



Meet the Team

James Davies – Lawyer (specialism change)

Before starting my role within the legal service I worked in private practice specialising in personal injury litigation. I had wanted to retrain as a commercial property lawyer and the Councils recognised my ambition and desire to do this and offered me the opportunity to achieve this with on the job training and support.

Working for the legal service means that you are providing legal support to three Suffolk district councils and given nature of the land ownership that the councils have means that you are exposed to a wide variety of different types of cases that you probably would not see in private practice. This leads to great opportunity to learn and have a varied experience of work types in your chosen area of law. The variety means that you are never bored with doing the same thing.

I am not sure there is a typical working day. You are very much driven by the cases that you are dealing with at the time, and their urgency and need to deliver the service to the council.

The most satisfying aspect of working for the legal service is being able to be involved in the workings of local government and seeing what is happening at the local level in the county in which I live and having a part to play in the delivery of projects that will benefit the local community.

Emma Barrett – Legal Assistant (career pathway)

Before I joined the legal service I worked in the Democratic Services team as an admin assistant. I joined the legal service as technical support for the commercial team back in 2019 and I am now on a career pathway into the role of legal assistant for the commercial and property team.

I like that being quite a large team there are lots of different people with different areas of expertise so there's always somebody who is able to offer help and support when needed.

Since the Commercial and Property team have come together the work has become even more varied so I get to work on a wide range of different matters each day.

I learn something new almost every day which is satisfying for me as it helps with my progression into the legal assistant role.

Alan Taylor – Legal Assistant (career pathway to lawyer)

The best thing about working in the legal service is the team atmosphere and feeling like everyone's supporting each other

Before working for the legal service I worked in private practice for a high street firm as a legal assistant.

I would say there is no such day as a typical day working in the legal service the variance of the workload and the continued changing environment of Local Government means a wide array of legal work

The most satisfying thing about my role is the flexibility in working and the wide range of work helping to improve my legal knowledge