## Employment surge at Surgeons Quarter as it focuses on pandemic recovery

A major conference and events business reports that 2022 is projected to exceed pre-pandemic levels — and looks to expand the number of its staff.

In a positive sign for Edinburgh's crucial hospitality and business tourism sectors, <u>Surgeons Quarter</u> — the commercial arm of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh (RCSEd) — has experienced demand for in-person meetings and events well ahead of pre-pandemic levels.

The Living Wage-accredited organisation which manages a vast mix of historic and purpose-built RCSEd venues, as well as Ten Hill Place Hotel, Café 1505 and Surgeons Quarter Travel — has seen events and conferences that postponed due to the pandemic rebook their events for 2022 as well as a high level of new enquiries.

This trend which has included new bookings for major conferences such as the Functional Regulatory Genomic Disease Meeting, a conference which will bring together international leaders in the study of genetics of disease in April 2022, has led to Surgeons Quarter returning to operate at close to maximum levels.

As a result, Surgeons Quarter is set to recruit for 60-70 positions during April, May and June.



Surgeons Quarter, Cafe 1305 Scott Mitchell — Managing Director Scott Mitchell, Managing Director of Surgeons Quarter, said:

"It's a pleasure to be in a position to expand our hospitality teams again and add vital jobs to help us service the increasing levels of business we're bringing in.

"It's important that we get the recovery right — hospitality and the business tourism economy are integral to the city's overall prosperity. We can see first-hand the direct effect it has on employment.

"In addition to our busy events calendar, Ten Hill Place Hotel is seeing encouraging occupancy levels predicted to exceed the pre pandemic levels.

"To further boost our activities in 2022, we are actively planning for the full return of the Festival Fringe for which we are one of the largest operators — and at the end of the year, we are looking forward to a busy festive period of celebration, which we have all missed in the past 18 months".

The organisation is also launching its first TV advertising campaign on 25<sup>th</sup> February with the theme highlighting guests will be 'In Good Hands' as a reference to its surgical connections and charitable aims which should help further raise its profile.

During the first lockdown Ten Hill Place provided free rooms and meals to key workers tackling the pandemic. Over 2,100 rooms were supplied free of charge at a cost to the company of over £100,000.

Surgeons Quarter promotes, sells and manages all commercial activities held within the RCSEd campus. All profits support the charitable aims of the College which are education, assessment and advancement in surgical standards worldwide.

