## Building on the roots of industry

With a population of about 300,000 across an area of 77 square miles, Wigan is one of the largest metropolitan districts in England.

he borough is based around the two main towns of Wigan and Leigh, and several smaller towns and villages of the former Lancashire coalfield. Wigan is the most westerly district of the county of Greater Manchester.

The Economic Development Team at Wigan Council can help companies identify suitable premises for either relocation or expansion within the Wigan Borough. They can also give contact details for new suppliers and potential customers via the Business Directory, as well as putting businesses in touch with a range of training organisations in the Wigan Borough that can offer companies information and assistance on getting a competitive workforce as well as help identify any financial assistance available to companies looking to relocate or expand within the borough.

## Economic profile

The economy of Wigan has come a long way since its reliance on cotton and coal during most of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. In recent years, the borough has undergone a major restructuring of its economy and can now boast over 5,000 companies involved in a variety of industries.

Business and property services; construction; retail and production are all strongly represented in Wigan, accounting for 62.4% of industry sector profile of Wigan. Industrial and commercial developments such as Martland Park, Stone Cross Park, Leigh Commerce Park