



taking business to new heights

Dear Members

Welcome to the November Newsletter

We have been busy preparing for the Business Awards, and I would like to thank you all for all your help and support. The last chance to buy tickets is Friday 4th November, so only a few days left.

It's been a busy old time in politics, with a new PM being installed last week, the Bank of England has started to unwind quantitative easing and we are told that house prices will fall. The budget planned for 17th November was delayed to allow time to reconsider the impact of the September mini budget which saw GBP fall to a record low. I'm interested to see if there is yet another interest rate rise on 3rd November or will the Bank of England wait too??

It all sounds doom and gloom, but if you need help, we can recommend fellow members who can support your business and offer professional advice. It's one of the main benefits of your membership – we are a dating agency for businesses.

Please contact us if we can help

Best wishes

Sue

PS. 4 weeks to go until I'm a nana

Chamber News



Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce Forthcoming Events

We have been asked to share Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce's forthcoming events.

ASCC Business Awards – Friday, 11th November 2022, 7 pm, The Mere Golf Resort & Spa, Knutsford

Breakfast Matters Event – Thursday, 1st December 2022 – Cresta Court Hotel – 08.30am until 10am Networking Essentials by Kirsty James, Colony Networking

Breakfast Matters Event – Thursday, 5th January 2023, Cresta Court Hotel – 08.30 am until 10am Apprenticeships/T Levels – Panel Discussion

Please book by Eventbrite

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

Business Awards 2022

Last Chance to book

The Mere Golf Resort and Spa

11 November 2022 at 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.

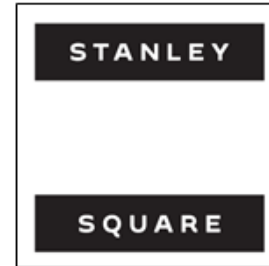
Our Champagne Reception in the company of our Patrons, Sir Graham Brady MP and Cllr Chris Boyes Mayor of Trafford, will start at 7pm. The Awards Presentation will follow a 3 course meal.

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>

With Thanks to all our Sponsors for the 2022 Business Awards





TRAFFORD
COUNCIL

TRAFFORD

FIRST FOR
BUSINESS

Here For Business campaign launches

The Growth Company has launched its **#HereforBusiness** Campaign to support local businesses to navigate the current crisis.

SMEs can benefit from access to webinars, events and business drop-in sessions to discuss their challenges with an advisor.

The Here For Business website provides information on the support available. Click [here](#) for further information.

Trafford based businesses can also sign up for a 1-2-1 meeting with Ian Whilby, Trafford's Advisor from the Growth Company. Drop-in sessions will be held at the following locations on the dates specified:

- Wednesday 26th of October 9am-12pm, Meeting Room 5, Trafford Town Hall
- Wednesday 2nd of November 9.30am-11am, Bizspace, Stretford
- Wednesday 9th November 9.30am-11am, Bizspace, Altrincham
- Wednesday 16th of November 12pm-3pm, Meeting Room 5, Trafford Town Hall
- Wednesday 23rd of November, 9am-12pm, Meeting Room 5, Trafford Town Hall

If you have any questions or require further information, email business@trafford.gov.uk

Latest News & Information:

Chancellor's statement on Medium-Term Fiscal Plan Measures

Earlier this week the Chancellor announced a reversal of the majority of tax measures set out in the Growth Plan. The following tax policies will no longer be taken forward:

- Cutting the basic rate of income tax to 19% from April 2023. The basic rate of income tax will therefore remain at 20% indefinitely.
- Cutting dividends tax by 1.25 percentage points from April 2023. The 1.25 percentage points increase, which took effect in April 2022, will now remain in place.
- Repealing the 2017 and 2021 reforms to the off-payroll working rules (also known as IR35) from April 2023. The reforms will now remain in place.
- Introducing a new VAT-free shopping scheme for non-UK visitors to Great Britain.
- Freezing alcohol duty rates from 1 February 2023 for a year. The next steps of the Alcohol Duty Review announced in Growth Plan 2022 will continue as planned. The alcohol duty uprating decision and interactions with the wider reforms to alcohol duties under the Alcohol Duty Review will be considered in due course.

This follows on from the previously announced decisions not to proceed with the Growth Plan proposals to remove the additional rate of income tax and to cancel the planned increase in the corporation tax rate. For further information, click [here](#).

Lean Champion course taking place in Trafford

The Growth Company is inviting Trafford based manufacturing companies to join their two-day Lean Champion course taking place at St Anthony's Centre in Trafford Park on the 1st and 8th of November. Places on the course are available to SMEs based in Trafford. The purpose of the course is to enable attendees to understand and promote Lean principles in their organisation in order to improve efficiency and profitability. For further information and to book your place click [here](#).

Unable to attend this course this time?

Trafford Council is working with the Growth Hub to offer a one-day consolidated course for Trafford based companies in the New Year. If you would like further information, contact business@trafford.gov.uk

University of Manchester's Sustainable Materials Innovation Hub's Sustainability Workshop - It's Not Easy Being Green, sustainability, plastics and your business.

Businesses can often feel overwhelmed when thinking about the best way to make meaningful environmental change whilst using plastics in their products or packaging. Businesses might feel under pressure to become more sustainable from customer demand, new regulations or a feeling of responsibility for the planet.

The University of Manchester's Sustainable Materials Innovation Hub's Sustainability Workshop: It's Not Easy Being Green, will provide impartial advice and expertise around plastics use and plastics circularity, which will support your business to use plastics more sustainably and efficiently now, and in the future.

During the event on the 3rd of November between 10am and 4pm, businesses will have the opportunity to engage with and learn from sustainability and polymer experts who are keen to support SMEs in Greater Manchester to be the most forward thinking when it comes to plastics circularity and help to implement sustainable practices.

For further information and to book your place, click [here](#).

Working Wardrobe. Can you help local residents to look their best in preparation for an interview?

Working Wardrobe, is an initiative between Trafford Council, Groundwork and Trafford Housing Trust. It is a service primarily for people who are unemployed or on a training course in Trafford, Greater Manchester. It is designed for people who have a confirmed job interview for a paid position or an apprenticeship. Appointments with Working Wardrobe can only be made through a referral partner. Working Wardrobe clients receive a one-to-one appointment with one of our team and a tailored outfit for their upcoming interview. For further information on how you can help by donating clothing, click [here](#).

Help with Energy Bills for Businesses - Energy Bill Relief Scheme

The Government's Energy Bill Relief Scheme (EBRS) will cut energy prices for non-domestic energy customers such as businesses and charities. The scheme will apply to fixed contracts agreed on or after 1.4.22 as well as to variable and flexible tariffs and contracts. Discounts will apply to energy usage initially between 1.10.22 and 31.3.23. No action is needed to access the scheme - suppliers will automatically apply the EBRS discount to the energy bill. Further information about the scheme can be found [here](#)

Support & Advice for Business Energy Bills

Ofgem offers advice for businesses that are struggling to afford their energy bills. They also have a guide to help find business energy efficiency grants and schemes:

- <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/information-consumers/energy-advice-businesses/getting-help-if-your-business-cant-afford-its-energy-bills>
- <https://www.ofgem.gov.uk/information-consumers/energy-advice-businesses/find-business-energy-efficiency-grants-and-schemes>

Citizens Advice offers free, independent advice about business energy contracts and rights. Read more [here](#)

Trader Support Service Extended

The Trader Support Service, which helps businesses move goods between Great Britain and Northern Ireland, has been extended until December 2023. The free-to-use digital platform helps businesses and traders of all sizes trade between Great Britain and Northern Ireland under the Northern Ireland Protocol. The service provides support to manage digital declarations including completing import and safety and security declarations on behalf of traders. Read more about the service [here](#)

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](#).

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 fully funded 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.

To find out more about the start date (provisionally set as 6.12.22) and to check the eligibility criteria visit the [Growth Hub](#)

For further enquiries contact [Isabelle Farquhar](#)

Making Tax Digital

From 1 November 2022, VAT-registered businesses must use Making Tax Digital (MTD) compatible software for their VAT returns. Businesses that file their VAT returns on a quarterly or monthly basis will no longer be able to submit them using their existing VAT online account, unless HMRC has agreed they are exempt from MTD. Read more [here](#)

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 this [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, Nov 24, 2022 at 10:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

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 showcases all of 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.

Come and join other businesses and join [Explore Trafford](#) 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.

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/>

The Leader's blog



The blog of the Leader of Trafford Council, Councillor Andrew Western. **Supporting Trafford residents and businesses through tough times**

Thursday 6th October 2022

I know how much the cost of living is worrying so many of you especially as the weather gets colder. Here at Trafford, we are working closely with our partners to see what support and help we can provide residents and businesses.

While we can't pay people's bills, we are looking to help in a number of ways. A project group has been set up to coordinate support for people in the borough. It involves working with a range of partners including the Community Hubs, Citizens Advice Bureau and housing providers. We are looking at various things, including providing places where people can go to a free, safe, warm and comfortable space over the autumn and winter.

We will also be signposting people to where they can receive help and advice with their bills, and we will be communicating the support available over the coming weeks and months.

Financial challenges

While I know money is tight for many of you and business owners, we are also facing our own financial challenges at the Council. The effects of Covid and rising inflation mean it is becoming even more difficult to balance the books and provide the much needed services so many people rely on.

We are also planning to lobby for a fairer financial settlement. The way the government calculates the money it gives councils uses a formula which is outdated and unfair on Trafford. It means we receive the lowest grant per person out of all the other local councils in Greater Manchester and miss out on millions of pounds. That is something we want to change.

However, I have to be honest and fear some of the rhetoric from the new Prime Minister and her cabinet. We have seen their disastrous so called mini-budget which has been widely condemned as being irresponsible. I am worried councils like ours will become scapegoats and we will be targeted for cuts in public spending to help the government deliver on its promised tax cuts.

Sporting excellence

On a more positive note, Trafford remains one of the country's top sporting places as it will play host to the delayed Rugby League World Cup 2021 final in November. And thousands will also take part in the Manchester Half Marathon this Sunday. Good luck to everyone in the race which starts and finishes in Trafford.

Paying respects to the Queen

Finally, I must mention my sadness at the death of her Majesty the Queen. She has been the monarch for most people's lives and it is a strange feeling knowing that she is no longer with us. We had events in the borough to mark her reign during the period of mourning and I would like to thank all my colleagues at the Council who helped organise these fitting tributes. We have a new monarch and I wish King Charles III all the best in his new role.

Altrincham **BID** Business Improvement District

What's On

★ Santa's Grotto ★

This year the BID is working with Kids of Cheshire to host a Santa's Grotto over the weekends of **Saturday 3rd & Sunday 4th December and Saturday 10th & Sunday 11th December**. The Grotto will be at 104 George Street and will help to support the footfall in this part of the town in the run up to Christmas.

★ "Carols from Kings Court" ★

The BID will be working with The Music Place and Kings Court businesses on this festive family friendly event which will take place on **Tuesday 13th December**.

★ Altrincham's Lantern Parade ★

This year's Lantern Parade takes place on **Saturday 19th November**. The parade will gather in Goose Green and set-off at 4.45pm. The route has been extended to allow more spectators to watch the parade from vantage points around the town and to ease congestion in the Stamford Quarter at the end. The route includes Denmark Street, Moss Lane, Stamford New Road, Regent Road, Market Street, Shaw's Road and the Stamford Quarter.

There will be a stage in Stamford Square (Not So Secret Garden) throughout the day with local school and choir performances. There will be a festive singalong with the Music Place at 5.30pm as the parade arrives.

The BID will be running lantern workshops with five local schools prior to the day, the children who take part in the workshops will join the parade with their families. There will also be community lantern making workshops on the day bringing lots more families into the town.

How your business can get involved:

- Altrincham's music and dance schools can join the parade
- Coffee Shops, bars and restaurants along the route could serve hot chocolates, mulled wine, mince pies and other festive refreshments
- Professional services businesses along the route could host their clients and watch the parade from a great vantage point
- You can promote your business by being interviewed on the stage by the compare between choir performances. Email to let us know.

★ “Winter Windows Competition” ★

Decorate your window with a winter theme. The winter rather than festive theme has been introduced so that your window dressing can remain in place beyond ‘Twelfth Night’ if you wish. There are two parts to the competition – The Judge’s Choice and The People’s Choice.

The windows will be judged on **Wednesday 16th November** and the People’s Choice will go live on Altrincham Today’s Facebook page shortly afterwards, giving an opportunity for your business to be seen by thousands. Each winner will receive a half page in Altrincham Today magazine as their prize (funded by Altrincham BID).

To enter the competition, please let us know on email and have your window ready for judging on Wednesday 16th November.

★ “Altrincham Welcomes Christmas” ★

On **Thursday 17th November** the town’s Christmas lights will come on between 5.30-6pm. Many businesses are getting involved by hosting live music, family entertainment, late-night shopping events or special festive food & drink, as ‘Altrincham Welcomes Christmas’.

There will also be a festive sing-along with The Garrick Show Choir and Happy Radio which will take place at the Christmas Tree at the bottom of Shaws Road. We will be promoting everything that’s happening on the evening, so please let us know if your business is hosting an event.



Altrincham Bid

Altrincham Bid have been entered into a national BID competition as a result of their highly successful 'Trooping the Corgis' this summer

As part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations, Many White and the Bid team worked with Inch Arts, a community arts organisation based in the town, to produce Altrincham's largest town-wide art event, 'Trooping the Corgis'. The parading troop of fifty life-sized corgi sculptures were on guard throughout June and were displayed in the windows and foyers of shops and businesses around the town making the exhibition accessible to everyone. An auction was held at the end of June and an amazing £32,000 was raised in total.

Described by an industry expert as 'a community arts project showcasing the best in partnership working', the project involved artists, schools, and community groups. Contributions were made by Britain's best loved punk poet Dr John Cooper Clarke, Russ Meehan aka Qubek best known for his Mancunian Bees murals, Trevor Johnson who created the designs for the legendary Hacienda nightclub and Factory Records, and internationally acclaimed contemporary textile and fibre artist Alice Kettle.

- 50 life-sized Corgis decorated by artists, schools & community groups
- Displayed throughout June in 50 businesses around the town
- Auctioned at the end of the project to raise funds for community arts projects & to support the artists involved
- Headline sponsor plus 50 business hosts/sponsors
- to generate positive PR for the town
- to support the football and dwell time over the Jubilee weekend
- to encourage a broad demographic of visitors to explore the town and discover new businesses
- to highlight the town's cultural offer, raise the profile of and support local artists and community groups
- to create a legacy by raising funds for future arts projects

'Trooping the Corgis' exceeded expectations at every stage – from the level interest shown by artists, schools, community groups and businesses, to the phenomenal number of media enquiries, the popularity of the trail itself and the demand for places at the auction. It was particularly gratifying to see so many people exploring the town with Corgi trail sheets and spending time in Altrincham. The event gave a real focal point to the town's celebrations, bringing the community together.





Support from HMRC

To help you get things right first time, we want to make sure that you're regularly updated with the latest information. Our '[Help for New Employers](#)' playlist covers guidance you'll need when paying employees, including tax codes, National Insurance and more.

We'll keep you updated in future emails about our planned live webinars, which can be found on [GOV.UK](#).

If you [stop being an employer](#), you need to tell HMRC straight away to avoid unnecessary penalties.

To receive the right information at the right time, you can register for any of our help and support topics by going to our [email updates](#) page, entering your email address and choosing from the list available.



Geoff Greensmith
Head of Digital Engagement and Communication Services

The Waterside, Sale

08.NOV

TO

12.NOV



JS80- THE ADDAMS FAMILY

JS80 are delighted to be back at Waterside Arts for their first production since their sell-out 'Joseph' in 2019. Don't ...

12.NOV



BEST OF BUZZ COMEDY

Waterside's legendary monthly comedy night showcasing new and established talent.

17.NOV



FATHER EARTH

Father Earth is the true story of one man's attempt to help save the planet, by converting a derelict church ...

17.NOV



AS THE CROW FLIES: BERLIN, TODMORDEN

Interweaving personal diary entries with texts and songs by both German and English authors, Wiebke creates a turbulent night of ...

18.NOV



LADY MAISERY

Award-winning vocal trio Lady Maisery are long celebrated for their innovation at the forefront of the English folk scene.

19.NOV to **25.**FEB



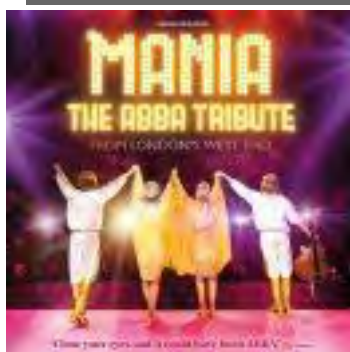
ARC ANIMATION EXHIBITION

A showcase of new animated work created by participants from ARC (Art for Recovery in the Community, Stockport)



Altrincham Garrick **PLAYHOUSE**

MANIA – The Abba Tribute



Dig out those platforms and dust down those flares...

MANIA: The ABBA tribute Direct from London's West End, MANIA is accepted as the world's number one ABBA tribute show. A special concert which celebrates the music of ABBA in a respectful and enjoyable way, this production revives memories of when ABBA ruled the airwaves. It is more than 40 years since ABBA won the [...]

Show Dates

Friday
04 November 2022

Altrincham Garrick Play Reading Club



PLEASE NOTE NEW START TIME 12pm refreshments to commence reading at 12.30pm THIRD PLAY READING: Friday 4th November Ladies in Lavender adapted for stage by Shaun McKenna and based on story by William J Locke FOURTH PLAY READING: Friday 2nd December A Christmas Carol FIFTH PLAY READING: Friday 6th January Play TBC SIXTH PLAY READING: [...]

Show Dates

Friday

04 November 2022 to Friday 03 February 2023

Simon and Garfunkel Through the Years



Critically acclaimed as one of the world's greatest tribute shows, Simon & Garfunkel Through the Years continues to delight audiences across the globe. Featuring stunning vocal harmonies from world-class musicians, this spectacular concert transports you on a journey through the epic songs and history of the much-loved Simon and Garfunkel. "One of the greatest tribute shows [...]"

Show Dates

Saturday

05 November 2022

The Clare Tanner School of Dancing Proudly Presents: 'A Night At The Musicals'

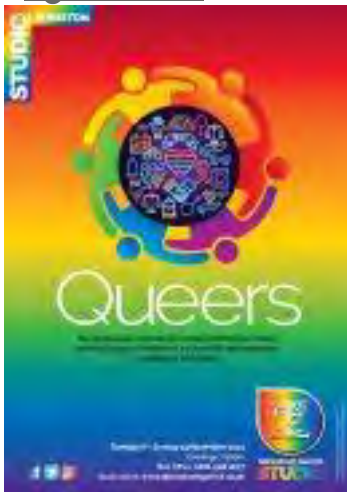


The Clare Tanner School of Dancing, Timperley is celebrating its 20th Birthday with a spectacular show! Join us for a journey through musicals old and new, and prepare to be entertained by our students aged 3 years to 80!

Show Dates

Sunday
06 November 2022

Queers



The Lauriston Studio 2022/23 Season of LGBTQ+ stories

Queers celebrates a century of evolving social attitudes and political milestones in British gay history, as seen through the eyes of six very different individuals. A young soldier returning from the trenches of the First World War recollects a love that dare not speak its name. Almost one hundred years later, a groom-to-be prepares for his [...]

Show Dates

Tuesday
08 November 2022 to Sunday 13 November 2022