

New chapter for Macquarie

Macquarie Planner Services
Smart solutions made simple



Macquarie's Head of Banking and Financial Services (UK), Jason Huddy, tells us about how HRH The Duke of York opened Macquarie's new Bristol office



Macquarie's new premises in St Thomas Street, Bristol, were officially opened on 2 March 2010 by His Royal Highness The Duke of York, in his capacity as the UK's Special Representative for International Trade and Investment.

The St Thomas Street building in Bristol, known as The Core, has become the new headquarters of Macquarie's retail operations in the UK and is the central hub for Macquarie Banking and Financial Services Group (BFS). Bristol was chosen due to the South West's expanding retail financial services infrastructure, access to its growing professional financial planning community and the ability to attract and retain quality staff.

Today, BFS employs around 50 staff in the Bristol office alone and from here will continue to support and grow the teams based in London, Leeds and Reading.

The South West region has become very important to us and our aim is to become a long-term employer of choice in the region. We hope to do this not only in partnership with local business, but also by becoming a quality financial services provider to clients across the United Kingdom.

Our new premises provide the space to expand as the business develops and it gives staff the working environment that is necessary for us to capitalise on the new opportunities in financial services. Anyone seeing the office cannot fail to notice that they are somewhat different from the traditional offices that most financial services companies have. This is because BFS is adopting something called Activity Based Working (ABW) throughout its new global offices. The space occupied in The Core has adopted the design and technology principles of this new way of working.

ABW provides a more flexible, transparent and collaborative environment in which to work. It provides an innovative space for staff, but, most of all, ABW is all about our clients.

ABW is the brainchild of the Dutch company Veldhoen and Co which demonstrated to us several years ago, that innovative organisations define their culture, not just in words but in the design of their workspaces, the way they work in them and the way they collaborate with their clients.

Macquarie's culture has always been open to new ideas, open to new ways of looking at things and open to new ways of finding the best solutions for our clients and our people.

A workplace has been created that forces us out of the traditional office and into an atmosphere where people are encouraged to get together and discuss new ideas to help our clients.

This new way of working has already shown results in our Sydney operations and the increased opportunities for development, growth and learnings are encouraging people in their roles and helping them to advance their careers with our organisation. ABW is already reaping the same rewards and results for all of our staff in Bristol.

Take a look at some pictures of the new office opening.

