

James Keatings hopes to spend next season at Easter Road



James Keatings hopes to remain at Easter Road and play for the club in the top flight next season.

Remarkably Keatings has won his third promotion in the last four years, having gone up with Hamilton and Hearts before his move across the city.

The form of top scorer Jason Cummings has limited his game time and Neil Lennon has used him mainly in midfield but he maintains that his favoured position is as a striker.

The former Celtic youth player started up front in a much changed Hibs side against Raith Rovers and grabbed a double to secure the three points and after the game he revealed that a number of teams have shown interest but staying with Hibs would be his first choice.

He said: "You never know what's ahead, I've got my offer here and there are other teams that have showed interest as well. I want to stay here, I'm happy and I would be delighted to sign tomorrow morning so we'll see what happens.

"It's not something you jump at, you need to think about your personal stuff and what's best for you. I'm loving my time here, the last two seasons have been amazing and I don't want to look elsewhere. I'm sitting with my contract first, other teams have shown interest but I'm delighted to have the offer from Hibs and I'm hoping I'll still be here."

"Ask any player, they want to play week-in, week-out. No player wants to settle for sitting on the bench, that's the most frustrating bit.

"You want to be a big part of the success and this season I've played a part although I wish I could have played more. At the start of the season when I was in the team I was doing well but then I got an injury and it killed my season after that."

"I've always said I'm a striker. I managed to get a chance and I was happy knowing I would be in my position, and I managed to grab two goals so I'm delighted,"