

## Knight Frank appoints business rates lead in Manchester

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Jason Gray has joined Knight Frank's Manchester office as lead partner in the Business Rates team to expand the regional team and grow the client portfolio.

With 26 years working in the North West property market, Jason has unrivalled Business Rates experience, practicing initially with Gerald Eve and latterly with Altus Group.

Jason deals with all rating matters and handles rating advisory services for his clients across a wide range of property types with particular emphasis on offices, manufacturing, distribution and general industrial sectors. Jason also specialises in the licensed and leisure sector representing ratepayers occupying public houses, hotels, golf courses and sports stadia. He also provides strategic rating advice on client portfolios, covering rate management, appeal strategy and non-appeal related matters including advice in respect of strategies to minimise empty rate liabilities.

He said: "I am delighted to join Knight Frank – a business I have always admired and a true powerhouse in real estate consultancy with the highest professional standards and providing clients with the very best professional advice. In my 26 years practicing as a Chartered Surveyor, Knight Frank will be only the 3rd company in my career and when they invited me to join them it was an opportunity I could simply not turn down.

"With the next national Rating Revaluation fast approaching in 2023, businesses across all sectors will need expert advice on the accuracy of their new assessments and if and how they should be challenged. The depth of knowledge and detailed research available at Knight Frank is second to none and a huge asset for helping companies plan their business strategies.

"I am looking forward to working with colleagues both in the Manchester office and across the regional business to do the very best for our new and existing clients."

David Porter, Head of the Manchester office, said: "Jason's brief is to lead and grow this important team and tap into the wealth of knowledge and co-operation that colleagues can provide. He will be a huge asset to the office and is already making an impact helping clients as they prepare for new draft valuations coming in October and what it means for their business."

Jason, who lives in Hale with his wife and two teenage children said: "It's great to be back in Manchester city centre and good to come back to One Marsden Street, the same building I worked from during my time at Gerald Eve - only this time much higher up the building!"