

## Avison Young appoints four leaders for its newly acquired Scottish operation

Alison Taylor and Stuart Agnew named among business leaders for Edinburgh and Glasgow offices of former GVA real estate firm



**Alison Taylor and Stuart Agnew become principals at Avison Young**

Four new business leaders – or principals – have been appointed in Scotland by Canadian real estate giant Avison Young after its acquisition of GVA.

The four Scottish principals, announced by Mark Rose, Avison Young’s chairman and chief executive officer, are Alison Taylor in Glasgow and Stuart Agnew in Edinburgh, along with Gordon Martin and Danny Lafferty. They are among more than 100 new principals following the sale of GVA, one of the leading UK’s real estate advisory businesses. The new principals include senior directors who were formerly with GVA and other new employees from GVA.

**Avison Young** has more than 600 principals globally, who receive company shares along with the right to vote and set the strategy for the business.

“We’re thrilled to welcome the new principals to our significantly expanded and enhanced Avison Young family,” said Rose.

“We provide industry-leading advice to clients throughout the real estate lifecycle. Principals play key roles in every transaction and drive our culture as we place clients, strategy and people before profits.”

Taylor said: “As a newly appointed principal, I know that I share with my new colleagues a sense of excitement and anticipation about the significant opportunities that lie ahead as a result of the merger. The breadth and depth of experience of the expanded Avison Young community is reflected in this

announcement and I am very much looking forward to continuing the success of our business in Glasgow and across Scotland. “

Agnew said: “The impact and legacy of the merger is illustrated by the size of this expansion in new principals. Both in Edinburgh, and throughout Scotland, Avison Young will continue to succeed by putting people and our clients at the heart of what we do, having a positive impact on individuals and communities. Alison and I are delighted in particular to be joined as principals in the Scottish business by Gordon Martin, head of rating, and Danny Lafferty, head of business consultancy.”

The acquisition of GVA, concluded on January 31, 2019, established Avison Young as the only privately held, principal-led, global, full-service commercial real estate services firm. The combination establishes Avison Young among the top five commercial real estate advisory businesses in the UK.

“When we merged with Avison Young, one of the most significant attractions was a return to partnership and the opportunity to offer our leaders – current and next generation – an equity stake in our business. The appointment of 100-plus colleagues as principals is only the start of that opportunity,” said Gerry Hughes, the former CEO of GVA who is now a principal of Avison Young and the firm’s managing director, UK and managing director, global consultancy.

In the UK, Avison Young now has 18 offices, including Edinburgh and Glasgow, and 1,600 employees working with clients on the transaction and consultancy sides of the business. As a result of the acquisition, Avison Young, headquartered in Toronto, Canada, has increased its revenue to 25 times its 2008 level to approximately £570 million. Founded in 1978, with legacies dating back more than 200 years, the company comprises approximately 5,000 real estate professionals in 120 offices in 20