



GRADUATES ARE A

BIG DEAL

TO WATSON BURTON





WELCOME

TO WATSON BURTON

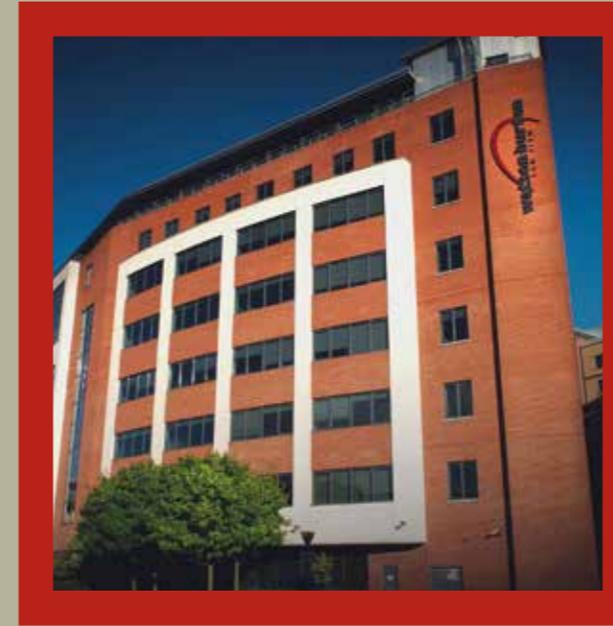
MATTHEW WATSON

“THE FIRM HAS A
FANTASTIC REPUTATION
REGIONALLY AND
NATIONALLY”

CHOOSING WHERE TO START
YOUR LEGAL CAREER IS AN
IMPORTANT DECISION.

At Watson Burton we want to help you reach your goals and as part of the team you'll be given everything you need to help achieve your potential.

With an established track record of recruiting and training talented, ambitious lawyers, we offer you the opportunity to work in a challenging, rewarding environment alongside some of the most dynamic and successful businesses in the UK.



ABOUT

WATSON BURTON

WATSON BURTON IS A LEADING
LAW FIRM WITH A WELL-EARNED
REPUTATION FOR HELPING OUR
CLIENTS SUCCEED.

For over 200 years we have offered commercial law services and have significant nationwide coverage, providing first class legal advice from offices in Newcastle, Leeds and London. Key to our success is a combination of commercial and technical experience delivered with a personal touch, which forms the foundation of many long-standing client relationships.

WATSON BURTON MADE A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF FRANCESCA

FRANCESCA IS RECEIVING
THE SUPPORT SHE NEEDS
TO DEVELOP HER CAREER.

"I was very interested in following a career in commercial law as my father works in the house building industry. I first met the Watson Burton team at a careers fair, they were really friendly towards me and as a result I wanted to know more about the firm.

"Since starting my traineeship I've seen first-hand that Watson Burton has a close-knit, family feel to it - and when they say they have an 'open door' policy, they really mean it! The partners are very supportive and understanding, and I never feel overwhelmed.

"All of the departments are encouraged to mingle together, which makes you feel like you are part of the 'bigger picture' at Watson Burton... and this inclusive approach strengthens your connections with other members of staff.

"There are many great social aspects to the firm too: we've all taken part in the 'Watson Burton Olympics' on a Nintendo Wii - which has been great fun!"

FRANCESCA HAWKER

"WATSON BURTON
HAS A CLOSE-KNIT,
FAMILY FEEL"



WATSON BURTON MADE A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF OLIVIA

OLIVIA HAS BEEN WORKING
WITH MAJOR CLIENTS
FROM THE OUTSET.

"I had my first taste of life at Watson Burton during a vacation placement a few years ago... and it really sold the firm to me. It felt like they really invested in the next generation.

"However I was still very nervous when I walked through the door a few years later, on my first day as a trainee. Within minutes, though, I was completely at ease. It's obvious that at Watson Burton, they want to encourage you to grow as a professional and will help you get the best out of your traineeship.

"As a trainee here, your work really makes a difference - you are given responsibility and the firm puts its faith in you, they believe in your abilities. I've already supported the team on very high level work with major clients and the partners ensure you are heavily involved. I'm learning so much here!"

OLIVIA COULSON

"AS A TRAINEE HERE,
YOUR WORK REALLY
MAKES A DIFFERENCE"



LIVING AND WORKING

IN THE NORTH EAST

The North East is a great place to live and work. Famous for its friendly people and iconic landscapes, the North East also offers a vibrant cultural life through art galleries, museums, live venues, theatres and growing creative and professional communities.



WORKING

AT WATSON BURTON

As a valued member of the team you will be encouraged and supported every step of the way to develop a commercially focused approach that our clients have come to value from us. The environment is professional and friendly, and allows you to get real hands-on experience with clients.

BENEFITS

OF WORKING WITH US

- Competitive salary
- Pension scheme
- Healthcare scheme
- Generous study leave
- Paid professional memberships/subscriptions
- LPC fee support
- Regular social events
- Opportunities to be involved in our charity and community initiatives

PRACTICE AREAS

AT WATSON BURTON

CORPORATE & COMMERCIAL

The team deals with mergers and acquisitions, joint ventures and other corporate matters. We also advise on venture capital and private equity investments. In addition to transactional work, Watson Burton is involved in assisting businesses with a wide range of commercial contracts.

REAL ESTATE

Our real estate team deals with handling negotiations for major commercial and residential schemes, acting for developers and investors. The team takes a very active role in the utilities, ground-rent and plot sales markets.

CONSTRUCTION AND ENGINEERING

Our construction and engineering group has attracted some of the UK's largest housebuilders, developers, contractors and consultants as clients, tackling major projects and resolving the most complicated disputes.

PROFESSIONAL NEGLIGENCE INSURANCE

Our top-ranked team defends claims nationally for professional negligence against a wide range of businesses, including construction professionals, solicitors, accountants, insurance brokers and asbestos consultants. We also advise insurers on whether claims are covered under their insurance policies.

EMPLOYMENT

We have one of the most experienced employment groups in the North of England with a solid base in the North East, particularly in the education, construction, engineering and energy sectors as well as nationally with clients including multiple FTSE 250 listed companies.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

Our commercial litigation team deals with a broad spectrum of areas including commercial disputes and property litigation, and works with a number of clients including universities, housebuilders and utility providers.

WATSON BURTON MADE A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF MEGAN

MEGAN CAME TO WATSON BURTON
THROUGH OUR VACATION SCHEME...
AND SHE'S NEVER LOOKED BACK.

"Watson Burton are very supportive throughout the recruitment process and I've seen at first hand that if the firm sees potential in you, they will work with you to develop it.

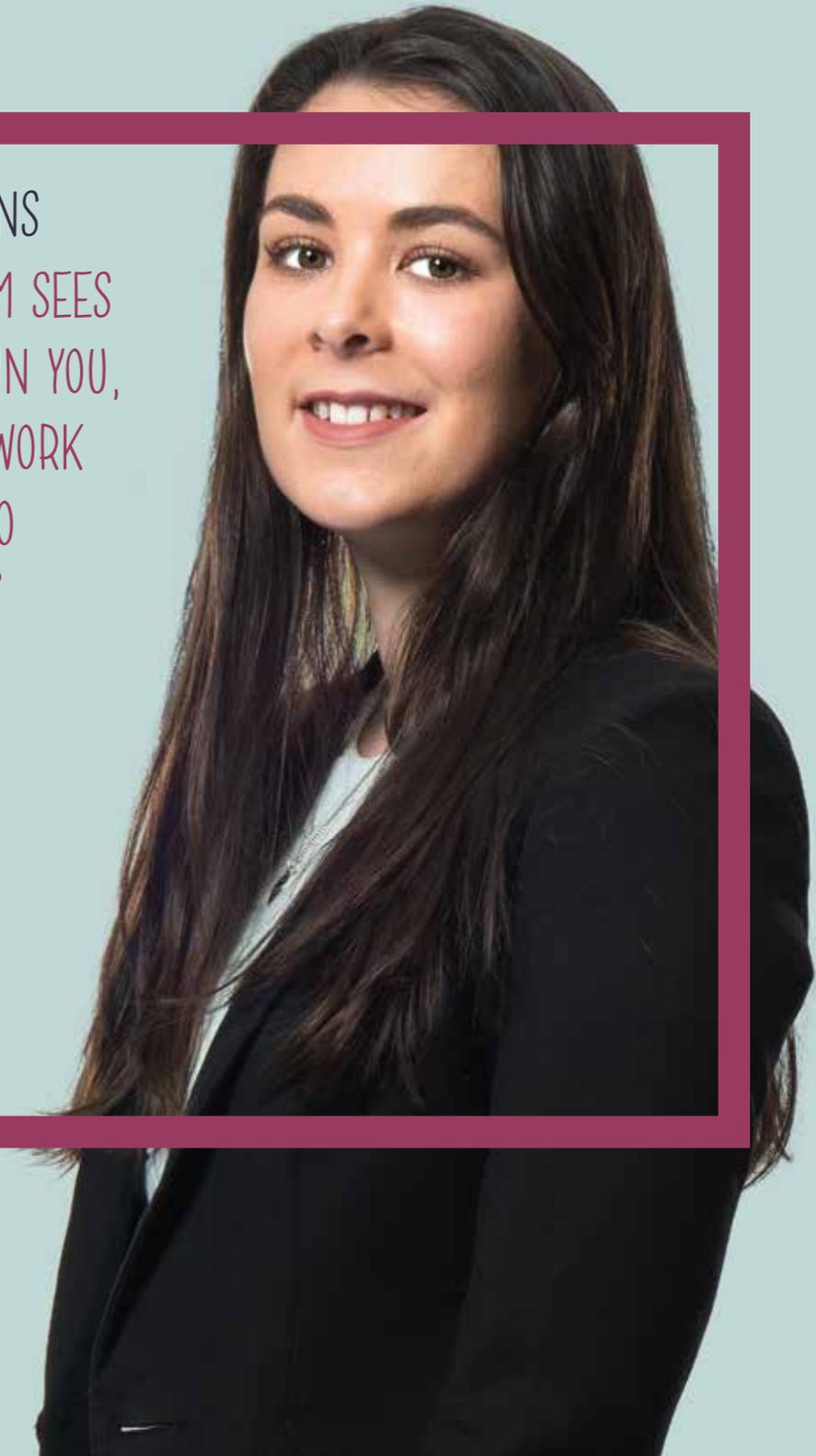
"In my case, after graduating I undertook Watson Burton's Vacation Scheme, which was the start of my relationship with the firm. I was then offered a graduate training contract at Watson Burton, but before starting that, I worked as a paralegal in the firm, working mainly in the corporate team.

"This gave me the opportunity to get to know the staff, the company culture and gain more of an understanding of the kind of work Watson Burton undertakes.

"I then commenced my graduate training contract at Watson Burton. I'm learning about so many different aspects of law and there is a real sense of community here - everyone supports each other."

MEGAN IRONS

"IF THE FIRM SEES
POTENTIAL IN YOU,
THEY WILL WORK
WITH YOU TO
DEVELOP IT"



WATSON BURTON MADE A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF RICHARD

RICHARD PALMER STARTED OUT WITH THE FIRM AS A GRADUATE TRAINEE OVER 25 YEARS AGO... HE IS NOW ONE OF THE EQUITY PARTNERS AT WATSON BURTON.

"When I first encountered Watson Burton I sensed that it was a really great place to work with a good atmosphere: that shone through on my very first day and it has been like that ever since.

"I work with clients in a wide range of sectors including property, technology and energy, helping people to find solutions to problems... which is what I enjoy. And you'll certainly encounter lots of different challenges during your time here - and be rewarded for your success too.

"In addition, there are huge opportunities for progression at Watson Burton. From qualifying and working in the firm's construction team, I became a partner in 1999 and I'm now one of the principal owners of the business."

RICHARD PALMER
"THERE ARE HUGE OPPORTUNITIES FOR PROGRESSION AT WATSON BURTON"



WATSON BURTON MADE A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF JESSICA

JESSICA STARTED AS A
TRAINEE – AND NOW SHE'S
A FULLY QUALIFIED SOLICITOR.

"I took a long time to decide on where the best place to train was going to be and I'm glad I chose Watson Burton. What has really struck me about working here is that the firm really cares about training and sees it as an important investment. The company really wants to get the best out of you.

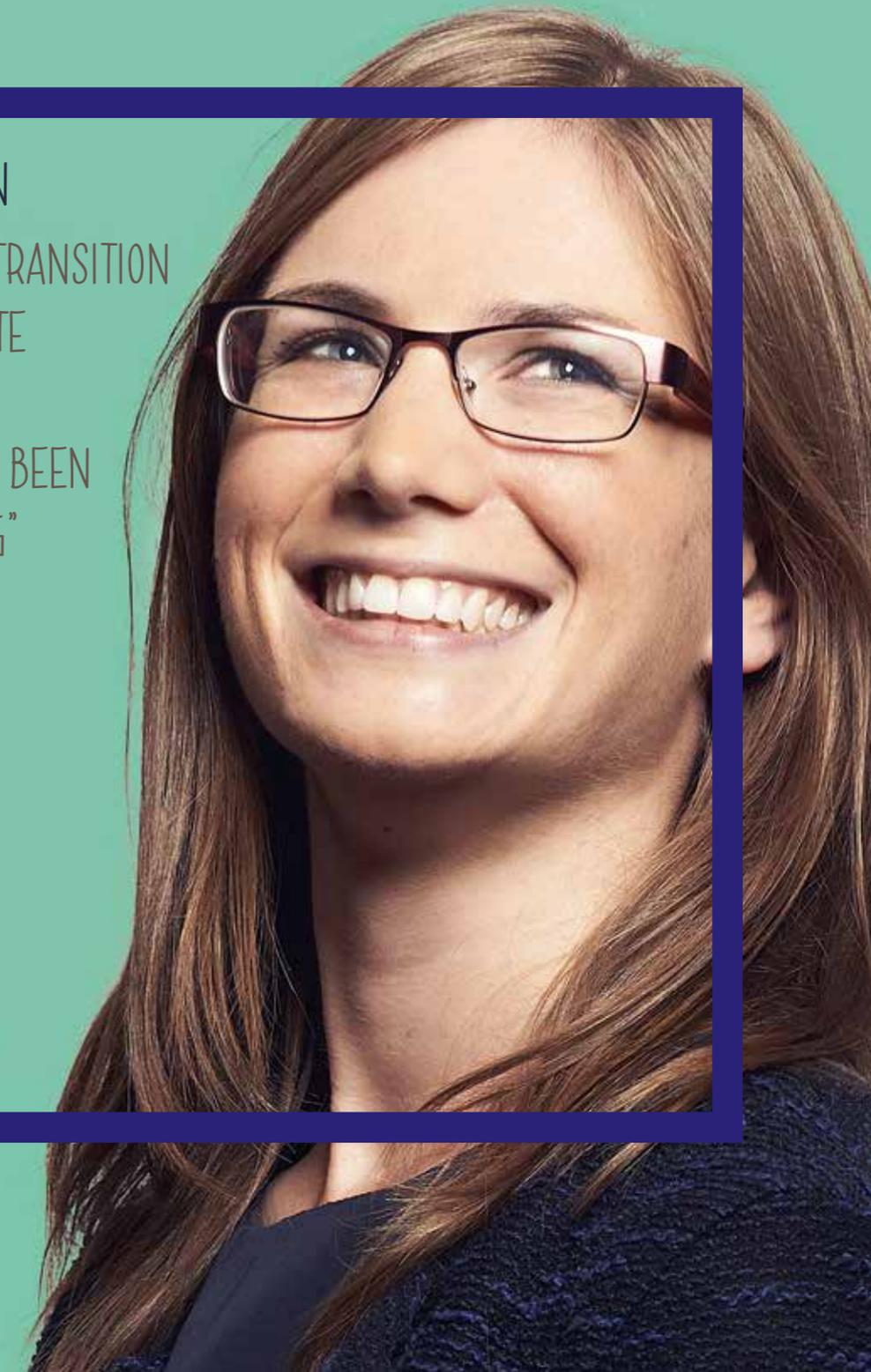
"Making the transition from graduate trainee to solicitor has been truly exciting and I'm now playing a key role in the commercial litigation team.

"I gained valuable first-hand experience during my training contract and worked on high level cases, supporting senior solicitors and partners.

"The skills and knowledge I acquired during the graduate training contract have provided an excellent grounding in my career as a solicitor."

JESSICA BRAIN

"MAKING THE TRANSITION
FROM GRADUATE
TRAINEE TO
SOLICITOR HAS BEEN
TRULY EXCITING"



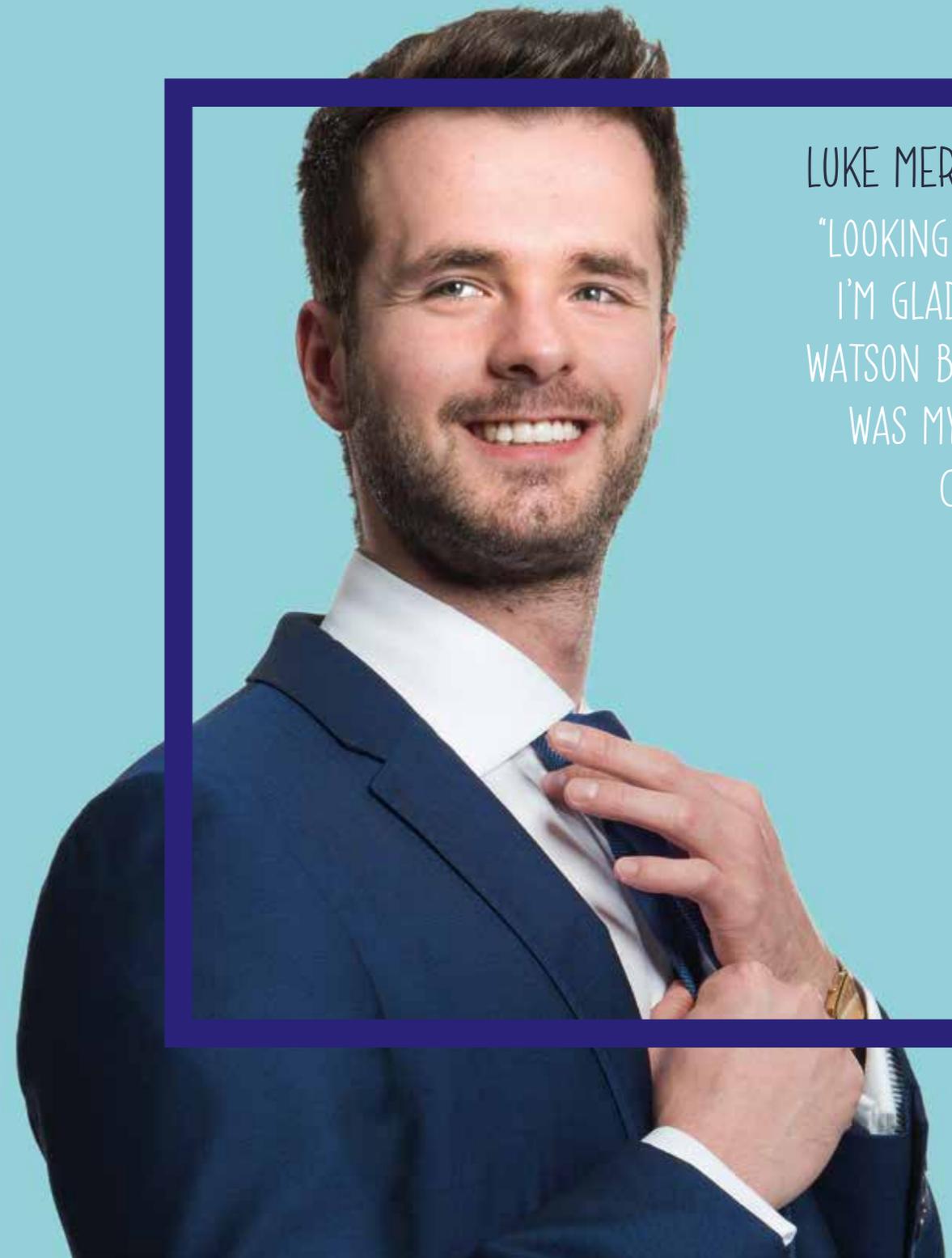
WATSON BURTON MADE A
BIG DEAL
OUT OF LUKE

FORMERLY A PARALEGAL
AND NOW A TRAINEE,
LUKE IS ENJOYING THE
LEARNING EXPERIENCE AT
WATSON BURTON.

"Watson Burton has a fantastic reputation and is renowned for providing a high quality graduate training experience: this was one of the key reasons I applied for a graduate training contract with the firm.

"What also influenced my decision was meeting the team at a graduate recruitment fair - I got the immediate impression that the firm had a warm, collaborative working culture, and a really nice 'feel' to it. After working at the firm as a paralegal, I'm pleased to say that my first impressions were correct and I was glad to accept a place on the graduate training programme!

"For me, what's great about the programme is that it offers a constant learning cycle - and I've developed invaluable skills here. For instance, I've learned to manage my time correctly, work with clients effectively and deal with multiple projects, as well as gaining a real in-depth understanding of areas of law including construction, corporate and property."



LUKE MEREDITH
"LOOKING BACK,
I'M GLAD THAT
WATSON BURTON
WAS MY FIRST
CHOICE"



KIERAN KELLY

“CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROGRESSION OF A CASE – FROM INCEPTION TO CONCLUSION – IS REALLY REWARDING”

VACATION SCHEME AND TRAINING CONTRACT

With consistently high retention rates, our training contract gives you the best possible start to your legal career. The contract is set out across two years covering four six-month rotations across our national groups.

You'll work across a range of disciplines to enable you to get an all-round understanding of commercial law and give you the skills you need for the future. You'll be given support and feedback at all stages and work closely with a mentor.

We would ask anyone serious about undertaking their training with us to apply for our vacation scheme. This will give you the best platform from which to showcase both your technical and interpersonal skills. Our vacation scheme ensures that you will be exposed to both contentious and non-contentious work as well as having an opportunity to work with other candidates on practical exercises focusing on soft skills. We see the vacation scheme as an integral part of the training contract application process.

WORK EXPERIENCE

We have a number of work experience opportunities available over the summer months. Whilst these are primarily aimed at first year undergraduates and those graduates considering their GDL, the application process is open to all.

PARALEGAL

We have seen an increasing number of graduates, who have joined us a paralegal, attain their training contract as a result of recognition of their skills and attitude within that role. All paralegal positions are advertised on our website.



PAUL WIGHAM

“WE PUT OUR TRUST IN PEOPLE AND THERE IS A GREAT CHANCE TO BUILD YOUR CAREER HERE”



LEAH PATTISON

“YOU ARE NOT JUST A NUMBER AT WATSON BURTON. YOU ARE VALUED”

For further details on requirements, applications, deadlines, key dates and how to apply, please visit www.watsonburtongraduates.com or email graduates@watsonburton.com



WATSON BURTON

1 St James' Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE99 1YQ

Tel: 0345 901 2100

Email: graduates@watsonburton.com

Web: www.watsonburtongraduates.com