



L-r – Lucy Winskell OBE, Sir Geoffrey Voss, His Honour Judge Kramer, Vice Chancellor Mr Justice Barling

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Northumbria judged ideal venue to announce new law court

Northumbria University, Newcastle, has hosted a prestigious launch event announcing the opening of a Business and Property Court (B&PC) in Newcastle. Offering convenient access to experienced judges and expert legal services, the Court will be located initially at the Law Courts on Newcastle's Quayside. It will combine and co-ordinate the specialist civil jurisdictions of the High Court and County Court to provide a single resource for commercial and property-related litigation in the North East. The Government established B&PCs last year to offer legal services to the business community outside of London. Newcastle is one of only seven cities to be allocated a Business and

Property Court.

With its pioneering Law School, excellent relationships with the legal professions and the judiciary and established partnerships with regional businesses, Northumbria was seen as an ideal venue for the launch.

Northumbria's Student Law Office has an international reputation for clinic-based education where supervised student teams provide legal advice and support to real clients, including businesses. Since 2008, the award-winning Student Law Office has managed more than 5,500 enquiries, represented over 2,300 clients and secured in excess of £1 million on their behalf. Clinic-based learning has been extended further at Northumbria recently, with students studying on an innovative Business Clinic course providing free consultancy services to businesses and other organisations.

Northumbria also has a strong record of working with businesses. It collaborates with partners from the public, private and voluntary sectors in areas including research and development, innovation, enterprise and entrepreneurship, leadership, and people management and skills.

Key speakers at the launch were Sir Geoffrey Vos, Chancellor of the High Court, Mr Justice Barling, Vice-Chancellor of the County Palatine of Lancaster, and His Honour Judge Philp Kramer, who will be the main presiding judge in Newcastle.

Lucy Winskell OBE, Pro Vice-Chancellor (Employability and Partnerships) at Northumbria, said: "We were delighted to host this important event. Having a B&PC in Newcastle is hugely significant for the region and has been warmly welcomed by the business community. Access to experienced judges and highly specialised legal services without having to travel to London will support the development and competitiveness of our businesses, and the wider North East economy. At the same time, having such a valuable asset right on our doorstep will offer additional learning and perhaps career opportunities to our students."

The B&PCs have been created as a single umbrella for specialist civil jurisdictions across England and Wales. As well as Newcastle, they have been established in Manchester, Birmingham, Leeds, Bristol, Cardiff and Liverpool.

Northumbria is a research-rich, business-focused, professional university with a global reputation for academic excellence. To find out more about our courses go to www.northumbria.ac.uk

If you have a media enquiry please contact our Media and Communications team at media.communications@northumbria.ac.uk or call 0191 227 4604.

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