

The Manchester Solutions group is at the heart of economic development across the region delivering a wide range of business support services which are helping companies, large and small, become part of Manchester's ever-improving success story.

Manchester Solutions' business expertise and comprehensive understanding of the Greater Manchester economic landscape means services can be tailored to meet the specific needs of a variety of sectors including automotive, construction, engineering, manufacturing, hairdressing, finance and professional, education, public, hospitality, health and social care, and logistics and transport.

As one of the largest providers of business support services in the region, Manchester Solutions provides help to more than 30,000 businesses and works with 13,000 employers in the private, public and third sectors every year.

Manchester Solutions' services are aimed at helping businesses to prosper by over-hauling inefficient processes and developing workforces. Manchester Solutions, through consultancy and business advice, has helped near to 2,000 companies achieve 'Investors in People' and other quality accreditation standards.

## Working together to improve business

Manchester Solutions works in partnership with and delivers membership services for the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce to provide the support that Greater Manchester businesses need. As members of the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce, businesses are represented in the national economic and political arena and have access to unrivalled networking opportunities and a number of exclusive money-saving services. Members also enjoy significant discounts on many of the business support services delivered by Manchester Solutions.

### Services include:

- Business Advice Centre service offering access to a wealth of advice from expert sources
- Business coaching and mentoring
- Business Training courses and management development programme
- 'Train to Gain' – the Learning and Skills Council's flagship training programmes

- Networking events and seminars
- Consultancy across all business disciplines
- Start-up support for new businesses
- Managed office workspace for expanding businesses
- Advice and guidance to help companies achieve 'Investors in People' accreditation and Quality Standards
- Outsourced services including payroll, HR, Health and Safety and IT support
- International trade advice and support.

## CASE STUDY

### Taylor's Fish

This traditional fish and chip shop in Woodley Precinct, Stockport sought advice as a member of Greater Manchester Chamber. The proprietor Anne Wallace was close to abandoning her business as she was demoralised by long hours and staff attitudes. However with advice and training, delivered by Manchester Solutions, which has included help to gain 'Investors in People' status, the business has gone from strength to strength with turnover more than double and staff motivation improved. Anne is now an advisor to several industry bodies.

#### Anne said:

**"I cannot speak highly enough of the benefits we have gained from Chamber membership. We are a small business and would have not been able to train our staff to the level we have without support and advice from the Chamber."**