

SME work makes Begbies the busiest

Begbies Traynor pips Leonard Curtis and KPMG to the title of busiest firm this month, with 13 appointments.

The group has benefited from an uplift in work related to small and medium-sized enterprises, according to the data. Interestingly, were it not for the large number of group companies which inflated the numbers of KPMG, Deloitte and Ernst & Young, none of the big four would be featured in the top 10.

Regionally, there were some stand-out performers in different areas. Carl Faulds and Portland Business & Financial Solutions continued to do well in Hampshire, while Jamie Playford of Parker Andrews



Jamie Playford

cleaned up every single case in Norfolk.

FRP Advisory did best in the south of England, but had no appointments for businesses in the north of the country. All of P&A Partnership's work, meanwhile, came from either West Yorkshire or the Leeds Unitary Authority.

Begbies Traynor did well in London and Essex, courtesy of Kirstie Provan and Mark Fry, but also picked up cases in Merseyside, Oxfordshire and West Yorkshire.

Leonard Curtis performed best in Merseyside, Manchester and Lancashire, collecting three of their 12 cases in each region.

The firms



- Begbies Traynor
- Leonard Curtis
- KPMG
- Deloitte
- FRP Advisory
- Grant Thornton
- RSM Tenon
- Wilson Field
- Ernst & Young
- P&A Partnership

Source: London Gazette / Insolvency Today

What the graphic shows:
The number of administrations and administrative receiverships split between the leading insolvency practices during the month ending April 2012.

PRACTICE SPOTLIGHT: BEGBIES TRAYNOR



Ric Traynor

Begbies Traynor was founded in 1989 and has operating arms spanning finance, recovery, investigation and risk management.

The group hit the headlines last month when chairman Ric Traynor snapped up the controlling interest in the specialist risk and database service Red Flag Alert LLP. As a result of the transaction, Traynor committed to injecting up to £1m of new capital to develop the product and offset losses.

In March, Begbies Traynor cut its insolvency headcount by 6.2%, stating that planned to focus on its cost base. In its trading update for Q3 ending January 31 2012 it said headcount was reduced from 501 to 470. Begbies also confirmed that "ongoing efficiency initiatives" would accrue exceptional short-term costs, with the benefits "to be realised in future periods".

In January, Begbies offloaded its insolvency and restructuring division in the Channel Islands to Grant Thornton for £250,000. However, the group's global risk partners division continues to maintain a presence in the Channel Islands.

