; the Archdiocese of Birmingham; and Redrow Homes to deliver the redevelopment plans.

WWFC plans to create its new facility – with new indoor and improved outdoor pitches – on the site of St Edmund's Catholic School, next to the club's existing training ground. The development of a new Football Academy for the club will ensure it meets requirements laid under new plans for Premier League academy football.

WWFC will develop the site after the school relocates to a vacated building at Compton



WWFC is to build the venue on the site of St Edmund's Catholic School

Park Campus, which formerly housed the university's Business School prior to the start of the 2010-11 academic year.

The club will also hand its £1m Indoor Academy Arena at Aldersley Leisure Village to Wolves Community Trust to benefit local disadvantaged and disabled young people.

Wimbledon officials to mull Court One roof?

The All England Lawn Tennis Club (AELTC) is reportedly considering the possibility of constructing a roof over Wimbledon's Court One – the venue's second largest court.

A multi-million pound retractable roof was unveiled on Centre Court in 2009, which

allows play to continue during adverse weather during the Wimbledon Championships.

However, the *Guardian* has reported that AELTC officials could now discuss the installation of roof on Court One, following this year's conclusion of its 15-year strategy.

Graham to build £18.2m Aberdeen venue

Proposals for a new £18.2m aquatics centre as part of the Aberdeen Sports Village development have taken a step forward after Graham Construction was appointed to build the complex.

FaulknerBrowns Architects are behind the design of the Aberdeen Aquatics Centre, which will incorporate a ten-lane, Olympic-size swimming pool with a dividing boom and a part-floating floor.

A 25m x 16.5m diving pool, with water cushioning systems and an adjustable floor is also planned, along with a timing and video analysis lab. Davis Langdon has been appointed to project manage the scheme, which builds on the success of the £28m regional sports centre opened in 2009.



FaulknerBrowns Architects are behind the design of the £18.2m venue

Planning permission has already been granted for the complex, which will be located on the site of the former Linksfield Academy. The construction process will take 112 weeks.

Inspired Facilities fund launches

Hugh Robertson, minister for sport and the Olympics, has launched the new £50m Inspired Facilities fund, which will benefit up to 1,000 local sports clubs across England.

The Sport England funding pot forms part of the Places People Play initiative and will see investment directed towards the upgrade and revamp of ageing facilities.

It is anticipated that grants will provide more attractive infrastructure to attract potential participants and reduce maintenance and operating costs, which will in turn help place facilities at the heart of communities.

Examples of how investment might be directed include the installation of a sprung floor that will convert an unused hall into a multi-sport facility. New changing rooms and new floodlights are also among improvements



The £50m fund aims to help up to 1,000 clubs upgrade ageing facilities

that clubs could be able to make with the help of the Sport England funding.

At least £35m will go to community and voluntary organisations, with grants worth between £20,000-£50,000. The remainder will go towards a wider spectrum of organisations, such as local authorities and schools.

New £5.25m extreme sports facility opens

Dacorum Sports Trust (DST) has launched a new £5.25m extreme sports complex – XC – in Hemel Hempstead.

The majority of funding for the scheme (£5m) was provided through the government's myplace programme, which is administered by the Big Lottery Fund. DST contributed the remaining £250,000 towards the XC.

Facilities include a Skate and BMX park with one of the only indoor concrete pool and bowl complexes in the UK; a 60m x 14m (197ft x 46ft) climbing wall with four individual areas for all abilities; and a 206sq m (2,217sq ft) bouldering facility. XC – run by DST – also features an indoor caving system and a high ropes obstacle course.



A high ropes course 12m (39ft) above the ground is among the facilities

GB Building Solutions built the facility, while Sportspace has worked with Dacorum Borough Council and the Youth Connexions service, which has a base in the new building.

£12m boost for London grassroots sports

Grassroots sports projects across London are to benefit from more than £12m worth of investment announced by mayor Boris Johnson as part of a drive to increase participation.

A total of £4m is available through the Sports Legacy Fund, while the remaining £8m

is match funding and takes the mayor's investment in sport to more than £10m.

Meanwhile, a further £20m match funding has been raised, which has been sourced from the private, public and charitable sectors – taking the mayor's total investment to £30m.

Durham CCC losses 'in line' with plans

Durham County Cricket Club (DCCC) has reported an operating loss of £938,000 for the year to the end of September 2010 – a figure "in line" with the club's plans.

The club said losses were in accordance with its five-year development plan, with further "managed" losses to follow in 2011 and 2012 before a return to profit in 2013.

It was also confirmed by DCCC that plans for a 149-room hotel at the Emirates Durham International Cricket Ground are in place as part of wider development plans, due for completion in 2013.



IMAGE: ROBERT CUTTS

Planning hurdles have made a revamp "unlikely"

LFC: Anfield renovation 'increasingly unlikely'

Liverpool Football Club (LFC) has admitted that plans to renovate its existing Anfield home are looking "increasingly unlikely" due to the number of planning hurdles blocking the scheme.

Ian Ayre, managing director of the club, said that "significant changes" are required to overcome issues such as land/property acquisition and statutory requirements.

LFC has been examining its options, including a new-build stadium located in Stanley Park, but conceded that a revamp would present a "significantly lower cost".

MCFC unveils Etihad Campus consultation

Manchester City Football Club has launched a consultation to gather views on its plans for a new youth development and training facility near its Etihad Stadium.

Residents, fans and others will have the chance to share feedback on the Etihad Campus project, which will transform 80 acres (33 hectares) of brown field land.

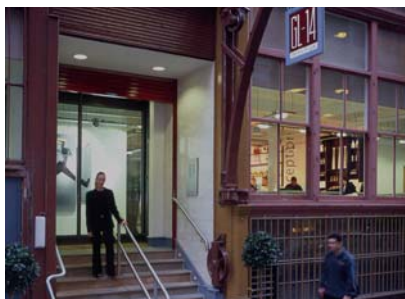
The key elements of the development include the construction of a youth development and first team training centre, which would meet new Premier League academy requirements.

Work starts on £370,000 Winchester facility revamp

Createability has started work on a £370,000 refurbishment scheme at Winchester's River Park Leisure Centre, which will deliver an expanded fitness suite at the venue.

Due to take 12 weeks the programme of work follows the announcement that operator DC Leisure had renewed its contract to manage the site for 12 more years.

The refurbishment programme will see Createability break through the existing fitness suite and join it to a new space to create a 71sq m (764sq ft) gym. A new reception area is also planned.



The two former GL-14 clubs are to be rebranded

Bannatyne Fitness acquires two GL-14 health clubs

Bannatyne Fitness has purchased the two health clubs operated by GL-14 in Manchester and Fairfield, Hertfordshire.

In a short statement to GL14 members, Nigel Armstrong, managing director of parent company The Bannatyne Group, said that the clubs will be rebranded and the spa facilities refurbished.

"We are very excited about the future and would like to assure that the rates, tariff, terms of membership and facilities will remain the same for the foreseeable future," said Armstrong.

Physical activity guidelines for under-fives published

Toddlers need at least three hours of exercise each day in order to help avoid obesity in later life, according to new guidelines published by the government.

Department of Health physical activity guidelines recommend that any child under the age of five capable of walking should be active for at least 180 minutes a day.

The report states that, as most UK pre-school children are currently active for between 120 and 150 minutes a day, achieving the guideline would mean adding another 30 to 60 minutes each day.

New Deeside facilities to open

An 80-station fitness suite is among some of the new facilities to be unveiled next month as part of a multi-million pound revamp at Deeside Leisure Centre, Queensferry.

The gym – in addition to two fitness studios, a toning studio and new changing rooms – are part of phase two of improvements being carried out at the facility and will open on 23 August.

A day spa also forms part of the second stage and is to open in January 2012 – featuring a herb sauna; a crystal steam-room; a salt grotto; and treatment rooms.

Alliance Leisure and Flintshire County Council are working to deliver the renovation, which saw the first phase – new floodlit five-a-side pitches – unveiled in late 2010.

A third phase is also being undertaken, which will transform the old ice rink into an



The second stage of improvements are soon to be opened at the venue

extreme sports facility boasting a 1,452sq m (15,629sq ft) wooden skate park.

Soft play facilities; an indoor high ropes course; and a climbing wall and bouldering tower will also feature as part of the third phase of improvements, which are due to commence shortly and open in January 2012.

Architects appointed for London project

S&P Architects has been chosen by Southwark Council and Lend Lease to design a new leisure centre on part of a site occupied by an existing facility in South London.

The firm, which is working alongside Zaha Hadid on the London 2012 Aquatics Centre, will draw up plans for the venue to the rear of the current Elephant & Castle Leisure Centre site.

A six-lane, 25m swimming pool; a learner pool; a four-court sports hall; and a gym are to be included, along with a spinning room and exercise studios.

Meanwhile, Squire and Partners has been chosen to design a residential project that is set to occupy the front of the current leisure centre site, fronting St Mary's Churchyard Park.



The existing leisure centre site (centre top) is in line for redevelopment

It follows an agreement between the council and Lend Lease allowing the sale of part of the site. A full consultation is due to take place later this year, with the two schemes to be treated as separate planning applications.

Spring 2012 launch for £8m Dorset centre

A new £8m leisure complex under construction in Dorchester, Dorset, remains on course to open in spring 2012, with the structure of the building now reaching its full height.

The Leadbitter Group commenced work on the Dyer-designed Dorchester Sports Centre in

November 2010, with facilities to include a six-lane swimming pool and a 60-station gym.

A dance studio and a changing village also form part of the complex, which is the result of a partnership between Dorset County Council and West Dorset District Council.

Flame Award winners announced

LA Fitness and Nuffield Health have been named among the winners of the FIA and Matrix Flame Awards 2011.

All 10 winners of this year's awards were unveiled at the Ball of Fire event, which was held in Telford on 13 July.

Breadsall Priory, a Marriott Hotel and Country Club in Derbyshire was named Club of the Year (Under 1,000 members) and Chartham Park Golf and Country Club, West Sussex, was awarded the Club of the Year (1,000-4,000 members) accolade.

Lichfield Golf and Country Club was unveiled as Club of the Year (more than 4,000 members) and Rainbow Leisure Centre is the 2011 Centre of the Year. Other winners were Ethos Sports Centre, Sport Imperial (Educational Club of the Year); Nuffield Health RBS Fitness and Wellbeing Centre (Corporate



Everyone Active was crowned Leisure Centre Operator of the Year 2011

Club of the Year); LA Fitness (Health Club Operator of the Year); Everyone Active, formerly SLM (Leisure Centre Operator of the Year) and Bob Halls (Future of Flame).

Meanwhile, William Gregg VC Leisure Centre, DC Leisure, picked up the Spark of Innovation award for 2011.

easyGym eyes long-term global roll-out

Peter Lorimer-Wing, joint chief executive of newly-launched easyGym, has revealed that the low-cost health club chain has long-term ambitions of expanding beyond the UK market.

Speaking in the July issue of *Health Club Management*, Lorimer-Wing said the company had a "seven- to 10-year plan starting in the UK and then heading into Europe".

easyGym's first club opened in Slough in early July – one of two due to open this summer, with the second located in Wood Green, London.

Lorimer-Wing confirmed plans to unveil five easyGym clubs within the chain's first year of trading, with growth to accelerate to 6-10 new clubs a year "once the model is settled".



easyGym has just launched but is already looking towards future growth

Further long-term ambitions for the brand include international expansion: "We see easyGym becoming a global chain in the long run," Lorimer-Wing told *Health Club Management* (July 2011, pp 28-32).

New gym equipment for Cardiff facility

Cardiff Council has unveiled £40,000 worth of new fitness equipment at the city's Pentwyn Leisure Centre as part of efforts to compete with private sector operators.

A range of cardiovascular machines from the Life Fitness Integrity range has been

installed at the facility, which include cross-trainers, exercise bikes and treadmills.

Cardiff Council's Nigel Howells said: "We are dedicated to providing first class facilities across the city, offering excellent sport and leisure provision at good value for money."

Eastern Leisure Centre to undergo major revamp

Plans for the redevelopment of Eastern Leisure Centre in Llanrumney, Cardiff, have been revealed by the local authority.

A swimming pool, a purpose-built dance studio and specialist gymnastics provision will all feature in the new-look facility.

A new 70-station gym and a number of squash and badminton courts are also set to form part of the Eastern Leisure Centre following the completion of the scheme.

The centre will be closed for 18 months from mid-2012 while work on the multi-million pound renovation takes place.



Work could start on the facility "within months"

New Rugby leisure centre proposals submitted

Rugby Borough Council has revealed that work could start "within months" on a new leisure centre in the town after plans were submitted for consideration.

The B3 Architects-designed facility will replace the current Ken Marriott Leisure Centre, which is around 40 years old, and will include a new gym – twice the size of the current facility – and a climbing wall.

A four-court sports hall; a 25m, eight-lane swimming pool suitable for regional events and a 17m x 8m studio pool with moveable floor are also proposed.

Oldham Community Leisure unveils budget gym brand

Oldham Community Leisure (OCL), which manages 14 leisure facilities on behalf of the local council in Oldham, will open its first budget gym later this year.

The Glogym facility will be housed at OCL's Glodwick Pool site and will include a 19-station gym with CV equipment from Technogym and a resistance kit zone, as well as a free-form swimming pool.

The 860sq ft (80sq m) Glogym will be located adjacent to two GP practices and according to OCL chief executive, Ian Kendall, the intention is to form a vibrant exercise referral programme at the club.

Bremen move for Tate Liverpool director

Christoph Grunenberg is to leave Tate Liverpool after ten years as the attraction's director to take up the post of director of Kunsthalle Bremen, Germany.

During Grunenberg's decade-long tenure at Tate Liverpool, the attraction welcomed more than one million visitors during the city's successful European Capital of Culture year in 2008.

Grunenberg was also chair of the Turner Prize jury four years ago – the first time that the prestigious exhibition and award ceremony had been held outside London.



Six new contemporary galleries are now on offer

Wales' £6.5m National Museum of Art launches

Wales' new £6.5m National Museum of Art has opened its doors to the public, incorporating the country's collection of works at the National Museum Cardiff.

The attraction has enabled Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales to put its collection of works on display in a single series of integrated galleries for the first time in the institution's history.

Six contemporary art galleries are housed in The West Wing – the largest area of its kind in Wales, having only had one gallery on offer before the new development.

Work starts on Redcar's new £8.3m 'Hub' project

Demolition work has started on site of Redcar's new £8.3m 'Hub' for the creative industry, which will lead to the transformation of the town's derelict Palace Theatre.

Surgo Construction has been chosen by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council to oversee the two-month demolition phase, with construction to start in the autumn.

Newcastle-based xsite architecture are involved with the project, which will lead to the creation of a new space featuring studios, workshops and a showcase for artists to display and sell work.

Belfast venue to open 'early 2012'

Belfast's £18m Metropolitan Arts Centre (MAC) remains on track to open to the public "early next year", according to Northern Ireland arts minister Carál Ní Chuilín.

Located in the Cathedral Quarter, the new venue will replace the Old Museum Arts Centre and received £10.76m from the Department for Culture, Arts and Leisure.

Facilities will comprise two black box performance spaces with seating capacity for 120 and 350 spectators respectively; three visual art galleries; and a dance studio.

An education workshop; rehearsal spaces; and offices for resident groups will also form part of the complex, which has also received local authority and Arts Council support.

Speaking on a visit to the venue, Ní Chuilín said: "The MAC will also provide an artistic



The six-storey venue will incorporate two black box performance spaces

programme of the highest quality reflecting and exploring issues relevant to the socially diverse communities across the North."

MAC chief executive Anne McReynolds added: "The MAC is a visible demonstration of what a new Belfast and a new Northern Ireland is capable of delivering."

Trust: Number of 'at risk' UK properties grows

The Theatres Trust has revealed that the number of UK properties included on this year's Theatre Buildings At Risk (TBAR) register has increased by nearly 5.5 per cent to 58.

Brighton Hippodrome (Grade II*); Morecambe Winter Gardens (Grade II*); and

Hulme Hippodrome (Grade II) are among the 41 English inclusions on the 2011 register.

A further seven Scottish and 10 Welsh venues – including the Category A-listed Aberdeen Tivoli (Scotland) and Theatr Harlech (Wales) have also been included on the list.

Southampton arts venue plans submitted

London-based property group Grosvenor has submitted plans for a mixed-use scheme in Southampton, which is to be anchored by a 100,000sq ft (9,290sq m) arts complex.

Restaurant space is also proposed as part of the multi-million pound project, which will see the development provide a "major addition" to the city's Cultural Quarter.

CZWG has worked in partnership with Grosvenor to draw up the plans, which will feature a total of six restaurant units and 29 flats in addition to the arts complex.

The proposed new facility is set to include auditoria; studio and creation space for the performing arts; and film and media facilities; as well as a contemporary gallery.



The arts complex will be at the heart of Southampton's Cultural Quarter

Arts Council England and Southampton City Council have provided funding towards the scheme, which also features a glazed façade and soaring stepped upper floors.



Safe Space Lockers interior design service to LIW

Safe Space Lockers are launching their new interior design and 3D rendering service at LIW 2011. The service will enable customers from the whole of the leisure sector to design and visualise their new changing room before committing a penny. Safe Space Lockers are renowned for quality of lockers, washrooms, cubicles, padlocks, service and account management. Now with the added service of interior design and 3D rendering, why not visit stand H405 to see how Safe Space can make a difference.

Signature products bring a world first for commercial hot tubs to LIW

Signature UK has chosen LIW to showcase their overflow spa for the first time in the UK.

Steve Martin, director of Signature Products Ltd, said "We want to promote the Signature concept of offering a complete turnkey service from consultation and design to mould creation.

"We intend to exhibit a 3.8x2.8m deck overflow spa finished in 10mm hand-painted tiles. LIW is the perfect environment for us to attract clientele from the commercial and wellness industry sectors."

REPS National Convention

Visitors to LIW will be able to collect CPD points by attending the REPs National Convention on Thursday 22nd September. REPs National Convention will present its usual blend of informative and educational Key Note presentations along with 12 specific workshops including 'paradoxical obesity', 'speed training' and 'Blast fx (TM)'. The day includes practical and lecture based sessions and is an educational opportunity for all exercise professionals which is not to be missed. Further details are available from the REPs website www.exerciseregister.org.

I Pledge with Technogym at LIW

Technogym has been the Official Fitness Supplier to the Olympic Summer Games since Sydney 2000 and will be again at the London Games with their 'I Pledge' campaign to be launched at LIW on Tuesday 20 September.

As an industry, Technogym plans to evidence how many people it can inspire to get behind 'Our Greatest Team' and by explaining how the sporting, health and fitness industry can link sports and health, it aims to build a true legacy project that the UK can be proud of.

LIW will showcase a special London 2012 Team GB-Paralympic GB area and participating clubs will be able to win equipment from the Olympic Village gym. REPS accredited trainers will be able to enter a competition to win a place as a trainer in the Olympic Village Gym for the Olympics and Paralympics.



Technogym will be the Official Fitness Supplier to London 2012 Games

Tony Majakas, Technogym's London 2012 UK project director, has summed up the Technogym 'I Pledge' campaign saying: "As a 'Once in a Lifetime Opportunity' it is important to not end the year in 2012 by saying 'I wish we would have done....' Join us at LIW 2011 and 'Join the Movement!'"

Virtual Webracing comes to LIW



Cranlea and Instyle Fitness will set up a virtual biathlon competition at the LIW show floor – a world first

Group training in a virtual world gets personal and adds a great competitive edge to your training experience. In a world first, Cranlea and Instyle Fitness have set up a virtual biathlon competition exclusively at LIW.

Visitors will have the opportunity to run and ride combined times in order to win a brand new magnetic braked M10 Aerobike and full Polar heart rate cycle set up.

Entrants will start at the Cranlea stand sprinting flat out for 200m on the Woodway curve. They will then move on to the Instyle stand for two laps of the virtual velodrome.

Cranlea and Instyle fitness are offering this quality prize for those who complete the 200m sprint and 800mride on these innovative and revolutionary products which allow live on line training in the virtual world.

Putting forward the case for cutting VAT



UFI IBRAHIM
is chief executive of
the British Hospitality
Association

The case for reduced VAT on hotel accommodation and attractions is gathering pace with campaigning in the press mounting.

When all but two EU member states have a reduced rate for hotel accommodation (and many for attractions), the UK industry should not let up in its efforts to try to persuade the government that the country's high rate of VAT makes it totally uncompetitive in the European tourism market. Only Denmark and Slovakia have not reduced the rate for hotel accommodation.

All other countries take the view that tourism is highly price-sensitive and subject to intense global competition. Reducing VAT leads to lower prices, which increases demand. This in turn can stimulate other parts of the economy. Increasing tourism in this way is a highly cost-efficient way of creating jobs, and these jobs span the socio-economic spectrum – and this applies to Britain as much as any other country.

The high rate of VAT, however, is one of the barriers to growth that the industry faces, and unless the right framework is established, the industry will have difficulty in creating 236,000 new jobs by 2015 – a forecast made by Oxford Economics.

BHA has already set up a special task force chaired by tax expert, Graham Wason, and comprising key industry leaders. We've had talks with the Department of Culture, Media and Sport and Treasury to put forward the case for a reduced rate of VAT, with a resulting positive impact on jobs.

These ongoing talks with Treasury are underpinned by a study commissioned by the Bourne Leisure Group and Merlin Entertainments, and produced by Deloitte – research that includes case studies and comparatives with EU rivals, and which provides our members with the firm evidence needed to champion a VAT cut.

What is needed now is that everyone should play an active role with the BHA in order to ensure that the industry has a level playing field on VAT. Lobbying for a reduction in VAT by supporting the campaign is thus vitally important. Only through a reduction in VAT can UK tourism compete effectively with other EU member states.

HOTELS

English Heritage grant for spa hotel

English Heritage has awarded £500,000 towards the Buxton Crescent and Thermal Spa project, which will create one of the UK's first genuine spa hotels for 100 years.

The funding will go towards the £35m transformation of Buxton's Grade I-listed Crescent and the adjacent Grade II-listed Natural Baths and Pump Room. When complete, the development will feature a 79-room spa hotel incorporating the Natural Baths; a thermal, natural mineral water spa; eight specialist shops; and a visitor centre.

Trevor Osborne Property Group, CP Holdings and Danubius Hotels are currently working on the scheme in partnership with High Peak Borough Council (HPBC). Derbyshire County Council is also involved with the development and is providing funding



The funding will go towards the historic venue's £35m transformation

– in addition to HPBC. Five years ago, the Heritage Lottery Fund contributed £12.5m.

HPBC leader Caitlin Bisknell said: "The funding takes us another important step towards a nationally-important development that will strengthen the growing reputation of our spa town as a major visitor destination."

Hilton signs agreement with BT Openzone

BT Openzone is to provide a "fully-managed suite" of wireless internet solutions at hotels run by Hilton Worldwide across the UK and Ireland as part of a new strategic agreement.

New technology will be implemented from autumn 2011 to help increase bandwidth at

Hilton Worldwide properties and provide a "consistent experience" for guests.

The deal will see guests provided with BT Openzone Wi-Fi access; high-speed fixed line, conference and event services in more than 17,000 bedrooms and conference spaces.

BAM to build new £20m eco-friendly hotel

BAM Construction has been appointed by the University of Nottingham to build a new £20m eco-friendly hotel adjacent to the East Midlands Conference Centre.

Funded entirely by the institution, the property has been designed by RHWL Architects and will incorporate the latest technology in a bid to reduce carbon emissions.

The hotel is due to open by the end of 2012 and will boast a gym; a restaurant; and a bar, as well as solar photovoltaic panels and ground-sourced heat technology.

It is anticipated that the new property will secure an Excellent rating under the Building Research Establishment Environmental Assessment Method (BREEAM).



It is hoped that the new hotel will attain an 'Excellent' BREEAM rating

University of Nottingham chief estates and facilities officer Chris Jagger said: "The hotel will enhance the existing range of conference facilities provided by the university."

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Evesham Country Park scheme approved

Wychavon District Council has approved planning permission for a new retail and leisure scheme based on the 'great outdoors' at Evesham Country Park, Worcestershire.

Turley Associations has acted on behalf of Eagle One to secure consent for development, which will occupy a 41-acre (17-hectare) site and feature zones based on nature, fun and learning.

Evesham Country Park will create a new wetland/wildlife reserve, nature trails, angling areas, a visitor and education centre, a play barn and 60 holiday lodges.



IMAGE: GREEN LANE

Hyde Park is one of the capital's eight Royal Parks

Penrose outlines new Royal Parks management plans

Londoners and mayor Boris Johnson are to be handed more input in the management of the eight Royal Parks under plans outlined by heritage minister John Penrose.

In a written ministerial statement, Penrose said that the creation of a new Royal Parks Board is proposed, while giving the mayor power of appointment over its chair and members.

Penrose also confirmed plans to direct the new board to establish new processes that would give local communities and park users a role in decision making.

New 'alliance' formed to protect Barn Elms

Residents, councils and political figures have formed a new "alliance" that aims to protect London's Barn Elms from the development of a new 'Super Sewer'.

Thames Water has named the Barn Elms site between Putney and Barnes – a riverside nature spot and sports hub – as its preferred location for an excavation and waste transfer compound.

Alistair McGowan – one of those backing the campaign – said: "The playing fields and boat house alone are used by more than 30 schools and 40 sports clubs."

Parks to share £15.9m funding

Eight parks across the UK are to benefit from restoration and conservation schemes after being awarded a share of a National Lottery funding package worth £15.9m.

The Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) has confirmed that £12.4m will be shared among six parks, while a further £3.5m of joint HLF and Big Lottery Fund (BIG) funding will go to two locations.

Joint HLF/BIG funding has been secured by Nottingham Forest Recreation Ground, which will receive £3.2m towards an restoration programme and new skills training opportunities. Phillips Memorial Park in Godalming also secured joint investment – £335,000 towards repairs to the Cloister and the restoration of the original landscape.

The largest share of the HLF investment has been awarded to Victoria Park in St Helens to



Nottingham Forest Recreation Ground secured joint HLF/BIG funding

help with much-needed restoration work to a number of its historic features.

Newcastle's Exhibition Park and Ealing's Walpole Park secured £2.4m; Felixstowe's Seafront Gardens netted £2.1m; Raphael Park, Romford, received £1.7m; and Dalmeir Park, Dunbartonshire, landed nearly £860,000.

New study reveals appeal of countryside

New research has revealed that nearly 2.5 billion trips were made to England's coast, countryside and open spaces during 2010-11, with visitor expenditure topping £17bn.

It is the second year of the *Monitor of Engagement with the Natural Environment* survey – compiled by Natural England with support from the Forestry Commission.

The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs also helped with the research, which has involved a survey of more than 46,000 people in 'weekly waves'.

According to the survey's findings, there were an estimated 2.49 billion visits to the countryside in 2010-11 – a decline of 13 per cent on the figures for 2009-10.



IMAGE: KEVIN EAVES/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

England's countryside generated visitor expenditure in excess of £17bn

Forests and woodland areas received 13 per cent of all visits, an increase of two per cent on 2010. The most significant decreases were the number of trips to urban parks and spaces.

£3.3m Stevenage park revamp completed

HTA Landscape Design has completed the £3.3m regeneration of Stevenage Town Centre Gardens – one of the first modernist landscapes to receive Heritage Lottery Fund support.

Stevenage Borough Council and the Green Heart Partnership appointed the London-

based company to undertake the restoration of the 4-hectare (9.9-acre) site.

HTA director James Lord said: "[Stevenage Town Centre Gardens] are a significant asset that deserves to be looked after; they are the Capability Brown landscapes of the future."

£72m Museum of Liverpool opens

National Museums Liverpool (NML) has launched the new £72m Museum of Liverpool - one of the largest new-build museum developments in the UK for more than a century.

Designed by Denmark-based architects 3xN, the iconic facility will be unveiled in phases, with the first now open and featuring the Atrium and the Global City, Little Liverpool, Wondrous Place and Skylight galleries.

The People's Republic gallery is also now open, while The Great Port; Liverpool Overhead Railway Gallery; History Detectives; and City Soldiers will follow later this year.

BRC Imagination Arts; Haley Sharpe; and Redman Design are among the groups to be involved with the creation of the exhibitions. The launch took place on the 100th anniversary of the opening of the Royal Liver Building.



Local schoolboy Finn O'Hare officially opened the new £72m museum

NML director David Fleming said: "The Museum of Liverpool is all about telling the stories of the city and its people.

"Every single event has helped shape this city's personality. The Museum of Liverpool is here to tell the tale, and like the Liver Building, will be around for many years to come."

National Maritime Museum opens new wing

London's National Maritime Museum (NMM) has officially opened its new £35m Sammy Ofer Wing - the largest development in the Greenwich attraction's history.

The scheme has allowed the museum to transform how it presents its exhibitions, events and galleries, with the wing enhancing its presentation of the UK's maritime heritage.

A special exhibitions gallery enabling a full programme of temporary shows and Voyagers - a new permanent gallery - have been created as part of the Sammy Ofer Wing.

Meanwhile, a restaurant and a café overlooking Greenwich Park; a library and archive; and a new entrance from Greenwich Park also form part of the development.



The new Sammy Ofer Wing is the largest development in NMM's history

Shipping magnate and philanthropist Sammy Ofer donated £20m towards the scheme, which was delivered by Bovis Lend Lease. A further £5m of funding was contributed by the Heritage Lottery Fund.

LEP backs Yorkshire project funding bid

Plans for a new cultural and leisure project at Rother Valley Country Park, South Yorkshire, is among eight bidders for government support through the Regional Growth Fund (RGF).

The board of Sheffield City Region Local Enterprise Partnership said that it is 'keen' to

support the £111.8m Visions of China project, which is seeking £5.7m from the RGF.

According to the partnership, the Visions of China development is led by a consortium that aims to create "an iconic addition to the British tourism market".



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Source: Turner Media Innovations, Holiday & Day-Out research 2011



The £179m deal covers 17 locations across the UK

British Land acquires Esporta properties

Esporta Property Holdings – owner of 17 freehold or long-leasehold racquet clubs – has been sold to a fully-owned subsidiary of the British Land Company for £179m.

The 17 locations are currently operated under leases by Esporta Racquets and Non-Racquets, the entity that was sold to Virgin Active in April – pending approval from the Office of Fair Trading.

New Esporta Holding Limited has confirmed that the completion of the property deal will be subject to the completion of the Virgin Active acquisition.

Liverpool scheme raises UNESCO concerns

Plans for the regeneration of Liverpool docklands have been met with concern by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

At the 35th session of UNESCO's World Heritage Committee, it was revealed that there was "extreme concern" about the potential impact of the £5.5bn Liverpool Waters development.

Fears have been raised that the plans could damage the 'Outstanding Universal Value' of the docklands, which could also affect its World Heritage Site status.

Salford JV appoints new stadium director

A joint venture company comprising Salford City Council and developer Peel has appointed James Foley as the new director of a new £26m community stadium.

Foley will be responsible for the day-to-day running and marketing strategy for the AFL Architects-designed venue, which is being built by The Buckingham Group and managed by Drivers Jonas Deloitte.

When complete, the stadium will have an initial capacity of 12,000 and will provide a home for Salford City Reds. The capacity will increase to 20,000 in future years.

Work completed on 2012 media complex

Work has been completed on the London 2012 International Broadcast Centre (IBC) – part of the Main Media Complex and the fifth Olympic Park venue to be finished.

The 275m (902ft)-long property has been designed to be flexible enough to accommodate a range of potential tenants following the conclusion of next summer's event.

As part of the Main Media Complex with the Main Press Centre, the IBC will house more than 20,000 media professionals during the Games.

Olympic Delivery Authority (ODA) chair John Armitt said: "This announcement of the completion of the IBC means that with over a year to go to the Games five of the six main venues on the site have now finished



The new 275m-long IBC is the fifth Olympic Park venue to be finished

construction. The ODA has hit all of its milestones to date and we are firmly on track to deliver the venues and infrastructure required for the Games and in legacy as planned."

Acton Town Hall plans go on show

Ealing Council has held a series of public meetings in order to allow residents to view plans for the multi-million pound redevelopment of Acton Town Hall, London.

The first event took place on 15 July at Acton Baths, with proposals drawn up by S&P Architects put on display. Members of the project team were also in attendance.

Proposals for the revamp of Acton Town Hall include the provision of a new 25m swimming pool; a training pool; leisure facilities; a library; and community spaces, in addition to office space for the local authority.

Ealing Council leader Julian Bell said: "We are investing a lot of money in the Acton Town Hall development and we want to get it right. This is the first opportunity for residents to look at detailed drawings for their



Acton Town Hall will be transformed into a multi-purpose leisure venue

new community facility and I encourage as many people as possible to come along to one of the events."

If planning permission is approved by the local authority, it is anticipated that construction work will start in early 2012. A completion date has been pencilled in for spring 2014.

£230m Barry Waterfront plans approved

Plans for a major £230m regeneration of the waterfront in Barry, South Wales, have moved forward after the Vale of Glamorgan Council (VGC) gave the scheme its backing.

The Quays will transform a 43-hectare (106.3-acre) site and will incorporate cafés,

restaurants, a hotel and a community facility, in addition to residential and retail units.

A consortium including Persimmon Homes, Taylor Wimpey and Barratt Homes are behind the proposals, which were approved by VGC's planning committee on 7 July.

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Cyclopark a new business opportunity



Cyclopark is a brand new concept multi-sports park, and Kent County Council and its partner's wish to appoint an outstanding operator in the leisure, fitness and or sports sectors to act as our long term operational partner. The Kent County Council has spent over £7 million on creating a world class destination in the south east of England and construction is due for completion in May 2012.

Unique Location

Less than a mile from Ebbsfleet International, within 5 miles of the M25, adjacent to the M2 and on the very doorstep of Gravesend with a population of 115,000 and a further 9.5 million people within a 45 minute travel time, Cyclopark is projected to attract 100,000 cyclists, event visitors and local users.

Core facilities

Cyclopark offers an international standard BMX track, 3km of Cycle Track, 6km technical mountain bike routes, a pump track, a skate bowl, a 1200sqm pavilion complete with café, retail, health treatment, community facilities, a playground, outdoor exercise equipment and all set within over 20 hectares of landscaped parkland.

Our commitment

KCC and its partners having created Cyclopark will support the operator and funds have been made available for revenue support and ongoing maintenance. This support will ensure the successful operator can focus on delivering the high quality community sports programme KCC and its partners want.

Operator Type

Cyclopark will be operated by the very best in leisure and sports management who will be either a registered Charity or are an Industrial & Provident Society with an HMRC charity tax reference number

Lease Terms

The initial contract period is for 10 years with a further 10 years available subject to performance.

Further details about the scheme can be found at www.cyclopark.com

To register your interest in and to obtain background documents please go to the South East Business Portal www.businessportal.southeastip.gov.uk and search under Opportunities, Kent, then Kent County Council and click on the Cyclopark link.

If you'd like to know more about Cyclopark then please contact Laurence Tricker, Cyclopark Project Manager Regeneration & Economy Division On 01474 338813 or Mobile 07738076298 or via email laurence.tricker@kent.gov.uk

This procurement will be run electronically via ProContract, hosted via the South east IEP business portal. If you need further clarification on the procurement process please contact, Procurement Services Group on Tel: 01622 605791 or email psg@kent.gov.uk



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Wales will play its part in 2012 spectacle



EDWINA HART

is Welsh Assembly Government minister for business, enterprise, technology and science

With London celebrating a year to go until the Olympic and Paralympic Games, Wales is poised to play its part when the world's largest sporting event takes place on our doorstep.

The Welsh Assembly Government has announced that the Chinese Olympic Weightlifting Team's 2011 pre-Games training venue will be based in Bangor as part of preparations for the 2012 Games.

This is a real coup for Wales as the team has such an impressive track record and have very high hopes for the 2012 Games. We look forward to welcoming the team to Wales as part of their 2011 training schedule and wish them well with their preparations. We also hope that this is the beginning of a long lasting friendship.

Paralympic teams from Australia, New Zealand and South Africa have also chosen Wales as their base for pre-Games training. The Trinidad and Tobago Olympic Committee has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Welsh Assembly Government and its athletes – including the country's high profile track and field team – are to be based in Cardiff. Elsewhere, the Irish Triathlon team will be based at Swansea University.

Wales will also play host to the Amateur International Boxing Association's 'Road to London' training camp, which will be located in Cardiff. The camp will involve more than 100 boxers and trainers from developing nations around the world.

In total, it is anticipated that camps will involve more than 800 athletes and support staff, who will train in Wales in the lead up to the Games. This is expected to generate a direct investment into the economy, which will be worth millions of pounds.

Contracts that have been won by Welsh firms to date are valued in excess of £38m and include 14 top-tier deals. In Llantrisant, The Royal Mint's contract for medals and commemorative packs is a considerable contract, which will involve 200 staff.

With a year to go, we can be proud of the contribution that Wales is making to staging this great sporting event.

TOURISM

ONS: Inbound numbers increase

New figures published by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) have shown an 8 per cent increase in the number of overseas visitors to the UK for the three months between March and May 2011.

The seasonally-adjusted figures compare with the same period last year, with the late Easter holiday and the Royal Wedding contributing towards this year's increase during the quarter.

The latest ONS figures have also confirmed that the number of visits to the UK have increased by 3 per cent to more than 30 million over the past 12 months, with holiday and business trips showing 5 per cent growth.

National tourism agency VisitBritain welcomed the increase in overseas visitors and said it underlined the UK's popularity at a crucial time for the inbound tourism sector.



IMAGE: KAMIRA/SHUTTERSTOCK.COM

VisitBritain said the figures showed the UK was "recovering its appeal"

VisitBritain director of strategy and communications Patricia Yates said: "Nearly 8 million international tourists have come to Britain in the three months, which saw spending levels in the country rise by 7 per cent. As we start to roll out our marketing programme, Britain is recovering its international appeal."

Brigid Simmonds to chair Tourism Alliance

Brigid Simmonds OBE – current chief executive of the British Beer and Pub Association – has been appointed to succeed Ken Robinson as Tourism Alliance chair.

Simmonds said: "The government has set some challenging targets for the growth of

both the inbound and domestic tourism sectors over the next four years

"I'm committed to ensure that the Alliance maintains and builds on its important role as a conduit between the industry and Government to ensure these targets are met."

Lower VAT rate for Irish tourism firms

Irish tourism operators have been urged to pass on a new reduced VAT rate of 9 per cent as part of the government's bid to increase inbound tourism and create jobs.

VAT on tourism products has been cut from 13.5 per cent until December 2012, before being reviewed in the country's 2013 Budget to ascertain its impact on the sector.

Leo Varadkar, minister for transport, tourism and sport, said that the measure was a key part of the government's Jobs Initiative but would only work if it was passed on.

Varadkar said: "The Restaurants Association of Ireland and the Irish Hotels Federation are fully behind this initiative, and have called on their members to lower prices accordingly."



IMAGE: TOURISM IRELAND/HOLGER LEUE

Tourism businesses in Ireland have been urged to pass on the VAT cut

Adrian Cummins, chief executive of the Restaurants Association of Ireland, said: "This is the first step in the road to recovery in the restaurant sector in Ireland."

Mbodies to teach The Pink Ribbon Program

The Pink Ribbon Program, an exercise scheme designed in the US for breast cancer survivors, has been introduced to exercise professionals in the UK for the first time.

Pink Ribbon founder and instructor trainer Doreen Puglisi teamed up with UK-based pilates and fitness training provider Mbodies to offer a pair of two-day instructor workshops in July.

The Pink Ribbon Program starts with an initial six weeks of supervised exercise in the early post-operative stage for survivors, before changing to allow a transition to more traditional wellness or Pilates classes.

Puglisi ran a two day instructor workshop at the Mbodies centre in Witney, Oxfordshire on 16-17 July, followed by another in London on



The programme is fully accredited by the American Council on Exercise

22-23 July. The qualification is fully accredited by the American Council on Exercise.

The workshops were aimed at oncology doctors, oncology nurses, physical therapists, physiotherapists, occupational therapists and qualified pilates instructors.

Springboard supports Wales' biggest sector



GARETH EDWARDS
is education
director at The
Springboard Charity

Springboard has again launched its innovative Summer School in Cardiff, which involves 15 young people who have come through an interview process to take part in the three-week initiative in the Welsh capital.

All the students are aged at least 16 years old and have been strategically placed with in Cardiff's hospitality, leisure and tourism sector. They will perform a variety of roles that contribute to the Welsh Food and Drink Skills project by gaining necessary qualifications in Food Safety, Health and Safety plus Customer Care before a two-week internship in the industry.

Students are mentored in the workplace and the businesses are using Springboard's INSPIRE work experience programme which should ensure a positive outcome, with the aim of getting the young people into employment, apprenticeships or a return to education where they will study a vocationally related subject.

New research has highlighted the fact that the Welsh food and drink industry is the biggest industry in the Principality, which employs around 18 per cent of the total Welsh workforce and also accounts for 5.7 per cent of the UK food and drink supply chain workforce.

A well skilled workforce is needed to ensure the future prosperity of Wales, but also to ensure sustainable employment from senior management down to the shop floor. It's also crucial to identify what new skills may be needed in the future, but it seems that the competency base will have to be both widened and deepened if Wales is going to embrace the growth to date.

A survey has been carried out of more than 3,000 employers across the country and, while the final detail is still being analysed, it has some really positive messages about food and drink in across Wales.

It's good to know that Springboard Wales is making its contribution to the development of local young people who are eager to fly the flag about a crucial industry.

Lifetime announces new 16-18 scheme

Leisure Connection and Lifetime have teamed up to unveil new and improved government-funded apprenticeship programme for 16-to-18-year-olds.

At least one apprentice will work at Leisure Connection centres for six months as part of the scheme, which is designed to deliver work-ready fitness instructors.

Following a three-week, classroom-based course delivered by Lifetime, apprentices will then benefit from practical training towards a qualification in sales, fitness or customer service. Lifetime will coach and mentor the young people, while also providing advice and support for both the learner and the employer.

Leisure Connection training and development manager Claire Owen said: "We're committed to upskilling and developing the



The programme will include a six-month placement at a leisure centre

industry and are looking forward to welcoming our learners into the estate."

Lifetime national key account manager Julie Proctor added: "Apprenticeship schemes, such as the bespoke course we have developed with Leisure Connection, offer a unique blend of classroom learning and vocational training."

London apprentice campaign reaches target

London mayor Boris Johnson's drive to offer more apprenticeship opportunities across the capital has reached its target of 20,000 three months ahead of schedule.

Working in partnership with the National Apprenticeship Service, the initiative has

recruited more than 28,000 to apprenticeship schemes across a range of sectors.

The National Theatre is one of the organisations to launch a new scheme as part of a bid to continue the campaign's success, with two technical opportunities opening in 2012.



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- First Aid

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Direct Sales and Marketing, *Énergie Group, Liverpool*,
Dual Sales and Fitness Team Member, *Énergie Group, Liverpool*,
Recreation Manager, *Rhondda Cynon Taf CBC, Rhondda Cynon Taf*,
Group Exercise Manager, *Reebok Sports Club, London*,
Member Services Manager, *Reebok Sports Club, London*,
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Duty Manager, *Nexus Community, Didcot, South Oxfordshire*,
Fitness Instructors x 3, *Nexus Community, Chesham, Buckinghamshire*,
Senior Business Development Manager, *Inspirit, Maidenhead*,
Group Marketing Manager, *Fusion, London*,
Swimming Teachers, *Fusion, Croydon*,
Operations Manager, *Fusion, Tunbridge Wells*,
Marketing Executive, *Fusion, London*,
Membership Sales Consultant, *Fitness Industry Association (FIA), London*,
Sales Consultant, *Énergie Group, Swindon*,
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Membership Sales advisor, *Énergie Group, Dudley*,
Aquatic Officer, *Amateur Swimming Association (ASA), East Midland Region - Derbyshire*,
Sales Executive - Hotel Leisure and Fitness Club, *Renard Resources, Northamptonshire*,
Full Time Duty Officer Post, *Montsaye Community College, Kettering*,
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Gym Manager, *The Gym Group, Ealing*,
Spa Manager, *The Baglioni Spa by SPC, Kensington, London*,
Spa Manager, *Virgin Active, Derby*,
Operations Supervisor x2, *Nexus Community, Windrush*,
Conference and Bookings Co-ordinator, *Hertfordshire Sports Village, Hatfield*,
Spa Manager, *QHotels, Warrington*,
Lead Fitness Course Tutors and Assessors, *The Training Room, Nationwide*,
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Assistant Development Officer (Active Lifestyles), *Active Sefton, Sefton*,
Development Officer (Active Lifestyles), *Active Sefton, Sefton*,
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Assistant Director of Sport & Physical Recreation, *University of Nottingham, Nottingham*,
Sales and Fitness Development Manager, *Inspire Leisure, West Sussex*,
Duty Manager, *Rolls-Royce Leisure, Derby*,
Assistant Manager Sales and Service, *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, North London*,
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Customer Service Supervisor (Reception), *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, London*,
Health and Recreation Manager, *Sharjah Golf and Shooting Club, Sharjah, United Arab Emirates*,
Senior Recreation Assistant, *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Various Locations*,
Spa Manager, *Renard Resources, London*,
Health and Fitness Manager, *The Hogarth Group, London*,
Student's Union - Activities Assistant Internship, *Bucks New University, Buckinghamshire*,
Duty Manager, *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Brixton, Swiss Cottage*,
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Personal Trainers, *Pure Gym Limited, Various locations, UK*,
Senior Netball Coach, *ESF Educational Services, Hong Kong, Hong Kong SAR*,
Duty Manager, *Cheltenham Borough Council, Cheltenham*,
Fitness Service Manager, *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, London*,
Spa Therapist, *Virgin Active, Edinburgh*,
Lifeguards, *Virgin Active, Nationwide*,
Operations Manager, *Daventry Active Ltd, Daventry*,
General Manager, *Renard Resources, Yorkshire*,
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Fit4Less Crew Member, *Énergie Group, Inverness*,
Operations and Attractions Manager, *Warwick Castle, Warwick*,
General Manager, *Emma Bridgewater Ltd, Stoke on Trent*,
Visitor Services and Enterprises Manager, *National Trust, Brownsea Island, Poole*,
Visitor Experience Manager, *National Trust, St Ives*,
Visitor Experience Consultant, *National Trust, Llandudno*,
Visitor Services and Enterprises Manager, *National Trust, Brownsea Island, Poole*,
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Duty Manager/Boys Games Coach, *Motcombe Park Sports Club, Dorset*,
Sports Activator, *Coventry University, Coventry*,
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Head Coaches, *Greenhouse Schools Project, East London*,
Sport and Recreation Director, *Bangor University, Bangor*,
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Assistant Leisure Club Manager, *Shire Hotels Ltd, Almondsbury, Bristol*,
Spa Manager, *Virgin Active, Mill Hill*,
Spa Manager - Maternity Cover, *Virgin Active, Chelmsford*,
Spa Receptionist, *Virgin Active, Various locations, UK*,
Assistant Spa Manager, *Virgin Active, Manchester - Didsbury*,
Spa Manager, *Turnberry Resort, Turnberry, Scotland*,
Spa Therapist, *Virgin Active, Various locations, UK*,
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Membership Sales advisors, *Énergie Group, Dudley*,
Sales Manager, *Énergie Group, Liverpool*,
Fitness Advisor (Full Time Position), *Énergie Group, Dundee*,
Lifeguard, *Virgin Active, Various locations, UK*,
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Membership Sales/ Prospector, *Énergie Group, Chesham*,
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Team member, *Énergie Group, Swindon*,
National Development M'ger, *StreetGames UK Ltd, London or Manchester*,
Assistant Manager Sales and Service, *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, City Of Westminster*,
Swimming Teacher, *Virgin Active, Various locations, UK*,
Assistant Manager Operations, *Greenwich Leisure Ltd, Westminster*,
Freelance Personal Trainer, *Reach Fitness, Cheltenham*,
Spa Manager, *The Baglioni Spa by SPC, Kensington, London*,
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Please send your CV to Michael Tietz, Rolls-Royce Leisure Fitness Centre, The Pavilion, Moor Lane, Derby, DE24 9HY or email to mike.tietz@rrleisure.co.uk

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The role of Health and Fitness Manager will also carry duty management responsibility, therefore an understanding of customer service excellence is required.

Candidates should send a CV and supporting letter to:
Terry Rodham, Group Health and Fitness Manager,
The Hogarth Health Club, Airedale Avenue,
Chiswick, London W4 2NW
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The successful candidate will have significant experience of managing and delivering results through relationships with funders, local, regional and national organisations.

The post will be subject to an enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check.

For an application pack, please email jobs@streetgames.org
For an informal discussion, please contact Mark Lawrie on 07506 720141.

Closing Date: Monday 8th August at 5.00 pm

Shortlisting: Week commencing 15th August

Interview Date: Thursday 8th September in Manchester.



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For further information please contact Keith Nicholls, Principal Recreation Manager on 01443 228538 for Hawthorn Leisure Centre and Hywel George, Principal Recreation Manager 01443 434093 for the post at Rhondda Sports Centre.

We encourage electronic applications, for further information please log on to: www.rhondda-cynon-taf.gov.uk/jobs or contact the Recruitment and Advertising Team on 01443 494019.

The deadline for receipt of applications is midday on 9 August 2011.

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CV's without a completed Application Form will not be accepted.

CLOSING DATE FOR APPLICATION: FRIDAY 12 AUGUST 2011

Major project planned for Edinburgh

A £30m redevelopment of the Royal Highland Centre and an International Business Gateway – with hotel and conference facilities – is to form part of a major new project.

The scheme will see an area surrounding Edinburgh Airport – branded Edinburgh International – turned into a global hub for international business and generate £4.4bn for the Scottish economy.

Plans to overhaul the Royal Highland Centre have already been given the green light and will build on the venue's current economic impact

of around £250m a year. The International Business Gateway will be built on land between the airport and the RBS headquarters, with the potential for a multi-use venue/arena.



A revamp of the Royal Highland Centre forms part of the overall plans

City of Edinburgh Council convener of economic development Tom Buchanan said: "This is the first step towards realising our vision for Edinburgh International."

£8m Grosvenor G Casino to open in Stockton

Rank Group has announced that a new £8m Grosvenor G Casino is to open in Stockton-on-Tees later this year, which is expected to create around 100 jobs for the local economy.

Facilities at the 21,000sq ft (1,951sq m) venue will comprise 13 gaming tables; 26 electronic

gaming terminals and 20 £4,000 jackpot slot machines, as well as a 100-seat poker room.

Elsewhere, The Lounge will be able to screen sporting events and the stage will host regular live entertainment. A 56-cover Gallery restaurant is also earmarked for the new casino.

JV to lead £100m Lichfield scheme

Development Securities has revealed that it has entered into a joint venture partnership with S Harrison Developments to drive forward the £100m Friarsgate scheme in Lichfield.

The 395,000sq ft (36,697sq m) mixed-use development is earmarked to incorporate a new hotel; a cinema; and office space, in addition to retail and residential units. It is scheduled to be completed in 2014.

Lichfield District Council has already awarded planning permission for the scheme, with the partnership in early talks with potential tenants. It has also confirmed that a funding partner will be sought in due course.

S Harrison Developments director David Clancy said: "The timing of the joint venture agreement couldn't be better. Market conditions are right and there is growing interest in prime schemes from investors."



The development will comprise a hotel and a cinema

Development Securities director Bradley Cassels added: "We are confident that we can deliver a prime retail asset that enhances the city's retail offer, revitalises the Birmingham Road area and ultimately meets the needs of the local community."

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