



New legal Act takes centre stage



The Ministry of Justice has confirmed that the much anticipated Bribery Act 2010 will come into force on 1 July 2011.

At the same time, new guidance has been issued setting out procedures which companies can put into place to prevent persons associated with them from committing the offence of *bribing*, and detailing factors that will be taken into account in prosecutions brought under the Act.

The guidance will be invaluable to companies in conducting risk assessments both in the lead up to and after 1 July 2011.

The Act will apply to both UK formed companies and to those companies which are formed abroad but trade in the UK. It does not matter if all your business is transacted abroad, you will still be covered by the Act.

Business club member Rawlison Butler has urged members to look at drawing up

anti-bribery policies and procedures for adoption. Good procedures and a pro-active approach to taking preventative measures may well mean prosecution can be avoided.

If you require any advice or assistance on the Bribery Act 2010 and what steps you should be taking, please do not hesitate to contact Abigail Owen (pictured) on 01293 527744 or aowen@rawlisonbutler.com

www.rawlisonbutler.com

aowen@rawlisonbutler.com