



If we gave you a soapbox in Queen Square, what would you talk about?

The need for the wider business community in Bristol and the SW to get behind the ideas and work of our local politicians (whatever their party). There are opportunities and challenges that need to be grasped in a joined-up way, that will make Bristol an even better place to work and live.

Finally, any tips for anyone starting out in law?

As a junior lawyer, don't be too fixated on becoming a specialist in one area. Whatever the business, be it a law firm or anything else, we all have to be excellent at what we do. And it is equally important to have the ability to create new ideas, change and adapt.

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LGT VESTRA

Andrew Davies is Head of South West at wealth management firm LGT Vestra at Temple Quay; they also have branches in London and Jersey

Of the post-Brexit changes so far anticipated, which are likely to affect your business?

It is too early to say; however, our clients are sensitive to the uncertainty. If anything, Brexit has highlighted the need to consider a global investment approach within portfolios, a value shared by LGT Vestra, where we look to help clients achieve this.

What measures have you put in place to prevent being hacked? What cyber-security measures should ALL companies be putting in place right now?

It would be impossible to list all the measures but, suffice to say, LGT Vestra take information security very seriously. As the world becomes ever more dependent on data, it is critical for businesses to take every necessary measure to ensure that their systems are secure and clients are protected. ▷

Do you work with AI, such as chatbots?

We have a watching brief, as do many law firms, and look for opportunities to apply AI to bulk mechanical tasks. We've been watching with interest as AI has started to make its way into legal services and have recently been supporting Clerksroom, a chambers (group) of barristers and mediators, with their development of BillyBot. This is a project to build a chatbot who will do the work of a junior barrister's clerk, and eventually guide users to online legal information.

Opposite page, Simon Heald and the rather snazzy VVW offices. Above, Andrew Davies of LGT Vestra

One report predicts that in 45 years, half of all jobs will be done by AI. What do you think the law field will look like in 2060?

Technological advances are nothing new – 30 years ago, the internet didn't exist! Lawyers will adapt and innovate as AI develops, and I believe there will always be a need for top-level advisory work being done by people, not bots.

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