

HOME WORKERS LOOK FOR OFFICE SPACE AT BRITAIN'S BEAUTY SPOTS

The beauty spots of Britain have become the centre of a home working revolution which is seeing more people commute across their lawns to their office.

As more firms encourage home-based working, a nationwide study by estate agent Purplebricks reveals the garden county of Kent and the picturesque dales of North Yorkshire have the highest proportion of homes with dedicated work dens.

The isolation provided by the backwater region between Northumberland and Scotland and the Snowdonia national park and the beach views of North Wales come close as the ideal retreat for the perfect working environment.

And those living in the downs of the Sussex/Hampshire borders, the water-strewn landscape of Norfolk and Constable country of Suffolk and Northern Essex also seem to beat the daily travel grind.

Research by Purplebricks into the number of homes available to buy with either an equipped office adapted from a spare room or a converted or specially built garden retreat provided a fascinating picture of where home working across the UK is most prevalent.

The sheer number of home and garden offices shows consumers are enjoying a lifestyle balance – yet are still within reach of main centres when needed.

The study found over a third of available properties on the market with Purplebricks mentioned a home office as a key selling point.

Tranquil Cornwall, the Cotswolds, the Peak District, and rural Leicestershire see higher than average dwellings with offices.

Of the major cities, London has the biggest number of properties with allocated work spaces, followed by Birmingham - although home offices in cities are less popular than those in the prettiest parts of the UK.

Previous research from the Office of National Statistics revealed a record 4.2 million people, almost one in seven of those in employment, to be home workers.

Michael Bruce, CEO, Purplebricks said: "The attraction of working from home is clear and is proving more appealing to a growing number of people who are fed up with the daily commute to work and prefer a stroll across the garden.

"The increasing cost of office space in cities and better internet connections mean that companies are more prepared to allow their staff to work from home so it's no surprise we are seeing offices mentioned as an important feature amongst those wanting to sell a property.

"As we witness a real change in the way people work, it seems the kitchen table just won't cut it anymore!"

Top locations for homes with offices:

- 1 Kent
- 2 North Yorkshire

- 3 Scotland border with Northumberland
- 4 North Wales
- 5 Sussex/Hampshire border
- 6 Norfolk
- 7 Suffolk/Essex border
- 8 Cornwall
- 9 Peak District
- 10 Cotswolds

NOTES

Source: Analysis of properties currently on sale with Purplebricks