



# Insight

magazine

October / November 23



The Journal of the

WARRINGTON CHAMBER OF  
COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

*in association with*  
**VR** VALE ROYAL  
The heart of Cheshire



# United Utilities welcomes 80 new starters

**WATER** company United Utilities has welcomed 80 new starters at an induction session at their Lingley Mere headquarters in Warrington.

The group – made up of 34 graduates and 46 apprentices – then went on a five-day residential with the Outward Bound Trust where they will take on team

building, problem solving and leadership challenges. All graduates undertake a tailored programme to provide them with the business and technical knowledge required to become future leaders. They benefit from first-class training and support alongside an in-depth understanding of their chosen area and the chance to make a tangible contribution to live projects that are benefiting the entire region. New graduate Georgia Dale, joined the company after completing a master's degree in Chemical Engineering at Manchester University. She is taking up a role as a hydraulics engineer. She said: "I'm really excited to be joining one of the biggest water companies in the country. It's going to be a challenging role but I'm excited by that and to be joining a company that is so diverse."

the Institute for Apprenticeships and the Department for Education, while also gaining hands-on experience. They get to work across different areas of the business relevant to their role, and benefit from a variety of personal development opportunities.

Guy Hinnigan, joins as an apprentice mechanical field service engineer and is looking forward to getting out onto sites. He said: "I find wastewater treatment fascinating and I'm looking forward to getting out onto the sites, working with the teams and being in an environment that most people never get to see."

Adrienne McFarland, people director at United Utilities, said: "We're really pleased to welcome our new graduates and apprentices and look forward to working with them."

"They each bring a set of unique skills, experiences and enthusiasm to their role, and we'll be aiding them in their professional development as well as supporting their wellbeing at work throughout their time at United Utilities."

"We're sure they all have bright careers ahead, and we're delighted that they're starting with us at United Utilities, helping to make our region stronger, greener and healthier."

Applications for next year's graduate positions are open now and apprenticeship positions will open in February. Details on all the roles, as well as other career opportunities at United Utilities, will be available at: [www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/careers/](http://www.unitedutilities.com/corporate/careers/)

## Businesses urged to support 'Peace in Mind' campaign aimed at helping young children

**BUSINESSES** are being asked to support an ambitious campaign looking to support children aged 4 and older through the Peace in Mind campaign.

Esther Ghey, whose daughter, Brianna, was murdered in February 2023, has launched the campaign with the Warrington Guardian. The campaign already has the backing from both of Warrington's MPs and the council, a number of schools and Warrington Wolves RLFC, alongside its Charitable Foundation.

The goal is to raise enough money to send a teacher from each school in Warrington on a

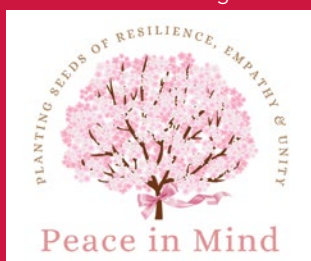
Mindfulness in Schools Project (MiSP) training course, which will allow schools to provide more support for children of all ages.

Mindfulness techniques in schools will allow children to process and deal with negative emotions in a healthy way – preventing mental health problems from developing in later life.

It is currently £775 to send one teacher on a MiSP-related course. Through her own fundraising, and a tribute page in the wake of Brianna's death, Esther has raised more than £20,000 already.

With this in mind, a target in the region of £50,000 has been set – which would bring the total amount of money raised in Brianna's name to over £70,000; enough money to send 90 teachers on a MiSP-related course.

If you would be interested in backing the campaign, sign up via the online form <https://tinyurl.com/3v5xvb43>



# From the Chief Executive

Stephen Fitzsimons



There have been some concerning developments from the government in recent weeks that will have implications for our Warrington and Chamber members.

It began with the announcement that the UK's Net Zero plans are to be scaled back, in order to ease the pressure on household budgets. Whilst I am in favour of reducing the costs facing UK businesses (how about scrapping the Apprentice Levy?), the Prime Minister's speech was quite unhelpful. Firstly, he spoke about saving us from legislation that doesn't actually exist - recycling bins (!), meat and car sharing. Secondly, he showed a lack of understanding for global supply chains, especially within automotive, where car manufacturers have been working towards the 2030 target.

It was no surprise to see the subsequent responses from the likes of Nissan that they will remain focused on 2030. Although the 2050 Net Zero deadline remains in place, the message the UK is giving to the rest of the world's polluters is that it's okay to relax their efforts to go green. Given that the UK Net Zero industry is worth £70 billion each year, there are genuine commercial reasons for sticking to the plan.

The other bad news was regarding the potential postponement or cancellation of HS2's Manchester connection. Frustratingly, the main reason for the project has been lost since it was announced in 2009. The West Coast Mainline is at capacity for freight and when I contacted Network Rail a few years ago about a local company accessing the railway for its products, they couldn't even speak with them for 5 years! Reducing

travel time by 10-15 minutes was a bonus, however no justification for the original estimate of £37.5 billion, let alone the £87+ billion now being quoted. I recall asking at the original north west launch event why construction had to start in Euston and was given some nonsense about integration with the platforms... Granted, the whole thing has been managed badly, however it needs to be completed, otherwise Warrington and the north will fall even further behind London and the south east.

That's all a bit half empty so I will finish positively by thanking everyone who participated in the 4th Warrington Business Conference - speakers, sponsors and delegates. It might be quite stressful putting it together, however it is immensely satisfying seeing over 200 local business people learning from each

other and making some new connections. We always invite a government minister, serving or in opposition, so great to have Kevin Hollinrake speak about his business career - establishing and selling a chain of country wide estate agents. Remember that Chamber events are published at [www.wbex.co.uk](http://www.wbex.co.uk) and these are free for members to attend so look forward to seeing you at one soon.

Indian summer on the way in October, according to the BBC...

Take care,  
Stephen

## Annual Warrington Business Conference bigger and better than ever

**THE fourth Warrington Business Conference saw more than 200 attendees gather at Time Square to network with and hear from a range of community and business leaders.**

Fast becoming an annual highlight for Warrington businesses and economic leaders, the theme of this year's conference - maximising performance - discussed how people and processes can be supported to ensure Warrington continues to thrive.

Conference attendees heard from a range of inspirational speakers and took part in focused panel discussions. Key conference highlights included Cllr Sarah Hall, cabinet member for children's services, launching the Warrington Skills Commission report, Jim Murphy, Chief Executive at PAM Group, encouraging businesses to invest in workforce wellbeing, and Matthew Bent, Chief Executive of Bents Garden Centre, delivering an insightful keynote on 'Striving for Excellence' - discussing how his team works to deliver "wow"

moments for their visitors.

Warrington's two MPs, Charlotte Nichols (Warrington North) and Andy Carter (Warrington South) took part in panel discussions alongside notable Warrington business leaders, and Kevin Hollinrake MP, Minister for Enterprise, Markets and Small Business, discussed how we can collectively boost UK business.

Cllr Tom Jennings, cabinet member for economic development and innovation, who officially closed the conference, said: "It's always inspiring meeting with and listening to Warrington's business leaders at this now well-established conference.

"The conference demonstrates that by working in partnership, learning from each other and sharing insights, we can continue to ensure Warrington's businesses and wider economy continue to prosper, in turn creating more jobs and opportunities for our residents into the future."

Stephen Fitzsimons, Chief

Executive Warrington Chamber of Commerce, said: "This year's conference saw record-breaking attendance, with more than 200 people coming to Time Square to network and share ideas.

"I am grateful for the support of the conference's sponsors and those behind the scenes who worked tirelessly to make

this year's Warrington Business Conference the best one yet!"

Missed out on this year's conference?

Find out about business networking opportunities with the Warrington Business Exchange and Warrington Chamber of Commerce at [www.wbex.co.uk](http://www.wbex.co.uk)



**WARRINGTON**  
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Stephen Fitzsimons, Chief Executive

# BiSN awarded ISO 9001 certification for Quality Management Systems

**WARRINGTON-based BiSN, a leading provider of permanent downhole sealing solutions, has been awarded the ISO 9001 Certification for Quality Management Systems by the British Standards Institution (BSI).**

This internationally recognized standard for quality management underscores BiSN's unwavering commitment to delivering superior products and services to its valued customers while adhering to the highest standards of operational efficiency and customer satisfaction.

The ISO 9001 certification is a testament to BiSN's dedication to continual improvement and its dedication to providing cutting-edge solutions within the oil and gas landscape. By undergoing a rigorous assessment of its internal processes and quality management systems, BiSN has demonstrated its ability to consistently meet and exceed customer expectations, while maintaining compliance with

industry regulations and best practices.

Receiving the ISO 9001 certification represents a significant milestone in BiSN's journey towards excellence. It reinforces the company's core values of quality, reliability, and customer-centricity, which have been the driving force behind its success. With this prestigious accreditation, BiSN further solidifies its position as a market leader and a trusted partner for its clients.

"The ISO certification is one more demonstration from BiSN to follow a customer-centric approach to meet operator needs," said Paul Carragher, CEO and Founder of BiSN. "Our production and quality control teams have worked tirelessly to achieve the certification and we are extremely proud of their accomplishment."

The certification demonstrates the commitment from BiSN to provide consistent quality of products, in addition to the following:

- **Customer-centric Approach:** The certification is a reinforcement of its commitment to meeting and exceeding customer needs.
- **Streamlined Operations:** As part of the certification process, the company has undertaken a comprehensive evaluation of its internal processes, resulting in improved operational efficiency.
- **Culture of Continuous Improvement:** This accomplishment is just the

beginning, marking the start of a journey of ongoing refinement in BiSN's quality management systems.

Founded in 2010, BiSN's unique Performance Barrier Technologies allow operators to solve unwanted downhole flow issues once and for all – sealing across the life of the well with confidence to assure uptime, improve production, extend well life, protect the environment and ultimately, to abandon safely.



## Manor Road Tennis Club launches new home with special VIP open day

MANOR Road Tennis Club (MRTC) launched its new home in Lymm Rugby Club's Walled Garden with a celebratory opening ceremony.

Dignitaries, VIPs, club members, guests, sponsors and the media from south Cheshire enjoyed an Open Day of celebration as the new facilities were showcased.

The courts were officially opened by the Mayor of Warrington Cllr. Steve Wright, who is pictured above practicing his tennis skills with club Chair Keith Moss and Warrington South MP Andy Carter.

Four new, floodlit, all-weather courts, created using state-of-the-art 'Tiger Turf', are now available and a number of guests enjoyed the playing experience during the Open Day.

"We are delighted to offer this exciting new, year-round tennis facility to our existing membership and to new members we are keen to attract, including participants of other sports played here, namely hockey, squash and rugby," commented MRTC Chair, Keith Moss.

"For example, the Mini and Junior rugby sections have many family groups who could join at discounted rates on a special deal, giving them a year-round opportunity to learn and play a great sport," added Moss.

"Importantly, we also offer a 'Pay and Play' scheme to provide access to this outstanding facility to non-members via an easy-to-use online booking system."

"I would also like to sincerely thank Lymm Rugby Club, the Lawn Tennis Association (LTA) and Warrington Borough Council for helping us make this happen," he concluded.

MRTC offers a range of social and competitive tennis to suit players at all levels, with coaching programmes available to adults and juniors, delivered by an experienced and fully qualified LTA-accredited tennis coach.

Lymm Rugby Club Chair, David Simpson added: "We have been planning to create a sports hub at the club for many years, offering a multi-sport experience to the local community. It is encouraging, and very exciting, to see all this come to fruition."

"We now have firm plans to build a new, all-encompassing, clubhouse in the Walled Garden that our members and visitors can call home. With everyone's continued support, we are determined to achieve this significant ambition," he concluded.

LRC already has over 25 sponsors for the rugby section and is now seeking to increase the number to include the tennis section.

Contact Pete Radcliffe on [pete.radcliffe@gmail.com](mailto:pete.radcliffe@gmail.com) to explore opportunities for your business to engage with the club.

For details of how to join the Lymm Sports Hub, with special joint family and individual membership deals, please visit: [www.lymmrugby.co.uk](http://www.lymmrugby.co.uk)



# DV8 Designs appointed as Concept Designers for hospitality at iconic Eckersley Mills site

**BIRCHWOOD** based DV8 Designs has been appointed by property development and investment company the Heaton Group to consult on and deliver a concept design for a food hall at the iconic Eckersley Mills £200m regeneration and transformative project.

Working alongside their master planning architectural practice, Manchester based Horizon | fletcher-rae, the brief to DV8 was to design an economically sustainable food and beverage concept that would be at the heart of the development project with a multi operational food hall and micro-brewery operation to be housed within the ground floor of the mill.

Located in the Eckersley Mills site, spanning 17 acres, the project centres around a group of Grade 2 listed mills constructed between 1883 and 1920. Situated near the heart of Wigan, the site falls between the Wigan Pier Conservation Area designated in 1987 to acknowledge the historical importance of a significant concentration of specialised industrial architecture from the 18th to the early 20th centuries.

Visually the finished concept has been sympathetic to the building's heritage and industrial past, whilst also incorporating modern and relevant elements. DV8 worked within strict planning, M&E and operational constraints to develop the 15,000 sqft. food hall into a uniquely exciting 350 cover

operation encompassing at least six operator kitchens as well two bar operations, spacious external terrace, and a self-contained micro-brewery to offer a unique social experience for a diverse audience to enjoy from morning through to the evening. Drawing on DV8's extensive hospitality experience, DV8 delivered detailed space plans and rendered 3D models to enable the Heaton Group team to accurately cost the project and build a comprehensive operational business model to attract a quality operator to help deliver the project.

John Heaton said of the appointment: "The Eckersley Mill project represents a remarkable invention of our industrial heritage. Working in partnership with DV8 has been instrumental with our decision making in bringing this vision to life.

DV8 Designs owner Lee Birchall said of the appointment: "We have worked closely with the Heaton Group team to not only deliver a financially robust solution but also help deliver the Heaton Group vision in fostering the creation of a sustainable community where people can live, work, socialise and thrive. Partnering with forward thinking organisations like the Heaton Group in delivering reimagined and transformative spaces that truly enhances the customer and employee journey, and importantly, stand the test of time, is what we do!"



## Cheshire Business and Skills Conference

THE Cheshire Business and Skills conference will be held at Alderley Park on 16th November and is set to highlight the Local Skills Improvement Plan (LSIP), a DfE funded project, currently underway across all of England. We are leading the Cheshire and Warrington LSIP.

The purpose of the LSIP is to put employer voice at the heart of post-16 education; giving you an opportunity to directly influence and shape training for your existing and future workforce.

<https://sccci.co.uk/local-skills-improvement-plan/> for more information.

This conference is aimed at businesses throughout Cheshire & Warrington and will provide information on:

- current training provision within our area (including

T-Levels, Apprenticeships, Bootcamps)

- accessing funding (including transfer of Apprenticeship Levy and Access to Work)
- gaining a better understanding of inclusion, young people and developing from within
- making key connections with local colleges and training providers

You will also have an opportunity to become part of influencing our local colleges, so they provide the courses you need, to develop your existing and future workforce in a way that works for you.

This event is a great opportunity to make key contacts with the people who can help make your job easier!

To sign up, visit <https://tinyurl.com/2bpfj4h>

The Friends of the Town Hall, Warrington

## CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

With Father Christmas and his grotto, street entertainers, craft stalls, choirs and brass band, with Christmas crafts and treats from the Christmas café.  
To book a stall please contact Jean Flaherty on 07595 652267

**Saturday 25 November 2023**  
at the Pavilion Bank Park from 10am to 4pm

See the lantern parade march across to the Town Hall on Saturday 25 where at 6pm the town hall will be illuminated.

Enjoy Christmas fayre from the Christmas café with gluhwein, mulled wine, bbq, and much more.

See Father Christmas and receive a small gift @ £3.50 per child

# Savills introduces element: The epitome of exemplary office space in Birchwood

**ELEMENT, a 39,150 sq ft prime office space being marketed by Savills, has undergone a significant remodelling to transform into a luxury best-in-class premises hosting fantastic amenities and with excellent transport links.**

The meticulously crafted office space provides an unparalleled environment for businesses seeking an excellent location to grow and thrive. Spread across three floors, the varying sizes of suites can cater to diverse requirements.

Located in Birchwood, Warrington, Element is within close proximity to the M62 and M6 and is situated just five minutes away from Birchwood train station. The space is surrounded by local amenities and is a 15-minute drive from Warrington, 30 minutes from Manchester, 40 minutes from

Liverpool, and 85 minutes from Birmingham.

To ensure an unrivalled experience for occupiers, the building has undergone a comprehensive remodelling. With its boutique reception area, EPC A rating, high-end finishes, and superior fittings, Element exudes an air of sophistication and efficiency. The inclusion of full access raised floors and exposed services further enhances the overall ambience, showcasing meticulous attention to detail. A mezz space has been added to the second floor along with a generous roof terrace overlooking Warrington and Greater Manchester.

Element offers a range of on-site facilities designed to enhance productivity and well-being, including a state-of-the-art fitness suite, complete with cutting-edge gym equipment, including

treadmills, power mills, exercise bikes, and a variety of functional and resistance equipment, perfect for a quick lunch session to recharge and refocus.

Fostering a collaborative community, Element provides open-plan workspaces that inspire creativity and teamwork. The luxurious business lounge epitomises this ethos, featuring two-person and four-person booths, work bench seating, and relaxed tables. These versatile seating options allow for informal meetings and much-needed breaks from the desk, ultimately fostering a dynamic and engaging work environment. Complimentary guest Wi-Fi in all communal areas ensures seamless connectivity for all.

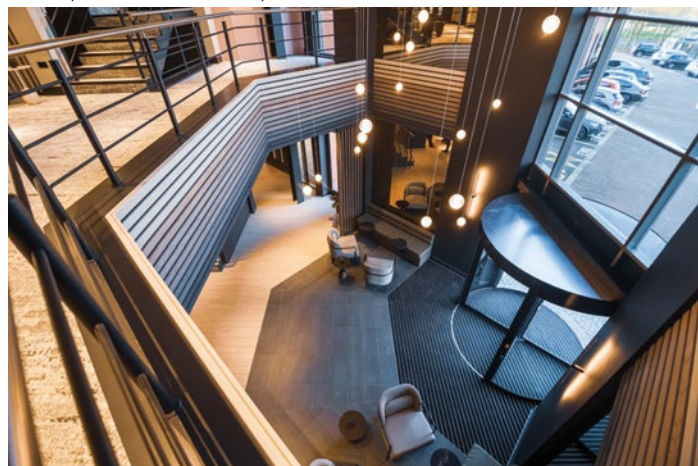
The space also houses a licensed café, as well as an open-air terrace which provides an idyllic space to

savour meals al-fresco during the warmer months.

Beyond the walls of the building, Element showcases beautifully landscaped outdoor spaces, complementing its architectural splendour. Cyclists will appreciate the ample cycle storage, lockers and brand-new shower and changing facilities, promoting healthier and greener commuting options.

The build, interior, amenities and travel links make Element a truly unique office space which will enable businesses in the north west to thrive.

For further information on the scheme please contact Daniel Barnes ([dbarnes@savills.com](mailto:dbarnes@savills.com)) or Richard Lowe ([rlowe@savills.com](mailto:rlowe@savills.com)) of Savills or Mark Canning ([mark@canningoneill.com](mailto:mark@canningoneill.com))



## Magical lantern festival set to light up Warrington this winter

A HUGE cultural and artistic lantern festival is set to light up Warrington this winter, in a first of its kind for the town.

Land of Lights, which will be held at Gulliver's World theme park from 11 November 2023 until 25 February 2024, will include 12 vivid dreamworlds featuring gigantic lanterns inspired by animals, mega monuments and wonders of the natural world.

Guests will explore an amazing array of light installations, which includes more than 7,000 individual lanterns and hundreds of thousands of LED lights. The experience will feature an eclectic mix of music and entertainment and a selection of street food and seasonal drink options, which will be available throughout the festival.

More than 100 people are involved in the production process undertaken by award-winning Zigong Lantern Group, which takes six months to design, manufacture and artistically

finish, as each lantern is carefully handcrafted by skilled artisans.

The first ever Land of Lights festival was held at Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes in 2022/23 and was a huge success welcoming thousands of people to see the spectacle.

Craig Clews, Land of Lights festival manager, said: "We can't wait to welcome Land of Lights to Warrington. The festival proved to be enormously popular in Milton Keynes last year and so we're confident it'll wow audiences here, too.

"It's a spectacular, illuminated attraction that will provide people from the local area with a great night out, as well as attract visitors from far and wide to the area to experience the breathtaking moments and awe-inspiring installations bursting with energy and culture.

"Alongside our usual must-visit Christmas events and activities, it's definitely going to be a autumn

and winter to remember here at Gulliver's World!"

Justin Corsa, CEO of Zigong Lantern Group, said: "Last year we worked together with Gulliver's Land in Milton Keynes for the first time, and we achieved success - not only in the experience, and quality of work but also in the collaboration of working together.

"We are proud to now bring this production to Gulliver's World in Warrington, enabling opportunity

for all people, of all ages, to enjoy this award-winning experience."

Land of Lights will run from 11 November 2023 to 25 February 2024. Super early bird tickets will be released from 1 September starting from only £12.

To find out more about the event and receive exclusive sneak peaks, ticket announcements and content news, sign up to the exclusive mailing list here: [www.landoflights.co.uk](http://www.landoflights.co.uk)



# Wealth management firm goes from strength to strength

**HARRINGTON Robertson Wealth Management (HRWM) is a financial advice company established in 2009 by Directors Keith Robertson and Andrew Harrington and based locally in Lymm. The company continues to grow from strength to strength.**

Since launching HRWM Ltd has experienced great success offering local Independent Financial Advice on; Investments, Pensions, Estate Planning (mitigation of Inheritance Tax), Cash-Flow modelling, Financial stress testing and Business Protection. They currently have assets under management of £70 million.

HRWM Ltd is proud of its local links with Lymm and the Warrington area. In recent years, the company has expanded its business support team and added Natalie Calderbank as a Chartered Financial Planner.

Harrington Robertson Wealth Management is proud to remain fully independent and highly committed to offering high quality financial advice. The company passionately believes in a principled approach to both customer service and advice to create and deliver the perfect package for its clients.

Harrington Robertson Wealth Management places great pride in removing conflicts of interest between clients and itself, and has

designed a service proposition that aligns its clients' success to its own success. Being independent, HRWM considers a wide range of financial strategies and products for clients. The company constantly reviews the market to ensure that the services and products it offers are appropriate for its clients.

Financial Planning can sometimes be simple and at times complex. Everyone is different, but for most this is likely to include several areas of advice which HRWM can cover. In the current economic climate, it is more important than ever that clients are able to make sound financial decisions.

As such, at the forefront of any independent advice HRWM offers to clients is the new FCA Consumer Duty Regulations which aims to set higher and clearer standards of consumer protection across financial services and require all firms to act to deliver good outcomes for customers.

HRWM embraces the new FCA regulations and is passionate about continuing to ensure that no conflicts of interest exist between itself and its clients. IFAs should work for their clients, and not the product providers. Helping clients understand not just what steps they need to take, but why, is absolutely key in HRWM's advice. That's why HRWM spends a great deal of time

with its clients in order to raise their level of understanding. Informed and knowledgeable clients are far more likely to achieve their goals.

Quite simply, HRWM would not succeed without building strong long term relationships. That's why at Harrington Robertson Wealth Management Ltd clients will always receive a very warm welcome, regular reviews, and learn to understand the principles which have served many generations. HRWM develops relationships with its clients and works in partnership with them throughout the various stages of their lives. The success of how HRWM works closely with its clients can be demonstrated by the many testimonials on its website.

HRWM always offers an initial meeting without cost or obligation, and makes sure any subsequent work is undertaken at a pre-agreed and transparent cost. In preparing for the future and by embracing

market-leading technology, HRWM Ltd can apply the foundations to which its business is based: "Traditional Values-Forward Thinking".

Additionally, HRWM regularly works in conjunction with clients' accountants or legal advisers to provide a comprehensive and seamless financial solution.

The company knows that everyone's needs are individual, but if you take your finances as seriously as it does, HRWM can guarantee you a very warm welcome, so please do get in touch.

As part of this, HRWM is hosting a seminar on the very important area of financial planning for many people: "Intergenerational Wealth Planning". The seminar will explain how to prepare your money and estate for your children and how to prepare your children for their inheritance. (Please see advert below for seminar details).



**HarringtonRobertson**  
A Wealth Management Company based in Lymm, Cheshire.

**We are hosting an Intergenerational Wealth Planning Seminar**

Lymm Golf Club - Wednesday 18th October 2023  
Refreshments will be provided (10am arrival for 10:30am start)

**While this is a free event booking is essential.**  
Please contact our office to secure your place:  
**01925 320 097**  
**helen@harringtonrobertson.com**

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Registered Office of Harrington Robertson Ltd, Suite A (First Floor), Asher House, Barsbank Lane, Lymm, Cheshire, WA13 0ED.

**Intergenerational Wealth Planning**

**What is it and what will our seminar cover?**

During the free session, we will explain how to prepare your money and estate for your children and how to prepare your children for their inheritance.

**Topics will include:**

- Inheritance Tax
- Estate Planning
- Business Property Relief
- Setting up Trusts
- IHT exemptions / solutions

**We are really proud of our customer testimonials and what our clients have kindly said about us over the years - please visit the testimonials page on our website.**

**www.harringtonrobertson.com**

★★★★★ 4.6  
Google Reviews

# Homebuilder racks up snacks for recycling homelessness charity

**WARRINGTON-based developer David Wilson Homes North West has gathered a collection of crisp packets for a donation to a homelessness charity which recycles the packets to create survival equipment for the homeless.**

The sustainable housebuilder's employees have made the donation of crisp packets to The Crisp Packet Project, as part of its efforts to recycle and support the homeless and vulnerable community in the process.

All of the crisp packets will be donated to the charity which recycles them to create survival equipment for those in need, and a £500 donation has also been made by David Wilson Homes to support the efforts of the charity.

It takes 44 packets to make a survival sheet, 55 for a blanket and 100 to make a bivi bag which, for simply keeping hold of a crisp packet after consumption, can make a huge difference for homeless people across the UK.

Pen Huston, Founder and Director of the Crisp Packet Project, said: "Together we can make a difference in how we consume and recycle and get creative using one use plastic waste, to help someone be a little bit more comfortable in their situation and, in extreme weather, save lives. Crisp Packet Project HQ thanks David Wilson Homes for its support so that we can help others."

The worldwide project was introduced in November 2019 by

Pen Huston, and many hundreds of people have now made these items to help others to keep warm.

All unwashed crisp packets are donated to Terracycle KP; an organisation which helps The Crisp Packet Project to raise funds for its headquarters in Hastings, plus the Rain Forest.

Philippa Stewart, Sales Director at David Wilson Homes North West,

said: "For us to complete such a simple task after lunch, it's great that we're able to support The Crisp Packet Project's incredible efforts to help homeless people in need and we're proud of our employees for collecting such a large number of packets."

"The Crisp Packet Project does a fantastic job in supporting homeless people, but also in its efforts to recycle and this links to

our own objectives to become the leading sustainable housebuilder."

More information about the work of the charity can be found by visiting the website [www.crisppacketproject.com](http://www.crisppacketproject.com)

For more information about David Wilson Homes and any of its nearby developments, visit the website [www.dwh.co.uk/new-homes/north-west/cheshire](http://www.dwh.co.uk/new-homes/north-west/cheshire)



## New manager at Grappenhall Manor in Warrington

LEADING care home operator New Care has appointed Charlotte Sherlocks to the role of home manager at its recently opened Grappenhall Manor care centre on Stockport Road in Grappenhall, Warrington.

In her new role as manager, Charlotte takes responsibility for the smooth day-to-day running of the home ensuring the highest standards of care are delivered by a warm, friendly and compassionate team in a safe and comfortable environment that protects the health and wellbeing of all residents and their visitors.

Working with her team of 80 nurses and carers, she will implement personalised care plans for each of the home's residents, ensuring their individual needs, priorities and preferences are met and that they enjoy a wonderful quality of life in a home filled with joy, love and laughter.

Delivering services in a safe and effective manner will also be key to Charlotte's new role, ensuring Grappenhall Manor remains compliant with infection control and prevention procedures and all Care Quality Commission (CQC)

guidelines.

Well qualified for her new role, she has worked in healthcare for more than 30 years and has been qualified as a nurse for 27 years. She also holds many relevant industry qualifications including BSc. (Hons.) in Health and Social Care Practice and a Diploma in Health Studies (R.N.) both from Edge Hill University in Liverpool.

Since leaving the NHS, she has worked in the corporate sector most recently in senior general management and regional support roles for other care groups and her career path has been inspired in no small part by her family; Charlotte's mum is a retired registered general nurse, her auntie is a retired GP and cousin is a cystic fibrosis consultant in London.

Charlotte was attracted to the standard of facilities, quality of care and vision and values at New Care having had the previous opportunity to work with chief operating officer Cath Fairhurst and admired her management style and compassion in care of the elderly.

Delighted to join the company,

she said: "I aim to work with the wonderful team here at Grappenhall Manor to achieve full occupancy and deliver optimum care for our fast growing family of residents along with peace of mind for their families. Together, we will strive for full compliance with CQC and an Outstanding rating. I want everyone to feel empowered to provide the very best care for each of our individual residents so that Grappenhall Manor becomes a much loved home-from-home."

Chief operating officer Cath Fairhurst added: "Having worked with Charlotte previously, I'm delighted that she has chosen to join us and am confident that Grappenhall Manor will flourish under her direction and with her warm and friendly management style."

Keeping it in the family, Charlotte is married to Neil who is the maintenance manager at Grappenhall Manor and they have a 23-year-old son. Originally born in Liverpool where she attended The Belvedere School for Girls, she moved to Cronton in Cheshire more than 20 years ago where she enjoys city breaks, spending time with family and heading out to

enjoy horse riding and walking in the great outdoors.

Part of New Care, Grappenhall Manor is a stylish and luxurious 70-bed purpose-built care centre in Grappenhall, Warrington. Offering outstanding residential, dementia, 24-hour nursing and respite care services, the state-of-the-art care centre features fully furnished bedrooms, each with a private en suite wet room, plus a selection of communal lounges and dining rooms along with a nail bar, hairdresser, landscaped gardens and outdoor terraces. For further information, please visit [www.newcarehomes.com](http://www.newcarehomes.com)



# New £16 million space at Birchwood Park already fully let

**BIRCHWOOD Park, the North West's leading out-of-town business destination, has announced that the latest speculative warehouse development is now fully let.**

Construction work on the £16 million Cavendish warehouse scheme, boasting 153,500 sq. ft in total warehouse space, was completed in May 2023.

Designed with a focus on adaptable workspaces, the new Cavendish Warehouse units caters to businesses seeking spacious and flexible industrial workspace capable of accommodating multiple functions, as well as an expansion if necessary.

The latest phase of the Cavendish Warehouse development was designed to meet the increasing demand for top-grade warehouse space right in the heart of the North West, signifying tangible growth for the region's business space despite the challenges of COVID-19 in recent years.

Martin O'Rourke, Commercial

Director at Birchwood Park, comments: "We're delighted to announce that our latest Cavendish Warehouse space is now fully let.

"Even before completion, there was strong interest from several world-class businesses both regional to Birchwood but also across the country. The final occupier for the scheme is Warringtonfire. The company's new facility represents an increase in size of almost 80% when compared to its existing facility in the region and is expected to triple the team's testing capacity in the medium term".

Aside from Warringtonfire, other occupiers who have moved into the new development include global medical diagnostics company, Werfen, and the UK's leading window and door replacement provider, Safestyle UK, who agreed a pre-let deal for new warehouse space earlier this year.

This latest wave of construction follows a highly successful

second phase of the Cavendish Warehouse development, which was completed in 2020 and which saw all units let within nine months to occupiers, including BES Group, ARNE, Maniere de Voir and Kleentex.

Martin continues: "Each warehouse unit features a secure yard, on-site parking, and is superbly located, within easy access of Junction 11 of the M62. Both new and existing occupiers will be able benefit from all the added amenities that come with being located on Birchwood Park, such as a free shuttle bus

service to Birchwood station, a discounted membership to the 'Alive and Well' gym, as well as multiple food and drink services located across the Park".

Designed by architects AEW, Caddick Construction has been the main contractors for the project. B8 Real Estate and JLL are letting agents acting on behalf of Birchwood Park.

To keep up-to-date with all that is going on at Birchwood Park, follow the latest news on the site here: [www.birchwoodpark.co.uk/news](http://www.birchwoodpark.co.uk/news)



## Miller Homes makes two senior appointments for its North West region



■ John Hardy and Matthew Paul.

MILLER Homes, one of the UK's leading housebuilders, has announced the appointments of a new Land Director and Commercial Director for its North West region.

John Hardy, who assumes the role of Land Director, brings over two decades of invaluable experience to the table. His journey in the housebuilding industry began as a Land Buyer, and over 14 years at Jones Homes UK he progressed through the ranks to the position of Land Director. John Hardy's proficiency in identifying prime land opportunities and securing planning permission will be a pivotal asset for the region.

John Hardy, now Land Director for Miller Homes North West, commented: "I am thrilled to join the Miller Homes team, they have an outstanding reputation for delivering quality homes and five-star customer service, and I am excited to contribute my experience to further enhance the company's success."

In addition to John Hardy, Matthew Paul has been appointed as the new Commercial Director

of the North West Region, adding another layer of expertise to the leadership team. Matthew Paul's impressive journey in the industry saw him spend over two decades at Barratt Homes, where he began as a Trainee Quantity Surveyor and progressively worked his way up to become the Commercial Director. His insights into cost management, project economics, and strategic planning will play a crucial role in enhancing Miller Homes' commercial endeavours.

"I am honoured to join Miller Homes as the Commercial Director" Matthew Paul stated. "I look forward to leading the team and contributing to the company's ongoing and future projects."

David Brackley, Regional Operations Director at Miller Homes North West added: "John and Matthew bring to the team a wealth of experience from a portfolio of respected homebuilders, they will further strengthen the Miller Homes North West Board as we celebrate an extremely positive first half to the year. We're excited to see further successes under their direction."



## INTERNATIONAL TRADE WEEK 6 - 10 NOVEMBER

International Trade Week is back for a third year. Led by the Department for Business and Trade (DBT), in partnership with industry, the week will feature a variety of activities for companies such as events, workshops and webinars.

Whether you're looking to secure your first export contract or expand your existing international sales, International Trade Week will have something for you. The week's activities are for UK companies of all sizes and sectors – whether selling goods or services – you just need an interest in growing your business.

### For more information:

W: [www.events.great.gov.uk/itw23](http://www.events.great.gov.uk/itw23)  
E: [dbtnph@businessandtrade.gov.uk](mailto:dbtnph@businessandtrade.gov.uk)  
T: +44 (0)20 4566 5206



# Newly approved regeneration plans to breathe vital new life into Cockhedge Shopping Centre

**PLANS to breathe new life into Warrington's Cockhedge Centre by demolishing 16 retail units, unlocking land for 900 new homes have been given the green light.**

Town centre regeneration specialist, Altered Space, has received approval for its plans submitted in January 2023, that aims to breathe vital new life into this popular retail destination, creating employment opportunities and increasing footfall. The development aims to attract new retailer, leisure, food and beverage operators.

In line with a larger Greater Cockhedge Master Plan approved in August 2022, Altered Space intends to create a more accessible and visually appealing shopping centre through this stage of redevelopment. The plan includes downsizing the shopping centre by demolishing 16 retail units and removing the pedestrian bridge over Scotland Road, resulting in a downsized yet enhanced commercial offering.

Michael Brown, Managing Director at Altered Space, expressed his hopes for Cockhedge, stating: "The approval of our planning application enables us to contribute to the potential of Cockhedge and foster the growth of Warrington's economy. Alongside the retail developments, the project will unlock the Residential Development footprint fronting Scotland Road, capable of delivering 900 new homes for Warrington Town Centre and improve pedestrian links to the town centre."

As part of the revitalisation, this stage of the project will introduce new and improved external entrances at each end of the mall, along with four new

external-facing units, creating a more aesthetically pleasing space. Additionally, Altered Space will enhance the visitor experience by developing quality public realm areas on each side of the mall, featuring both soft and hard landscaping.

This detailed development of Cockhedge Shopping Centre is part of a larger two-phase regeneration scheme by Altered Space. The urban regeneration developer is working in collaboration with planning consultant Lichfields, Like Architects and Park Hood Chartered Landscape Architects on this transformative project. The regeneration efforts are expected to have a significant impact on Warrington's economic growth.

Leading Liverpool-based property services and construction company The Momentum Group, whose clients include well known retail destinations including Grosvenor's Liverpool ONE and Queensberry's Metquarter in Liverpool, have been appointed as project managers, cost consultants and retail delivery managers for the Cockhedge redevelopment project.

Chris Renshaw, co-founder and director, said: "Success in unlocking the regeneration of this historic and important site is a big prize for Warrington. We are very much looking forward to bringing our expertise and experience in retail design and delivery to help create a vibrant and sustainable destination for shoppers and residents which will be enjoyed by many for years to come."

Altered Space is also leading successful urban regeneration projects in other areas of the North West. Its multiphase redevelopment of Stanley Square,

Sale, has encouraged numerous retailers and businesses to move to the location over the past three years. Sale has now been named one of the Sunday Times Best Places to Live 2023, with the redevelopment of Stanley Square led by Altered Space highlighted by the judges as one of the reasons for its win.

Mark Rebbeck, director at Altered Space, shared his outlook on successful Urban Regeneration: "As well as building the physical environment, prioritising the community rather than focusing completely on profit is key to our

redevelopments. A people-first approach will be fundamental to our redevelopment in Warrington. This will ensure that a commercial asset which meets the wants and needs of locals is created."

The redevelopment of Cockhedge shopping centre aims to have similar success to Stanley Square by growing the local economy and creating a more vibrant space. In line with Greater Cockhedge Master plan, and through further capital investment in the scheme, the development will positively impact the local economy of Warrington.



## Kemtile and DDK carry out major renovation for 'world-class' food company COOK

WARRINGTON hygienic floor installation specialists Kemtile have worked alongside food manufacturing project management firm DDK, to deliver a major factory renovation to Sittingbourne-based food and drink firm, COOK.

Kemtile worked to a strict design brief provided by DDK to deliver a fit-for-purpose food-grade flooring solution and in the process earned acclaim for their work. This was the second job for Kemtile at this particular Sittingbourne site, with the company having previously installed heavy-duty polyurethane resin floors for the company's Blast Freezers.

COOK is one of the biggest food & drink firms in the country – labelled "World Class" in the National Best

Companies list and voted the "Best British Food & Drink Company to Work For" in 2021.

With four kitchens and 90 shops in the UK, COOK is continuing to increase quantity and quality across its services – starting off by laying industry-leading foundations at The COOK Kitchen in Kent. Seeking a complete solution across 1847m<sup>2</sup>, COOK recruited DDK who in turn came to Kemtile, one of DDK's preferred suppliers – who provided a hygienic, easy-to-clean, impervious, and HACCP-approved floor finish, Stonclad UF.

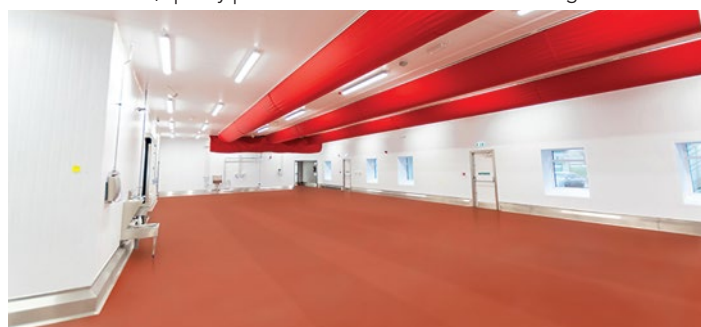
Stonclad UF – is an impact-resistant mortar which also exhibits excellent abrasion and thermal resistance. It also has all-around good chemical resistance, making it ideal for food and beverage environments.

Stonclad UF is also self-priming – ensuring fast installation and minimised downtime.

Director of DDK, Tim Dixon, said: "Given the size of this job – and COOK's stature in the industry – we needed reliable, quality partners to

help with that expansion. This was a big job.

"We've had previous experience with Kemtile and we trust them. We knew with their specialisms that they could deliver a quality job on time and within budget."



# Talos360 voted the best medium-sized tech business to work in 2023

**TALOS360 has been voted the best medium-sized tech company to work for in the UK, according to a new independent study announced this week.**

The Warrington-based HR tech company was ranked best overall in the Best Workplace in Tech Awards 2023 in the medium sized category after having been ranked ninth across all business category sectors earlier in the year.

Talos360 saw its tech ranking rise from fifth place in 2022 to 1st place in 2023.

The HR applicant tracking system, employee engagement and talent acquisition software company was voted the Best Overall Winner in the category based on a trust index score of 99% compared to the UK average trust rating of 54%.

Talos360's CEO, Janette Martin, said: "We are very proud to have achieved the best overall score in our tech category in only our second year in taking part in the Best Places to Work league table."

"It is testament to all the hard work of our employees and the pride they take in making us one of the best companies in the UK."

Launched over eleven years ago, Talos360 has pioneered innovations in HR software to meet the recruitment needs of businesses and has firmly established itself as a market leader in talent SAAS solutions and online recruitment media.

The innovative HR company is

recognised as one of the most exciting and fastest growing people tech businesses in the UK, working for great employers ranging from Homebase to Cote Brasserie.

"It's great to get recognised and a wonderful honour to know we are one of the best places in the

UK to work for and we will be celebrating with our employees and clients," added Talos360's CEO Janette Martin.

The Best Places to Work index, ranks companies who were certified in the UK in the last 12 months and met the minimum 65% trust index threshold.



## Birchwood Shopping Centre crowned winners of Green Apple environmental award

BIRCHWOOD Shopping Centre, home to over 40 national and independent retailers, have been crowned winners of the Green Apple Award 2023 for their project 'Birchwood Goes Back to Basics.'

The Green Apple Awards are run by The Green Organisation – an independent, international, non-political, non-profit environment group dedicated to recognising, rewarding and promoting environmental best practice around the world.

Birchwood Shopping Centre partnered with B&M Waste to increase the shopping centre's recycling performance and green credentials and triumphed over stiff competition from a variety of sectors across the UK including retail and hospitality.

Their project 'Birchwood Goes Back to Basics' involved the implementation of several initiatives to increase the recycling performance at Birchwood Shopping Centre after achieving zero waste to landfill a number of years ago.

The project involved the implementation of several new initiatives to increase the recycling performance at the centre. Just some of these new practices included:

- Increased visibility in waste reporting.
- Occupier accountability

with a system in place for those occupiers who needed additional support.

- Opening an Honesty Library to recycle old books rather than sending them to general waste.
- Additional training offered to each occupier to help them to correctly segregate their waste.
- Sending more food bins for anaerobic digestion.
- Exchanging external machinery for a more environmentally friendly electric cleaning machine.

In addition to the above Birchwood Shopping Centre has reduced their electricity consumption by 27% in the past 12 months and has recently installed water-saving devices in the shopping centre toilets which are set to reduce water consumption by 20%.

Birchwood Shopping Centre has also introduced beekeeping on the roof of the centre led by local beekeeping expert, Brian Morrow.

Kirsty Robinson, Facilities Manager at Birchwood Shopping Centre comments: "We are just so proud and delighted to receive a Green Apple 2023 Award for all of our efforts here at Birchwood

Shopping Centre.

"It has been a mammoth effort from all of our teams, our occupiers and our service partners. We set out to achieve some pretty high targets and it's truly amazing what can be achieved when you all work together."

The Green Apple Awards are held annually and are judged by an esteemed panel of judges from more than 20 sectors. London's Houses of Parliament will play host to this year's award ceremony in November with the Birchwood Shopping Centre taking home their award on the evening.



# Warrington-based Davanti Tyres launches first ever track tyre

**DAVANTI Tyres, one of the UK's leading mid-range tyre brands, has developed and launched its first track tyre, the Protoura Race.**

The latest addition to Davanti's performance tyre range has been engineered to win, designed to provide unbeatable capability on the track.

Its semi-slick tread design provides a combination of excellent dry grip and control in the wet without compromising speed, making it a successful formula to outpace the ordinary. Key features of Davanti's first-ever track tyre which provide drivers with the power and handling to achieve podium results include:

- Directional tread pattern to provide superior control in wet weather conditions.
- Enhanced carcass strength to provide direct feedback to the driver and control under high cornering forces experienced on race tracks.
- New compound with added grip for greater braking and acceleration power.
- Semi-slick tread design allows the tyre to be driven from the track to the road.

After succeeding in some of the most demanding, controlled testing scenarios to ensure the tyre was capable of delivering the pace and agility needed on track, the Protoura Race was also put through its paces in Spain at the Applus IDIADA testing grounds and Calafat Circuit, as well as the UK's Formula One venue, Silverstone.

At the Applus IDIADA testing

ground the tyre was put through a series of wet and dry handling and braking tests to ensure the tyres performed at the top of their class. As well as varying tests, the tyre was also proved in different vehicles including a Golf GTI TCR race car – for on track testing – and a series of fast road cars including the latest model Golf GTI, to determine on road performance.

Meanwhile, at the Calafat Circuit – using a full race version Golf GTI TCR – Protoura Race's consistency and performance levels were assessed through varying heat ranges. The tyre was heated and cooled repeatedly over several sessions to determine its suitability for racing and transitioning from the road to the track and back to the road, showing excellent durability.

Back on UK soil at the iconic Silverstone circuit, the Protoura Race was used in a Track Testing Session on the GP circuit to compare the tyres against competitors. Using the professional TSL timing and qualification standings, it was possible to benchmark the advantage of using Protoura Race against similar cars and through other drivers giving further validation to the results and test process.

Ray Collier, Managing Director and Chief Engineer of TREAD, the independent testing organisation that tested the new tyre with Davanti, added: "The result of this stringent testing is a tyre that is best in class for consistency, reliability and speed. It has been tuned for progressive handling to give drivers ultimate control, and the ability to withstand changes in temperatures while performing consistently without substantial

wearing, allowing the tyre to be driven on from the track to the road repeatedly."

Although predominantly designed for the track, Protoura Race also has road legal status, making journeying to and from the track easy.

Davanti Tyres' General Manager Peter Cross comments: "It's an exciting time for Davanti Tyres as we launch our first ever track tyre, Protoura Race. Now we have a semi-slick track tyre, our performance range offers more

options for our specialist retailers and motorists.

"The testing we've undertaken with Protoura Race cannot be understated and is something we are incredibly proud of. From the IDIADA facilities in Spain to iconic motor racing circuits such as Silverstone and Spain's Calafat Circuit, the Protoura Race has proved its capabilities in tricky conditions and challenging apexes. It's thanks to our rigorous development process we can offer a tyre that is genuinely engineered to win."



## Magnavale Warrington celebrates exceptional health and safety standards

MAGNAVALE Warrington, a UK provider of cold storage to the food sector, has been awarded a silver award in the internationally recognised RoSPA Health and Safety Awards.

The RoSPA Health and Safety Awards is the largest occupational health and safety awards programme in the UK. Now into its 67th year, the Awards have almost 2,000 entries every year, covering nearly 50 countries and a reach of over seven million employees. The programme recognises organisations' commitment to continuous improvement in the prevention of accidents and ill health at work, looking at entrants' overarching health and safety management systems, including practices such as leadership and workforce involvement.

Amanda Cogan, Chief Operating Officer at Magnavale comments: "We are so pleased to be recognised by RoSPA for our commitment to employee health and safety. The award reflects the

hard work of our entire Magnavale Warrington team. Reducing hazards and mitigating risk is a of top priority at Magnavale and we take extreme pride in creating a safe working environment for our employees, as a responsible employer in the Warrington community."

Sponsored by Croner-i, the RoSPA Awards scheme is the longest-running of its kind in the UK, and receives entries from organisations across the globe, making it one of the most sought-after achievement awards for the health and safety industry.

Magnavale is leading the way in sustainability and carbon reduction, as well as upgrading its existing facilities across the UK the company is making significant progress towards its net zero goal by developing new infrastructure, demonstrating Magnavale is committed to building a cold storage network that is greener and more sustainable.



# Pam Group swoops for occupational health business in Ireland

**OCCUPATIONAL health and corporate health services provider PAM Group has continued its expansion with the acquisition of a business in Ireland.**

Warrington-headquartered PAM has acquired Corporate Health Ireland (CHI), which has 100 staff and annual revenues of 11 million euros.

CHI, which was established in 1999, provides consultant-led occupational health services across Ireland from clinics in Dublin, Cork, Waterford and Limerick.

Its services include medical assessments, health surveillance, absence management and flu vaccinations. CHI serves a wide client base across the public and private sectors, including pharmaceuticals, chemicals, technology, manufacturing and financial and professional services.

CHI will retain its brand identity and will continue to be led by Dr Sheelagh O'Brien in Dublin and Dr Martin Hogan in Cork.

PAM chief executive James Murphy said the acquisition is a strategic move that enables the group to grow its own service offering and to expand its geographical presence in Ireland. In addition, clients of CHI will have access to PAM's range of services.

Financial terms of the transaction are undisclosed.

James said: "I am delighted to have Corporate Health Ireland as our brand in Ireland. There is a strong cultural fit between CHI and PAM, as both companies recognise the value of colleagues and the services that

they provide to clients.

"CHI has a great management team, and we will provide them with the necessary level of resources and support to expand in Ireland. This acquisition also allows PAM to access new clients and grow our own service offering."

Martin Hogan said: "Being part of PAM Group will enable us to expand and increase our services to existing and new clients in Ireland.

"The support and investment in our colleagues from PAM, such as through continued professional development and systems, will strengthen CHI without changing the success factors upon which we have built the business.

"CHI will continue to be managed by our existing leadership team, who know our clients and are key to delivering our services. We are eagerly looking forward to the future as part of the PAM Group."

PAM Group, which employs more than 700 people, posted revenues of £45m for 2022 and is on track to reach £55m this year. PAM is looking to grow turnover to £80m over the next few years through continued organic expansion and further acquisitions.

The group is a major provider of occupational health, health screening and wellbeing services across the UK. It offers a range of integrated services to public and private sector clients, supporting more than a million employees at over 1,000 businesses and organisations.

Its services include physiotherapy,

absence management, employee assistance programmes, psychological support, corporate health assessments and neurodiversity assessments, ergonomic and assistive technology products, mobile health screening, drug and alcohol screening and a pathology laboratory.

The group operates a network of 25 clinics. It also has a retail arm which supplies fitness, exercise and rehabilitation equipment to consumers, sports clubs and sports and physiotherapy professionals.

CHI is PAM's third acquisition of 2023.

Earlier this month, the group announced the acquisition of the occupational physiotherapy business of Connect Health. The deal added 60 staff and £2m in annual revenues to the group's PAM Physio Solutions business.

In early 2023, PAM acquired MedProtect, which provides mobile health screening to companies across the UK and Ireland.

PAM is backed by private equity firm LDC to support its growth and the launch of new products and services.

James Murphy said: "Since June 2021, LDC has been our trusted investment partner to enable the business to execute on our ambitious growth plans within the occupational health and corporate health sector."

PAM was advised on the acquisition of CHI by Hill Dickinson, Dow Schofield Watts, RSM Ireland and Dublin law firm ByrneWallace. CHI was advised by accountants Quintas and law firm J W O'Donovan Solicitors, and Benchmark International, all based in Cork.



■ PAM chief executive James Murphy.

## State-of-the-art flexible workspace set to open in town

LEADING provider of hybrid working solutions IWG is opening a state-of-the-art flexible HQ workspace in Warrington.

The two-floor centre, in Moulders Lane, comes as part of a drive by IWG to meet the rising demand for top class flexible working space in the North West.

It will provide space for established firms and start-ups across a range of industries in Warrington while IWG's Design Your Own Office service allows companies to tailor their space entirely to their requirements.

Warrington is considered one of Cheshire's fastest growing regional locations, having experienced strong investment in local businesses and new enterprises. Demand for workspaces in the area has performed strongly, with the number of enquiries for space in IWG locations continuing to sharply increase.

The building owners decided to invest in the IWG platform in order to scale their business by capitalising on the rapidly expanding demand for hybrid working. With an annual investment of around £50m into

its technology platform, IWG provides partners with access to all the company's expertise as well as design and fit-out support and sales and marketing capabilities.

IWG claims to be the world's leading provider of flexible workspace – with 3,500 locations in more than 120 countries with members able to access all of the locations and business services via the IWG app.

As the ongoing shift towards hybrid working accelerates, conventional office occupancy will continue to fall as businesses require less traditional space and turn to flexible workspace instead. In 2022, IWG welcomed hundreds of new partner locations and is on track to add around 1,000 over the course of the next year. IWG already counts 83 per cent of Fortune 500 companies among its customer base.

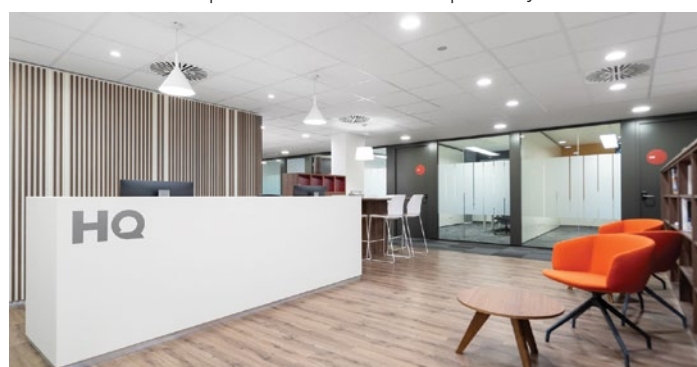
Mark Dixon, chief executive and founder of IWG, said: "We are establishing a stronger and much-needed footprint in the city with this latest opening. As an important business hub in the North West, Warrington is a fantastic place for us to boost our expansion plans.

The need for high-quality flexible workspaces continues to soar as hybrid working becomes the new normal. We are very pleased to work in partnership with altspace to develop the HQ brand that will add a cutting-edge workspace to the area.

"Our opening in Warrington comes at a time when more and more companies are discovering that flexible working boosts employee happiness and satisfaction, while helping the environment. Our workplace model is also proven to increase productivity and allows for a business to scale up or down at

significantly reduced costs."

IWG's multi-brand expansion strategy – its brands include Regus, Spaces and HQ – is designed to appeal to every type of business and entrepreneur. IWG creates personal, financial, and strategic value for businesses of every size, from some of the most exciting companies and well-known organisations on the planet, to individuals and the next generation of industry leaders. All of them harness the power of flexible working to increase their productivity, efficiency, agility, and market proximity.



# DAF dealer group North West Trucks celebrate the opening of new Warrington dealership

DAF dealership group, North West Trucks, has officially opened their new their new state-of-the-art site in Warrington.

Founded in 1899, North West Trucks is a leading DAF dealership group renowned for its

exceptional service and expertise in the commercial vehicle sector, serving customers throughout the North West.

The new site is in addition to its existing four dealerships in Huyton, Northwich, Wigan and

Ellesmere Port and features vehicle inspection, servicing, tachograph calibration, MOT preparation, dedicated bays with DAVIE diagnostics, air conditioning re-gassing and brake testing facilities to meet new DVSA regulations.

Peter Brabin, Depot Manager for North West Trucks Warrington explained: "We understand the importance of providing quality service to operators in the local area and our new site will allow us to do exactly that."

Brabin continued, "Our additional dealership is strategically located just off the M62 and M6 motorways, which will become a centre for aftersales and maintenance opening six days a week offering a seamless one-stop-shop service ensuring we can meet the demands of every commercial vehicle operator."

The dealership opening was marked by a special open day event, attended by customers, suppliers, stakeholders from across North West Trucks, Greenhous Group and DAF, and other VIPs, including former English rugby league player Paul Sulthorpe MBE.

Attendees were able to enjoy a ribbon cutting ceremony, along with presentations and talks, tours of the new site, as well as giving customers the opportunity to take a look at the New Generation DAF and electric trucks.

Peter Brabin concluded: "It was wonderful to celebrate this special occasion with so many colleagues, customers and business partners. The doors are open at Warrington and we can't wait to welcome customers new and old for many years to come."



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[info@warrington-chamber.co.uk](mailto:info@warrington-chamber.co.uk)

# Company aims to get young women to try something different

**WARRINGTON-headquartered engineering company BGEN wants to encourage young women to try something different – such as engineering or Rugby League.**

The company has partnered with Barrow Raiders rugby club to encourage the next generation of female engineers and rugby players.

BGEN employs more than 1,000 employees and specialises in digital, electrical and mechanical engineering, with clients including FTSE 100 and Fortune 500 companies such as AstraZeneca, British Steel and National Grid.

They also work with BAE Systems, one of Barrow-in-Furness' single largest employers.

One of the key aims of the new partnership with the Raiders will be to encourage more women in the area to try something different – such as rugby league and engineering. As part of this, BGEN will become the main commercial sponsor of the club's Raiders Girls side – an initiative that encourages young women aged 5-16 to get into the sport.

BGEN head of future markets Oliver Groarke said: "BGEN has been operating in the area

for more than 25 years, and the partnership with Barrow Raiders is part of our ongoing commitment to support the local community.

"We hope our sponsorship will encourage more girls and young ladies to try something different – such as rugby league or a career in engineering.

"On a personal level, I'm delighted to see some of the women's team having careers as skilled tradespeople such as welders and electricians, and we're looking

forward to supporting the next generation of skilled female rugby league players and engineers."

Barrow Raiders chairman Steve Neale said: "As part of the club's commitment to increase female opportunities and participation levels across the local area, this new partnership makes total sense for both parties.

"Gaining the support of a high-profile, reputable and esteemed organisation like BGEN is fantastic for the club and area as a whole,

and we are delighted to welcome them to the Raiders family."

Commercial manager Adele Neale said: "Having worked with BGEN since December 2022, we have built a good working relationship with them and know exactly how community-driven they are.

"As a club, we work very hard to make our sponsors feel incredibly special and encourage them to buy into our wider ethos, which is to improve the lives of the people closest to us."



## TIME SQUARE WARRINGTON

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