



Winchester MP, Steve Brine recently spent a morning at Anchor Pipework Ltd, overall winner of the 2016 Winchester Business Excellence Award.

Steve used the opportunity to meet Ian Paxton, Managing Director of Anchor and his team. Ian shared his experience of the challenges and prospects of leading a SME business in the current economic environment.

Members of the Anchor management team chatted to Steve about a wide range of issues including the implications of the Brexit vote, local support offered to businesses and opportunities for business growth and development.

Steve was particularly interested to hear about Anchor's commitment to training and its Apprenticeship scheme. Anchor offers mechanical and electrical apprentice placements to young people from the Winchester area. On completion of the programme, Apprentices receive either an NVQ2 or 3 and continue to work and train with Anchor as qualified engineers.

Steve Brine MP said "Anchor is a hard working local business and well deserves recognition at this year's Business Excellence Awards. The commitment that Ian and his team show to the development of young people through the Anchor apprenticeship scheme is impressive from both a financial and a time perspective. I wish the lads I met all the best with their futures".

Ian Paxton said "Steve's visit was well received and timely for the whole team at Anchor. It was encouraging that he took time to listen to our concerns and issues and showed genuine interest in our work".

### **Steve Brine MP Website**

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