

STOCKPORT BUSINESS BULLETIN



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January 2019

Welcome to the January 2019 edition of Stockport Business Bulletin, providing an overview of investment, news and networking opportunities in Stockport.



Mayoral Powers Look to Regenerate Stockport's Town Centre West

Greater Manchester leaders have given the go-ahead to consult on creating a [Mayoral Development Corporation](#) (MDC) to lead the regeneration of the Town Centre West area.

The ambition is for Town Centre West to become Greater Manchester's newest, greenest and coolest affordable urban neighbourhood that is ideally placed to meet the challenges and opportunities Town Centres face. As a walkable neighbourhood in the heart of Stockport, Town Centre West will provide a choice of homes and workspace where residents and business will have enviable access to public transport and be amongst the best connected in the region.

To create a new green urban village, the Greater Manchester Mayor is consulting on the creation of a regeneration company called a Mayoral Development Corporation. Residents and businesses are encouraged to have their say at <https://www.gmconsult.org/>

Investment and Property Update

New year, new start for your business?

Are you wanting to turn your business idea into reality or take your company to the next level this year? If so, Stockport Council's [Business and Innovation Centre's](#) new co-working facility could be the answer! Giving entrepreneurs the opportunity to hire desk space, from just half a day, in a location where they can get access to tailored business support and specialist workshops. Join the community of entrepreneurs and be inspired.



Pure Offices open in Stockport

[Pure Offices](#) has opened their latest business centre at Cheadle Royal Business Park. This is their 21st serviced office location in the UK and the business centre boasts over 85 various sized offices suitable for 1 person through to teams of over 30.

Business Support & Funding News

South Manchester Digital Network

Representatives from Stockport's growing digital and tech sector are invited to participate in the first [South Manchester Digital Network](#) event on 26th February at Robinsons Visitor Centre. Stockport Council is partnering with Manchester Digital to deliver this event, bringing together businesses from across the sector, sharing news and ideas.





Innovation in Action

Innovation is essential for business growth. The GC Business Growth Hub's [Innovation in Action](#) programme gives businesses inspiration to innovate and break through their barriers, to achieve growth and leap ahead of the competition. For a small investment in time, companies will learn how to inject energy into business, maximise brand value, access funding and bring new products or services to market faster.

Fire It Up

The Government has launched its new ['Fire it Up'](#) campaign to raise awareness of the huge variety of apprenticeship options available for people of all ages and backgrounds. Financial help and support is also available for employers. If you would like to know more about getting apprentices into your workforce contact Richard Mortimer, Head of Economy, Work and Skills at Stockport Council on 0161 474 3864.



Access to Finance

Geoff Clowes is an [Access to Finance](#) Specialist at GC Business Growth Hub with over 34 years' financial sector & relationship management experience. GC Business Growth Hub provides fully funded support to businesses in Greater Manchester. They support business across a number of growth sectors and offer a range of services that help to secure investment, access new markets, develop products and improve skills. Geoff can be contacted at Geoff.Clowes@a2fnw.co.uk

Recruitment and Selection Support

Don't overlook the potential that young people can bring to your business. It can be difficult for young people to get an interview as they may not have a long history of work experience but they still have a lot to offer. To find out how you could assess their potential in a different way and access the potential of young people through using a different approach to recruitment and selection, contact Richard Mortimer, Head of Economy, Work and Skills at Stockport Council on 0161 474 3864.



Events and Networking Opportunities



Stockport Business Breakfast 14th February 2019, 7.30 - 9.30am, Edgeley Park

STOCKPORT BUSINESS BREAKFAST

There will be lots of opportunity to network, whilst talking business over breakfast. Whether you are a budding entrepreneur or well-established enterprise, the Stockport Business Breakfast will give you the perfect opportunity to meet new contacts and grow your network in a friendly environment.

Stockport's Great Leap Forward - What's Next? 28th February 2019, 8- 10am, No.1 St Peters Square, Stockport



Hosted by Orbit Developments and in association with The Business Desk, this breakfast event will see Michael Ribbeck, editor of Business News North West, leading a panel of influential speakers from successful companies and bodies based in Stockport, to discuss the changes that have taken place and what's next for Stockport.



Go Electric 9.30am - 2.30pm 6th March, Avro Heritage Museum, Woodford

As part of the Clean Air Early Measures project, TfGM is hosting an electric vehicle experience event. This free business-only event will provide details about proposed updates to the Greater Manchester Electric Vehicle network, coverage of GM's wider clean air plans, examples of businesses who have made the electric switch and an opportunity to test drive some of the latest EV models.

Other News

Greater Manchester Spatial Framework (GMSF) Business Consultation Event

The consultation on Greater Manchester's Plan for homes, jobs and the environment started on Monday 21st January and runs for a period of 8 weeks up to and including 18th March 2019. A special consultation event for businesses is being arranged for **8th March**. Look out for an email with further details about this event.





'Cycling and Walking Plan' and 'Active Communities' - Have your Say

Stockport Council is encouraging businesses and residents to have their say on two proposals:

The existing walking and cycling strategies for Stockport were adopted in 2010 and 2000 respectively and therefore require revision to take account of changes which have been made to transport infrastructure in the Borough over that time. The new combined [Cycling and Walking Plan](#) sets out a long term vision for cycling and walking in Stockport.

The [Active Communities Strategy](#) aims to summarise findings about needs and priorities for health and wellbeing in relation to physical activity and our cultural offer; and to inform the public about our proposals for an Active Community.

Follow us on Twitter

Whether you are starting up a business, trying to grow your company or thinking of relocating to Stockport, a range of services are available to help you. You can follow us on Twitter - [@SMBC_Business](#) to keep up to date with the latest news and support available.



For further information on any of the topics covered, assistance with any economic information or if you have any comments please contact us.



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