

SUPPORTING STATEMENTS

Kevin Proudfoot, Director Of Factory Operations at Gates (UK) said

"As one of Queen of the South FC's current sponsorship partners, Gates UK Ltd are delighted to see the clubs' plans for continued investment for Palmerston Park itself and surrounding areas. Queen of the South FC should already be commended for the work they are doing within Dumfries and surrounding areas on a daily basis.



The club have taken considerable steps forward over prior years with the redevelopment of the old Supermarket building into what is now known as The Queen of the South Arena. Amenities within are open to all members of the public, every day of the week. With this redevelopment creating The World of Sport, Recreation and Leisure Village it would enable the club to reach out to a wider audience making the Palmerston area a true hub of sport and community. As a company, we appreciate the commitment and forward thinking of Queen of the South FC and it substantiates our commitment in return to them through sponsorship."

Brian Kerr, Vice President at Arla Foods said

Arla Foods is an international dairy company owned by 12,000 farmers from Denmark, Sweden, UK, Germany, Belgium, Luxemburg and the Netherlands. Arla Foods is one of the strongest players in the international dairy arena, manufacturing a wide range of quality dairy brands such as Lurpak®, Castello® and Arla®. Their Vision is to create the future of dairy and to bring health and inspiration to the world, naturally.



Dumfries and Galloway is of significant importance to Arla as there are 1500 farmers within a 100 mile radius of Dumfries who supply six hundred million litres of milk per year. The manufacturing facilities process fresh milk, cheddar, butter, whey protein and permeate, mostly for major retailers and the foodservice industry. There are over 500 employees working directly for Arla in these facilities with many other service providers supplying parts and materials from this local area.

For many years Arla has worked directly with Queen of the South in support of their progression, and indeed have been key sponsors. It is evidently clear that the ambition of Queen Of the South to develop The World of Sport and Leisure for Dumfries and Galloway proves that they are taking the lead in their sector and within the community. Furthermore, they are an inspiration for other companies in the area in their demonstration of both environmental and social responsibility ensuring the development caters for many different needs and applications. The World of Sport ambition is aligned with the Arla Vision and therefore has the support of our business in progressing this development. I believe this development will improve the local economy and more importantly the health and well-being of the local population through ensuring key strategic retailers and suppliers are involved'.

Phil Prentice, Chief Officer of Scotland's Towns Partnership said,

"The redevelopment to create The World of Sport & Leisure for the Dumfries and Galloway region is a fantastic opportunity for the club, sport and town of Dumfries as well as the wider borderlands region. Dumfries is already the capital of south west Scotland and further strengthening the sports and leisure industries around the town is superb for Queen of the South and also for their future growth and aspirations.



This development would meet a number of identified needs; namely sports and leisure growth, educational links, summer schools, commercial and hospitality opportunities, events and seminars. In addition, it is respectful and fantastic way to mark the centenary of Queen of the South football club in 2019. The added economic vibrancy created by a rejuvenated Palmerston to be come a Sports Village would be beneficial both in social and economic terms for Dumfries and Galloway."



Dr Guy Beaumont, General Practitioner and Club Dr, NHS D&G said,

Increasing physical activity is one of Scotland's key National Indicators. 'The health benefits of a physically active lifestyle are well documented and there is plenty of evidence that regular activity is related to a reduced incidence of chronic conditions of particular concern in Scotland, such as cardiovascular disease, high blood pressure, obesity, and type 2 diabetes. There is also emerging evidence that physical activity delivers better outcomes for mild depression than prescribed medication. Physical activity is also associated with better health and cognitive function among older people. In 2008, the World Health Organisation (WHO) estimated that 3.2 million deaths per year could be attributed to low physical activity levels'. (www.gov.scot/performance)

Increasing the proportion of the population meeting physical activity levels has been a key legacy aspiration following the Commonwealth Games. A sedentary lifestyle is all too familiar nowadays what with busy work schedules and family life. Getting out into the fresh air and exercising can be both enjoyable and at the same time improve a person's physical and emotional wellbeing. As a family GP for the past 23yrs as well as being the club Dr for Queen of the South FC for the last 10 seasons, I strongly feel regular exercise is crucial to promoting a healthy lifestyle. This has major benefits to help control chronic conditions such as blood pressure, heart disease and especially diabetes, the incidence of which is increasing as the nation gets fatter. It also aids weight loss but on top of all this it just gives a general feel good factor both for young and old.

I fully endorse this initiative by Queen of the South FC and The World of sport to promote sport and health within Dumfries and the local area. The Leisure village is innovative and forward thinking concept which hopefully will create a more cohesive community, for the benefit of both the younger and older generations alike, now and in the future.

Carol Turnbull, Dumfries and Galloway College Principal said,

"Dumfries and Galloway College are encouraged and excited by the direction which Queen of the South are taking to develop sports and leisure, supporting the needs of the region. Participation in sport can develop a wide range of employability and life skills including:

- *Drive and determination to succeed*
- *Resilience to bounce back from defeat*
- *Team and problem-solving skills including reliability, accountability and trust*
- *Health and well being*
- *Setting goals and milestones to measure achievement*

That is why Dumfries and Galloway College recognises the importance of our collaboration with Queen of the South and supports the work they are undertaking to encourage sport across the region."

Brian Whittle, MSP said

"The World of Sport & Leisure that Queen of the South envision represents an exciting opportunity for Dumfries and Galloway; opening up sport and encouraging physical activity to people across the region.

Being physically active can bring real, long term benefits to an individual's physical and mental health. One of the biggest reasons for a lack of physical activity is a lack of opportunity to participate, often as a result of limited availability of facilities. While The World of Sport & Leisure project can undoubtedly bring economic benefits to the area, I believe its greatest contribution will be to the health of people across the Borders.

By offering not only a wide range of sport, but other attractions such as retail and restaurant facilities, The World of Sport & Leisure becomes a genuine destination which can hopefully attract not only those already keen to participate in sport but also their friends and family. In doing so, we bring more people closer to sport and, hopefully, closer to participating in future. I am delighted to be able to offer my support to this innovative project."

