

## *Bloomsbury wins contract in Lincolnshire*

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In July Bloomsbury was awarded a new contract by Lincolnshire County Council.

The council chose 12 companies to be prime providers in the 12 geographical zones in the county.

Bloomsbury's zone is Stamford and Bourne.

Nick Christodoulou, Chief Executive, said:-

“We are delighted to have been chosen as prime provider for Stamford and Bourne. The tender process was highly competitive, and we did well to be chosen as a prime provider. That we did so is a credit partly to the existing teams in Stamford and Bourne.

“Cassandra, Lorraine, Donna and Julie have been providing an excellent service there for many years, and I am sure the council took this into account when making

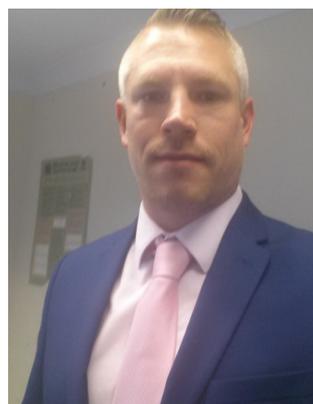
their decision.”

The contract starts in September.

Already Bloomsbury is moving to be ready. A major recruitment campaign has started, and the company has taken a new office in Bourne, Lincolnshire, to provide the base for the local operations.

There may also be transfers of staff from other organizations in the county, who will be welcomed with open arms.

- New Operations Manager



In June Bloomsbury appointed a new Operations Manager to the company.

Rob Sturch comes with a long and distinguished background in the care sector.

Robert has been in the care industry for the last 12 years. He started as a care support worker in the Princess Margaret spinal injuries unit gaining valuable skills within the specialised area of spinal injuries. Rob then attended the University of Sheffield to complete a bachelor's degree in adult nursing care. Since qualifying he has worked on communicable diseases and cancer care.

Rob then took the opportunity to work with the family intervention team on a temporary basis before accepting a post as a service manager for a specialist team working with mental

## New Operations Manager

**"I'm really looking forward to the role"**

health and disability in the community dealing with vulnerable adults.

Throughout this time he has developed skills to become a registered trainer for medication awareness and moving and handling. Rob has also gained experience with safeguarding whilst working with various teams within safeguarding to ensure client safety is maintained.

Rob has been involved in developing paperwork and training to comply with CQC regulations. This has helped to ensure a consistent high standard of community support and care is delivered.



Rob has joined the Bloomsbury team and will continue to work towards high standards of support and care in the community and to ensure the name of Bloomsbury continues to be one that is recognised for excellence.

Of the new role, Rob says: "I am really looking forward to working with the Bloomsbury staff on behalf of the company's clients.

"I have already met most of the team leaders and they are an excellent group."

## Living wage will reward staff

The Chancellor announced in his latest budget that the minimum wage will rise to a minimum of £9 per hour by 2020. Nick Christodoulou welcomed the news.

"For far too long home care staff have been underpaid. Organisations providing home care have been prevented from paying sensible terms because local authorities have kept prices too low.

"Whilst economists might debate the wisdom of a high minimum wage, and its effects on unemployment, it is unlikely that demand for home care will decrease. Finally we will see an improvement in the terms of employment for home care workers."

Local authorities will now need to lobby hard for increases in their budgets to fund the changes, which start in April next year.

## Staff refuse to take no for an answer

Hats off to the Spalding team of Chrissie Bescoby, Vicki Everest and Debbie Thompson, ably backed up by Debbie Atha and Linda Sharman

Earlier this year they were supporting one of Bloomsbury's clients.



, and Chrissie and Debbie called the GP because they noticed the client wasn't her normal self.

The GP came out and proclaimed that there was nothing awry. When Vicki got there in the afternoon, it was clear there was indeed something amiss so she called an ambulance and waited with the client until it arrived. The client's blood sugar was dangerously low and she had a chest infection.

Well done too to Debbie Atha and Linda Sharman for covering Vicki's other calls whilst she waited with the sick client.

This again shows the advantages of continuity of staff, knowing clients and being able to spot downward trends in their health.