

British Chambers of Commerce EMPLOYMENT EXPERT PANEL



Hema Mistry

Hema is the Director of Quest Business Services, which provides HR and health and safety solutions to individual businesses and membership organisations throughout the UK. She works closely with key stakeholders in the SME market and colleagues to direct, manage and implement organisational change and development and people management strategy.



Emma Lightfoot

Emma is Head of Personnel and Development at Magnus Group. Magnus Group is a haulage, warehousing and freight forwarding logistics company based just outside Ipswich with additional warehousing at the Port of Felixstowe.

Magnus is a family-run business employing 150 people.



Jane Gratton

Jane is Head of People Policy at the British Chambers of Commerce. Her role is to ensure the needs of Chambers and their member businesses are heard by government and policy makers on a wide range of issues relating to employment and skills. Before joining the BCC, Jane was the Deputy Chief Executive at Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce, delivering a wide range of practical business support services to thousands of local SMEs, including start-up, scale-up and trading internationally.

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Jonathan Goodger

Jonathan is the Head of Employee Relations for the UK & Ireland at Ipsen Biopharm, a pharmaceutical company based in Slough, Oxford and Wrexham (and Dublin). Ipsen employs circa 750 people in its three UK sites.

Jonathan has worked in employee relations for nearly 25 years with experience of labour relations, employment policy and employment law, having previously worked at TSB, Scottish Widows and Lloyds Bank.



Michael Millward MSc FCIPD

Michael is the managing director of Abeceder, a provider of employee management software and services based in Leeds. During a HR career that spans more than 40 years, Michael has worked in a wide range of different types of organisations from small start-ups to major conglomerates and public sector, in the UK and around the world.

He is an examiner for the Chartered Governance Institute, and volunteers as a member of the CIPD Professional Standards Investigations Team, and as well as several other business-related organisations.



Emma Swan

Emma is a Partner with overall responsibility for the commercial legal services of Forbes Solicitors. She is also the Head of Commercial Employment in the Employment, HR and Business Immigration Team based across Lancashire, Manchester and Leeds.

She advises and assists private sector clients, from local SMEs to large multinational PLCs, with particular expertise in the manufacturing and construction industries, as well as the hospitality and retail sectors. She is a Legal 500 Recommended Lawyer.

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Christina Pendleton

Christina is the Chief People Officer at Intercity, which is a B2B technology solutions company providing communications, cloud, security and managed IT services. Head quartered in Birmingham and with offices in Bolton, Elstree and Northampton, Intercity employs 200 people across the UK.



Helen Cornah

Helen is the Director and joint owner of Recruit Right Ltd, who provide temporary and permanent recruitment to a number of organisations and sectors across the North of England and North Wales. Recruit Right have on average over 700 temporary staff working each day. Their key sectors are Warehousing and Logistics, Call Centre, Office Support and FMCG. Helen has been in recruitment for the past 27 years.



Julia Onslow-Cole

Julia is a Partner in Fragomen specialising in Global Government Strategies and Compliance supporting clients worldwide to optimise global mobility strategies, enhance compliance and leverage best practice in all critical immigration related policies including crisis management. Julia has been liaising with Government and Business on Brexit and has given expert evidence at the European Parliament. Julia has represented business at the Prime Minister's immigration stock take meeting and acted as an advisor to the Home Office on business, investment and growth. Julia is a member of the Mayor of London's Brexit Advisory Group and was recently appointed to the Society for Human Resource Management's Immigration Speciality Panel and to the board of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

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Steve Tellwright

Steve is the HR Director of Capula, an Advanced Systems Integration business, supplying control system solutions to energy generation and energy distribution businesses that form part of the UK's national infrastructure.

Before pursuing a career in HR, Steve held technical management roles after studying materials engineering at Loughborough University. A Chartered Fellow of CIPD, Steve has experience of leading large business change projects and has a broad operational background in the automotive aftermarket and service sector businesses..