

LAW FIRM OF THE YEAR (REGIONAL)



Enoch Evans LLP

Described as a momentous year for Enoch Evans, 2019 saw major development and progress for Enoch Evans. In addition to its strong presence in The Legal 500, it has grown to more than 90 professionals and celebrated a successful first year at its second location in Sutton Coldfield. Three practice areas were included in The Legal 500 2020, with the corporate and commercial department recognised for the third year and commercial property team and commercial litigation expertise making its first appearance.

The Legal 500 includes a Hall of Fame in recognition of individuals that have honed a high-level of skill within their specific area of expertise. Sukie Shemar was named for corporate and commercial services for the third time and the achievements of the firm's commercial property department were also recognised, highlighting the firm's ability to support clients from large inner-city commercial deals to out of city property work.

Partner Stephen Nixon was also named for the first time in relation to commercial litigation.

The team's community efforts have seen it forge strong new professional relationships and become involved with a variety of events. Its presence in various professional bodies and commitment to CSR projects was also outstanding.

QualitySolicitors Davisons

The expansion of the firm to reach more than 200 staff has been an important milestone, along with a new Wolverhampton office opening. There has been an abundance of community-spirited initiatives and sponsored sporting.

A small conveyancing team has developed to now include all main high street areas of law such as family, private client and litigation, with a growing staff base.

Staff expansion has meant the introduction of a dedicated management and marketing team as well as growth of its New Build Department.

With restrictions of eligibility for Legal Aid and the closure of many Citizens Advice Bureaus, Enoch Evans now run two local client drop-in clinics each month. Significant support has also been shown to homeless people in Birmingham. Staff satisfaction and morale has been boosted by a number of initiatives.

Sydney Mitchell LLP

This last year has proved a hugely positive one with increased income surpassing expectations and a new immigration team making a timely difference.

An on-going review process, environmental initiatives, staff training, flexible working and bonus structures have all added to a very optimistic outlook.

Staff morale is high and thanks to excellent communication and consultation.

Sydney Mitchell has been recognised as a great supporter of The Buddy Bag Foundation which provides essentials for children entering emergency care and to Age UK in Solihull.

The Wilkes Partnership

As a proud Birmingham firm, the company has an admirable commitment to improving engagement with the key legal bodies and showcasing excellent work delivered - both private and corporate.

It has been a fantastic year with a merger with the historic Coley & Tilley Solicitors a definite highlight that continues long-term, sustainable growth plans. Winning the Legal Firm of the Year Award at The City of Birmingham Business Awards was a brilliant honour.

Acorns Children's Hospice has been charity of the year and a target of raising £10,000 has been set - and already exceeded with £15,000 achieved so far.

Staff also take part in the Giving Tree, a campaign aimed at providing disadvantaged children with Christmas presents run by KidsOut, the fun and happiness charity. This scheme is run by partner, Rick Smyth, who is current regional chairman for Kids Out.

Local food banks have also been regularly supported as well as Solihull Age UK. Here, a general, free of charge drop-in legal clinic is offered. A Wills clinic at Solihull Age UK allows local people the opportunity to have an initial chat about their affair and how best to arrange them.