

# AGENDA

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## BUSINESS IN BRIEF

### Business looking up in Tayport

Business seems to be looking up for Tayport firm Scott & Fyfe. The employee-owned company had to let 19 people go last year due to a downturn in markets but is now starting to see things improve. The 15-year-old firm is said to be planning to begin recruiting again.

### Fourth year for Business Week

Fife Economy Partnership is once again to host Fife Business Week, which takes place from November 11 to 15. The week comprises a series of events, with topics ranging from developing a social media strategy to running a family business. For a full list, visit [www.fifebusinessweek.co.uk](http://www.fifebusinessweek.co.uk).

### PTYBS appoints new Fife manager

The Prince's Trust Youth Business Scotland, which supports young people aged 18 to 30 in business, has appointed a new regional manager for Fife, Marissa Yassen. Marissa, who spent 10 years running a car and motorcycle school in Kirkcaldy, recently worked with the Scottish Executive to help ethnic minorities start up in business. [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk).



Businessman Les Bawden has a wealth of experience in human resources

# HR help is on hand

## Fife SME's to benefit from new outsourcing service

BY LIZ ROUGVIE  
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**Small and medium-sized businesses in Fife and beyond now have access to their own human resources departments, thanks to Crail man Les Bawden.**

Les, an experienced HR professional, has launched HR Dept Fife, which provides smaller businesses with the same level of service as large companies enjoy on an in-house basis.

Supporting employers ranging from those tak-

ing on their first member of staff to those with several hundred employees, Les will serve businesses across Fife, St. Andrews, Dunfermline, Kirkcaldy, Cupar, Newburgh, Glenrothes, Leven and the surrounding areas, as well as being able to visit and support other businesses throughout Scotland.

Les and his wife Lesley are well-known in the Crail area, having moved there 10 years ago.

They've run several successful businesses in the area - including a guest house, a dog grooming parlour, Paws for Thought, and a learning, training and development

consultancy.

Following management training in his early years in business, Les became fascinated by the complexities of HR and became a qualified member of the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD) in 1990.

He spent 12 years working with small and medium-sized businesses and has worked in HR management for a number of blue chip companies, including Alliance and Leicester and Barclays, taking responsibility for HR across large geographical areas.

Les said: "Understanding the challenges, constraints and hard work needed to run a

small business and the myriad questions that come from employing staff, whether recruiting the first team member to managing a team of people is part of my experience, so I know how important it is to get it right."

"As an employer it's crucial to have someone on hand to help ensure that a business is legally compliant and that HR issues are sorted quickly and efficiently with the minimum of fuss. Rather than being an administrative function, used intelligently HR can be a huge contributor to driving businesses forward."

For info, visit [www.hrdept.co.uk/offices/north/fife](http://www.hrdept.co.uk/offices/north/fife).

## Charity benefits from clinic opening

Loch Leven Equine Practice is to donate over £1000 to the Charity Air Ambulance Service following a raffle at the opening of their new equine veterinary clinic, near Kinross. The event, held on Saturday, attracted over 400 people.

Liz Burton, a director at Loch Leven Equine Practice said: "We were inundated with amazingly generous offers from clients for the raffle which resulted in 50 prizes with an estimated combined value of over £1700.

"We were overwhelmed with peoples' generosity and support, both of our clinic opening and of the raffle.

"We chose to donate to the Scottish Ambulance Service, and in particular the Charity Air Ambulance, as our clients are often riding in remote places which would potentially require access via air if they were injured."

The opening day was hailed as a huge success and marks a significant milestone in the equestrian community by now providing full surgical equine knock down facilities with a fully equipped theatre for horses in both the local and wider equestrian community.

The purpose-built equine veterinary clinic, based in Cleish, Kinross, is one of only a handful in Scotland.

[www.lochlevenequine.co.uk](http://www.lochlevenequine.co.uk).

# Fife Herald

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