



taking business to new heights

Dear Members

Welcome to the ASCC newsletter.

I hope you all had a great summer and now its BAU.

Sorry this edition is a little late, I have been celebrating a big birthday for a couple of months! (Why not..) and then at weekend my gorgeous grandson, Edward was baptised.



Alyson is making a slower than expected recovery and her shoulder is still painful but she has been a trouper and is working remotely for the next few weeks before returning to the office. Our board member, Helen Sweeney is also supporting the office function so we are working in a smarter more, dare I say, efficient manner due to the new IT and young heads. All good!

This issue is packed with information to help your business and of events in and around the borough. The website has all the links to book events and take payments via Eventbrite.

As always my email is ceo@altrinchamandsalechamber.co.uk Please email me and I will respond by return

Very best wishes

Sue
07943 642550

Chamber News



Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce Forthcoming Events

<https://altrinchamandsalechamber.co.uk/events/>

7 September 2023

Breakfast Matters at Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham – Business Awards update

19th September 2023

Garrick Theatre – Shawshank Redemption with tour
Charge for ticket – Chamber discount

5th October 2023

Breakfast Matters at Cresta Court Hotel, Altrincham – HR Update, Jill Bottomley

10 Nov 2023

Chamber Business Awards at The Point, Lancashire County Cricket, Old Trafford

You Chamber membership.....

Marketing Opportunities

Marketing Materials at Breakfast Meetings

Now we are all back to meeting in person we are delighted to display members banners, marketing literature and promotional items at our Breakfast Meetings (the first Thursday of each month 0830). Any Chamber member is welcome to bring along materials to display in the room at the Cresta Court.

Chamber Membership Benefits

Chamber UK GDPR Health Checks – **Free of Charge**

As part of Chamber membership, we provided new members with a “UK GDPR Health Check”. This check is provided by Sam Alford of PPP Management Ltd and includes confirming your ICO registration is up to date, checks on your website and cookie notices and a review of your privacy notice to see that it complies with the latest guidance. We are pleased to announce that Sam will now provide this health check for current/existing Chamber members and is in the process of working through our membership list. You can expect an email from Helen in the office sometime after you renew your membership with the results of your Company’s UK GDPR Health Check.

Showcase your Business

Any member who would like to host an evening social either at their premises or in a local venue, please contact Helen in the office 0161 941 3250. This entails providing wine/beer and nibbles but gives you the opportunity to welcome both chamber members and guests into your business and tell them your story.

Office Changes

As you know Helen Dunn left us at the end of July and we had a lovely meal at Altrincham Market to say goodbye to her. Please bear with us as we work reorganise support the office. Alyson will still be in the office and the board will be stepping in to answer queries and emails as our own businesses allow. Please direct your questions to our Alyson@ or Info@ email addresses.

The Gym Group – Corporate Membership

We are delighted that the chamber can now offer Corporate Membership at The Gym Group to our members. The offer means you pay no joining fee and get a 10% discount on all memberships. One of the benefits of this membership is that you can use up to 5 different gyms on the one membership and you can bring a friend up to 4 times a month. To access the discount you will need a “Discount Code” which is available from any member of the Chamber Board, or from the Chamber office or the Altrincham Gym Group team. For those who don’t know where it is you will find the Altrincham Gym next to Atlantic Timber in Broadheath. We have a how to do it guide for those who need it.

Chamber Business Awards

Our Chamber Awards will be held on 10th November 2023 at The Point. Early bird tickets are now on sale on our Eventbrite. We have some exciting new categories this year and have just started the nominations process. As usual we are using SurveyMonkey to manage the awards nominations and voting. There are so many businesses in our area doing amazing work in these difficult times so please take the time to nominate businesses in as many categories as you can. Voting will take place between the 21st August and 21st September.

Nominations

(18 Jul -18 Aug)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2023ASCCAwardsNominations>

Voting

(21 Aug – 21 Sep)

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2023ASCCAwardsVOTE>

Tickets

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/2023-chamber-business-awards-evening-tickets-348633410917>

Chamber Theatre Trip

Our Board Member Georgie Kirk has organised something new in September. A group of Chamber Members will be going to the Altrincham Garrick Playhouse on the evening of Tuesday 19th September, to see what a world-class production of The Shawshank Redemption will undoubtedly be. We have the full VIP experience planned, with a talk from the director and a backstage tour, as well as a free drink and a chance to chat and network with fellow Chamber members. Partners, colleagues, friends and guests are all welcome. Find out more (or if you want to book a number of tickets) please contact Georgie (georgie@putyourselfacross.co.uk). You can book your ticket(s) using this link:- <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/theatre-trip-to-the-altrincham-garrick-playhouse-tickets-657551573457>

Chamber Women In Business Lunch

10th October – CIBO, Hale

Come and join us at Cibo in Hale for our business lunch. Meet other local business ladies

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ascc-lunch-for-women-in-business-tickets-653959007997>

New ICO video guides for small organisations

Setting up good data protection practices will save your business or organisation time and money and can boost confidence in your brand. The ICO had produced new video guides to help you on your data protection journey, whether you're just beginning, or you need a refresh. These include:

An introduction to data protection

<https://newsletter.ico.org.uk/c/1122mivkXQrJZ8ovYjoKBOyr>

Two minutes on data protection and direct marketing -

<https://newsletter.ico.org.uk/c/1122mkBdz8k9ervgQ9ePTRgN>

Soft opt-in for email and text marketing: a two-minute video guide

<https://newsletter.ico.org.uk/c/1122mmH6aqeytKC1HZ4VbTZ9>

Data protection and telephone marketing: a two-minute video guide

<https://newsletter.ico.org.uk/c/1122mpPV4m1allha0JQ37Y3G>

Altrincham Town Hall Update


A bid has been submitted by a community group named 'Altrincham Together' on 31st Aug 2023

The group comprises of Chamber members, Altrincham Court Leet, Ragu Catering, Tsiantar Architects, MLP Law, Intoplaces and input by Simon Borkin who is involved in the Stretford Public Hall which was transferred from Trafford.

Thank you to everyone who worked so hard to collate the information and I shall keep you abreast of the outcome

Chamber Calendar

We have produced a consolidated calendar of events which we hope will be useful for you all for future diary planning.

 Altrincham and Sale Chamber of Commerce Calendar of Events 2023	
<p>We have a rolling programme of events throughout the year. These include regular monthly breakfast meetings, informal and formal lunches and evening socials. We also attend events at local businesses and take a "Chamber table" at charity functions. All our events are bookable on our Eventbrite pages</p>	
<p>January 2023 12th – Breakfast Matters Apprenticeship/T-Levels Panel Discussion</p>	<p>February 2023 2nd – Breakfast Matters Helen Calvert Work/Life Balance 2nd – AGM 21st – Informal Social Jardim Rodizio</p>
<p>March 2023 2nd – Breakfast Matters Alex McCann Social Media Update 8th – International Women's Day Chamber Table at KTS Event 10th – President's Installation Dinner at Altrincham Football Club</p>	<p>April 2023 13th – Breakfast Matters Panel Discussion on Budget Matters 20th – Informal Social Dutch Courage, Sale</p>
<p>May 2023 4th – Breakfast Matters Data Protection & Cyber Matters Sam Alford 18th – The President's Evening Jardim Rodizio 30th – Visit to MAG</p>	<p>June 2023 1st – Breakfast Matters Karl Morris Preparing for a Great Q3 20th – Informal Social Batchbottle Store, King's Court</p>
<p>July 2023 6th – Breakfast Matters Sustainability Panel Discussion 13th – ASCC Lunch for Women in Business Greens, Sale 18/19th Nominations for Awards Commences</p>	<p>August 2023 3rd – Breakfast Matters 1 Minute Member Introductions 17th – Informal Social Mano a Bocca, Sale 21st Voting for Awards Commences</p>
<p>September 2023 7th – Breakfast Matters Awards Update 12th – Meet the Awards Nominees Cresta Court 19th – Theatre Night Altrincham Garrick – Shawshank Redemption</p>	<p>October 2023 5th – Breakfast Matters Health and Wellbeing Focus 10th – ASCC Lunch for Women in Business Cibo, Hale</p>
<p>November 2023 2nd – Breakfast Matters HR Focus 10th – ASCC Business Awards The Point, LCC, 1830</p>	<p>December 2023 2nd – Small Business Saturday 7th – Breakfast Matters Town Centre Updates (Altrincham, Sale, Stretford, Urmston) TBC Christmas Social Christmas Lunch</p>

MEMBER OF THE MONTH

AUGUST 2023

ZERO GRAVITY, ALTRINCHAM

Zero Gravity Float Spa (located in central in Altrincham, opposite the interchange) offers ultimate relaxation with our Floatation Therapy and Massage Services. We have four spacious float tanks filled with Epsom salt water, providing the ultimate sensory deprivation experience for your mind and body. Our skilled therapists also provide a range of massages, including Swedish and deep tissue, to help you unwind and improve your well-being. Chris has been with Zero Gravity as it's Technical Director since the company first opened in July 2018, having initially turned to float therapy to relieve his back pain. As he started floating regularly, he noticed the tranquillity he achieved during his sessions carried over into his everyday life!



1. How has business been since Covid?

Our business was hugely affected by Covid both by the disruptions caused by the lockdowns, but also for a long time afterwards as people were still apprehensive about being in public settings - we estimate that it knocked our business back by around 2 years, and it only felt back to normal by around the end of 2021. We're extremely grateful to have survived Covid, and in one way there was a silver lining for us - during lockdowns there was an increased discussion surrounding mental health and mindfulness, which led to many people discovering floating during this time.

2. What keeps you awake at night?

Not much keeps me awake at night - mainly because I float so often!

3. How did you get into your business?

My business partner Simon actually got me into floating, and he was the one with the idea to set up our own float centre. He used to float regularly in another centre in Ancoats, as he finds floating really helps with his sleep, but the other centre was becoming booked up really far in advance, so Simon couldn't get the times he wanted. Also, although we both enjoyed the floats themselves at the other centre, we always felt that there were many areas that could be improved on such as adding a massage side to the business, so it made sense to start up Zero Gravity!

4. What is your USP?

Our USP is that we give equal importance to our floats as to our massages - the two sessions complement each other perfectly! Most other float centres we've looked at only offer floats, and the few that *do* offer massage seem to do so as an afterthought.

5. What can Chamber members do for you?

One thing I would like chamber members to do is to make sure you're taking the time off working to look after yourself and reset! Sometimes it can feel like we always have to go at a hundred miles an hour, but if you push yourself that hard you'll simply end up burning out! If you can take some time doing something relaxing that you enjoy, whether it be cycling, reading a book in the garden, or even coming in with us to have a float or massage, you'll feel a lot more relaxed and will be able to more fully apply yourself when you are working. Other than that, we always appreciate when people spread the word about floating specifically - it's so unusual people are more likely to try it if someone they know recommends it!

6. You're off to the Desert Island, who is with you and what 3 things would you take – and why?

On the desert island, I'd like to take Simon, his girlfriend and a few of my other oldest friends. Then the three things I'd like to take: an unlimited supply of chilled beer, something to play some music with and a barbeque - then we can have a never-ending beach party!

Chris
Zero Gravity Float Spa



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Altrincham **BID** Business Improvement District

Altrincham Awarded Prestigious Purple Flag Accreditation for its Vibrant Night-time Economy

Altrincham Business Improvement District (The BID), who produce Visit Altrincham, is proud to announce that the town has been awarded Purple Flag status, recognising its exceptional efforts in creating a safe, diverse, and enjoyable nighttime experience for residents and visitors alike. This achievement highlights Altrincham's commitment to maintaining a high standard of nighttime entertainment, enhancing its overall appeal and contributing to its reputation as a vibrant and thriving community.



Purple Flag – similar to the Blue Flag for beaches – aims to raise the standard and broaden the appeal of town and city centres between the hours of 5pm to 5am. The accreditation is an international accolade granted by the Association of Town and City Management (ATCM) to towns and cities that exhibit excellence in managing their nighttime offerings. The accreditation process evaluates various criteria, including the quality of entertainment, accessibility, safety measures, and collaboration among local stakeholders.

The Purple Flag assessors were particularly impressed by town's blend of entertainment, dining, and culture, all while ensuring the safety and well-being of residents and visitors in the evening and nighttime economy. Key successes highlighted in Altrincham's submission included the convenience, safety, and availability of multi-option public transport in a single interchange location, the BID partnership initiatives, and the general cleanliness of the Purple Flag area.

Sacha Lord, Nighttime Economy Advisor for Greater Manchester said, "This is a fantastic achievement for Altrincham. The success in securing the Purple Flag accreditation can be attributed to the dedicated efforts of the town's nighttime economy businesses, the Altrincham Purple Flag Working Group, and the Altrincham BID team who led on the application. Congratulations to Altrincham!".



The working group is a collaborative team involving Altrincham BID, representatives from Trafford Council, Greater Manchester Police, Transport for Greater Manchester, Bruntwood and the town's night-time business operators. Altrincham BID led on the comprehensive application and the assessment which highlighted the town's vibrant nightlife, early evening activity and robust safety measures, all of which played a crucial role in earning Purple Flag status.

"We are thrilled to announce that Altrincham has achieved Purple Flag status, a testament to the hard work and determination of our business community," said Mandy White from Altrincham BID. "This achievement reflects our commitment to providing a safe and enjoyable night-time environment for everyone, from residents to visitors. We are grateful for the partnership and dedication demonstrated by the Purple Flag Working Group, local businesses, and all those who contributed to this success."

Kate Gerbich, Altrincham BID explained, "Local businesses and establishments have played an integral part in Altrincham's journey towards Purple Flag accreditation. Their commitment to upholding high standards of service, safety, and entertainment has significantly contributed to the town's night-time appeal".



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TFGM Business Travel Survey



Greater Manchester is working towards an ambitious target for becoming carbon neutral by 2038, and transport plays a significant role in reaching this. Greater Manchester's transport and travel priorities aim to provide an environmentally sustainable network which is accessible, affordable, and easy to use, and that supports long-term economic growth and access to opportunity for all.

Encouraging sustainable travel to and from the workplace, and how customers and visitors get to you, can play an important part in meeting Greater Manchester's ambitious target for becoming carbon neutral by 2038.

Bee Net Zero is making Greater Manchester the easiest place in the UK to become a net zero business, supporting the transition to a zero-carbon economy and helping businesses to reduce energy costs. By completing this short [survey](#) your business needs be can better understood and will help introduce you to relevant support services that can accelerate your business' decarbonisation journey, improve competitiveness, and increase resilience against future impacts.

Latest News & Information

Trafford Business & Community Matching Event

Thrive Trafford and Trafford Council's Inclusive Economy and Communities Team are working in partnership to host their first Trafford Business and Community Sector Match event **on Wednesday 27th September at Hotel Football, Old Trafford at 9:30am to 12noon.**

The event aims to connect Trafford based and/or Trafford trading companies with local community groups, charities and social enterprises that can offer social value or corporate social responsibility opportunities mutually benefitting both sectors to meet local needs. The event will support local businesses to achieve their ESG (Environmental, Social, Governance) goals whilst enabling the local Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector to thrive and flourish.

The event will feature a marketplace area consisting of a range of community organisations, charities and social enterprises that work with different beneficiaries, all of which will have a wish list of volunteering and social value opportunities for businesses and their employees and supply chains to work with.

For further information contact business@trafford.gov.uk to book your place at the event click [here](#).

Trafford Business Start Up Network

If you have recently started your own business or maybe you are just thinking about it, come along to friendly and informative business start up networking sessions aimed at start up business owners and self-employed residents in Trafford. There will be the opportunity to chat to business start up advisers at the event as well as networking with other local business start -ups. The next event is taking place 10.30am -12.30pm on 26th September 2023 at Urmston Library. Book your place [here](#).

Trafford Meet the Buyer Event

Trafford Council is hosting an event for Trafford-based small to medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) who could potentially help transform the borough's 4 leisure centres.

The Council's contractor, Kier, is looking for local construction companies to support the leisure centres' transformations.

Kier, STAR Procurement and the Council will be on hand to give more information at a special Meet the Buyer drop-in event **Wednesday 30th August 2023, 9am-1pm at Trafford Town Hall (Talbot Rd, Stretford, M32 0TH)**.

If you are or know any local tradesmen, such as electricians, plumbers, plasterers, please share the details of this event and encourage them to attend.

Trafford Apprenticeship & Careers Fair - 26th October 2023

Trafford Council's Inclusive Economy and Communities Team, Trafford Connexions and Trafford College are delighted to announce that we are hosting an Apprenticeship & Careers Fair at Trafford College, Altrincham Campus, Manchester Road, West Timperley, Altrincham, WA14 5PQ

The Apprenticeship & Career Fair is aimed at Years 11 & 13, and those Not in Employment or Education to help inform and inspire their career choices. It aims to show young people the range of available career and apprenticeship opportunities, making this as interactive and engaging as possible. Priority will be given to providers/employers who are advertising local opportunities that cover a broad range of sectors. We also ask that you bring along details of any live vacancies you have and those suitable for summer leavers.

To host a stand at this year's event, we require a small charge of £50 per Provider / Employer; this is to contribute to costs attached to hosting and marketing the event and refreshments to be provided on the day. If you have any enquiries and /or wish to book a stall at the event contact CareersFair@trafford.gov.uk (all stall bookings end 29.9.23).

The Kings Awards for Enterprises

The King's Awards for Enterprise recognise the excellent achievements of UK businesses in the fields of: Innovation, International Trade, Sustainable Development & Promoting Opportunity (via social mobility).

Whether a small business with a great innovative product or service, or a larger company running an impressive social mobility programme, this award is a prestigious way to recognise your contribution to enterprise.

These Awards are open to applications from almost all businesses and non-profits, of almost all sizes throughout the UK in every sector. The 2024 Round closes 12th September 2023. For full details [see here](#)

Household Support Fund

Households on a low income, living in a privately rented property or are an owner occupier with a mortgage will be eligible to apply online for help towards essential costs related to energy, food and water. Applicants do not need to be receiving benefits to apply. Further information can be found [here](#)

New Help To Grow Website

A new 'Help to Grow' website from The Department for Business and Trade (DBT) has been unveiled, aimed at upskilling both big and small businesses across the country. It will make it simpler for businesses to find, access and use the information and support they need in one place <https://helptogrow.campaign.gov.uk/>

New Government Grant Finder Tool Launched

A brand-new UK-wide digital service for organisations applying for government grants has been launched.

The Find a Grant service offers a free central place online for business, individuals and organisations to find and apply for government grants. Government grants can be awarded from anything from improving local housing, to funding innovative new research into advanced fuels and digital technologies, or providing better sports facilities and youth centres for communities.

The new centralised service automates and standardises processes. For further information and to access the grant finder service, click [here](#).

GM Chamber of Commerce - Quarterly Economic Survey

The Quarter 3 Quarterly Economic Survey is now open.

For over 30 years, the Economic Survey has supported members through gaining an insight into the needs of the GM business community. From the results of the survey, productive initiatives, supportive services and lobbying governing authorities take place with businesses in mind. Business insight and experiences doing business across GM over the past quarter will be a useful contribution to the accurate representation of GM's current economic climate. To complete the survey [click here](#)

The results of the survey will be published and presented at a live GMCC Economic Review event 27th September - click [here](#) to book your place.

National Manufacturing Day

The second National Manufacturing Day (NMD) will take place on **Thursday 28 September 2023**. Led by the industry trade body Make UK, the whole manufacturing sector is invited to participate. It will be a national celebration of UK manufacturing and a chance for manufacturers up and down the country to open their doors to showcase the amazing employment opportunities on offer across this vibrant sector. Sign up at <https://www.nationalmanufacturingday.org/get-involved> There are plenty resources and ideas on the website to help with planning your own event. Find out more here: [MakeUK](#)

Greater Manchester Clean Air Scheme - Financial Support for HGV's

Greater Manchester's ten local authorities remain under a legal direction to comply with legal nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) limits in the shortest time possible and by 2026 at the latest. In February 2023, Government wrote to GM to ask for additional evidence to enable them to further consider the case for GM's non-charging approach, including benchmarking GM's proposals against a charging zone model for central Manchester and Salford. GM was due to submit this further evidence in June 2023.

However, part of the modelling included the emissions benefits of what is known as a bus 'retrofit' programme, which has now been put under review by government. The review is in light of their early research, which has revealed that retrofitting has delivered 'variable' results in reducing emissions.

Due to the bus retrofit review, there is now further work to undertake to understand how this will affect our Clean Air Plan. The government has given GM and other authorities revised guidance for air quality modelling, which we need to include in our work before submitting further evidence to government. GM leaders have written to the Environment Secretary to request that modelling for the Clean Air Plan takes into account government's bus retrofit review study findings, due to conclude in autumn 2023.

In the meantime GM has secured £120m of government funding to help eligible owners of vehicles which would be non-compliant in a Clean Air Zone upgrade to compliant vehicles. Government has said this funding will continue to be available for the new Clean Air Plan. Of this, GM has £7.6m to help eligible businesses, organisations and people who own HGVs switch to cleaner vehicles which meet the Clean Air Zone emission standards (referred to as compliant vehicles). This is available now.

Financial support will be available as a lump sum grant, contribution towards vehicle finance, or a combination of the two. Funding will not be available to replace or retrofit all non-compliant vehicles. It will initially be targeted to support micro-businesses, self-employed people, sole-traders, charities, social enterprises and eligible private owners/registered keepers of a non-compliant vehicle. **A second round of funding is now open to eligible small businesses.**

For more information on this funding and the wider Clean Air Scheme visit [Greater Manchester Clean Air Plan | Clean Air Greater Manchester \(cleanairgm.com\)](https://www.cleanairgm.com)

Workplace Charging Scheme - EV Charging Points Government Grants

The Workplace Charging Scheme (WCS) is a voucher-based scheme that provides

eligible businesses with support towards the upfront costs of the purchase and installation of electric vehicle (EV) charge points.

The WCS is open to businesses, charities and public sector organisations that meet the applicant and site eligibility criteria.

The grant covers up to 75% of the total costs of the purchase and installation of EV charge points (inclusive of VAT), capped at a maximum of:

- £350 per socket
- 40 sockets across all sites per applicant – for instance, if you would like to install them in 40 sites, you will have 1 socket available per site

After applying using the online application form, successful applicants are issued with a unique identification voucher code by email, which can then be given to any Office for Zero Emission Vehicles (OZEV) authorised WCS installer. For further information, click [here](#).

Supported Internships Work Programme

Supported Internships are a work-based study programme for 16-24 year old young people with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. They offer the opportunity for young people to experience real work placements with the aim to progress into sustainable, paid employment.

We are in the process of setting up a supported internship within Trafford Council. You would receive full support from Trafford Council as well as the education provider (Trafford College) and the supported internship scheme provider (Pure Innovations).

Supported interns can offer a huge benefit to your organisation. Supported by their job coach, their role within your organisation will be designed to suit the needs of the business as well as the needs of the intern. Furthermore, supported interns are classed as being in full-time education, which is fully funded, therefore hosting an intern is at no additional cost to your organisation.

To get an idea of the course content, please visit [Trafford College Supported Internship Webpage \(Trafford College Website\)](#). If this is of interest, contact Ben Hodge at ben.hodge@trafford.gov.uk to set up a meeting to further discuss what becoming a placement provider would involve.

Public Consultation - Closure of Rail Ticket Offices

The Rail Industry and Government have announced proposals to close rail station ticket offices or reduce their operating hours. The changes would come into effect over an 18-month period with ticket offices at stations in Hale, Chassen Road, Urmston and Flixton affected.

Transport for Greater Manchester and Greater Manchester Combined Authority will be raising significant concerns with the plans through the formal consultation process which has been launched. Residents and businesses are invited to participate in the consultation which ends on **Friday 1st September 2023**.

Anyone wishing to provide feedback as part of the consultation can do so by emailing Transport Focus, the independent transport user watchdog, with their comments and the name(s) of the stations.

- ticketoffice.Avanti@transportfocus.org.uk
- ticketoffice.TPE@transportfocus.org.uk
- ticketoffice.Northern@transportfocus.org.uk

Alternatively, write to Freepost: RTEH-XAGE-BYKZ, Transport Focus, PO Box 5594, Southend-on-Sea, SS1 9PZ

TfGM would also welcome feedback for inclusion in the formal response. Please forward any comments to: engagement@tfgm.com

EOIs invited for the Community Automated Defibrillators Fund

The Department of Health and Social Care is inviting interested organisations to register expressions of interest for its £1 million Community Automated External Defibrillators Fund, aimed at increasing the number of AEDs in public places where they are most needed and help save lives.

An estimated 1,000 new defibrillators are to be provided by the fund, with the potential for this to double as successful applicants will be asked to match the funding they receive partially or fully.

As part of the grant award, applicants will be asked to demonstrate that defibrillators will be placed in areas where they are most needed, such as places with high footfall, vulnerable people, rural areas or due to the nature of activity at the site.

Examples could include town halls, community centres, local shops, post offices and local parks, to ensure that defibrillators are evenly spread throughout communities and easily accessible if someone is experiencing an unexpected cardiac arrest.

To accelerate the administration of the grant in advance of the partner being chosen, prospective organisations who wish to obtain funding for a defibrillator are now invited to register an expression of interest with the Department of Health and Social Care. Organisations who submit an expression of interest will be notified once grant applications open to the Department of Health and Social Care's £1 million Community AED Fund.

For further information click [here](#).

CSR in SMEs

CSR, or corporate social responsibility to spell it out, can be an important part of your overall strategy as an SME.

While it takes effort and resources, the investment can pay dividends in marketing, recruitment and retention, not to mention the positive impact you can have in the community.

[Learn more about implementing CSR](#)

Student loan repayments are becoming more onerous

Continuing a long-term trend, the overall cost of studying at university is increasing – considerably.

The cost is borne, of course, once students enter work and start earning a certain salary. Currently, it is £27,295; but for new university students this will drop to £25,000. With 9% of everything earned over this threshold taken as a loan repayment, that will slap an extra £207 per annum onto every graduate.

[Read on to find out more about student loan changes](#)

Emojis in the workplace: 👍 or 🗨️?

There are differing views on whether working remotely or in the office is preferable. However, with increasing household expenses and the gloomy time of year, there has been a shift away from home working.

[Discover more on the topic.](#)

Back to school... and a return to work

While the kids go back to school, in September working parents also have to readjust from holiday mode – whether they went somewhere exotic or not. More than a few may be breathing a sigh of relief!

[How can you hit the ground running after time off work?](#)

Going green?

Every company can do its bit to go green, but one business in Gloucestershire went a little further. Well, 600ft further to be precise!

They introduced a small potted cutting of ivy in 2009, and come 2023 it has grown to 600ft, truly making a mark on their office space, and their company culture to boot.

[Click to read more...](#)

We are Trafford Training

Whether it's for individual or business purposes, Trafford Leisure can cover all your training needs.

Offering a variety of courses delivered by our expert people, take a look at what Trafford Training can do for you & your people.



Mental Health First Aider 1 or 2 Day Course



By using us you don't just get accredited, professional training delivered but you also get to invest in our community!

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fiona.buckley@traffordleisure.co.uk

By using Trafford Leisure as your training provider, you and your business can help to support the people within our Trafford community. As a registered 'Community Interest Company' any profits Trafford Leisure make are invested back into our community. Examples of this are funding places for school children across Trafford on our Learn to Swim programme, offering discounts for those over 65 years old and for Armed Forces personnel amongst many others.



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04/09/2023

HMRC Close One Helpline – But Re-open Another

Closing There have been many Covid-19 support schemes, administered by HMRC, for example Eat Out to Help Out payments The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) Test and trace or self-isolation payments (in England, Scotland and Wales) Coronav [Read More...](#)

Outstanding Post - HMRC Extends its Trial

Only last month we reported that HMRC had expanded its Agent Account Manager (AAM) team and remit. From 10 July 2023, providing an agent is registered, the expanded remit allows them to look at POSTAL queries outstanding for 12 months or more. This was set [Read More...](#)

Employer Bulletin August 2023 – an Error Corrected

On 16 August 2023, the bi-monthly Employer Bulletin was published by HMRC. Employers and agents recognise the importance of the information contained in this and frequently register to get notification of publication. This is admirable, as the Bulletin c [Read More...](#)

Welcome IZENR (aka National Insurance Relief in Investment Zones)

An initialism that will soon fall smoothly from our tongues is IZENR, HMRC's description of Investment Zone Employer NICs Relief. This applies in payroll systems from April 2024 and introduces 4 new category letters. [Read More...](#)

September Questions and Answers

Q. I see that one of the Inheritance Tax (IHT) forms has been amended - the C4 for correcting information previously submitted. I'm getting a bit confused with the forms I have here and wonder if you could point to these C forms and give the most current [Read More...](#)

September key tax dates

VAT payment deadline for accounting periods ended 31 July 2023. [Read More...](#)

September key tax dates

Newsletter issue – September 2023

07th

VAT payment deadline for accounting periods ended 31 July 2023.

19th

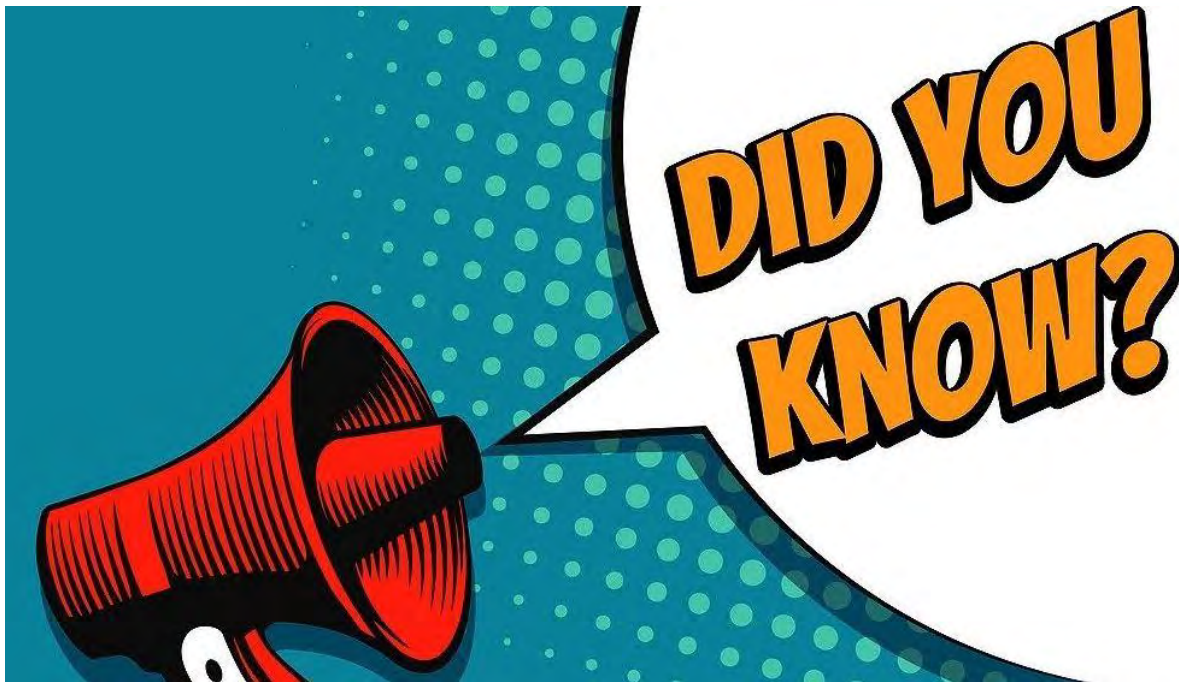
- Deadline for sending the Employer Payment Summary (EPS) for tax month ending 05 September 2023
- Deadline for paying HMRC all PAYE, NICs, Student Loans and CIS deductions (less child-related statutory payments) if paying by a non-electronic method

22nd

- Deadline for paying HMRC all PAYE, NICs, Student Loans and CIS deductions (less child-related statutory payments) if paying electronically. HMRC must have cleared funds on or before this date

30th

Corporation Tax Self-Assessment (CTSA) deadline for returns to HMRC (for accounting periods ended 30 September 2022).



IT IS A LEGAL REQUIREMENT FOR EMPLOYERS TO PROTECT THE HEALTH, SAFETY AND WELLBEING OF THEIR EMPLOYEES!

It is also good business practice.

There are 3 reasons why it is essential for employers to implement appropriate measures to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of their employees in the workplace.

LEGAL - Under the Health and Safety at Work Act, employers have a duty of care to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all their employees.

FINANCIAL - Work-related injuries and new cases of ill health (excluding long latency illness such as cancer) cost the UK a staggering £18.8 billion in 2019/20, £3.5 billion of which was borne by employers.



MORAL - Providing a safe and healthy work environment will demonstrate that your organisation cares about the wellbeing of its employees, which can also improve employee morale and job satisfaction.



Failure to manage health and safety in the workplace can have serious consequences for both employers and employees including accidents and incidents causing serious injury and even death leading to sanctions such as heavy fines, imprisonment, and reputational damage to the business. If you're a manager or supervisor who would like to gain the knowledge and tools required to tackle the health and safety issues you are responsible for, register your place on our globally recognised **IOSH Managing Safely®** course.



WHEN: Monday 2nd - Thursday 5th October 2023

WHERE: Blackburn Rovers Business Centre, Ewood Park, Darwen
End Stand, Nuttall Street, Blackburn BB2 4JF.

COST: Only **£375 +VAT** per delegate (usual price £475)



01942 727 200

enquiries@employeemanagement.co.uk

HMRC UPDATE

There's a wide range of expenses and benefits received by employees – including directors.

If you'd like more information on how to deal with such payments and how it affects tax and National Insurance, join our live webinars – during which you can ask questions using the on-screen text box.

Expenses and benefits for your employees – if your employees have more than one workplace

This employer webinar looks at:

- employee travel to different types of workplace
- geographical locations
- the 24-month rule
- the 40% test

[Register here](#)

Expenses and benefits for your employees – social functions and parties

Find out about:

- the conditions an event must meet
- what qualifies as exempt
- businesses with more than one site
- multiple annual events
- PAYE Settlement Agreements (PSAs)

[Register here](#)

Expenses and benefits for your employees – trivial benefits

We'll be covering:

- what counts as a small or trivial benefit
- conditions to meet to become exempt from reporting to HMRC
- examples of trivial benefits scenarios
- your responsibilities, including record keeping requirements

[Register here](#)



I hope you are enjoying this lovely weather. We'd be grateful for your support and have a number of training events running in September, where **we will be contributing 10% revenue from the training to our chosen charity, as part of 'The HR Dept in the community' national initiative. Please support us if thinking of attending training, to book onto one of these.**

- FREE HR and Employment Law Essentials - Weds 13th Sept
- Managing Absence and Employee Wellbeing - Tues 19th Sept
- Managing Disciplinary and Grievances - Weds 27th Sept
- Managing Unacceptable Behaviour - Thurs 28th Sept

Plus, we will be holding a **charity afternoon tea event on Fri 29th Sept**, so save the date in your diaries, with more info to follow.
Any donations for raffle prizes will be greatly appreciated.

In October I will be arranging a FREE to attend New Employment Law Update - details about recent key employment law cases and new employment laws. There's a number currently going through Parliament, so hope for up to date news by then. Date tbc.
Please see below for further information.

The HR Dept in the Community



Nationally, the HR Dept has launched 'The HR Dept in the Community' for the month of September, which we are proud to be taking part in.

We have chosen a charity at the heart of the community, supporting young and old through sport, wellbeing and wider community engagement. As well as providing sport and exercise classes, they empower individuals with mental health issues and disabilities, through direct intervention, or collaborating with and supporting other charities, such as 'Andy's Man Club' and 'Sporting Memories', to help older people in tackling dementia, depression and loneliness.

The charity provides PE to over 1400 local primary school children each week, 1:1 mentoring for children struggling academically or socially; holiday clubs, including free meals to those in need and supporting disadvantaged children.

Our nominated charity is **Altrincham FC Community Sports**, a separate legal business to the football club, created in 2012 by the community for the community, through fund raising to establish the Community Sports Hall. It receives funding and relies on donations.

We will be carrying out numerous activities to raise money for the charity over the month, **including donating 10% of our revenue from training events during the month of September**. See our training events below and by booking a place you are not only developing your/your team's management knowledge and skills, but helping the charity deliver such positive impacts and outcomes in the community. If you've been thinking about the benefits of management training - please join us this month.

We will also be holding a **charity 'afternoon tea' event on Friday 29th Sept at Denzell House** for invited guests, with all fundraising proceeds going to the charity. Further information and invitation to follow - **please hold the date**.

We would be very grateful for any donations of prizes for the raffle for the afternoon tea event. Please email admintaw@hrdept.co.uk if you can support us with this.

Management Training Events at Denzell House, Bowdon, Altrincham

FREE HR and Employment Law Essentials - Weds 13th Sept 9.30 a.m. - 12.15 p.m.

We will be taking any voluntary donations on the day for Altrincham FC Community charity



**FREE HR & Employment Law
Essentials for SME
Owners/Managers**

Wed 13th September
9:30am - 12:15pm

Denzell House, Altrincham

Preventing People Problems

A popular management training event and always something to learn, with an overview of everything you need to know from hiring to firing/employee leaving and

everything in between, including employee statutory rights and an overview of what is changing in employment law.

Essential for all businesses to understand - ignorance will be no defence if you are faced with a tribunal.

Led by Jill Bottomley.

Email admintaw@hrdept.co.uk to book your place quoting HR Essentials

Managing Absence and Employee Wellbeing - Tues 19th Sept 9.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

£150 plus VAT per person (with 10% contribution to 'Altrincham FC Community charity')



This is a practical skills and knowledge workshop supporting managers to be able to effectively manage all types of absences in the workplace and understand the statutory rights employees have. How to manage short term intermittent sickness absence, long term absences, understand disability discrimination risk, your legal obligations to make reasonable adjustments and where consideration of dismissal may be fair or unfair will be covered plus much more. We'll also focus on what you can do to proactively support employee wellbeing, to help attract and retain employees and increase employee engagement.

Led by Gemma Fyfe.

Email admintaw@hrdept.co.uk to book your place quoting Absence. Payment to be made on confirmation of booking.

Managing Disciplinary and Grievances - Weds 27th Sept 9.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

£150 plus VAT per person (with 10% contribution to 'Altrincham FC Community charity')



This is a practical workshop to be more aware and confident if needing to manage disciplinary and grievance issues. Through real-life case study examples and pragmatic advice, from having supported hundreds of small and medium businesses, you'll learn the differences between conduct and capability, misconduct and gross

misconduct, how to carry out a disciplinary investigation, when to take formal disciplinary action and why companies get it so wrong.

You'll learn what constitutes a grievance and how to manage and avoid potential constructive dismissal claims.

Led by Annabel Lyons.

Email admintaw@hrdept.co.uk to book your place quoting D&G. Payment to be made on confirmation of booking

Managing Unacceptable Behaviour Thurs 28th Sept 9.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

£150 plus VAT per person (with 10% contribution to 'Altrincham FC Community charity)



This workshop provides managers with the knowledge and confidence to recognise and address unacceptable behaviour in the workplace and understand the costly legal, commercial and reputational consequences of not doing so. By understanding what the Equality Act 2010 means in practical terms and the difference between bullying and harassment, the workshop will deliver pragmatic and real life examples in an interesting, interactive and thought provoking way.

Led by Jill Bottomley

Email admintaw@hrdept.co.uk to book your place quoting UB. Payment to be made on confirmation of booking.

Thank you and we hope to see many of you at the events.



VISIT
Altrincham.com

Altrincham BID
Funded by the businesses in Altrincham

ALTRINCHAM 10K

Sunday 17th September



Bag Drop
Altrincham
Town Hall

**Best Places
to Watch**
Stamford New Road
Railway Street
The Downs

**Event Village
on Cross Street**
Harris & Ross Physiotherapy
Orangetheory Fitness
IQ Fitness
Radio Alty
RT Kit
The Christie Charity

9.05-9.15am
Warm Up with
Orangetheory Fitness
10:30-10:40am
Cool Down with
IQ Fitness



Breakfast Burrito's at Burrito Picante

open from 9.30am

Burrito Picante, 47 Railway Street, WA14 2RQ

Early opening at California Coffee & Wine

Open from 8am for drinks & 9am for food

California Coffee & Wine, 3 Oxford Road, WA14 2DY

Early Opening & Live Music at The Cheshire Tap

Open from 10.30am

Cheshire Tap, 36 Railway Street, WA14 2RE

Breakfast & Fresh Juices at Damò

Open from 8am for breakfast & lunch

Damò, 20 Ashley Road, WA14 2DW

Fresh juice and healthy snack menu at Ginkgo Herbs & Health

Matcha & Beetroot Lattes alongside Protein Balls, Stuffed Dates & Chocolate Shards

Ginkgo Herbs & Health, 58 Stamford New Rd, WA14 1EE

Crepe Stall at Gran T's Coffee House

Open from 7am for drinks

Gran T's Coffee House, 29 Stamford New Road, WA14 1DY

Sunday Roasts at Il Cappero

Served from 12-5pm. 2 course menu from £17.95 / 3 course menu from £19.95

Il Cappero, Denmark Street, WA14 2WG

Breakfast offer at Kennedy's Irish Bar

Bacon or Sausage Ciabatta £5 or £10 with a pint Live music from 12 noon

Kennedy's Irish Bar, 30-32 Greenwood St, WA14 1RZ

Breakfast offer at Leeanne's Vintage Tearoom

Bacon or Sausage barm & any hot/cold drink for £6

Early opening 8am

Leeanne's Vintage Tea Rooms, 6 Lloyd Street, WA14 2DE

Double Espresso offer at MOST Bakery

Double Espresso for the price of a single for all runners. Artisan breads, sandwiches, pastries & other sweet treats

Open 8am - 1pm

MOST Bakery, 3-5 Cross Street, WA14 1EQ

Brunch at Oppio Lounge

Open from 9am with vegan & gluten free options available

Oppio Lounge, 53 George Street, WA14 1RJ

Early Opening at Oxford Road Café

Open from 8am for breakfast & brunch

Oxford Road Café, 19 Ashley Road, WA14 2DP

10% at Smooch Shakes etc.

Quote 'altrincham 10k' to receive discount

Smooch Shakes etc, 3 Stamford New Rd, WA14 1BD

Family friendly dining at Sud Pasta

Southern Italian pasta kitchen serving lunch from 12 noon

Sud Pasta, 22 Shaw's Road, WA14 1QU

Breakfast Offer at Two Brothers Coffee

Bacon roll & any drink £6.50 before 12pm

Two Brothers Coffee, 53 Stamford New Road, WA14 1DS

Early Opening at West Beverly

Open from 8am for drinks & 9am for food

West Beverly, 20 Shaw's Road, WA14 1QU

Breakfast Muffin Deal & Pimms at The Unicorn

Includes tea, coffee, hot chocolate. Free refills 2 pitchers of PIMMs £11.68

The Unicorn, 1-7 Ashley Road, WA14 2PD

Gluten Free Sunday Roast at Off the Wheaten Track

from 4pm & 10% discount for competing 10K runners

Reservations only offthewheatentrackdeli@gmail.com

Off the Wheaten Track, 8-10 Oxford Rd, WA14 2DY

Match Ticket Offer from Altrincham FC

Enjoy 50% off match tickets for Altrincham FC v Hartlepool United

Buy online at Altrinchamfc.com & apply discount code: TOUR

J Davidson Stadium, Moss Ln, WA15 8AP

Altrincham Runner Discount

10% discount for all runners with proof of entry

Altrincham Runner, 6 George Street, WA14 1SF

15% Discount Voucher for Gait Analysis at The Foot Company

Receive £15 towards a Biomechanical assessment with the flyer

The Foot Company, 51 Railway St, WA14 2RQ

Special Introductory rate for a Massage at The Massage Company

Available on the day on the 10K

Call in or look out for the team at the event

The Massage Company, 3 Lloyd Street, WA14 2DD



@VisitAltrincham



@AltrinchamBID



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Altrincham Little Theatre
Tel: 0161 928 1113
ct.tickets@gmail.com



Oxford Road
Altrincham
WA14 2ED
www.alttheatre.org

2023 / 2024 Season

A Different Way Home

by Jimmie Chinn

Sun 24 - Sat 30 Sept 2023

A deeply moving and astutely observed play which explores the rift between a middle aged brother and sister in a close knit northern town.

Mr Wonderful

By James Robson

Sun 19th to Sat 25th Nov 2023

Norma is juggling caring for her mother whilst trying to find Mr Wonderful. James Robson's delightful comedy about the promises & pitfalls of the dating arena.

Who has Mother left her worldly belongings to? Edith hopes years of sacrifice haven't have been in vain

EQUALLY DIVIDED

A gentle drama
by Ronald Harwood

14 - 20 JAN
2024



HOSTILE WITNESS

A Gripping Melodrama
By Jack Roffey

A Barrister finds himself
on the wrong side of the law

3rd - 9th March 2024

The NIGHTINGALES

Peter Quilter's
Charming
comedy

19 - 25 MAY 2024

A theatrical family who perform
more at home than they do on stage

CHARITY REGISTRATION No: 517914

AMATEUR PERFORMANCE BY ARRANGEMENT WITH SAMUEL FRENCH, CONCORD THEATRICALS