

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

ESCAPE TO THE COUNTRY



Escape to the country should be far more than a daytime TV series that has become familiar during the Covid-19 lockdown.

Rural property expert Hannah Rickards, of BCM Rural Property Specialists, itself based in a village close to Winchester, says taking the country route to work each day could bring significant and beneficial change for many businesses where it's not essential work from urban centres.

"Our own business model here at BCM demonstrates what's possible so we speak from experience," explains Hannah. In addition to its head office at The Old Dairy on the fringes of Sutton Scotney, the consultancy also operates from a barn conversion near Newport serving the Isle of Wight, and an office on a farm near Wallingford that serves Oxfordshire, Berkshire, and the Cotswolds as well as farm businesses eastwards towards London.

"Being in the countryside has many advantages, including easier commuting, less trouble for staff when parking and even time-saving because there's no queueing to get into the office via keenly-sought public parking spaces and busy commuter routes, something that also pays off when staff go out on client visits," adds Hannah.

"The essentials are to choose an office that has ready road links coupled with good telephone and broadband provision; increasingly the latter two are comparable for quality with cities or towns in many village and farm locations. After the chaos of Covid-19 lockdown, many businesses might find it easier to configure a new office in a rural area than to rearrange existing space to cope with social distancing, which many regard as the new norm.

"At BCM we often find tenants for good rural office space before we advertise and, going forward, those planning on making the switch from urban to rural might want to bear in mind that they need to make commercial lettings agents an integral part of their planning process as they design a scheme that suits their business.

"There are many possibilities in these fast-changing times and it's essential they are weighed up carefully and full use is made of professionals who can ease the process, preventing it from stalling virtually before it has begun.

"In addition to letting space, BCM can draw on its own experience to assist the search for suitable premises. It can be resource-draining so far better to have the letting agent take the strain while directors or partners concentrate on what they know best, running their own business and preparing it for the move when the right new office is found for them."





rural property specialists

01983 828 800 | bcm.co.uk

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For more information, contact Hannah Rickards
Call: +44(0)1962 763 900 Email: info@bcm.co.uk

