

British Council of Offices support interior planting

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Last Tuesday's Guardian asked the question 'Pot plants in the office: good or bad?' The question of course was prompted by the reports that the Ministry of Justice has spent £14,000 on pot plants and other departments in varying amounts.

Two spokespersons in the article, Kate Mason of architects Scott Brownrigg and Jenny MacDowell of the British Council of Offices were both generally supportive.

Brownrigg did agree that pot plants are old fashioned or dated but conceded that offices are considering greenery as part of the overall design of office spaces now and that indoor gardens and living walls are popular. All good news for eFIG members and the industry as a whole.

Meanwhile Jenny MacDonnell pointed out that research confirmed that plants were good for well-being and productivity.

Had they listened to eFIG Chairman, Kenneth Freeman's interview on Radio 4's Today programme on the same day they would have heard him confirm that interior planting costs amount to only a fraction of 1% of most buildings/offices running costs; he also confirmed that research has proved they offer many positive benefits as all eFIG members know!

