



taking business to new heights

Dear Members

Welcome to the October Newsletter

The Chancellor's 'mini-budget' kicked off a week of economic turbulence, impacting mortgage markets directly. Many businesses are now worried about rising costs and how to survive this next blow to our economic recovery after the brief recovery time we enjoyed post covid/lockdown.

Mr Kwarteng's 'mini-budget' was flawed, but it didn't drive the Pound to new lows and cause the Bank of England to step in to save government bonds on its own. The Government took the unusual move of not allowing the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR), or any alternative regulatory body, to forecast their economic plans pre-announcement. This simple act fuelled uncertainty in the financial markets before the 'mini-budget' had even been made public.

The Chamber is working with Trafford and the Growth Company to support our members and Ian Whilby (Growth Company) will be presenting the local initiatives on how we can have access to this support at the November breakfast.

More details very soon

Best wishes
Sue

Chamber News

Breakfast Matters



October

Thursday, 6th October 2022

Taxation Tips for Business

November

Thursday, 3rd November 2022

Manchester Airport Group

**Both events are at Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham
8:30am – 10am**

Please book by Eventbrite

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/altrincham-and-sale-chamber-of-commerce-31928406227>

Business Awards 2022

The Mere Golf Resort and Spa

11 November 2022

7 pm

[BOOK HERE](#)

We are delighted to be holding our 2022 Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce Business Awards at The Mere Golf Resort and Spa, Knutsford.

Our Champagne Reception in the company of our Patrons, Sir Graham Brady MP and Cllr Chris Boyes Mayor of Trafford, will start at 7pm. The Awards Presentation will follow a 3 course meal.

This event would not be possible without the support and encouragement of our sponsors and we thank them for their continued support and encouragement.



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/2022-chamber-business-awards-evening-tickets-387446050567>

We had an AMAZING Response to the awards nominations this year with 92 Businesses nominated in the Chamber Business Awards - some in multiple categories

Here's the list of the businesses who have been recognised this year.



10th Business Awards - ALL NOMINEES

A Plan Insurance	Claritas Tax Limited	HCS Hale SpruceUp	Owl Tree Web Solutions
A4 Studios	Clark Art	Hearing & Wellness Clinic Hale	Oxford Road Cafe
ABC+ WARRANTY	Clear Day	Kick Back Coffee	PCE Social
AIR Gallery	Cohort Pictures	Learn North West Education LLP	Phillip Carroll
Altrincham Autos Ltd	Con Club Altrincham	Leisure for Autism	Rspca Altrincham
Altrincham HQ	Curry Cottage	Loreto Grammar	Sew creative
Altrincham Market	Diamond Wellbeing	Love to Frame	Sigiraya (Hale)
Altrincham VS Cancer	DJM Dairies	Mano a Bocca	SKANDA Clothing Ltd
Amphora	Dogs and Divas LTD	Marvel Guitar Tuition	St Anne's Hospice
Amy Newton Interiors	Dunham Barns	Maskell + Josephson	Stanley Square Sale
Asgard Groceries	Essence	Master and Man	Stockdales
Axe and Cleaver	Everyone Can	Max 20 Project Solutions	Tatton Perk
B&V Trading Sale	Evuna (Altrincham)	McLellan Clothing	The Bottle Shop (Hale)
Batch Bottlestore & deli	EZ Hampers	Minuteman	Corner House Design and Print
Benchmark Security (Hale)	Full Circle Funerals Partners	Most Bakery	The Counselling & Family Centre
Blanchflower	G Force	Mouse House Print Shop (Hale)	The Hideaway Partington
Blend by Carol Nesbitt	Gingko	Myersons	The Hive by V H Interiors
Bluebird Care Trafford	Girlguiding in Sale	Nerd	Timperley Girl Guides
Bowdon Marquee Room	Gran T's	Nerd Cafe	Tre Cicco
California Coffee and Wine	Green and Grounded	Nina D	Two Brothers
Calm at Work	Hale Civic Society	Off The Wheaten Track	Unagi
Caroline Boardman Consulting	Hale Cycleworks		VCM Graphic Design
CAFT	Handy Ladies Feeding The Community		Wellington High School
Chris Garland Training	Happy Radio		

TRAFFORD

FIRST FOR BUSINESS

Government support to help cut energy costs for businesses;

Earlier this week, the UK Government announced plans to help cut energy costs for businesses.

Through a new government Energy Bill Relief Scheme, the government will provide a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic customers (including all UK businesses and the voluntary sector) whose current gas and electricity prices have been significantly inflated in light of global energy prices. This support will be equivalent to the Energy Price Guarantee put in place for households.

It will apply to fixed contracts agreed on or after 1 April 2022, as well as to deemed, variable and flexible tariffs and contracts. It will apply to energy usage from 1 October 2022 to 31 March 2023, running for an initial 6 month period for all non-domestic energy users. The savings will be first seen in October bills, which are typically received in November.

As with the Energy Price Guarantee for households, customers do not need to take action or apply to the scheme to access the support. Support (in the form of a p/kWh discount) will automatically be applied to bills.

For further information, click [here](#).

Gtr Manchester Clean Air Plan Survey

Greater Manchester (GM) local authorities are undertaking a participatory policy development process to develop and shape the new Clean Air Plan Policy, including proposals for funding support.

The case for a new plan, which has been submitted to Government, sets out evidence supporting an investment-led approach, with no charging Clean Air Zone, to address the city-region's nitrogen dioxide air pollution problem. This is to ensure the right funding and eligibility criteria are in place to enable category B vehicles, which includes buses, coaches, taxis, PHVs and HGVs, to be upgraded to those with cleaner engines, while mitigating any additional economic risk or hardship to residents and businesses.

Impacted vehicle owner survey

To ensure the development of the new policy is well-grounded in evidence, GM wants the input of key stakeholders, including [HGV/Coach/Taxi/PHV] owners. This is to ensure the right funding and eligibility criteria are in place to enable category B vehicles to be upgraded to those with cleaner engines, while mitigating any additional economic risk or hardship to residents and businesses.

If you are a HGV or a coach owner operating in or through Greater Manchester and want to help shape the new clean air plan proposals, GM wants to hear from you. Online surveys are now open until **10 October 2022**. The survey will take around 15 minutes and is available [here](#).

A public consultation on the Clean Air Plan proposals will take place in early 2023, subject to government feedback. If you have any enquiries about the Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan, please contact info@cleanairgm.com or call 0161 244 1333 (support for non-English speakers is available). To sign up for updates as the new plan is developed, including notification of future consultation visit: cleanairgm.com/#newsletter.

Latest News & Information:

Business Growth Hub Match Networking Event - Trafford

Trafford based companies are invited to attend the next BGH Match event which takes place in Trafford on the 25th of October. This free event, which takes place at Emirates Old Trafford will bring together local businesses for a morning of networking and discussion. Representation from GC Business Growth Hub and Trafford Council I will be on hand to discuss the business support and initiatives available to your business too. To register, or for more information, click [here](#).

Trafford Cyber Security Training - Defend & Grow Your Business

UK businesses face an ever increasing threat with four in ten businesses (39%) having cyber security breaches or attacks in the last 12 months, and a 31% increase in attacks during the height of the pandemic alone. Placing cyber security at the heart of your business can not only help you defend your business but also provides the opportunity for innovation and growth.

Trafford Businesses are invited to attend a free training session on Thursday 13th October at Altrincham Library. Learn how you can defend, innovate and grow your business with Lancaster University (the only NCSC accredited centre of excellence in the northwest). Find out more and register for your place [here](#).

Business Growth Hub - The Growth Factory Training Programme

Are you a business owner or senior director ready to take the next step to achieve the growth ambitions for your business?

The Growth Factory is an exciting new programme designed to challenge and empower business owners in the Greater Manchester region to realise the full growth potential of their businesses, effectively and sustainably. The programme consists of three interactive, practical & thought-provoking in-person sessions

which will help you gain clear insight into where your business is now, where you want it to be & how you can get there.

The first workshop takes place on the 4th October and places are limited. To find out more and check the eligibility criteria visit the Growth Hub's [website](#).

Trafford College Work Placement Opportunities

Calling all Digital, Science and Engineering employers in Greater Manchester, would you like ...

- extra resources for your projects and day-to-day operations from students developing skills in a course relevant to your business and industry?
- to be a key partner in the development of the brand-new T Level qualification?
- to inspire the next generation to work in your industry?
- To address current and future skills shortages in your industry?
- to give your employees the opportunity to develop management and mentorship skills?
- to bring a fresh perspective into your business?
- to be able to share with stakeholders how your business has supported local young people?
- to strengthen your recruiting pipeline and increase diversity?

If you answer yes to any of the above, the Work Placement Coordinators for The Trafford College Group would be delighted to discuss all the ways you could work with the college and how they could benefit your business during these challenges times.

Please complete the following [form](#) to register an interest, this will not commit you to anything it is just to help us to make initial contact with you.

Business Start Up Network events at Altrincham Library

The next Trafford Business Start Up Network events will take place at Altrincham Library from October 2022. The events are suitable for anyone who is thinking of setting up a business or has started their business – please book on the link and we will see you in Altrincham.

[Trafford Business Start-Up Network Tickets, Thu, Oct 20, 2022 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

[Trafford Business Start-Up Network Tickets, Thu, Nov 24, 2022 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Registration Open - Greater Manchester Green Summit 2022

The fifth annual Green Summit takes place on Monday 17 October at The Lowry, Salford Quays. The summit will seek input from business, policymakers, local communities and industry on how the city region can accelerate action against its five-year environment plan.

The Green Summit will feature interactive sessions based around key themes including the natural environment, transport, low carbon, sustainable consumption & production and sustainable lifestyles, with speakers, exhibitors and delegates coming together to consider how we can all better collaborate on innovative solutions. Speakers will include Mayor Andy Burnham, GMCA Lead for the Green City-Region Cllr Martyn Cox and a wide range of expert voices from across the sector

For more information and to register for your free place visit the [Eventbrite page](#).

Greater Manchester Business Compliance Drop In Sessions

Do you know which regulations apply to your business? Are you confused about how best to comply? Do you need some guidance about how to approach compliance and how to get your staff on board?

The Greater Manchester Regulatory Centre of Excellence, working in partnership with the ten Greater Manchester local authorities and Greater Manchester Fire & Rescue Service is now offering an opportunity for businesses to ask questions of the very people who enforce the law.

These virtual drop-in sessions will be an opportunity for you to ask those burning questions you have about regulatory compliance in a one-to-one setting. Our expert environmental health, trading standards and fire safety officers will be on-hand to answer your questions about anything from food safety, health & safety, product safety, risk assessments and product labelling. For further information and to register, click [here](#).

New Explore Trafford App is the business

Promote your company for free on a fabulous brand new business app launched by Trafford Council.

The Council has teamed up with bubltown, makers of the Explore Trafford mobile app, to create a unique online business community serving over 100,000 residents. The app will showcase all the great businesses, regardless of sector, that call Trafford home – and If you're a Trafford business owner or manager, you can now register for free to have your own profile to reach new customers, build your brand and drive more sales. Residents and visitors will be able to access exclusive rewards and discounts from a massive range of local businesses, attractions and facilities – all from the palm of your hand.

Please visit <http://join.explorettrafford.co.uk> to see your business included on the Explore Trafford app while initial spots last. Don't miss out on the free promotion, tools and support it brings. More information is available at <https://www.bubltown.co.uk/>

Enterprising-You Events

The Enterprising-You programme incorporates training opportunities to fast forward development, help boost skills, increase incomes, or help casual workers find alternative routes and roles which can offer greater stability. Sessions are held in a 'speed networking' format which allow you to practice your pitch multiple times and get feedback from your peers. It will be informal, practical and relaxed. You will leave feeling inspired and build confidence to boost your business. For further details of GM events see here: <https://www.enterprising-you.co.uk/latest-news/upcoming-events/>



A round-up of all our latest news and updates.

Join us for our next live webinar with the Business Support Helpline

The banner features a man in a white shirt and glasses working on a laptop in an office setting. The Companies House logo is in the top left. The main text reads "Become a better director". A small box on the right says "In Partnership with Business Support Helpline". The bottom section has a dark purple background with the text "Directors' responsibilities" and "File on time, file online – webinar 2" next to a clock icon. The "Webinar" logo is in the bottom right corner.

[Register now](#) for our next directors' responsibilities webinar.

We'll be joined by the Business Support Helpline who will give an overview of the key aspects of running a business, including what support they can offer.

Live on 28 September at 10:30am to 11am, our expert panel will also be available to answer your questions about [directors' responsibilities](#).

With advice and information about what to consider when starting and running a company, and how to stay compliant, visit our website to [view all webinars in the series](#).

What the Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill means for Companies House

The [Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill](#) was introduced in Parliament last week.

The Bill will bring wide-reaching reforms to Companies House, including the introduction of identity verification for new and existing directors and agents who act on their behalf.

We'll include regular updates about the Bill's progress through Parliament in our newsletter, and we'll keep you up to date on how this legislation will affect you and your company.

[Read the full Economic Crime and Corporate Transparency Bill.](#)



All limited companies, whether they trade or not, must deliver annual accounts to us each year. This includes dormant companies. If you're due to file accounts with us by the end of September, our online tools and services can help you file on time

and avoid late filing penalties.

Make sure you understand your responsibilities as a company director and visit our blog to find out more about [filing accounts for a dormant company](#).

How to improve the cyber security of your business



Since the start of the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, UK businesses have been adjusting to new ways of working and are more reliant on the digital world. Cyber criminals continue to take advantage of these new ways of working to

disrupt everyday business and steal sensitive information. It's now more important than ever to understand how your business might be vulnerable to cyber crime.

In our latest blog post, the National Cyber Security Centre – the UK's lead authority on cyber security and a part of GCHQ – provides [guidance on how to protect your business](#) and manage potential risks in a changing digital landscape.



[Companies House has introduced a new and improved WebFiling account.](#)

Your new WebFiling account includes improved security features and gives you more freedom to self-manage your account.

This is the first step in creating a single sign-in across all Companies House services, and it's an important milestone in our 2020 to 2025 strategy.

[Read our news story to find out how this affects you.](#)

Government outlines plans to help cut energy bills for businesses

[Support for businesses facing rising energy bills has been unveiled by the government.](#)

Through a new government [Energy Bill Relief Scheme](#), the government will provide a discount on wholesale gas and electricity prices for all non-domestic customers (including all UK businesses) whose current gas and electricity prices have been significantly inflated in light of global energy prices.

Customers do not need to take action or apply to the scheme to access the support, which will automatically be applied to bills.

Join CCS for a Housing Maintenance and Repair webinar

[Register now for the Crown Commercial Service's upcoming webinar](#) on Tuesday 18 October, 1pm to 1:30pm.

Find out more about the new Dynamic Purchasing System (DPS) which will deliver a broad range of housing maintenance and repair services to wider public sector customers across the UK.

This webinar will offer an updated overview and further information about how and when you can access the system and why this could be the ideal gateway for you.

A moving, comical and eye-opening story of four young women fighting for education and self-determination against the larger backdrop of women's suffrage



Altrincham Garrick
PLAYHOUSE

'BLUE STOCKINGS' BY JESSICA SWALE OPENS TONIGHT UNTIL SATURDAY 8TH OCTOBER

We would like to offer all members of the Chambers of Commerce an exclusive Garrick deal for our play 'Blue Stockings' by Jessica Swale which opens this evening.

All tickets are £10 when you apply the Discount Promo Code '**Girton**'. Tickets can be purchased online or at our box office, 0161 928 1677 option 1.

'Blue Stockings' by Jessica Swale opens **Tonight** and runs until **Saturday 8th**



October: <https://www.altrinchamgarrick.co.uk/shows/blue-stockings/>

“They say you don't have the capacity to be scholars. So read everything. Learn everything. Know the philosophers, and then think for yourselves.”

A moving, comical and eye-opening story of four young women fighting for education and self-determination against the larger backdrop of women's suffrage.

1896. Girton College, Cambridge, the first college in Britain to admit women. The Girton girls study ferociously and match their male peers grade for grade. Yet, when the men graduate, the women leave with nothing but the stigma of being a 'blue stocking' – an unnatural, educated woman. They are denied degrees and go home unqualified and unmarried.

In Jessica Swale's play, *Blue Stockings*, Tess Moffat and her fellow first years are determined to win the right to graduate. But little do they anticipate the hurdles in their way: the distractions of love, the cruelty of the class divide or the strength of the opposition, who will do anything to stop them. The play follows them over one tumultuous academic year, in their fight to change the future of education.

Blue Stockings received its professional premiere at Shakespeare's Globe, London, in August 2013.

Age Guidance: 12+

This is a beautiful play you will not want to miss!

Joe & Sarah

Altrincham Garrick Management Team





Department for
International Trade


MADE IN THE UK SOLD TO THE WORLD



UK Food & Drink Exports

Unlocking the Global B2B
E-commerce Opportunity with
Alibaba.com

 **2nd November 2022**

 **10:00 - 15:00**

 **Manchester, MI 4PB**

 **[Click here to register](#)**

DISCOVER THE POTENTIAL OF ALIBABA



UK Food and Drink Exports

2nd November 2022, 10:00 - 15:00

The UK food & drink export industry was worth over £20bn in 2021, and the Department for International Trade and Alibaba.com are coming together to give British food & beverage producers the opportunity to learn how the leading B2B marketplace can help them sell their products around the world.

If you're looking to increase your global sales, join us to learn how...

- To gain support and advice for selling your goods globally from the DIT's Export Support Service and specialist Food & Drink International Trade Advisers
- To launch a digital B2B store on Alibaba.com to cost-effectively find new buyers around the world
- To leverage Alibaba.com analytics capabilities to gain insights on buyers, markets and competition
- To take part in livestreaming and digital events on the platform to expand your reach.

[Click here for more details and to register](#)

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