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OCS and Everton F.C. 'strike' five-year FM partnership to support new stadium

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<u>OCS</u>, a global leader in facilities management, has secured a 5-year contract to provide integrated facilities management services to Premier League football club <u>Everton Football Club</u> (F.C.).

Everton F.C., a founding member of the Football League (1888) and the Premier League (1992), currently competes in the top tier of English football. The club will move to its new Everton Stadium ahead of the 2025-26 season, which is situated at Bramley Moore Dock on the banks of the River Mersey. The stadium move is part of a wider regeneration of Liverpool's North Docks, and the area around the club's current home ground, Goodison Park, will be used for new affordable housing.

The partnership with Everton F.C. strengthens OCS' proven track record in football stadia and events. OCS will provide a complete facilities management solution to the club's new 52,888-capacity stadium.

The FM provider is working closely with Everton F.C to design and deliver a tailored FM solution using advanced technologies to increase safety and streamline efficiencies, including a new search and screen process. Cleaning operations will also benefit from technology such as cleaning robots to maximise productivity and support the maintenance of a clean environment.

When fully operational, OCS will deploy a team of up to 200 people for match day and core operations.

Bruce McDonnell –Private Sector Managing Director at OCS, commented: "We are delighted to partner with Everton F.C. We have seamless operations in some of the most iconic football stadiums in the UK and we have a proven track record in ensuring the safety and satisfaction of fans, players, and staff alike. We know that Everton's new stadium won't just be a football stadium, it will be a destination – for music, conferences and other events alike."

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McDonnell continues, "We want to embark on a transformative journey together with Everton F.C. We want to build something exceptional together, where innovation, community, and operational excellence converge. The future of Everton's facilities services starts here, with us."

Richard Kenyon – Chief Commercial and Communications Officer at Everton FC said, "We are pleased to welcome OCS as provider of facilities management at our new home.

"OCS, which becomes an Official Supplier of Everton Stadium, has a large global client base and a strong track record in facilities management which makes them an excellent partner for us.

"From our very early meetings, it was clear that they are not only committed to the highest of standards but were also very keen to make a significant impact in our community, and this is reflected by the commitments they have made to Everton in the Community over the course of the agreement.

"We're excited to work alongside OCS to bring these community initiatives to life over the coming years and to see them play their part in delivering exceptional fan and visitor experiences in our new home."

In addition to the facilities management services, OCS will work closely with the Premier League club's ESG strategies and Everton in the Community programme.

OCS will deliver a full Carbon Impact Assessment to the club and will incorporate sustainable practices into the operation of the new stadium, aligning with Everton on its commitment to reduce its carbon footprint. OCS will create ESG champion roles to ensure social value commitments are met. OCS' ESG champions help deliver the business' commitments around social value, helping benefit local communities with a strong footprint based on recruitment, training and development.

Everton in the Community provides life-changing opportunities, particularly for young people, aiming to give them a fresh start in life and opportunities to grow and develop. OCS will collaborate with Everton in the Community to create employment opportunities for local residents, particularly targeting vulnerable individuals.

The partnership aims to recruit approximately 200 staff members for match days, with a focus on sustainable long-term employment and skill development. Additionally, the FM provider will participate in community recruitment events to ensure ongoing engagement and support for local job seekers beyond initial hiring needs.

Jonny Young, Sector Managing Director – Venues at OCS said: "Everton in the Community is at the forefront of Football Club Social Value within the English football leagues. We are operating hand in glove throughout the recruitment, onboarding, and training of colleagues to improve the lives and communities associated in and around Everton Football Club. We are committed to recruiting locally, providing opportunities for all."