MPs flying the chequered flag for MK

As a Milton Keynes-based Formula 1 team celebrates victory in the F1 constructors' championship, two MPs are taking to the track to prove that their city is in poll position.

After Red Bull's milestone, Mark Lancaster and Iain Stewart are continuing the racing theme by visiting â€“ and getting behind the wheel themselves â€“ at nearby Daytona.

In fact, the two politicians, who plan to go head to head at the popular go-karting track, want to use it as a chance to shout about Milton Keynes as a 'city in the fast lane'.

The respective members for Milton Keynes North and Milton Keynes South are determined to ensure it is recognised nationally for its uniqueness â€“ not just concrete cows and roundabouts.

For example they are calling for a broadband strategy for the city, campaigning for city status, ensuring sufficient infrastructure is in place for such a fast-growing area, and preserving the celebrated grid road system.

Mr Lancaster said: "Milton Keynes is now on the map for its motor racing credentials, and it would be fantastic to think that Red Bull's success will inspire children locally to take up the sport. After all, champions like Lewis Hamilton and Jenson Button started off karting at places like Daytona, so it is a pleasure for us to come and see this facility ourselves. Yet more for our city to shout about."

Mr Stewart said: "With the success of Red Bull and great facilities like Daytona, we have a really strong racing industry here. Building on the traditions of the Open University and Bletchley Park, they show that Milton Keynes is a leading centre of innovation and research."

According to Daytona Milton Keynes general manager Mike Yau: "We are delighted to be hosting our two local MPs and especially pleased that they have chosen Daytona to make important announcements about our new city. I am certain they will have a brilliant and exciting time here and look forward to the result of what may well be a very hard fought race!"

For more information call 01908 686830.