

James Allison BA MBA
<http://uk.linkedin.com/in/jamesallisonwlp>

A resourceful, customer-driven consultant and project manager with board level experience. Proven track record of delivering sustainable cultural change, business process transformation and commercial results.

EXPERTISE

IT and business systems

- A bridge between management teams and IT professionals. A common sense approach, turning jargon into plain English for decision makers. A business-led approach to technological innovation.
- As a consultant, led a £300k project on behalf of a publishing client to completely refresh their IT infrastructure and outsource on-going support of system.
- Evaluated requirements, then ran a supplier selection project for a blinds and curtains manufacturer who needed a new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) system.

Coaching and mentoring

- Coached MD of a print finishing business on growing top line. Established performance monitoring and reporting systems to improve production efficiencies and management control.
- Mentored directors of a design company to formulate and implement their first business plan.
- Coached MD of a software development company to devise and implement a sales and marketing plan.
- Non-executive trustee director of an IT services company owned by its employees.

HR and cultural change

- Devised a suite of IT policies for a client and ran staff training programmes to ensure adoption of good practice on cyber security and data protection.
- Ran a management training and development programme for an architect practice.

Business continuity planning

- Delivered training seminars to managers at a district council.
- Researched and produced a comprehensive business continuity plan for a client.

CAREER HISTORY

15 years with St Ives plc, a leading UK marketing services and printing company. Included 4 years as a divisional director at Clays Ltd – St Ives' book manufacturing and supply chain solutions business.

- Influential member of Clays' operational board with accountability to the plc executive for strategy implementation and an £80m divisional budget.
- 5 years of experience running Clays' large in-house IT department.

Joined WLP as a consultant in June 2012. Appointed to its board of directors in October 2013. Specific responsibility for development of company's IT systems.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATIONS and MEMBERSHIPS

- MBA (with distinction) from University of East Anglia.
- Institute of Directors - Member
- Institute of Consulting – Member
- Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development - Associate

PERSONAL INFORMATION

James lives in Norfolk with his wife and daughter. He enjoys playing football and golf. He retains strong links with Norwich Business School and has lectured and mentored students on its MBA programme.

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