



HAMPTON STEEL - CHAMBER MEMBER

HAMPTON'S RYLOCK® GREEN CHOSEN FOR UPTON PARK FLOOD PLAIN TRANSFORMATION



Hampton's Rylock® Green was selected by idverde, Europe's leading provider of ground maintenance services and landscape construction, as the fencing system for an impressive re-development of Upton Park in Northamptonshire. The Upton Park Phase 2 transformation includes 4km of footpaths, 2km of cycle paths and 3km of fencing – with associated bridges, boardwalks and culverts. Works commenced on the flood plain in May 2019 and will be completed by the end of 2019. With an enviable reputation of building award-winning landscapes throughout the UK, France and the Netherlands including the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, idverde chose Rylock® Green for the Upton Park project due to its excellent quality, increased durability; twenty years guarantee and aesthetically pleasing green finish.

‘We wanted a fencing system for the Upton Country Park development that would not only visually compliment the 127 hectares but also provide the increased durability inherent with Rylock® Green. The resulting fencing blends perfectly with the natural environment, providing boundaries where required but not to the detriment of the landscape; an amazing transformation of a previously relatively unutilised site’ said Nicola Easdale, Operations Director of idverde.

Northampton Borough Council says the country park project will ‘provide a gateway to the wider countryside and create a link between the urban area and the countryside’, as well as proving an ‘attractive setting for adjoining development’.

Manufactured by Hampton Steel at their Wellingborough premises, Rylock® Green is part of the superior fencing range offered by Hampton's which includes Rylock® One, Tinsley Green®, Sentinel® and Hampton NET™. Agricultural fencing and line wire, barbed wire and staples are all included in the Rylock® Green range of products, providing the fencing professional with a complete portfolio of UK manufactured premier fencing.

Launched last year, Hampton's metal post and clip system, Versalok® continues its popularity, with impressive sales since winning in the innovation awards category at LAMMA in January 2019 and the Royal Highland Show in June. Increasing numbers of fencing specifiers are opting for Versalok® over traditional timber posts.

Manufactured with a zinc, magnesium and aluminium alloy coating, Versalok® intermediate post system is produced in standard lengths of 1.8m, 2.2m and 2.9m and comes with a thirty years guarantee.

Hampton's full product range can be viewed at www.hamptonsteel.co.uk or call 01933 234070 to discuss your fencing requirements.



WELLINGBOROUGH & EAST NORTHANTS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

We are pleased to announce that seven of our professional members have agreed to offer an advice line facility for members. This will allow an initial consultation of around thirty minutes free of any charge but to qualify, members MUST IDENTIFY themselves as members of THIS CHAMBER. The businesses offering their services are:

- Wilson Browne Solicitors** **Oxford Street**
Contact Samantha McKellar on all matters except criminal law on 01933 279000
- Isis Business Solutions** **Venture Court, 2 Debdale Road, Wellingborough**
Contact Mark Hollyman on all financial matters on 0845 345 7785
- R.J.A. Designs Architectural Services** **Wellingborough**
Contact Bob Allen on building projects (both new and alterations) on 01933 383316
- BRI Business Recovery and Insolvency** **St James Road, Northampton**
Contact John Warburton for any business recovery matters on 01604 754352
- prop-search.com – Commercial Property Agents** **Venture Court, 2 Debdale Road, Wellingborough**
Contact Simon Toseland/Chris Billson on 01933 223300
- Wellingborough Norse** **Advice on Commercial Waste & Recycling Cost-effective options**
Contact Debra Wood on 01933 234536
- James Wilson Associates** **Advice on Town Planning Matters**
Contact James Wilson on 07832 753197
- The Mallovs Company** **For your training - coaching & developing needs Management to Social Media**
Contact Kathryn on 01933 664437
- SK Energy** **Business advice on energy & water health-checks. 6/7 Diamond House, 20a Vaux Rd, Wellingborough**
Contact Reemesh or Jason Patel on 01933 448622

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE YEAR 2019-20

Simon Toseland	01933 223300	Chamber President	st@prop-search.com
<i>Direct & Manage all Chamber Business Activity</i>			
James Wilson	01604 812115	Past President/Chamber Secretary	jwa1@hotmail.com
<i>Chamber Business Admin and related matters</i>			
David Cross	01933 652252	Deputy President/Finance Secretary	d.cross38@btinternet.com
Pretesh Ganatra	07555 807700	Snr Vice President	pretesh.ganatra@btsuk.net
<i>Team Leader: Chamber Membership</i>			
Alan Piggot	01933 642222	Past President	alan@promoteitltd.co.uk
<i>Team Leader: Chamber Events/Member Initiatives</i>			
Oliver Jelley	07803 003811		oliver.jelley@ojpr.co.uk
<i>Chamber Website & PR</i>			
Paul Field	01280 840630		paul.field@crosbycomp.co.uk
<i>Team Member: Events & Member Initiatives</i>			
Margaret Baldry	01933 223909		sales@baldrys.co.uk
<i>Team Member: Events & Member Initiatives</i>			
Michael Hants	01933 427875		mike.hants@speedyfreight.co.uk
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Bob Allen	01933 383316	Past President	Robert.allen7@ntlworld.com
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Mark Holliman	01933 233930	Past President	mark@isisaccountants.co.uk
<i>Team Member: Chamber Membership</i>			
Alan Warwick	01933 224981	Past President	office@warwicksmenswear.co.uk
<i>Non Executive Committee Member</i>			

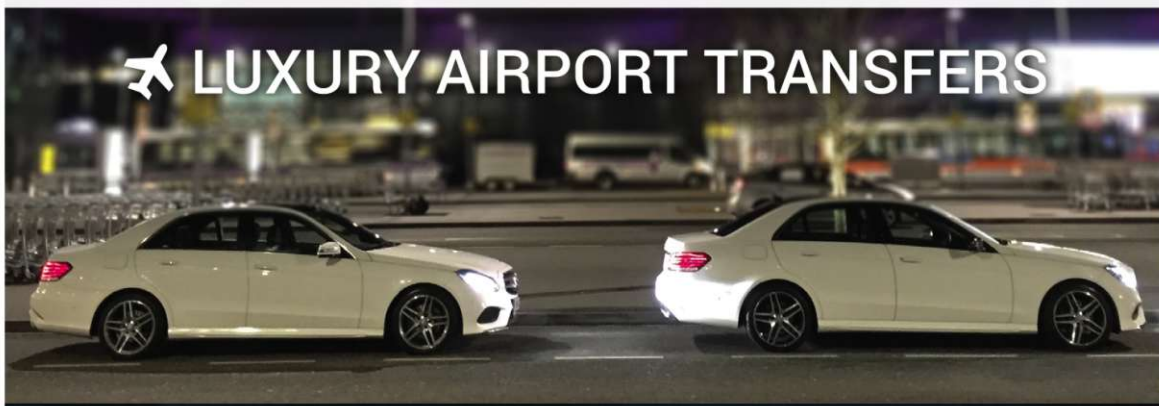
As we are each aware, it is paramount that together we achieve greater influence, involvement, and publicity in all areas of importance to the Chamber, its members & the business community within Wellingborough & District. This will only be attained by the Executive Committee being purposeful & committed, through participating in Chamber activity now & in the future. Committee members are expected to attend a minimum of FIVE Committee meetings within the Chamber year commencing from the month of May. Above as at March 2020.

VIEWPOINT You are invited to have your say on appropriate topics concerning business, local matters, social etc. Contact **David Cross** on **01933 652252**. Next issue **July 2020**, copy to be received by end of **Mid June 2020**. This production is deliberately not protected by copyright, thus enabling you to copy your original and circulate within your organisation. Please remember your organisation is the Chamber Member, this means each of your employees. So, enable everyone to read this publication. Extra copies can be provided if requested. The Editor.



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**Please see rates as listed
on page sixteen.**

BOVIS - CHAMBER MEMBER

STANTON CROSS REACHES KEY MILESTONES

Progress at Northamptonshire's brand-new community, Stanton Cross, is gathering momentum with the development reaching a number of key milestones.

Driver Way, Midland Road and Roundhouse Way, which were completed in 2019, link Wellingborough's existing road network with Irthlingborough Road, Finedon Road and Midland Road, allowing easier access between the development and the centre of Wellingborough. Moreover, Route 2 - which will see the construction of a new, improved bridge over the railway line and provide an improved link to the A45 - is scheduled to finish in 2023/2024.

In addition, planning consent has been granted for two green spaces, a Town and Country Park spanning a total of 115 acres at the heart of Stanton Cross. These will form a key part of the green infrastructure within the major new urban extension. The River Ise runs north to south through and alongside the significant area of new linear parkland, which will provide

multi-functional recreational space at the development.

To boost transport links, a new bus service route has also been extended to serve the 3,650 homes at Stanton Cross after developer funding was secured by Northamptonshire County Council, with two bus stops at the development and one by the industrial estate on Roundhouse Way. The service 48 will now run hourly from Kettering to Wellingborough, passing through Barton Seagrave, Burton Latimer, Finedon, Irthlingborough, Stanton Cross, Roundhouse Way, Finedon Road, Eastfield Road and Midland Road. Further routes will be introduced as the development progresses.

The appointment of Lee Barrett by Bovis Homes was made at the end of 2019 as divisional operations director responsible for Stanton Cross to support the delivery phases at the major location, ensuring all stakeholder objectives are met, while creating a vibrant new community.





DVK GOLD - CHAMBER MEMBER



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GOLD RUSH DEN

By David Kilpin

Growing up in Zimbabwe, a country endowed with an estimated 13 Million tons of gold sets the scene for an early awareness of its existence and value. However, entry into the mining business was not until 2010 when I was introduced to the opportunities while on family holiday. The passion was ignited.

Surreal personal experiences motivate the dream. I recall an instance where an elderly widow living close to our Jumbo Mine discovered a 7kilo gold nugget while ploughing her field. These are not isolated incidents in Zimbabwe or Africa for that matter.

Gold is everywhere!

As a UK company, DVKGold sought to strategically position itself in golds value chain by connecting at the sourcing level through ownership of quality gold deposits in Zimbabwe then expanding elsewhere in Africa. Controlling the value chain from mining to refining, would offer clearer opportunities to profitably embed sustainability into all company operations.

Building our own Gold Refinery is the next phase on the path to realising upstream value. Both, The London Metal Exchange (LME) and London Bullion Market Association (LBMA) cement the UKs historic position in bullion trading. DVKGold's refinery expects to build upon the strength of uncompromising compliance, stringent Anti Money Laundering (AML) and Fair-Trade ethos as foundation for success.

Those contemplating investment in physical gold will note Golds current spike due to recent COVID-19 events. This once again demonstrates the global importance of gold as our preferred safe haven in times of uncertainty. Gold will never lose its shine as the most secure store of value or beauty.

We welcome enquiries through the Chamber or visiting our website www.dvkgold.com





ENews MARCH 2020

In this month's Enews we report on a change to the sick pay rules as a result of the coronavirus and confirmation that the off-payroll working rules will be rolled out from 6 April 2020. We also consider the latest HMRC guidance on minimum wage increases, new company car advisory fuel rates, help for business flood victims and a consultation on freeports. With calls to raise taxes in the forthcoming Budget and a reminder to consider year end tax planning, there are lots of issues to update you on.

ARTICLE INDEX

- **Coronavirus measure: Statutory Sick Pay from 'day one'**
- **Review confirms off-payroll working rules to go ahead from April 2020**
- **Minimum Wage increases**
- **Advisory fuel rates for company cars**
- **Don't forget to make tax efficient investments ahead of the tax year end**
- **Freeports**
- **Additional financial support for flooding victims**

CORONAVIRUS MEASURE: STATUTORY SICK PAY FROM 'DAY ONE'

The Prime Minister, Boris Johnson, has announced that employees will be entitled to Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) from day one when self-isolating rather than having to wait until day four under the SSP waiting days rules.

The change will be included in a package of measures, to be introduced by emergency legislation, to deal with coronavirus.

Updating Parliament on the Government's response to the virus, Prime Minister Boris Johnson told MPs:

'I can today announce that the Health Secretary will bring forward, as part of our emergency legislation measures, to allow the payment of Statutory Sick Pay from the very first day you are sick instead of four days under the current rules.

'No one should be penalised for doing the right thing.'

The Prime Minister had earlier said:

'We are not at the point yet where we are asking large numbers of people to self-isolate, but that may of course come if large numbers have the symptoms.

'If they stay at home, they are helping to protect all of us by preventing the spread of the virus.'

The press release advises that the change will be a temporary measure to respond to the outbreak and will lapse when it is no longer required. We will keep you updated on developments.

Internet links: [GOV.UK news](#) [GOV.UK guidance](#)

DON'T FORGET TO MAKE TAX EFFICIENT INVESTMENTS AHEAD OF THE TAX YEAR END

With the end of the tax year looming there is still time to save tax for 2019/20.

- Make full use of your ISA allowance - ISAs can offer a useful tax free way to save, whether this is for your children's future, a first home or another purpose. Individuals may invest up to a limit of £20,000 for the 2019/20 tax year. Savers have until 5 April 2020 to make their 2019/20 ISA investment.
- Pensions provide significant planning opportunities. The annual allowance (AA) which is the maximum you can contribute to a pension and still get tax relief, is generally £40,000.

Exceeding this can result in an AA clawback charge. However, in many circumstances individuals may have unused AA from the three previous tax years which can be used in 2019/20, providing the means of making a significant contribution without incurring a charge. Please contact us for advice specific to your circumstances.

These are only two suggestions that you may wish to consider as part of your tax planning strategy. Contact us for more information.

Internet links: [GOV.UK ISAs](#) [Pensions Advisory Service AA](#)

REVIEW CONFIRMS OFF-PAYROLL WORKING RULES TO GO AHEAD FROM APRIL 2020

The government has confirmed that reforms to off-payroll working rules for the private sector will go ahead from 6 April 2020.

The off-payroll rules have applied to the public sector since 2017 and the government has carried out a review of the roll-out to the private sector. The review has now concluded, and the changes will go ahead alongside the implementation of measures to support affected businesses and individuals.

From 6 April 2020, the new tax rules will use the 2017 changes as a starting point for the extension to medium

and large organisations in the private sector. These reforms will shift the responsibility for assessing employment status to medium and large organisations engaging workers via an intermediary, typically a Personal Service Company (PSC).

HMRC said it will take a 'light touch approach' and businesses will not have to pay penalties for inaccuracies in the first year, except in cases of deliberate non-compliance.

The government will also introduce a legal obligation on organisations to respond to requested information about their size from the agency or

worker, to make it clearer who is responsible for determining the worker's tax status.

Commenting on the changes, Jesse Norman, Financial Secretary to the Treasury, said: 'It is only right that the off-payroll rules are applied consistently across all sectors. Two people sitting side by side doing the same work for the same employer should be taxed in the same way.'

'Following a review, the government is announcing a package of measures to help individuals and businesses implement these changes smoothly.'

Internet links: [GOV.UK review](#) [GOV.UK news](#)

MINIMUM WAGE INCREASES

The National Minimum Wage (NMW) and National Living Wage (NLW) are the legal minimum wage rates that must be paid to employees. Employers are liable to be penalised for not complying with the NMW and NLW rules.

There are different levels of NMW and NLW, depending on age and whether the employee is an apprentice. The rates are due to increase from 1 April 2020 as shown in the following table:

Rate from	1 April 2019	1 April 2020
NLW for workers aged 25 and over	£8.21	8.72
NMW main rate for workers aged 21-24	£7.70	8.20
NMW 18-20 rate	£6.15	6.45
NMW 16-17 rate for workers above school leaving age but under 18	£4.35	4.55
NMW apprentice rate	£3.90	4.15

The NMW apprentice rate applies for apprentices under 19

or 19 or over and in the first year of their apprenticeship.

There are no exemptions from paying the NMW on the grounds of the size of the business.

The government has announced that HMRC will continue publicly naming employers that fail to pay their workers the NLW or NMW, following a review of the scheme. The naming scheme will resume calling out businesses failing to pay their workers their minimum wage entitlements.

The government has also increased the threshold for naming employers from £100 to £500, meaning that employers owing arrears of more than £500 in NMW payments to their employees will now be named.

Business Minister Kelly Tolhurst said:

'Anyone who is entitled to the minimum wage should receive it – no ifs, no buts – and we're cracking down on companies that underpay their workers.'

'We also want to make it as easy as possible for employers, especially small businesses

and those trying to do right by their staff, to comply with the NMW rules, which is why we're reforming regulations.'

The government is also revising the pay arrangements available to employers engaging 'salaried hours workers'. These are workers who receive an annual salary in equal instalments for a set number of contracted hours. Under the revised rules, workers who are often paid hourly or per day and consequently receive different amounts of pay every month, such as those in the retail industry, can be classified as salaried workers. The aim of the changes is to provide more flexibility in how salaried workers are paid without reducing protections for workers.

The changes also mean that employers employing these workers are less likely to be caught out by the NMW legislation due to the differences in their hours from one month to the next.

If you would like help with payroll matters please get in touch.

Internet links: [GOV.UK NMW](#) [GOV.UK news](#)



ADVISORY FUEL RATES FOR COMPANY CARS

New company car advisory fuel rates have been published which take effect from 1 March 2020. The guidance states: 'You can use the previous rates for up to one month from the date the new rates apply'. The rates only apply to employees using a company car.

The advisory fuel rates for journeys undertaken on or after 1 March 2020 are:

Engine size	Petrol
1400cc or less	12p
1401cc - 2000cc	14p
Over 2000cc	20p
Engine size	LPG
1400cc or less	8p
1401cc - 2000cc	10p
Over 2000cc	14p
Engine size	Diesel
1600cc or less	9p
1601cc - 2000cc	11p
Over 2000cc	13p

Hybrid cars are treated as either petrol or diesel.

HMRC guidance states that the rates only apply when you either:

- reimburse employees for business travel in their company cars or
- require employees to repay the cost of fuel used for private travel.

The Advisory Electricity Rate for fully electric cars is 4 pence per mile. Electricity is not a fuel for car fuel benefit purposes.

You must not use these rates in any other circumstances.

If you would like to discuss your car policy, please contact us.

Internet link: GOV.UK.AFR

FREEPORTS

The government has launched a consultation on proposals to create up to ten freeports across the UK which would have different customs rules than those which apply in the rest of the UK.

The government is considering a UK freeport model which would include multiple customs zones located within or away from a port, as well as a type of special economic zone (SEZ) designated over or around the customs zones and intends to work with the devolved administrations to develop proposals to allow freeports to be created in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, in addition to those in England.

The proposals include the following customs and tariff benefits for businesses bringing goods into a freeport site:

- duty suspension, with no tariffs, import VAT or excise to be paid on goods brought into a freeport from overseas until they leave the freeport and enter the UK's domestic market
- duty inversion if the duty on a finished product is lower than that on the component parts, allowing businesses to benefit by importing components duty free, manufacture the final product in the freeport, and then pay the duty at the rate of the finished product when it enters the UK's domestic market
- duty exemption for re-exports allowing businesses to import components duty free, manufacture the final product in the freeport and pay no tariffs when the final product is re-exported
- simplified customs procedures for businesses accessing freeports.

Freeports are secure customs zones located at ports where business can be carried out inside a country's land border but where different customs rules apply. Typically, goods brought into a freeport do not attract a requirement to pay duties until they leave the freeport and enter the domestic market. No duty is payable at all if the goods are re-exported.

Internet link: GOV.UK.consultation

ADDITIONAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR FLOODING VICTIMS

The government has pledged thousands of pounds in additional financial support for victims of the recent floods.

The Government has announced that businesses in England affected by the floods will be eligible for 100% business rates relief for at least three months. It also stated that small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) that have experienced severe, uninsurable losses will be able to claim up to £2,500 from the Business Recovery Grant.

The government also announced that businesses affected by flooding will be able to apply for up to £5,000 to help make them more resilient to future flooding.

Commenting on the funding, Robert Jenrick, Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, said:

'Storm Dennis and Ciara have severely impacted a large number of households and businesses, and I recognise how destabilising this can be.

'This extra support, including new funding, will help people in the worst hit areas to recover and get back on their feet as soon as possible.'

The announcement only applies to businesses in England. Flooding is a devolved issue for Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Internet link: GOV.UK.news

AJS EXPRESS PARCELS LIMITED - CHAMBER MEMBER



OUR STORY

Formed in November 2018, our goal was to not only provide a reliable delivery service, but to also have that relationship with customers that a lot of companies in our industry seem to overlook.

What began with a Ford Transit and delivering Amazon parcels has transformed into an SME award winning business with steady growth, thanks in part to our membership of both the Northants Chamber of Commerce and the Wellingborough Chamber.

AJS Express Parcels Limited now has 3 vehicles, ranging in size from small van to Long Wheel-Base and operates out of a modern unit on the Leyland Trading Estate in Wellingborough.

In the last month, further investments have seen us secure an NHS specification ramp enabling us to transport

wheeled and heavy items with ease. This has opened up our offering to a wider range of customers, particularly those in the Medical sector.

The first two months of 2020 have been our busiest to date, with two local companies becoming our most recent customers. We look forward to the future with both our existing and new customers, and hope we continue to exceed all expectations.

Our Services

We typically specialise in event transportation, medical deliveries, urgent same-day deliveries, as well as providing dedicated in-house deliveries for multiple customers, saving them the expense of an employee and vehicle costs.

Our offering also extends to overnight pallet and parcel deliveries through reputable

channels, providing fully tracked services.

We have also now ventured into the realms of packaging supplies, such as pallet wrap, tape etc.

How to get in touch

AJS Express Parcels Limited
Unit 12
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Wellingborough
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01933 588010

Tony Spooner

tony@ajsexpress.co.uk

Lauren Dean

lauren@ajsexpress.co.uk





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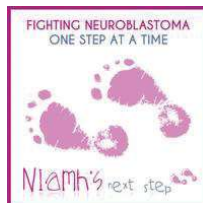
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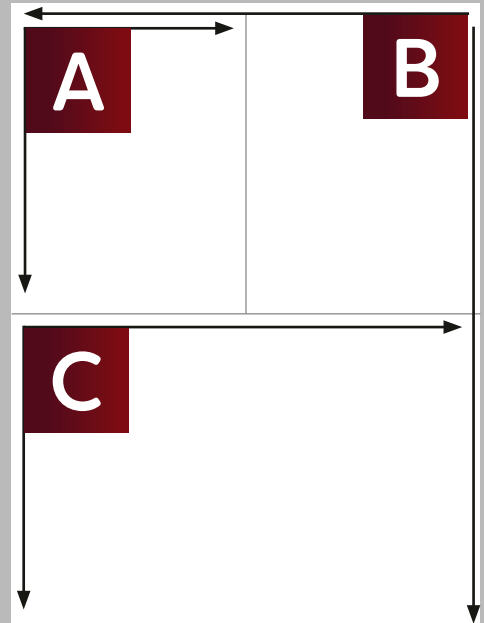
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Given sufficient notice, you may change each advertisement as you need and arrange an advert at any time. Annual invoices will be sent in April for the issues produced during the previous year.

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