

JOHNSTONS OF ELGIN ACHIEVES INVESTORS IN YOUNG PEOPLE GOLD ACCREDITATION

Scottish Cashmere brand Johnstons of Elgin has been awarded the GOLD Investors in Young People [IIYP] Good Practice Award. IIYP is the only people management standard that focuses on an employer's recruitment and retention of young people. Now IIYP accredited for the second time, this prestigious gold accreditation represents the brand's true commitment to training, developing and employing young people.

In recent years, Johnstons of Elgin has heavily invested in establishing opportunities for young people at the organisation and this includes the launch of their Modern Apprenticeship programme. Already over 100 employees have successfully completed an apprenticeship, with more employees in training.

Simon Cotton, Chief Executive commented: "We are incredibly proud that Johnstons of Elgin has been awarded for its unwavering commitment to the training and employment of young people. Receiving this Gold commendation demonstrates how important youth employment is to our business and we are thrilled that our efforts in this area have once again been recognised".

Peter Russian, Chief Executive of Remarkable (the home for Investors in Young People), said: "Huge congratulations to Johnstons of Elgin on their very well-deserved Investors in Young People Gold award. From their engagement with schools, helping pupils to reach positive destinations, to their in-house apprenticeship programmes and technical training school, Johnstons of Elgin's youth employment practices are truly inspirational. It's fantastic to see their clear commitment to growing, developing and nurturing their own talent."

The 220-year-old cashmere and tweed specialist, noted for their strong focus on creating employment and training opportunities, received the award this June on behalf of its teams of employees which now totals more than 1000 and commends the company's fundamental purpose of striving to nurture enthusiasm in young staff and redefining mastery.

Johnstons of Elgin becomes the first cashmere brand in Scotland, the first organisation in Moray, where it employs around 700 employees, and, the first organisation in Hawick, where it employs around 280 employees, to achieve the Investors in Young People Gold Accreditation.

ENDS

For further information, imagery or interview opportunities please contact Valentina Taglialavore at Seven Dials at johnstons@sevendialspr.com or 0203 740 6476

ABOUT JOHNSTONS OF ELGIN

In the two centuries following its establishment in 1797, just two families – the Johnstons and the Harrisons, have owned Johnstons of Elgin. It is one of the last few vertical mills in the UK still carrying out all the processes from raw cashmere and fine woolen fibres, right through to the finished product. Johnstons of Elgin's mills in Elgin and Hawick employ over 1000 people, including highly skilled textile craftsmen and women.