

**Meet the team**

# Leading Green

**Chris Scargill****Partner**  
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I'm extremely proud to be heading up the work of our Leading Green team here at Larking Gowen. I've spent my career helping individuals and businesses plan ahead to minimise tax liabilities and grow profits, but this should not be at the expense of ignoring social and sustainable goals as part of that ambition. There is no denying that there's a window of opportunity for businesses on the road to net zero, it's not all about adding costs! There are so many possibilities for businesses to embrace change for the better, not just concerning the environment, but their bottom line too. I look forward to working closely with this team to follow societal and governmental updates both locally and globally that will not only help Larking Gowen, but will help advise and guide our clients, too.

A big passion of mine is for the Tourism, Leisure and Hospitality sector. This is one of the sectors that will be exponentially impacted by climate change, as they face factors such as extreme weather changes and supply chain issues. Indeed, we're already seeing major changes in how the sector operates, from offering sustainable packaging at attractions, through to restaurants changing their menus to accommodate the rise in elected dietary choices. If the COVID-19 lockdowns taught us anything though, it's that the sector is resilient and can cope with change. I am emboldened by the positive changes I already see happening.

There is a lot of information out there for businesses to try and understand, practical changes to prioritise, and funding/grants and tax incentives to figure out. It is my aim not just to work on the goals of the firm, but to arm our teams with all of the information they need to help advise and guide our clients to make the most responsible, but ultimately, financially sound decisions. All those in the Leading Green, Sustainability team volunteered to participate, all working with a personal passion driving them, and a common goal. I am really looking forward to working with them on implementing further changes in how we operate at Larking Gowen, gain knowledge we can share, and what we do in our community through our corporate social responsibility work.

**John Atkins****Partner**  
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I joined Larking Gowen in 2016 and became a partner in the firm's Corporate Audit and Advisory business unit in April 2020. Throughout my career, I've worked with owner-managed companies and groups (including businesses with overseas operations) with a turnover range of £1 million to £140 million across multiple sectors, which also includes our specialist Legal team.

Our audit clients are facing similar challenges to ourselves, and I feel that my experience whilst working with them, particularly on carbon energy reporting, will be beneficial to my work with the Leading Green team. Vice versa, my role on the team will also assist in delivering proactive advisory services to our clients, and helping them on their journey. A key part of my role will be to oversee the data team in measuring and reviewing our carbon footprint. Outside of work I've a young family, and through my involvement in this team, I can continue to do our bit towards securing a sustainable future for them.

**Lizzie Craig****Senior Marketing Advisor**  
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I welcomed the opportunity to be part of the 'Leading Green' team and bring some of my passion for environmental change into my work at LG. I went vegetarian many years ago. I also eliminated single use plastic from my life (can't speak highly enough about beeswax wraps instead of clingfilm!). Growing my own veg has also been brilliant for my mental health, another factor that the UN considers in its SDGs as part of the journey towards mitigating the climate crisis. I look forward to using my skills as a marketer to help communicate and synchronise messages to our clients and team, and work with local organisations, groups and suppliers to help co-ordinate and achieve the firm's long term sustainability goals.

**Ethan Frost****ACA Trainee**  
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I'm based in the Norwich office and work in the audit department. Sustainability is important to me because we should be responsible for the continuity of our communities on the smaller scale and collectively, the planet. I'm hoping to help LG on its journey to be carbon neutral. I'm part of the data subgroup where I'm keen to use the knowledge and skills I've developed through my time in audit. My focus is to aid in the research of the strengths and weaknesses of the firm to reach our goals most effectively. I'm excited to be able to improve my understanding of sustainability and methods to get there by learning from other group members and from events we attend.

**Jordan King****Manager**  
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I'm proud and excited to be a part of the newly formed Sustainability Development Group here at Larking Gowen. Over the past few years I've become increasingly conscious in my day-to-day life in making choices that don't just suit my lifestyle, but that also ensure that the results of my actions don't negatively impact our planet. I'm progressively making sustainable changes including cycling to work, choosing more vegan dishes as part of my diet and even opting for re-usable nappies for our little one at home. I passionately share and encourage sustainable changes to my family and friends, and I'm really looking forward to being able to put that inner passion to use, not just implementing changes at the firm, but educating myself in how best to support and encourage making sustainable business decisions for our clients.

**Glenn Matthews****Assistant Manager**  
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I've been a vegetarian for over 25 years now, and my wife and I've a keen interest in trying to live more sustainably. Therefore I'm really excited to be part of the Sustainability group, being part of a team that can make a much deeper positive impact on the environment and society around us. I feel undertaking this project shows that we are a forward thinking firm, and that we not only care about giving excellent client service and looking after our people, but that by being sustainable we can continue to do that in an ethical way for many years to come.

**Ben Myers****Senior**  
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Working in the audit department in Norwich, I realise sustainability is something that's becoming increasingly important to many people. It's important that organisations look ahead and focus on sustainability to help protect the environment. I want to help Larking Gowen improve their sustainability by being able to achieve carbon neutrality, thereby setting an example for other local businesses in East Anglia. Being involved in the data collection process allows me to make sure we are accurately measuring our carbon footprint and identify areas where sustainability can be greatly improved. I'm proud to be part of a team which shares common values, working towards an important goal which will hopefully have a long-lasting impact.

**Jessica Rafferty-Smith****Manager**  
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As an Assistant Manager of our Digital Team in Norwich, my focus is ensuring our clients have the technology required to run their businesses as seamlessly as possible, achieving essential financial data to help business owners make key decisions.

I believe that sustainability is already starting to play a key role in how businesses operate and that sustainability will become a massive factor for all businesses moving forward. Over the last few years, I've made personal adjustments to my lifestyle in respect of becoming more sustainable, so I am delighted to be a part of the Sustainability Development Group to see how we can shape the way that Larking Gowen operates and works with clients in the future.

**Andrew Rea****Senior**  
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If anyone has ever seen a documentary by the great Sir David Attenborough, then, like me, you will have no doubt been captivated and enthralled by the amazing thing that is our Earth, but also shown how incredibly precious and important it is for us to look after our planet, now more than ever. As an individual I believe we can only do so much, so together as an entity, as LG, I think we can make a real effort in a stand against climate change and reducing our impact on the planet. If even a small improvement, I believe it is worth it!

**Terry Want****Assistant Manager**  
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Based in the Norwich branch, I work within the Farms and Landed Estates department. I assist clients who work within our beautiful countryside, and I also have a keen interest in being sustainable. It upsets me to see the impact humans collectively are having on the world, and we all want our beautiful planet to stay healthy. It upsets me to see the impact humans collectively are having on the world, and we all want our beautiful planet to stay healthy. It upsets me to see the impact humans collectively are having on the world, and we all want our beautiful planet to stay healthy. But if firms like Larking Gowen can become more sustainable, then the unified efforts of such companies could add up to some real progress. I am excited to be involved and look forward to seeing and sharing the results.