

Warwickshire Local Authorities Lead the Way in Partnerships

August 2004: Warwickshire Local Authorities and Bristow & Sutor civil enforcement agents announce the signing of an exclusive 3-year partnership agreement to maximise best value and bailiff practice across Warwickshire.

The 4 councils participating in the agreement are North Warwickshire Borough Council, Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council, Rugby Borough Council and Warwick District Council. The partnership agreement focuses on the collection of council tax and non-domestic rates.

Henry Liddington, Head of Revenue Services at Rugby Borough Council says: "The partnership will be looking to achieve real and sustained improvement. "This innovative approach will ensure the transfer of knowledge within each of the authorities and will create a best practice template that embraces customer focus to our benefit and delivers a practical solution to improving local government performance. "The 4 council's involved share the commitment to working in partnership with service providers. Through this approach we will jointly eliminate duplication, identify any gaps in service provision and ensure that Best Value services are delivered. This new service agreement will capitalise on best practice and an approach to the collection of council tax and business rates that will improve performance across the board. This is exactly the results-oriented service that the Warwickshire authorities look for."

The 4 Warwickshire authorities are responsible for a total collectable debt of £300 million.

"Whilst the 4 local authorities are demographically different and each with local needs and requirements to best service their respective communities, standardising the operation of bailiffs will ensure a consistent approach to debt collection, share and build on and improve existing good practice and thereby raise the level of professionalism across the whole region," says Andy Rose, Managing Director of civil enforcement specialist Bristow & Sutor. We recognise that individual authorities have specific requirements that will need to be addressed. Regardless of a shared agreement, we will cater for the particular needs and practices of each billing authority. We are delighted to be involved in this long term strategy with the named authorities and look forward to achieving the set targets and standards."



Left to Right: Brian Berry, (Nuneaton & Bedworth Borough Council), Henry Liddington (Rugby Borough Council), Andrew Rose [centre] (Managing Director, Bristow & Sutor), Bob Trahern (North Warwickshire Borough Council), Andy Jones (Warwick District Council)

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About Bristow & Sutor

Bristow & Sutor has been providing civil enforcement and certificated bailiff services to Local Authorities, Magistrates' Courts and Commercial Landlords since its establishment in 1977. The company now directly employs over 100 certificated bailiffs and a support team over 100 strong. Bristow & Sutor provide a variety of collection services to both Local Authorities and Commercial customers. Services include the enforcement of PCN's and the collection of Council Tax, Business Rates, Commercial Rent and Magistrates' Courts Fines.

This release is issued by Bristow & Sutor through Just Consulting Ltd. For further information please contact:

Justine Bird 07971 169 573 jbird@justconsulting.co.uk	Andrew Rose 01527 504002 andrewrose@bristowsutor.co.uk
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