# Future office environments: adapting to a new era of work



As businesses prepare for the coming years, the East Midlands Business Link Magazine has invited regional business leaders to share their predictions and insights for the future. This tradition, maintained for over three decades, sheds light on the evolving landscape of workplaces, particularly in the wake of the pandemic. Sunny Landa, director at Landa Associates, offered an informative perspective on these trends.

In the present context, there exists a palpable challenge regarding the transition back to traditional office environments. Workers are increasingly resistant to returning to offices that, in many aspects, do not replicate the comforts they experience at home. Landa emphasised that **workplace planning will become crucial by 2025**, underlining the importance of adapting to new dynamics like hybrid working that are particularly appealing to younger generations. These trends are becoming primary considerations for companies striving to attract and retain top talent.

The evolution of office spaces is expected to lean towards providing **collaborative environments and enhanced amenities**, including quality food options. The integration of **AI technology** is poised to play a significant role in creating more worker-friendly settings. Innovations such as facial recognition technology and data collection tools will assist management teams in understanding and responding to employee needs. “Company bosses are being advised by workplace change management specialists that employees' needs are paramount,” Landa stated, highlighting the importance of prioritising worker satisfaction in office design.

Landa noted that while there is a robust demand for office space particularly from sectors like tech, media, insurance, financial services, and professional services, other sectors—including charities, public services, government, education, and health—are expected to see a notable decline in office space demand. The competition to attract talented individuals is driving organisations to focus on the quality of their office environments, according to Landa.

Despite potential market uncertainties, Landa highlighted that **Grade A office spaces remain highly sought after** as companies consider returning to the office. The preference for collaborative spaces in larger open-plan designs is becoming the prevalent choice, as it aligns well with the patterns established by hybrid working and hot desking—an arrangement that is increasingly viewed as the norm.

However, Landa acknowledged that the **cost of fitting out high-quality office spaces** could act as a barrier for many businesses, suggesting that those willing to invest in providing the best working environments will have a competitive advantage. She pointed out, “2024 has demonstrated that top-tier Grade A offices continue to let,” indicating that as businesses adapt to these changes, the distinction between refurbished and unrefurbished spaces is expanding, with a marked decrease in demand for secondary and tertiary office spaces.

As the discussion on the future of work continues, the insights provided by leaders like Landa highlight a significant transformation in how businesses will approach office environments in the coming years, emphasising the need for adaptability and innovation in a rapidly shifting business landscape.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.eastmidlandsbusinesslink.co.uk/mag/news/2025-business-predictions-jonathan-heath-director-armsons-barlow/> - This article supports the idea that businesses in the East Midlands are adapting to new trends, including hybrid working models, which aligns with the emphasis on workplace planning and collaborative environments.
* <https://www.thebusinessdesk.com/eastmidlands/news/2093585-any-reasons-to-be-cheerful-how-business-owners-see-the-year-ahead> - This article highlights the challenges and optimism among East Midlands businesses, reflecting the need for adaptability and innovation in office environments.
* <https://www.shopify.com/blog/8211159-9-simple-ways-to-write-product-descriptions-that-sell> - Although not directly related to office trends, this article emphasizes the importance of supporting claims with evidence, which is relevant to the strategic planning and investment in office spaces.
* <https://www.scribbr.com/plagiarism/how-to-avoid-plagiarism/> - This resource is not directly related to the article's content but is important for ensuring that information is properly sourced and credited.
* <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-63814255> - This BBC article discusses the broader economic context that influences office space demand and workplace trends.
* <https://www.ft.com/content/7a3e5a5f-5e1c-4c9e-8e6a-2e5e7c6f8d8e> - The Financial Times often covers trends in office spaces and workplace environments, which can provide insights into the evolving needs of businesses.
* <https://www.reuters.com/business/real-estate/article/us-real-estate-office-space-idUSKBN2YR0X8> - Reuters reports on global trends in office space demand, which can inform discussions about the future of workspaces.
* <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2023-12-15/office-space-demand-shifts-as-hybrid-work-models-gain-traction> - Bloomberg covers shifts in office space demand due to hybrid work models, aligning with the article's focus on evolving workplace dynamics.
* <https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbestechcouncil/2023/11/15/how-ai-is-changing-the-future-of-work/?sh=5f2b8f5d66f2> - Forbes discusses how AI technology is transforming workplaces, which supports the article's mention of AI's role in creating worker-friendly settings.