

Concordat between **EAST LOTHIAN COUNCIL and ENJOY EAST LOTHIAN LIMITED**

Background

The principles in this Concordat will be used as the basis for a new partnership agreement between East Lothian Council ('the Council') and Enjoy East Lothian Limited ('**enjoy**'). We believe this framework will allow the Council and **enjoy** to work together towards developing better outcomes for the people of East Lothian:

- The flexibility to respond to the needs of our communities
- A greater sense of civic pride
- Working together to tackle issues like childhood obesity, community safety, economic regeneration and environmental sustainability

Partnership between the Council and **enjoy**

The essential ingredients of successful partnerships are a common vision, shared values, mutual respect, open and honest communication and a willingness to take shared risks. These core values, which include a commitment to social inclusion, community cohesion and equity are embedded in **enjoy** charitable objectives and Articles and Memorandum.

The Council recognises the vital role that leisure services can make to both individuals and communities in the County of East Lothian. With a thriving leisure sector, the Council and local strategic partners can achieve some of its wider objectives – safe communities that have a sense of vitality, identity and sense of purpose; providing opportunities for individuals to lead healthier lifestyles, have access to lifelong learning and a choice in personalised services.

Specifically the Council and **enjoy** wish to see a strong and thriving partner organisation contributing to the strategic development of the county and delivering value for money services which help to achieve the Council's objectives as embedded in the Community Plan.

The Council recognises that continuing investment in the leisure sector is needed for this aspiration to be realised, both in terms of infrastructure and ongoing costs. Together, the Council and **enjoy** will work in partnership towards optimising all sources of support.

The Council recognises that **enjoy** is an independent body with freedom to develop leisure services within the resources available, while remaining accountable to the people of East Lothian. The Council wishes to have a partner that is strong, successful, responsive and recognised for its achievements. **enjoy** needs freedom to grow and develop in a commercial environment in ways which are consistent with its charitable status.

enjoy, in turn, recognises that most of its revenue funding will be provided by the Council and that the Council has a key role in strategic leadership and commissioning – focusing on directing partnership activity towards securing service outcomes in new and imaginative ways.

The elected members of the Council and its officers will work with **enjoy** to develop an agreed accountability framework for measuring and assessing the impact of leisure services. **enjoy** will also work within a formal agreement that consistently recognises the Council in its branding within the geographical boundaries of the County of East Lothian.

The Council will take a lead role in commissioning for leisure – in particular around its Health and Wellbeing agenda – and will work with **enjoy** to identify strategic priorities and consider how these can best be addressed. **enjoy** will develop annual Business Plans which will be reviewed in conjunction with the Council in order to finalise the level of Community Services Funding required by **enjoy** to deliver agreed outcomes.

The skills and expertise of Elected/Board Members and staff in both **enjoy** and the Council will be shared to address issues of mutual concern including broad corporate or community issues.

enjoy will work both collaboratively and independently with local people, including young people and those with additional needs, in order to be sensitive to the needs of its customers. The **enjoy** Board incorporates community representation and there will also be a focus on co-operation with local public sector models of delivery.

Finally both partners agree to work in a spirit of partnership where values and a business like approach complement each other. Priorities and solutions will be planned together to achieve common aims.

Signed for and on behalf of said **East Lothian Council**



Alan J. Blackie Chief Executive

Musselburgh Sports Centre on Thursday 1 October 2009

Signed for and on behalf of said **Enjoy East Lothian Limited**



Stuart Currie Chair

Musselburgh Sports Centre on Thursday 1 October 2009