At Russell-Cooke you will kick-start your career with a diverse and friendly firm

that recruits trainees with an eye to future partnership. Many of our partners were trainees at the firm.

We are looking for talented people who are ready to thrive on the challenges that real-life work throws at them. We offer a truly diverse training contract in a friendly and inclusive environment. Our people are our most important resource and our recruitment is aimed at ensuring that not only are you a good fit for us, but that we are a good fit for you.

We are running two week-long vacation schemes in the weeks commencing 9 and 16 April. You will be mentored by a senior associate based in one particular department, but will likely experience a range of work across many departments including client meetings, court attendances, drafting and research. There will be many chances to socialise and meet many of our trainees, associates and partners.

At the end of the week there will be a form of assessment and interview with the chance of being fast-tracked through the trainee recruitment scheme or even the offer of a training contract then and there. Each attendee will receive £500 per week.

This is the ideal way to learn about life at Russell-Cooke. We welcome applications from those in their final year non-law, penultimate or final year of law who are predicted a 2:1 and have an AAB at A-level.

Alison Regan, training partner

A day in THE LIFE Mark Child, real estate





09.30 - 12.30 I tend to arrive at the office between 08.45 and 09.15, when I review any emails that have arrived overnight. After dealing with any urgent emails, I start working my way through my listed matters. If there is no requisite priority order, I usually let my mood dictate what I tackle first.

A reversionary lease and deed of variation that I have been working on is received early morning, so I consider the amendments made by the other side and what they have conceded from my previous draft. To keep the pressure on the other side I provide comments to my supervisor quickly and discuss my proposed response. Just after 11.00 a partner comes over to my desk and asks whether I have capacity to meet a new client this afternoon. After rearranging my diary, I confirm my availability and prepare.

I am also asked to lead on a planning objection on behalf of a client who lives adjacent to a proposed site. I review the plans, elevations and Design and Access Statement and identify the relevant Local Plan policies.

It's almost lunchtime - I always try to take a proper lunch break otherwise I find my levels of concentration can decline. I take a short and pleasant walk down to Putney Bridge where I catch up with a fellow trainee.

13.30 - 17.00 I review emails that have come in over lunch and deal with those requiring immediate action. It's then back to drafting my planning objection letter before putting my papers in order to meet my new client.

The new client is having problems with her co-freeholder in a building that comprises their two leasehold apartments. The freeholder has made a planning application to convert the building's flat roof into a roof terrace, despite it being outside the extent of his lease. I review the documentation and ask her what her objectives are. After agreeing our strategy, I confirm that I will provide her with an engagement letter, which will set out our cost estimate and what we have agreed to do. She is happy that we have been able to meet her at such short notice and before her holiday.

17.30 I de-brief my instructing partner and return to my emails and deal with any urgent messages before heading home. I find that the other side is ready to complete on a licence to underlet the following day, so I add that to my list of tasks and re-order their priority for the next day.

