



## Q&A with **TONY WARD**

**GC Business Growth Hub/  
Altrincham Business Task Force**



### **Tell us a bit about your role at the Growth Company?**

My role as Account Manager at GC Business Growth Hub is to facilitate support to Trafford businesses at all stages of their growth journey with our broad range of services. We offer one-to-one and peer to peer business support, events, specialist programmes, funding and much more. We are a community of specialists with a passion to help businesses across Greater Manchester to realise their ambitions. Most of our support is fully funded and is provided at no direct cost to your business.

### **What are you doing to support businesses in Trafford during the lockdown?**

Our main focus at the moment is to help to minimise, where possible, the effects of the Covid-19 on Trafford businesses. If you are concerned about the impact it might have on your business, we are here to help you navigate the latest government information and provide specialist advice.

Our support line is open daily: 8am-8pm Monday to Friday and 9am-1pm Saturday and Sunday - 0161 359 3050 #HereForBusiness

Advice and guidance is still available from our specialist teams - these include Access to Finance, Digital and Innovation, Growth, Workforce Development, Mentoring, Resource Efficiency, Manufacturing and others. We have launched, Employ GM which connects employers who have urgent temporary vacancies with individuals, who are available to start working straight away. Working with our partner networks, this service will also help businesses retain their current workforce in the long term, support the future of their company and help individuals secure employment for the future.

Other key areas of support include Supply Chain Guidance, Finance and Cashflow and Remote Working and these are all featured in our Business Support Webinars on our website.

### **How are you supporting businesses with their planning for when it's safe for them to reopen?**

We will soon be launching our "Online Supply Chain Directory" to assist businesses who have been affected in this area to establish potential new and more local sources going forward.

We can guide you on supporting your employees through this difficult period, developing, training and preparing them with cost effective or fully funded solutions. It is essential that your business and your employees are fully equipped to hit the ground running post pandemic and we can support this with an action plan and signposting of assistance for wider training needs.

We are also continuing to run a number of our popular Workshops - in the near future these are planned to be webinar based - and these cover a variety of topics from digital technology tools to leadership and management.

### **How can business owners contact you, if they want to know a bit more about what you've been doing?**

I'm available to all businesses via any of the following  
Email: [tony.ward@growthco.uk](mailto:tony.ward@growthco.uk)

Tel: 07714 767412

LinkedIn: Tony Ward

I will always respond in the first instance within 24 hours.



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