

Heather Horner:

Extract 2

Paul Griffiths from the Commission for New Towns talks about the advantages that a company can gain from relocation.

Paul Griffiths:

My name's Paul Griffiths and I'm the Assistant Director, Business Development with C.N.T. the Commission for the New Towns and we're here at our new headquarters office in Milton Keynes

We have quite a diverse role. We look at assisting people in their relocation and the development of their businesses.

Claire Sandry:

So could you give some examples of the sorts of services, you know, what sort of things would you do for a company?

Paul Griffiths:

We would provide them with a lot of information, to begin with they need to know in terms of specifically to do with their business whether there's the right range of local suppliers, they want to know about access to markets and to customers.

Claire Sandry:

Okay, let's go on now then to some of the reasons why companies bother to relocate. Why do they do it?

Paul Griffiths:

I think the primary reason is growth. Obviously as companies grow in an existing location, they may find that that location is no longer suitable for their particular requirements. The building they're occupying becomes too small and they need another building.

But the sort of suitability of a location can also be driven by perhaps labour availability and the cost of labour, and it can also be driven by technological change.

I think also it goes back to the point to do with the staff and the quality of life, and obviously living in most of our major conurbations is quite expensive, the environment isn't as perhaps attractive as in a more suburban location, and so new towns can provide those additional facilities and amenities for companies and their staff.