



What are the benefits of serviced office space?

BY CHARLOTTE WATSON

There's no denying the office space arena has seen a significant decline since the start of the coronavirus pandemic in March with some office providers continuing to see the effects.

The ongoing pandemic has forced businesses to adapt and to change their ways of working to overcome the challenges faced, in ways we weren't expecting, including; increased remote working, more social distancing in the workplace, as well as an understanding need to manage costs.

You might be a brand-new start-up or a well-established organisation, but serviced offices can meet the needs of businesses of a variety of shapes and sizes, they can provide you with a workplace of the size you need for the present, but also the opportunity to grow and expand as economic conditions allow.

As well as this, you get all the additional benefits that come with serviced offices, including; manned reception, kitchen areas (used in line with COVID restrictions) and furnished offices.

Offices remain vitally important to businesses, but the way we use and when we access them might change, meaning the need for flexibility is key to serviced offices.

Flexibility being one of the main benefits Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce prides itself on when promoting its serviced office space in the uphill area of Lincoln.

Here to tell us a bit more about serviced offices and the benefits it can offer is Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce Reception and Facilities Co-ordinator, Kathy Ball.

Kathy, tell us about the benefits of having a managed office tenancy at Commerce House?

Flexible Offering

The way we work has changed and will continue to change as we go forward, technology is continually advancing and so with it comes the need to be even more flexible and adapt to the new lifestyles and flexible working patterns.

The way we approach Commerce House is to offer our space in a flexible way, due to COVID we are able to offer short-term leases for businesses who are looking to take shorter, temporary tenancies, while their business recovers from the impacts of the



pandemic or a business that might need space to work on a project for a set period and allow for flexibility in moving office in a growth period or downsizing exercise.

We also offer the option for our tenants to decorate their office in a way that suits them, including painting walls and showcasing your company through branded wall art, as an example.

Cost Effective Solution

During a time where the economy is so uncertain and businesses are more tightly managing budgets, serviced offices allow you to save on the expenses as everything is condensed into one monthly bill with no hidden costs, including; heating, electricity, superfast broadband, office cleaning, maintenance, any furniture you may require and much more.

Increased Productivity

Serviced offices take away the headaches of budgeting for office essentials and allow for more time to focus on the important things, such as your business.

Also considering the social aspect, some people often say they are more productive when working around others and a serviced office space provides that environment for you

and your team to connect and collaborate.

Enhancing your Network

Commerce House is home to other local businesses meaning you get the chance to meet others and widen your network. There may also be opportunities to collaborate with businesses on projects, win a new client, either way it's a win win.

Additional Perks

- Location, location, location – situated in the Uphill area of Lincoln
- Ample free parking for you, your staff and your visitors
- Additional administration services, including printing, photocopying and other admin support
- Storage

Who benefits the most from serviced office space?

Everyone! It really does depend on your business need, but businesses in any sector can apply for a tenancy.

For instance, businesses in our building currently are in all sorts of different sectors such as healthcare, financial, recruitment, IT, and a few charities.

As for the size of the business, our room

sizes can vary from a one-person room to a six-person room, so it all depends on your personal requirements and how many people you need.

I don't want a physical office, what other services do you offer?

Adapting to current business challenges, we recognise the increase of homeworking has meant a growth in businesses requiring virtual tenancy.

You can work from anywhere, whether that's your kitchen table or garage, but to all intents and purposes, outsiders will think you have your own office as you'll have a registered office address.

I will take all your phone calls and will answer the phone with your company name, so it looks like you have a receptionist in situ within your building.

I will also accept your mail and let you know when it arrives and keep it safe until you can collect, or we can post it to you – whatever works best for you.

This service makes your business look very professional, at a fraction of the cost of owning your own building and hiring permanent staff.

How does a business go about booking a meeting room?

We have two meeting rooms available for hire.

Our small meeting room can seat six people (or three with current COVID restrictions in place) and has a TV screen to connect to your laptop for presentations, a flipchart with markers, and Wi-Fi all included in the price of hire.

Our large board room on the top floor of the building has panoramic views of the city and can accommodate 30 people around the board room table (or 12 with current COVID restrictions in place).

The table also has several plug points so attendees can make use of their own devices. There's also a flipchart, whiteboard, projector and superfast Wi-Fi included in the hire fee.

These rooms can be hired on an hourly, half day or full day basis. The rates vary for members and non-members, and start from as little as £10 an hour. Meeting rooms can be booked very easily either via phone on 01522 523333, email enquiries@lincs-chamber.co.uk or you can fill out our online form on the website.

Lincolnshire councils join together for warmer homes

Lincs 4 Warmer Homes (L4WH) is a new partnership between local authorities across Greater Lincolnshire, offering energy efficiency improvements and advice.

L4WH will replace the former South Humber Energy Efficiency Partnership by North East Lincolnshire Council and North Lincolnshire Council, with the addition of Lincolnshire County Council and the seven district councils.

The new partnership secures funding available to eligible residents and works alongside contractors to deliver energy efficiency improvements to assist those living in fuel poverty, in saving money and reducing energy usage.

In the first of a number of funding streams available to residents, households can get their heating facilities changed through National Grid's £150m Warm Homes Fund, a programme administered by Community Interest Company, Affordable Warmth Solutions and only available through local authorities and registered social landlords.

Residents in receipt of certain income related benefits and that rely on storage heaters, fixed and/or portable room heaters and solid fuel fires could upgrade to A-rated gas central heating or, where mains gas is not an option, LPG will be offered - subject to survey to determine eligibility and acceptance by the installer. Funding is limited and will be released on a first come first served basis.

In some instances, a connection to the mains gas network will be required to help residents access gas for the first time, with additional funding available to cover connection costs.

L4WH is administered by North East Lincolnshire Council's regeneration partner, ENGIE, for all ten local authorities. North Lincolnshire Council is responsible for delivering the Warm Homes Fund.

If you believe you could benefit from a central heating system and may meet the eligibility criteria contact the L4WH Team.

To contact Lincs 4 Warmer Homes visit www.l4wh.co.uk, call 01472 326434 or email l4wh@nelincs.gov.uk.

Go ahead given for North Parade development

The redevelopment of North Parade in Gainsborough has been given the final sign off to go ahead.

Social housing provider Acis Group were granted permission in May to demolish and redevelop the North Parade area of the town which has become derelict and a hotbed for antisocial behaviour in recent years.

And now, the redevelopment work can begin after funders Homes England gave the green light.

The area was demolished during the summer - a little earlier than Acis planned due to fire causing the buildings to become too unsafe to be left standing.

Acis Group, which owns and manages more than 7,000 homes across the East Midlands, Yorkshire and the Humber, will bring 27 new family homes to the area. The homes will range from two, three and four-bed properties available for rent and shared ownership.

Work on the development will begin at the end of November with the first homes being available in



December 2021.

Rob Main, Head of Property Development at Acis said: "I'm pleased that this part of our regeneration plans in Gainsborough can now begin.

"This is part of our continued commitment to developing new quality, affordable homes."

The homes will be built by Vistry Partnerships Yorkshire and will provide much needed regeneration

on the site alongside the homes built on neighbouring John Jenkinson Close in 2008.

Andy Coates, Construction Director at Vistry Partnerships Yorkshire said: "We're delighted to be starting our third development with Acis, delivering high-quality, family homes and playing our part in the transformation of the area."

For more information, visit www.acisgroup.co.uk



Chamber Christmas Charity Raffle



Chamber organises online charity raffle

Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce are organising a virtual Chamber Christmas Charity Raffle to raise much-needed funds for its 2020 charity of the year, Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance.

Businesses across Lincolnshire have donated prizes which you can be in with a chance of winning by entering the raffle for just £10 per go.

Lincs & Notts Air Ambulance are a local charity, which receives no government funding and relies on fundraising, volunteering and donations to keep their helicopter

flying every day and are just one charity which has been hit hard by the coronavirus pandemic.

The draw will take place on Zoom and broadcasted live on Chamber's Facebook page on Thursday 10th December from 2.45pm.

We'd love for as many Lincolnshire businesses as possible to get involved, so drum up interest in your workplace by spreading the word and getting your raffle tickets via the Chamber website!

Businesses buy a ticket at £10

per go. There is no limit to how many tickets you can buy so enter as many times as you want, just purchase more than one ticket at the checkout. The more tickets you buy the higher chance you have of winning a prize.

It will cost £6 million this year to keep the ambulance operational - a huge sum, but we can help! Every penny of every raffle ticket you buy goes straight to the charity to support their fantastic work.

To purchase yours visit: www.lincs-chamber.co.uk/events/christmas-charity-raffle

Government extends £1m tax break

Businesses, including manufacturing firms, can continue to claim up to £1 million in same-year tax relief through the Annual Investment Allowance (AIA) for capital investments in plant and machinery assets until 1 January 2022. The extension of the temporary £1 million cap was originally due to revert to £200,000 on 1 January 2021.

This move is intended to boost confidence as companies look to weather the pandemic and plan for the future.

The government is also delivering on its commitment to help protect UK taxpayers through clamping down on promoters of tax avoidance schemes.

In spring 2021 the government will consult on:

- making UK partners equally responsible for the anti-avoidance regime penalties incurred by offshore promoters
- giving taxpayers more information on the products sold to them by promoters
- ensuring promoters face quick and significant financial consequences for promoting tax avoidance so they do not continue to profit while HMRC investigates them
- providing HMRC with additional powers to shut down promoters that continue to promote schemes and to stop them from setting up similar businesses

The government has announced it will launch a consultation on a proposal to require advisers to hold professional indemnity insurance, giving taxpayers greater recourse against bad tax advice.

The government is also publishing draft legislation for Plastic Packaging Tax, as originally announced at Budget 2018. This tax will be £200 per tonne for plastic packaging that contains less than 30% recycled plastic and will come into effect from April 2022.

Further publications include a consultation response and technical guidance on the tax impacts arising from the withdrawal of the London Inter-Bank Offered Rate (LIBOR) and a consultation on the design for Making Tax Digital for Corporation Tax.

Work with students to tackle digital challenges

The Covid-19 pandemic has provided a catalyst for digital transformation, with many businesses forced to find alternative ways of delivering goods and services. The imperative for businesses to adopt digital technology in order to compete, innovate and grow, has never been stronger. In response to this, the University of Lincoln's International Business School is recruiting SMEs in Greater Lincolnshire to work students on their "UoL4.0 Challenge" to tackle the digital challenges facing their businesses.

How does it work?

The UoL4.0 Challenge pairs teams

of Operations Management students with local businesses to explore how the use of technology could lead to the development of new commercial ideas and ways of interacting with customers and suppliers. The students identify how this could be addressed, with a focus on digital solutions, and present their ideas back to the relevant business. There is a limited time commitment from the business, and all engagement with the students is now online. From the businesses' point of view, it provides a fresh perspective on operations, injects new ideas to consider, and provides an opportunity

to collaborate with the University and support students. Businesses will also have access to an advisor from the Business Lincolnshire Growth Hub to help implement solutions.

Local consultancy business ISPB took part in UoL4.0 Challenge in 2019/20. "ISPB is a micro business so wouldn't normally have the capacity to host a graduate engagement but the UoL 4.0 was an ideal way to get involved," comments Director, Nick Mellors. "The students worked on a real-life question that we were exploring at the time in the 5G Connected Forest project, giving us some interesting insights and

perspectives which we wouldn't have had otherwise. All in all, a positive experience that I hope we will repeat again in 2021."

How do businesses take part?

If you are an SME in the region and are interested in taking part in the next cohort, starting January 2021, please get in touch with Liz Price (lprice@lincoln.ac.uk) or Herbert Mapfairs (hmapfairs@lincoln.ac.uk) from the Lincoln International Business School. This project is part-funded through European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and eligibility criteria for participation will apply.

Bransby Horses says sad goodbye to Sponsorship Star

Bransby Horses, one of the UK's largest equine welfare and rescue charities, has said a sad goodbye to one of its most-popular and well-known equines, Twiggy the Shetland pony.

Twiggy, a black Shetland aged 20, had been living in the care of Bransby Horses since 2002, when she was rescued by the charity after being found injured and foaling at the side of a road.

While her foal sadly couldn't be saved, Twiggy received life-saving veterinary treatment and went on to spend a further 18 happy years in the charity's care, becoming a firm favourite with visitors and staff alike thanks to her often mischievous and cheeky behaviour.

She proved so popular, she was made a Sponsorship Star, that

supporters could sponsor for £36 a year to help with her care, and that of her fellow 336 equines at the charity's two sites.

As Twiggy grew older her health deteriorated and, at the end of last year, it became apparent that she was suffering from a number of age-related dental issues, with several large gaps, known as diastemata, forming between her teeth and trapping decaying food.

Sadly, despite receiving the very best care from Bransby Horses' expert team, including regular dental treatments, her dental issues steadily deteriorated over 2020.

At an assessment in September, it was clear that Twiggy's dental issues were no longer responding to treatment, and there were concerns that the pain relief she was being



Twiggy

given wasn't having the desired effect.

Following this, and in the knowledge that Twiggy would struggle to cope this winter due to her dental disease making it difficult

to chew hay, the charity made the difficult decision to euthanise her.

Michelle Craven, Team Leader (Visitor Centre) at Bransby Horses, says: "Having spent so much time with Twiggy over the years, it breaks my heart that she's no longer with us.

"It fills me with happiness, however, to know that, thanks to the public's generosity, we were able to provide Twiggy with 18 years of love and care, ensuring she lived the most comfortable and happy life possible while she was with us."

Ahead of winter, Bransby Horses is also taking the opportunity to remind owners of the importance of proper dental care for horses.

To sponsor a horse, pony or donkey visit: bransbyhorses.co.uk/sponsor-a-horse

Boston College to receive £182,976 funding

Boston college will receive funding towards the equipment needed to facilitate the new Digital, Transport and Logistics Academy (the DTLA). The DTLA will provide courses which focus on developing port and transport skills, highlighting the importance of digital technology solutions for the sector, such as transport and plant machinery maintenance, operations, fork lift truck driving, stevedoring, leadership and management.

Boston College has identified the essential equipment required and this will accelerate the support for skills and employment not just for our young people but also adult learners, many who may need to retrain as



a consequence of the impact of Covid19 on the employment market. The acquisition of the equipment and services would enable the full completion of the DTLA.

Boston Borough Council applied to gain accelerated funding from the

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government earlier in the year, this is to be used to support capital projects that will drive jobs growth, create further investment and the ability to look to build a stronger and more resilient economy

for all our communities has been accepted. One of the projects to gain from this funding is the equipment for the DTLA.

Principal and Chief Executive at Boston College, Claire Foster said: "I am excited to be leading an organisation that is fully committed to supporting the life chances of young people, enabling them to reach their full potential, particularly during and after such challenging times.

"It is reassuring to know the Government see the huge importance in investing in young people and jobs, to ensure they have the right skills and employment to protect all our futures."

Appointments reinforcing firm's regional foothold

Forrester Boyd is delighted to celebrate the promotion of three more members of its staff.

Amy Greensmith has been promoted to manager, with Lauren Johnson and Matthew Hotham appointed as assistant managers.

This year celebrating its 85th anniversary and following an eventful year so far with the acquisition of Graybrowne in Hull and welcoming 9 new partners to the fore, Forrester Boyd is proud to see three more of its homegrown talent rising through the ranks.

Amy Greensmith, appointed as a manager at the firm's Beverley office joined the firm back in 2009 as a graduate trainee accountant. Her career began in Grimsby with 2015 seeing her relocate to the Beverley office. Amy qualified as a chartered accountant in 2019 after previously studying at the York University where she gained a 2:1 degree in Economics and Mathematics.

Staying at the Beverley office, Lauren Johnson takes on the role of assistant manager. She joined the firm in 2011, again as a trainee based in the Grimsby office. In 2016 she moved to the Beverley office where she completed her final exams becoming a chartered accountant in the August.

Across the water, Matthew Hotham is delighted to be appointed assistant manager at the firms Louth office. Another product of the Forrester Boyd trainee accountancy programme, Matthew joined the Louth office in 2005. He qualified as an accountant in 2013 and has taken on a portfolio of clients working with small businesses across a broad range of sectors. Although located in the Louth office, Matthew also supports clients at the Skegness office.

Forrester Boyd is proud of its trainee accountancy programme. Most of the firm's 18 partners have come through the trainee accountancy route.

Philip George, partner in the Louth office with responsibility for HR across the firm, said, "I am so pleased to see our homegrown talent rising through the ranks.

"I began my career path on the trainee accountancy programme with Forrester Boyd and it is evident that the opportunities available for career progression are second to none."

Businesses are taking back control with smart meters

National restrictions continue to significantly affect businesses across the country and there is an enormous pressure on their financial situation.

Businesses may be juggling reduced income whilst navigating new income streams such as various government support measures. They might be facing unexpected expenditure on PPE and the cost of making their business Covid secure.

As such, it is extremely challenging to budget month to month; something which is especially true for smaller businesses, who may already be operating with limited cash flow.

Take control with a smart meter

More than ever, the battle to keep control of company outgoings is crucial if they are to survive in this tough climate. A straightforward place to start in this battle is a universal cost and key expense: energy bills.

While every business receives regular energy bills, the vast majority don't track how - and where - they are using their gas and electricity.

A proactive way of taking back control of this expense is by installing a smart meter, to show exactly how much energy is being used in real time.

Only pay for the energy you use

Another key benefit of smart meters is that businesses get billed exactly for the energy they use. Unless very regular meter updates are provided, bills generated without the input of smart meters are estimated, based on the usage from a previous period.

If businesses have temporarily closed or furloughed some of their teams, this could be hugely damaging as they would be paying for energy they haven't used yet, and might not use for several weeks, potentially making a big dent in their already fragile cash flow.

Don't miss this opportunity

A smart meter is a positive step in taking control of business outgoings and if your firm has 10 employees or less your business could be eligible.

To see whether smart metering can work for your business, contact your energy supplier. It could be one of the best calls you make this week.

Ex Porton Down consultant joins PP-L Health Technology Solutions

Dr Rhys Thomas has joined an East Midlands based health-tech firm that helps organisations manage and reduce the transmission of Covid-19.

Earlier this year, Dr Thomas invented one of the only two devices to have succeeded in the Government's Covid Emergency Ventilator Challenge, winning approval by the MHRA (Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency). The device is about to complete its medical trials in the UK and overseas, so it can be used to support ICUs this winter.

Previously, he worked at the government's Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) Porton Down which carries out research into chemical weapons and deadly diseases. He has also served as a consultant anaesthetist in the British Army and the NHS, where he continues to treat coronavirus patients in UK hospitals.

Joining PP-L Health Technology Solutions as Chief Medical and Scientific Officer, Dr Thomas is determined to help organisations to prevent the airborne transmission of Covid-19.

PP-L Health Technology Solutions was founded in Lincolnshire this year by Chartered Engineer Paul Waldeck. The company aims to help organisations prevent the spread of Covid-19 through their operations and to protect them from future disease outbreaks. PP-L designs,



Dr Rhys Thomas

specifies and installs proven solutions from world leading manufacturers to eliminate pathogens in a range of environments.

Upon joining PP-L, Dr Thomas co-authored an open letter to all Westminster MPs, calling for urgent changes to the government's Covid-secure guidance to prevent airborne transmission.

Dr Rhys Thomas and Paul Waldeck argue that while all occupied indoor environments would benefit from the use of this technology, this could be especially useful in cool, indoor environments with poor ventilation in which the virus can spread more easily.

To find out more about PP-L health Technology Solutions, visit www.pplpro.co.uk.



Explore magical secret gardens at Doddington Hall this Christmas

Doddington Hall & Gardens is bringing a little bit of magic to families in Lincolnshire this Christmas with a spectacular 'Secret Gardens' experience and seasonal fun once the lockdown period ends.

Christmas at Doddington will include everyone's favourite festive traditions, from choosing a freshly-cut Christmas tree from the Doddington Estate to exploring the Elizabethan Hall, so families can enjoy a special day out and safely celebrate the most wonderful time of the year.

The magnificent manor house will be transformed to reflect this year's theme, 'Secret Gardens', which is inspired by Doddington Hall's spectacular walled and wild gardens. B

Visitors will explore Doddington Hall's magical Secret Gardens using a one way system. Face coverings must be worn at all times, social distancing must be adhered to and hand sanitiser will be available throughout.

Christmas at Doddington Hall & Gardens will be celebrated until 23rd December.

Admission to the hall is £15 for adults and £7 for children, with free entry for children under four. Booking is essential and entry is by pre-booked, timed tickets only, please visit doddingtonhall.com.

Doddington Hall & Gardens has also brought back its popular Farm Shop Chat + Collect service to serve the local community during the latest national coronavirus lockdown.

Fresh fruit and veg, locally sourced meat, frozen meals, bread, flour, tinned goods, drinks and more Farm Shop favourites can be ordered and paid for over the phone by calling 01522 688581. The phone line is open 9.30am-3.30pm daily with collection slots available Monday-Friday.

Freshly-cut Doddington Christmas trees will be available via a new Click + Collect service from 10 November with collections starting from 25 November. The Christmas Tree Yard will open from 27 November to fulfil the popular family tradition of choosing the perfect Doddington tree.

To find out more, please visit www.doddingtonhall.com

Consolidate and build for the future

After coming through the toughest trading times many manufacturers have seen, now is a time to take stock and plan for what is to come. Matthew McSharry of insight4business, explains how.

The last year has been one of the most unsettled and unpredictable any of us have ever known. For many, it will have left them feeling drained, fraught and in need of a rest.

However, now could be the best time to dust yourself down, and truly understand where your business is. It's a great opportunity to review and assess your strengths and weaknesses. When was the last time you analysed this?

Once you've taken an honest look, the next step is to understand where your improvement areas are. For example, is your operation as efficient as it can be? Are your processes lean and free from wasted time and motion? Could considering automation, rethinking behaviour and step-change be a way to become more efficient or productive?

In other areas, are your paper-based, digital and information systems flowing freely and working with one another? Are your raw material stocks where they should be and are your supply chains ready for the post-Brexit and

post-Covid future? The changes that are set to come from both are myriad.

Think about your own goals too; do you know exactly where you are against your key performance indicators? Could you redraw your own path to success?

The more you think about this kind of analytic and self-honesty, the more achievable real change can be. It would be easy to look at 2020 and cast it aside as a write-off in terms of development, but there is still success to be had if you can turn around your own doubt.

To get started, consider the basic scientifically-proven PDSA cycle. Standing for Plan, Do, Study, Act - it sets out a methodical way to improve. Plan out a change, set it in motion, chart its effectiveness and then apply the parts that work to your model as you move forward. It sounds simple, but can work wonders, especially in the tight-margined world of manufacturing.

Training, processes and continuous improvement may have all taken a knock this year, but there's still hope. Why not sit down with a blank sheet today and start your consolidation process. This might be a way for the fog of 2020 to finally begin to clear.

Witham Group wins award for Innovation in sustainability

Local family run business, The Witham Group, has won a sustainability award for its innovative new lubricant blending solution.

Then Lincolnshire based lubricant and paint manufacturer beat off stiff competition at the Lincolnshire Technology and Innovation awards, winning up the 'Innovation for Sustainability Award' for its impressive environmental credentials and in particular its new unique blending solution Blendtek.

As manufacturers of a huge range of different viscosity lubricants, this new blending technique enables the Witham Group to blend thousands of tonnes of products using solar panels and a simple 13amp plug, saving time, energy and drastically reducing their carbon footprint.

To blend 10 tonnes of product now takes less than half an hour and previously the same blend would



have taken several hours to complete.

Since 2016, the company has saved over 19,500 tonnes of carbon - which equates to heating over 107 homes in the UK for a year.

Nigel R Bottom, Witham Group

MD, commented: "Our objective is to become the first global lubricant manufacturer that has a carbon neutral footprint for its blending process. We are extremely proud to have developed a unique



blending system based on the use of ultrasound technology. This new process removes the need for base oils and product formulas to be heated up for long periods of time using traditional gas energy."

The Witham Group are hoping to roll out the new Blendtek ultrasound technology to other businesses to help them become more energy efficient and sustainable.

For more information about Blendtek UltraSound Oil Blending Solutions visit the website: blendteksolutions.co.uk

News from Ringrose Law

Ringrose Law are delighted to announce that Sunil Khanna, Head of Criminal Law Department has been appointed a Crown Court Recorder (part time Crown Court Judge).

Sunil, who has been practising Criminal Law for over 25 years, started the rigorous selection process in July 2019.

Sunil will be sitting up to 30 days a year on the Midland Circuit.

Also congratulations to Richard Teare, Solicitor and Partner, who has been shortlisted for the Claimant Lawyer of the Year Award at the 2020 Personal Injury Awards, only Lawyer in the East Midlands in his category.

For over 15 years Richard has helped accident victims and families recover compensation for clinical negligence and personal injuries. He specialises in complex high value claims but is a strong advocate for the under-dog and has also acted successfully in lower value claims of importance to the individual.

This year there will be a virtual award ceremony taking place on Tuesday 1st December, where all award winners will be announced. For further details go to <https://www.claimsmag.co.uk/personal-injury-awards>

Saving thousands for councils

Two Lincolnshire councils have already identified thousands of pounds in savings having formed a Strategic Alliance earlier in the year.

Finalised in July 2020, the Strategic Alliance between Boston Borough and East Lindsey District Councils sees both organisations share a joint Chief Executive and Corporate Management Team; both councils are also working to merge their respective workforces over the coming months and years, with a number teams already collaborating in many areas of the organisation.

When plans for the Alliance were announced earlier in the year, the councils stated that the ambitious plans would see them save a total of £15.4m over ten years and, after little more than three months, the Alliance has already identified £600,000 of ongoing savings

A further £1.2m of savings are expected to be achieved in 2021/ 22, meaning the Alliance is well on track to hit the £15m target.

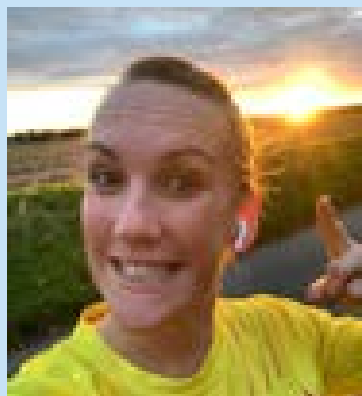
Visual Print and Design smashes target for LIVES

Throughout October, the team at Visual Print and Design, a Lincoln-based print and design company, took on a challenge to each run, walk or cycle 50 miles for LIVES to help celebrate its 50th anniversary.

The '50 Miles for 50 Years Of LIVES' fundraiser had a set target of £500 but in the end, the team were able to surpass their target raising £700 thanks to 47 generous supporters.

Taking part in the challenge was Graham Hunstone, Scott Jones, Charlie Hartley, Sarah Lawrence and Rachael Hunt, who each ran, walked or cycled across Lincolnshire throughout the month and were all able to hit the goal of 50 miles.

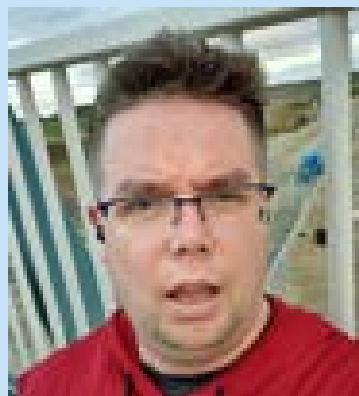
Scott Jones, Head of Operations



Sally Lawrence

at Visual Print and Design said:

"We're delighted to have been able to raise £700 for LIVES as part of our 50 Miles for 50 Years of LIVES challenge. We hope this



Scott Jones

money can help them continue to do the amazing work they do every single day. Thank you to everyone who donated and helped us smash our target."

LIVES are a Lincolnshire-based emergency first response charity who work to attend 999 medical emergencies around the county.

The team is made up of volunteer Community First Responders and Medics, and the charity needs over £1.4 million a year to ensure they can keep their volunteers on the road delivering vital first response action.

Gemma Shaw, Head of Fundraising and Communications said:

"LIVES depend on support just like this, so we can be there on someone's worst day. A huge thank you to the team at Visual Print and Design who really HAVE gone the extra mile to support our vital charity. When a 999 call is made, and a LIVES Emergency Responder is on scene, every penny raised, has helped them be there."

Give a child a gift this Christmas with Action Trust

This Christmas Lincolnshire Action Trust (LAT) is asking individuals and businesses to consider donating, or contributing towards, respite activities and experience days for children who are affected by a relative's substance use.

The charity is currently providing support, guidance and encouragement for over 30 young people in Lincolnshire aged five to 18 years through its Young Oasis project.

During the school holidays, the charity runs respite activities to give young people an opportunity

to meet others who are in a similar situation and reduce the isolation they feel, which often worsens over the Christmas period.

Kim Thompson, Senior Practitioner at Young Oasis, said: "We're hoping that with the generous support from the local community, we'll be able to give our young people an opportunity to choose how they would like to spend some of their time in the school holidays.

"Gifting them a day out will help them to realise that they are not alone and to meet others who may be in a similar situation. It also gives

them a chance to have fun!"

The team at LAT is planning to gift each of the children an activity or experience they can enjoy during the school holidays or in the New Year but is reliant on donations to do so.

Activities and experiences which the charity is appealing for donations towards include activity centres, meals out, cinema tickets, wildlife parks, crazy golf, bowling, trampoline parks, laser tag, seaside visits, nail vouchers, craft days, picnics and shopping vouchers.

Kim added: "Gifting days out and experience vouchers to young people

in need allows them to have the same opportunities as their peers, which is often just having fun and enjoying the school holidays."

LAT's Christmas campaign has been running successfully for the last three years.

Anyone interested in donating an experience or activity day can contact Debbie Harris at Lincolnshire Action Trust on 01522 806611 or by emailing hello@latcharity.org.uk.

The team asks that donations be provided by Monday 14th December so that volunteers and staff have enough time for distribution.

Pico Financial
picofinancialplanning.co.uk

Air Compliance
www.aircomplianceuk.com

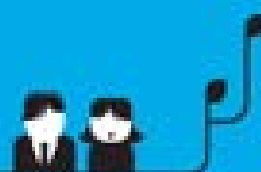
Work PR
www.workpr.co.uk

Insight4Business
www.insight4business.co.uk

Digital Cryogenics WebCRM
www.webcrm.com/uk

VXI Power
www.vxipower.com

Welcome to our
new members



Waddington Europe
www.waddingtoneurope.com

World First
www.worldfirst.com/uk

Chestnut Financial Services
www.chestnutfs.co.uk

Euroflo
www.euroflo.co.uk

McGovern Assessments
www.mcgovernassessmentsltd.co.uk

Houlton Kennedy
www.houltonkennedygroup.co.uk



AS A CHAMBER
MEMBER FIRM
WE'LL CONNECTED

EVENTS

ChamberConnect: From Surviving to Thriving
26th November 2.30pm - 3.30pm
Zoom

Annual General Meeting 2020
1st December 12.00pm - 12.30pm
Zoom

ChamberConnect: Helping New Lincolnshire Exporters
10th December 10.00am - 11.00am
Zoom

Health and Social Care: Sharing Best Practice in a COVID World
10th December 12.30pm - 1.30pm
Zoom

Maximise Your Membership
11th January 10.00am - 11.30am
Zoom

ChamberConnect: QES Q4 Briefing
12th January 2021 8.00am - 8.45am
Zoom

Drive Safer, Arrive Safer Workshop
12th January 2021 10.00am - 12.00pm
Zoom

ChamberConnect: Adapt and Thrive
12th and 13th January 2021 10.00am - 12.00pm
Zoom
Members: FREE. Non-members: £25+VAT

Virtual Construction and Property Network
19th January 2021 12.30pm - 2.30pm
Zoom

ChamberConnect: Doing Business in Poland
19th January 2021 10.00am - 11.30am
Zoom

ChamberConnect: Stress Management and Resilience
25th and 26th January 2021 10.00am - 12.00pm
Zoom

For more events and bookings, please see our events page: www.lincs-chamber.co.uk/events or call the team on 01522 523333.

Chamber joins forces with local cyber security expert

Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce has partnered with local cyber security experts, Custodia Continuity to help Chamber members arm themselves against future cyber-attacks.

The offering, branded Chamber Cyber Security, will be offered exclusively to Chamber members as part of a package of services which are designed to add value to Chamber membership.

Providing a fully managed security and compliance service at a substantially reduced price, the offering covers the following core areas:

- The security of your systems and data
- The backup and disaster recovery planning
- The business continuity plan
- The data protection, privacy, policies and procedures

Francesca East, Business Development Executive at the Chamber, explains the added value this partnership will bring to membership: "We are delighted to be partnering with Custodia Continuity as this offering will add further value to membership for our existing members and new ones."

"Cyber security really should be a top priority for businesses, we are operating in the digital space more than ever before and partnering with Custodia brings together services and products that will save members



Francesca East and Jae Forrester, picture taken before the second national lockdown.

money and help businesses to thrive."

Jae Forrester, Director at Custodia Continuity, said: "COVID-19 has certainly hit the economy hard and the impact has been felt by all sectors, but unfortunately a sector that has thrived is cybercrime."

"We have seen a significant rise in online threats over the course of the lockdown and that is only going to increase, meaning

cybercrime protection is more important now than ever before and this strategic partnership couldn't have come at a better time."

"We look forward to working with Chamber members to put their minds at ease and help them lead the way with Security, backup, Continuity and Compliance."

See the Business Savings on our website for more information.

New director appointed to Chamber Board

Lincolnshire Chamber of Commerce is delighted to welcome a new director to its Board.

Lincolnshire Business Leader, Tim Chambers, from Exuvi8, a

data centre design and deployment organisation, has joined the Board bringing engineering knowledge and a commitment to energy efficiency and sustainability.

Tim has over 30 years' experience working in the data centre and allied IT industries and spent the last decade finetuning his vision of a more environmentally sustainable energy and cooling solution.

Congratulating Tim on his appointment is the Chair of Lincolnshire Chamber Board, Gary Headland: "We are delighted to

have Tim join the Board working alongside myself and the other directors."

"Tim brings with him unique experience in the data centre sector as well as an in-depth understanding of the sales process which will further strengthen and complement our Board and I am confident the contributions Tim will make will be valuable in shaping and influencing the future strategic direction of the organisation."

Delighted to be appointed, Tim commented: "I have a genuine

commitment and passion for the Chamber, its mission, values and member needs and I am really looking forward to working with Gary, the non-exec directors and the Chamber executive team to drive forward the growth and development of the organisation."

Tim Chambers was formally appointed to the Board through a unanimous vote from the current Board.

To view our Board and Chamber team visit: www.lincs-chamber.co.uk/meet-the-team

