Keith Watson joins Hibs on loan from Dundee United

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Keith Watson has joined Hibs on loan from Dundee United until the end of the season.

The 25 year-old right-back will immediately provide the team with extra defensive options with Callum Booth moving to Partick Thistle on loan and David Gray recovering from injury.

Speaking to hibernianfc.co.uk, Watson said: "I'm really pleased to sign for Hibernian on loan — it's a great opportunity for me and I'm excited about the future.

"I know a few of the Hibs players – Scott Allan, Scott Robertson and Farid El Alagui – from my time at United and they've all spoken very highly of the manager and the set-up here.

"I've been really impressed with the progress that has been made so far this season and I'm looking forward to being a part of it.

"After experiencing a few set-backs with injuries over the years, I now want to kick-on, play regularly and help the team to achieve promotion."

Head Coach Alan Stubbs welcomed the news and believes Watson will bring added quality to the squad.

Stubbs said: "We're delighted to have secured Keith's services until the end of the season — his arrival will bring further quality to the squad and provide greater competition for places.

"Keith will give us an option at both right-back and centre-

half — bringing greater balance to the defence and ultimately strengthening the group.

"That is an area that we were looking to strengthen and bringing Keith in on loan has effectively done that.

"I would like to thank Jackie (McNamara) and Dundee United for allowing us to make this happen."

Watson is expected to be available for Saturday's Scottish Championship match against Raith Rovers at Easter Road (31 January, kick off 3pm).