



# Halton

Business Guide & Directory

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**“ We will take a lead in improving the wellbeing of our communities in order to make a positive difference throughout people’s lives. ”**



**“ Together we will make a difference for the residents of Halton by promoting good emotional and social care ”**

**Angela Ryan, Assistant Director, Halton Borough**





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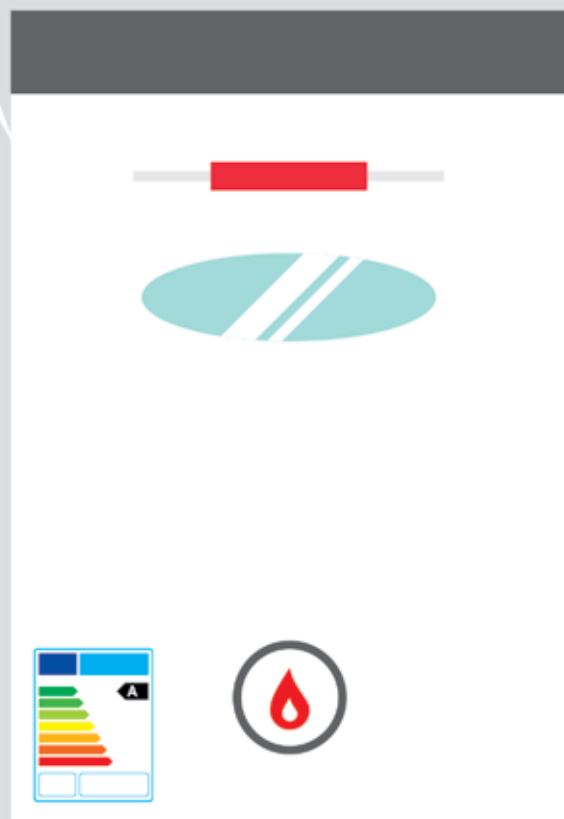


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\*Based on the cost of replacement heat using an electric heater





# Halton

## Business Guide & Directory

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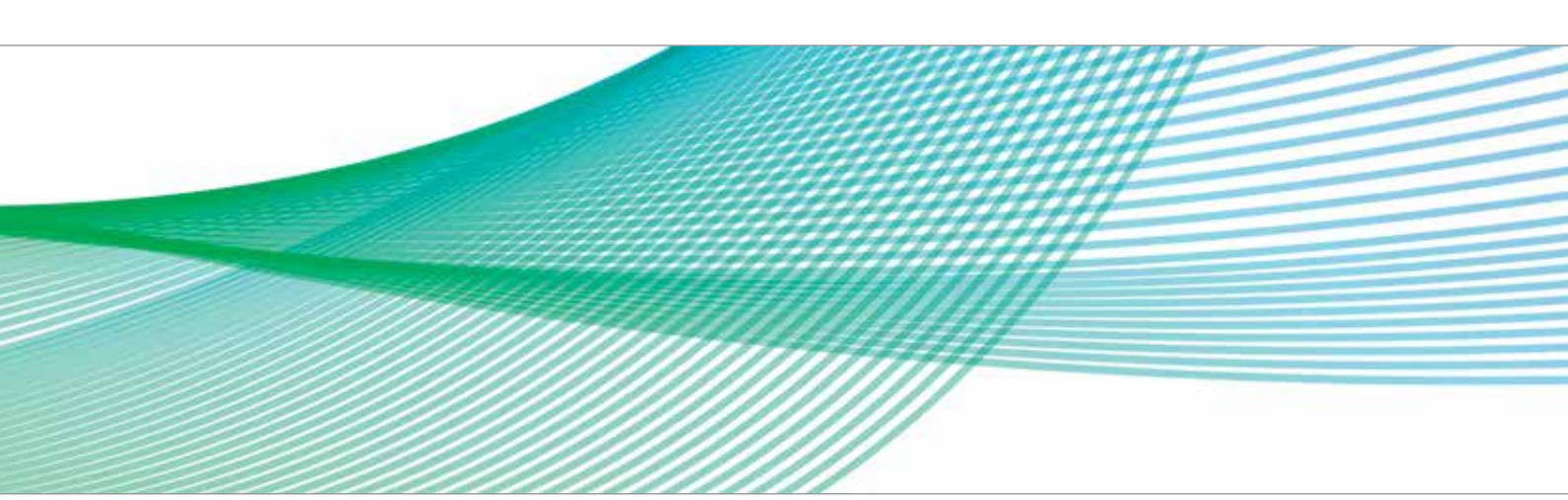
See what we could save you at [www.refood.co.uk](http://www.refood.co.uk) or call 0800 011 3214.

\*Figure based on April 2015 landfill rate vs. volume weight

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# Contents

Intro.....9

It’s all happening IN HALTON! .....11

Map .....13

Connectivity .....14

Mersey Gateway.....17

Halton - a place to do business .....18

Facts & figures.....19

Business support in Halton.....20

A location for every business .....27

Connecting Cheshire.....31

Lifestyle .....32

For all your council services.....33



# RUNCORN + WIDNES

International names Diageo, IBM, ABB, Stobart Group, INOVYN and Mexichem power the economy of Runcorn and Widnes.

With plenty of space to grow, a superb workforce and situated at the heart of the nation's transport network, Halton is the perfect location for your business.

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## An innovative, local and responsible business?

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Absolutely.

Power and productivity  
for a better world™







Héroux Devtek UK has been manufacturing aircraft landing gears and hydraulic systems at the Manor Park site since 1990.

**Employing over 230 highly skilled employees at the Runcorn facility, the company is at the forefront of aerospace engineering and manufacturing in the Northwest of England and can trace its roots back to 1920 in the Liverpool area.**

Formerly APPH Ltd and acquired by Héroux Devtek Inc in February 2014, the group is now the third largest designer and manufacturer of landing gears in the world.

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Héroux Devtek UK, proud to be part of the Borough of Halton.



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**01928 530530**



**[www.herouxdevtek.com](http://www.herouxdevtek.com)**





# Intro

## **Halton is a dynamic and achieving Borough.**

Our busy town centres support a variety of business and employment opportunities, plus our excellent transport and communication links help to make Halton a modern, progressive borough.

Quality parks, retail and leisure facilities alongside a choice of housing and inspiring places to learn, mean the borough is a great place to live, learn and work - a place where individuals, families and businesses can thrive and achieve their full potential.

Halton is situated within the economic triangle formed by Liverpool, Manchester and Chester and is now home to a vast array and expanding number of small and medium businesses as well as globally significant companies.

International logistics operators love Halton because of our prime location for road, rail, sea and air transport links. Likewise, the area is a proving a haven for innovation and enterprise with world-class science companies and high-tech research and development facilities flourishing here.

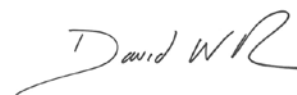
Looking to the future, further opportunities for regeneration and employment will be supported when in 2017 the Mersey Gateway is completed - a major scheme to build a new six-lane bridge over the River Mersey between the towns of Runcorn and Widnes and one of largest infrastructure initiatives in the UK over the coming years.

The future is bright for Halton, as traditional and modern come together, to create a fabulous location. Halton Borough Council, together with external partners such as Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise and Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership, are helping local companies to take advantage of these emerging opportunities. Together, we are providing businesses with the value-added support and services they need to prosper and grow.

I hope you will find this directory useful. As well as general information to help you get to know the borough, you will also find details of the contacts that will help you build networks and relationships you need to enhance your business and increase trading.



David Parr  
Chief Executive  
Halton Borough Council





# Sigmatex is the world's leading independent converter of carbon fibre

Sigmatex develops and manufactures carbon fibre textiles for composite material applications. From global locations, Sigmatex supplies carbon fibre textiles including 3D, Spread Tow, Innegra, Recycled, Unidirectional, Multiaxial, and 2D across a broad spread of industries ranging from the world's top supercar manufacturers to aerospace companies.

Celebrating 30 years of excellence in the composites industry, Sigmatex specialises in helping its customers create cutting edge carbon fibre textiles.

Sigmatex provides advice to its customers about how to gain maximum benefit from using carbon fibre. Products that may previously have been designed and manufactured from metals are now being replaced by carbon fibre; carbon fibre textiles are an enabling technology and can open up new ways of designing improved products to achieve higher technical performance through lightweight strength.

Sigmatex's independence means that it can advise on what is genuinely the best solution for a customer's requirements, offering a variety of technologies for composite products, sourcing different fibres if required.

## **Sigmatex Lightweighting Centre of Excellence:**

Located within Sigmatex's global R&D facility and home to the AMSCI funded Lightweighting Excellence Programme (LX). The LX Programme is a strategic cooperation led by Sigmatex and supported by Axillium Research, in partnership with Caparo Advanced Composites, Cranfield University, Engenuity, Expert Tooling & Automation, Granta Design, Group Rhodes, LMAT, Surface Generation and Tilsatec.

The LX consortium is addressing a lack of capability within the UK automotive supply chain to manufacture composite components in medium to high volumes, at affordable prices, by connecting the key functions of material supply, design and manufacturing. The LX Programme consolidates all elements of the supply chain to produce demonstrator components to showcase UK capability.



web: [www.sigmatex.com](http://www.sigmatex.com)  
email: [info@sigmatex.co.uk](mailto:info@sigmatex.co.uk)  
tel: 01928 570 050

Manor Farm Rd, Runcorn, WA7 1TE



# It's all happening IN HALTON!

**Located between Liverpool and Manchester, the borough of Halton straddles the River Mersey encompassing the towns of Runcorn and Widnes and the parishes of Hale, Daresbury, Moore, Preston Brook, Halebank and Sandymoor. A vibrant, progressive borough with first rate transport links, Halton has, and continues, to invest in regenerating its town centres and to support and encourage diverse business and employment prospects.**

Halton Borough Council is a dynamic and achieving unitary authority that is creating real opportunities for all. Our aim is to continue to deliver excellent services that help ensure our communities enjoy a good quality of life and achieve their full potential.

## A brief history of Halton

Links between the two towns of Widnes and Runcorn stretch back 900 years to the early 12th century when land on both sides of the river formed part of the Halton Barony.

Citizens from the Widnes area had to pay taxes at Halton Castle in Runcorn and a ferry service soon linked the two settlements.



Around the mid-19th century, the British chemical industry began in Widnes utilising Lancashire coal and Cheshire salt. Factories developed on both sides of the river and trade, labour and skills quickly became interlinked. As a result of this, in 1868 the London to Liverpool railway opened, followed in 1905 by a transporter bridge to carry road traffic and pedestrians. These constructions reinforced the links between the two

towns which were increased even further when the borough's major landmark, the Silver Jubilee Bridge, opened in 1961. The bridge is listed for its architectural importance and is reminiscent of the Sydney Harbour Bridge!

## Halton today

Although chemical manufacturing in Widnes and Runcorn remains an important part of the economy, it has now diversified into a broad range of other manufacturing and service industries, which are all benefiting the area.

The Council has increasingly concentrated its efforts towards regenerating Halton in order to make it a viable and attractive place in which to live, work and invest. Significant advances have been made in terms of attracting new business, housing, leisure and shopping opportunities.





## It's all happening IN HALTON! continued....

Over the past decade more than 200 acres of contaminated land has been reclaimed. Green space now covers 18% of the borough, including picturesque nature reserves at Pickering's Pasture and Spike Island, along the banks of the Mersey, which today is an area of grassland and woodland providing a fascinating history trail.

Retail and leisure is thriving with the new Widnes Retail Park, The Hive on Widnes Waterfront - a development made up of a cinema, ice rink, bowling alley, restaurants, hotel and public house - and a major refurbishment at Runcorn Shopping Centre.

Sport is also a major part of people's lives in the area, with Select Security Stadium, Halton, being the home to Rugby Super League team, Widnes Vikings. This unique community stadium, owned and managed by Halton Borough Council, is also a popular wedding and conference venue as well as offering a health and fitness suite, social club and other sporting facilities.

Elsewhere, The Brindley has proved to be a popular arts and cultural asset for the area, attracting many big names in theatre, music and comedy, as well as



providing a unique exhibition area, cinema and space for community and education projects.

Looking to the future, Halton, with its partners, continues the transformation of the borough, with developments such as Mersey Multimodal Gateway (3MG) which is destined to be one of the UK's largest inter-modal logistics parks and attracting high profile tenants due to its unrivalled access to the UK's deep sea ports and excellent proximity to the region's motorway network.

And finally, an integral feature of Halton's transformation is the Mersey Gateway Project; this is a major scheme to build a new six-lane toll bridge over the River Mersey. It will link the towns of Runcorn and Widnes and will relieve the congested and ageing Silver Jubilee Bridge. Throughout the lifetime of the Project, an estimated 4,640 new jobs will be created through direct employment, regeneration activity and inward investment.



One of the UK's leading science and innovation campuses, Sci-Tech Daresbury, is based in Halton. This is a good example of the success of a private-public joint-venture partnership, in this case between the developer Langtree Property Partners, the Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and Halton Borough Council. The enterprise zone has entered its next phase of development with the start of work on two new buildings which will deliver up to 350 new jobs.

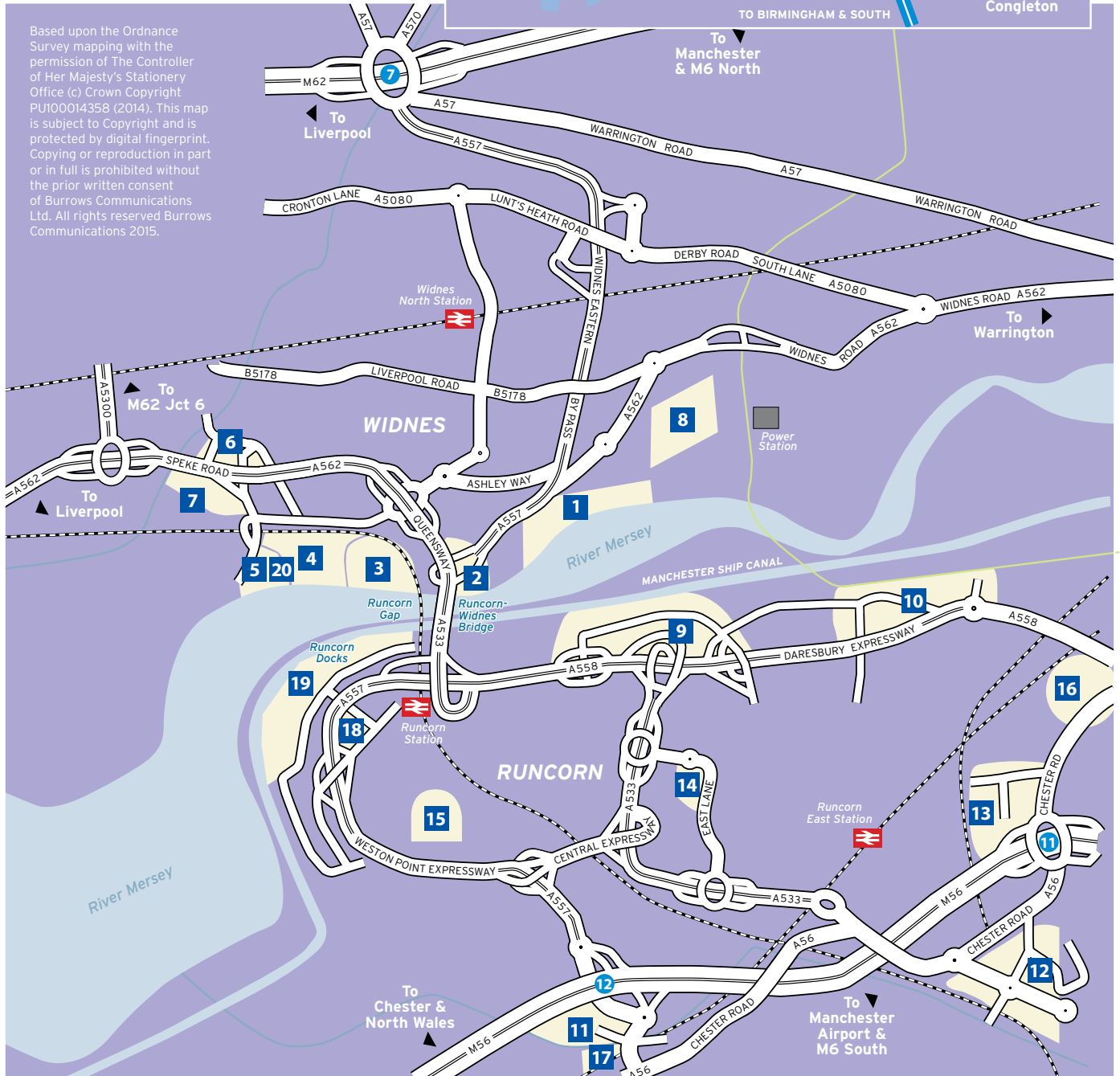
**Halton is proud  
to be regarded as  
a vibrant, modern  
borough**

# Map

- 1 Widnes Waterfront
- 2 Waterloo Road, Widnes
- 3 West Bank Dock Estate
- 4 3MG
- 5 Halebank Industrial Estate
- 6 St Michael's/Ditton Industrial Estate
- 7 Speke Approach
- 8 Easter Park
- 9 Astmoor Industrial Estate
- 10 Manor Park
- 11 Ashville Industrial Estate
- 12 Whitehouse Industrial Estate
- 13 Daresbury Business Park
- 14 Runcorn Shopping Centre
- 15 The Heath Business Park
- 16 Sci-Tech Daresbury
- 17 Sutton Quays Business Park
- 18 Expressway Industrial Estate
- 19 Runcorn Docks
- 20 Widnes Business Park



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# Connectivity

**Runcorn & Widnes' superb transport links make the area easily accessible by road, rail, air and sea.**

Their location between Manchester International Airport and Liverpool John Lennon Airport, one of Europe's fastest growing regional airports, plus their proximity to the continually developing Port of Liverpool, means that national and global markets are within easy reach.

With 60 per cent of UK industry and over 23 million consumers within two hours' drive time of Halton, local companies have access to hundreds of thousands of potential customers and employees.

Transport within the Borough is made easy by the modern network of roads and expressways. Halton has a unique system of 17km of dedicated Busway serving the major employment and residential areas. Located within the

M56 & M62 corridors, Halton is ideally situated at the heart of the region's motorway network.

Two railway stations, Runcorn Mainline & Runcorn East, provide fast and frequent services throughout the UK. Commuters can be in Liverpool in 20 minutes and London in less than 2 hours. There are also regular connections to Birmingham, Chester, Crewe, Manchester and North Wales.

The construction of The Mersey Gateway, a major scheme to build a new six lane toll bridge over the Mersey, is estimated to be complete by 2017. This landmark structure, named as one of the world's most important infrastructure projects, will bring about much needed traffic relief for the existing Silver Jubilee Bridge. It will also provide a major strategic new transport route linking the Liverpool City Region, north Cheshire and the North West to the rest of the country.





Property Investment & Development

# MORBAINE

The Finlan Centre  
Hale Road  
Widnes  
Cheshire  
WA8 8PU

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Fax: 0151 424 4466  
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[www.morbaine.co.uk](http://www.morbaine.co.uk)



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# Mersey Gateway

**Construction work has now started on the new Mersey Gateway Bridge which will provide a crucial new road link between Runcorn and Widnes.**

The Merseylink team started work in April 2014 and the new bridge should be open to traffic by autumn 2017. Both the new Mersey Gateway Bridge and the existing Silver Jubilee Bridge will be tolled once the new bridge opens, but they will be free for Halton residents to cross.

Residents of Halton will still need to register to use the bridges and there will be a small charge for this.

The Mersey Gateway Project is a major scheme to build a new six-lane toll bridge over the Mersey between the towns of Runcorn and Widnes that will relieve the congested and ageing Silver Jubilee Bridge.

The project also includes or facilitates:

- plans to develop and integrate public transport, cycle and pedestrian links across Halton
- plans to kick start a major 20-year regeneration programme for Halton
- improving regional transport links to encourage new and inward investment

The new bridge will:

- be predominately funded by the private sector
- mean an estimated 4,640 new jobs through direct employment, regeneration activity and inward investment
- generate an estimated £61.9 million a year in Gross Value Added from the new jobs by 2030
- cross the river around 1.5km to the east of the Silver Jubilee Bridge
- increase journey time reliability
- have three lanes across the Mersey in each direction with a speed limit of 60mph



- form the centerpiece of a new and improved high standard link road (9.5km long) connecting the national motorway network in north Cheshire with Merseyside.

## A landmark design

The Mersey Gateway Bridge will be a landmark structure that will be recognisable throughout the North West and beyond. The bridge design is based on a cable-stay structure similar to the second Severn Crossing but with three towers. It will be 2.3km long with a river span of 1km.

Three pylons will cross the naturally occurring deeper water channels of the river at either bank. These will be supported by cable stays attached to towers that rise to between 80 and 125 m above the river bed.

There are two Mersey Gateway Visitor Centres - one in the Catalyst Science Discovery Centre in Widnes and one in Runcorn Shopping Centre. Both are staffed by Mersey Gateway volunteers who are on hand to answer questions on everything from local history and heritage, environment and ecology, to the bridge construction. The Catalyst Centre also hosts trips to the rooftop observatory where visitors can get a bird's eye view of the work that is taking place in the estuary.



There is also a special Mersey Gateway Environmental Trial on Wigg Island in Runcorn where visitors can get a feel for how the bridge is interacting with the environment and learn more about the amazing wildlife and plants on Wigg Island and in the Upper Mersey Estuary.

## Economic benefits

Year one figures show a direct contribution from the Mersey Gateway Project to the North West regional economy since work began of some £44million. The figures account for work placed by the main Merseylink Civil Contractors Joint Venture with 138 different suppliers and sub-contractors based within a 30-mile radius of the site in Halton during the first year of work on the project.

At the peak of activity it is estimated up to 1,000 people will be working on the project across Halton, adding further to the local economy.

**For more information about the project visit [www.merseygateway.co.uk](http://www.merseygateway.co.uk), look for MerseyGatewayBridge on Facebook or follow @merseygateway on Twitter.**





# Halton - a place to do business

**With one the UK's most significant infrastructure projects underway, a world-class centre for 'big scale' science open for business, and an enviable reputation for getting things done, it's no wonder Halton is getting everyone talking.**

Halton Borough Council may be one of the UK's smallest local authorities, but its ambition, determination, and a 'can-do' attitude, plus its ability to form effective partnerships, is delivering significant results.

Over £250m has been invested in the borough in the last ten years. Retail and leisure is thriving with the new Widnes Retail Park, The Hive Leisure Park on Widnes Waterfront and an on-going programme of large-scale improvements at Runcorn Shopping Centre. Over 3,200 businesses now call Halton home, including big names such as the Stobart Group, Diageo, ABB, Mexichem and Inovyn.

Halton has gained prominence as a place of science and enterprise. Daresbury Innovation Centre and The Heath Business and Technical Park provide the base for world-class science companies and high-tech research and development facilities. Sci-Tech Daresbury, one of the two UK centres for 'big-scale' science, has been an enterprise zone since August 2011 and is home to over 100 technology companies.

Halton's geographical position makes it perfectly located to be a logistics hub and the thriving 200 hectare Mersey Multimodal Gateway (3MG) in Widnes is an ideal warehousing and distribution facility. In fact, all Halton businesses benefit from the area's excellent road, rail, and air links.

The Council is committed to improving the health and economic wellbeing of its community and is working hard to improve the skills and education attainment in the borough as well as the



aspirations of its residents. Initiatives like Halton Employment Partnership (HEP) are ensuring local people are well placed to benefit from the new opportunities on offer. Its work with employers such as Merseylink and Tarmac has already resulted in apprenticeship opportunities and job outcomes for local people in a wide range of job roles.

In June 2013, the Merseylink consortium was appointed as the preferred bidder for the Mersey Gateway Project and construction commenced in 2014. The new six-lane toll bridge over the Mersey will be the catalyst for the regeneration of some 20 km<sup>2</sup> of the borough on either side of the river, generating nearly 5,000 new jobs.

Acres of affordable space for growing businesses plus a skilled, productive, adaptable and committed workforce, which is fully supported by customised education and training facilities, makes Halton a place where business succeeds.

**For further information contact  
Tim Leather,  
Lead Officer,  
Business Improvement and Growth Team  
on 0151 511 8337 or  
[tim.leather@halton.gov.uk](mailto:tim.leather@halton.gov.uk)**

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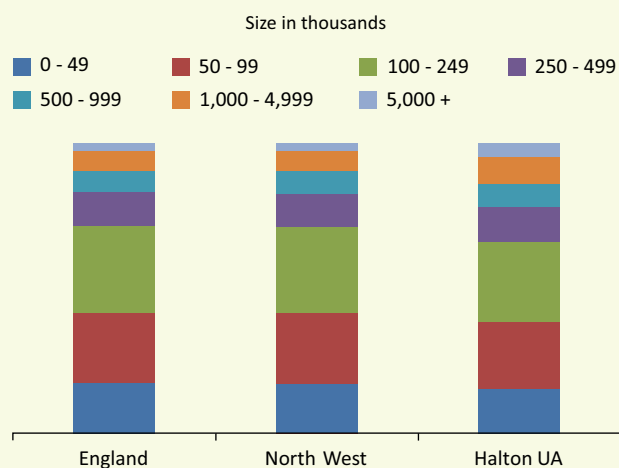


# Facts & figures

- Nearly **60,000** people work in Halton
- There are **3,240** active enterprises in Halton (Source: Inter Departmental Business Register Nov 2015 - ONS)
- **99%** of businesses in Halton are Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) which is in line with the North West and England proportions (2014)
- Halton has a higher proportion of people **working in full-time jobs** when compared to the North West average and also nationally
- **50%** of the workforce live in Halton

## Turnover

- Halton continues to have a higher proportion of business who turnover **£1million plus** when compared to England and the North West
- **5%** of enterprises in Halton have an annual turnover in excess of **£5million**



## Growth Sectors

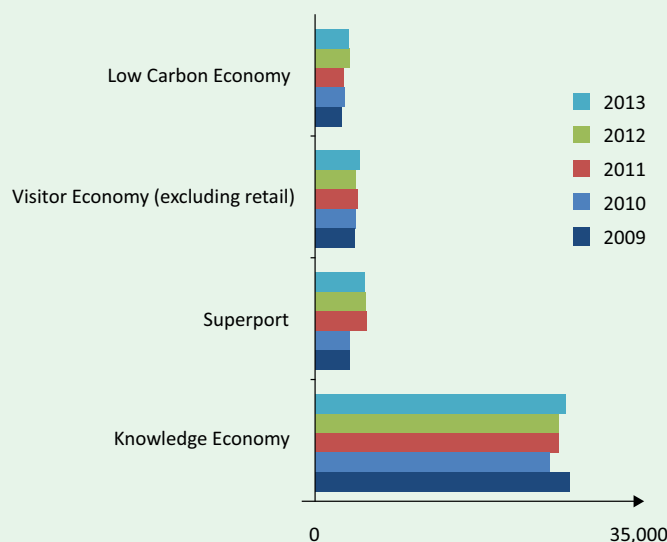
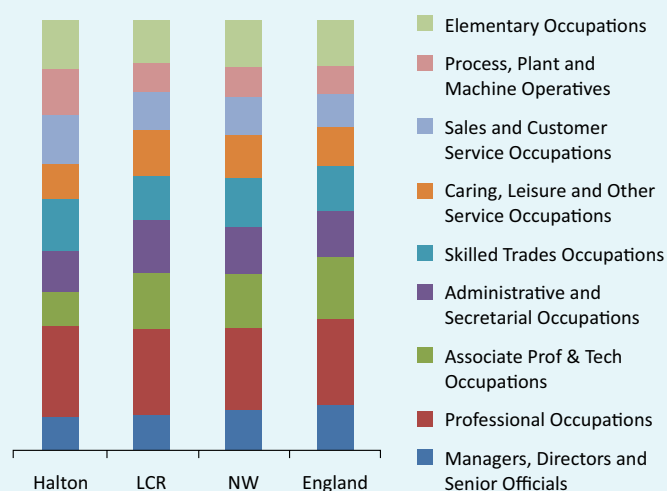
Within the LCR context, there are four growth priorities:

- Low Carbon Economy
- Visitor Economy (excluding retail)
- Superport
- Knowledge Economy

The largest proportion of jobs in the growth sectors continues to be in the knowledge economy

## Occupation Types

- The greatest % is classed as '**Professional, Scientific & Technical**'
- Halton has a noticeably higher level of residents working in **manufacturing** occupations than Liverpool City Region (LCR,) NW or national average
- Within LCR, Halton has the largest proportion of employee jobs in export intensive sectors, around 25% significantly above the national average of 18%





# Business support in Halton

## Business Improvement and Growth Team

Halton Borough Council's Business Improvement and Growth Team (BIG) is the interface between the Council and the business community with regard to a broad range of business support services.

The team offers a bespoke service which is tailored to the requirements of each company and can provide advice and guidance on subjects as diverse as the availability of grant funding, development and planning issues, transportation matters and recruitment. The team acts as a single point of contact, helping companies to access the help and assistance provided by other Council departments and a range of external agencies. It is also responsible for managing Halton's funding programmes from Government and Europe relating to business support and works closely with

companies throughout the life-cycle of their claim.

The BIG Team provides a free commercial property finding service for those companies either based in Halton or wishing to move into the area. It maintains a database which details all the industrial, retail and office property, as well as development land available to buy or rent within Runcorn and Widnes which is currently being marketed by a range of commercial property agents.

During the last eighteen months, the team managed more than four hundred investment enquiries from companies either already based in the Borough who were seeking to expand or other companies wishing to relocate to Halton. There is a continuing upward trend of interest with the number of enquiries and conversions in 2014/15 surpassing the pre-recession figures for 2008 including an increase in demand for development sites.

Contact: Tim Leather,  
Lead Officer,  
Business Improvement & Growth Team  
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E [tim.leather@halton.gov.uk](mailto:tim.leather@halton.gov.uk)  
W [www.runcorn-widnes.com](http://www.runcorn-widnes.com)

## Local Growth Hub

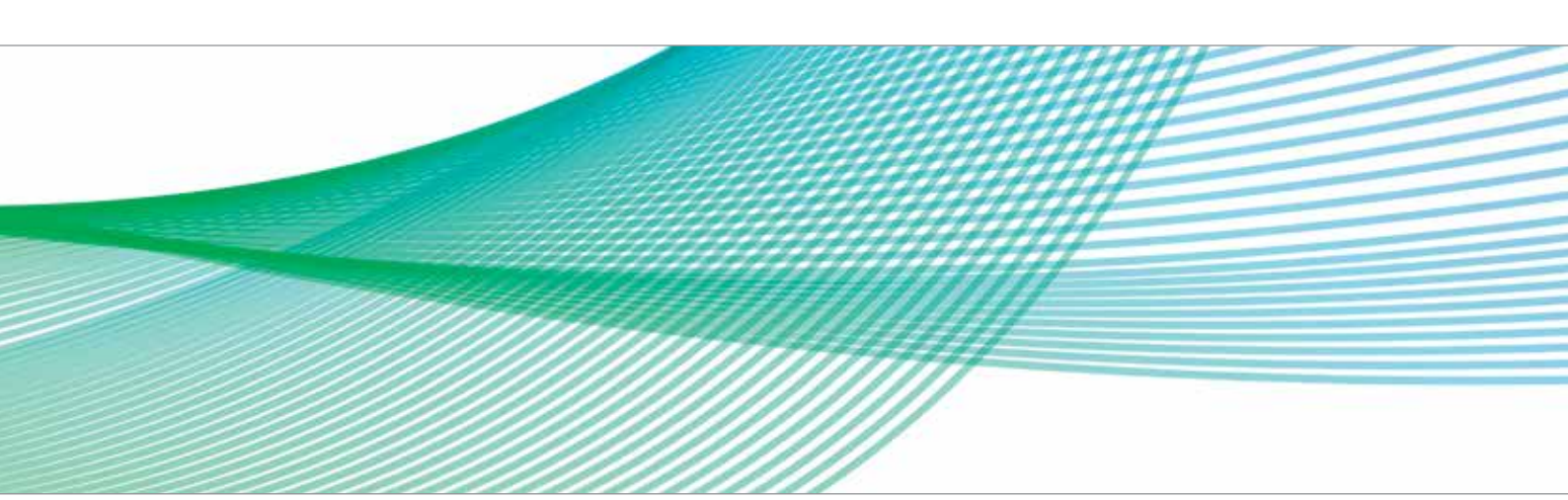
Liverpool City Region Local Enterprise Partnership (LCR LEP) is working with its local public and private sector partners, including Local Authorities, Chambers of Commerce and other business support organisations to deliver a comprehensive business brokerage service that actively assists companies in the City Region to find the business advice they need.

In September 2015, the Halton Growth Hub Partnership, made up of Halton Borough Council and Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise, was awarded the contract to deliver the Local Growth Hub in Halton which will be active from January 2016. The aim of the Hubs is to provide a holistic approach to business support and to function as a 'one-stop shop', acting as a signposting service and as the central repository of information, advice and support within a defined local area.

Local Growth Hubs are not a physical entity, however, a core team of Business Brokers will be based at the LEP and a single Business Broker will be based in each Local Authority area to deliver face to face advice to businesses, tailored to local needs and to help align local support with national programmes. The Local Growth Hub will not primarily be a direct supplier of services to businesses. Instead it will have a crucial interface role between the business community, strategic partners and commercial providers.

Specific contact details will be available from March 2016.  
(See [www.runcorn-widnes.com](http://www.runcorn-widnes.com) for details)





## Halton Employment Partnership

Halton Employment Partnership (HEP) is a strategic level Partnership which brings together expertise from various employment, learning and skills development agencies in Halton and can support inward investors and local businesses with a 'complete employment offer'.

Support can range from a free commercial property finding service to recruitment, training and tailored support with large and small scale recruitment projects. It also has a brief to ensure that inward investors and local businesses have a readily available and skilled workforce within the locality.

HEP includes Halton Borough Council (Economy, Enterprise & Property / Employment, Learning & Skills), Job Centre Plus, Riverside College, Halton Chamber of Commerce, Local Housing Trust, private and voluntary sector training providers, National Apprenticeship Service and Skills Funding Agency.

One example of the effectiveness of the Partnership is the support given to both Tarmac Lafarge and Merseylink who wanted to recruit local residents. HEP delivered a course in Traffic Management & Highway Maintenance for Tarmac Lafarge and as a result, attendees were offered highway maintenance apprenticeships and roles in traffic management.

Merseylink and HEP worked together to develop a 6 week pre-employment construction programme whereby candidates spent time improving their workplace skills and learning vital lessons geared at preparing them for work on a construction project. This involved a week's work experience on the Merseylink site before the final interviews which led to a number of successful full-time appointments on the project.

**Contact: Siobhan Saunders,**  
**Divisional Manager,**  
**Employment, Learning & Skills**  
**T 0151 511 8282**  
**E [siobhan.saunders@halton.gov.uk](mailto:siobhan.saunders@halton.gov.uk)**  
**W [www.runcorn-widnes.com](http://www.runcorn-widnes.com)**

## Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise

Halton Chamber embraces businesses of all sizes, in all sectors, and members have access to a wide range of business contacts and information as well as services, events, activities, cost-saving initiatives and networking opportunities.

A key area for Halton Chamber is its 'influencing' role, acting as the VOICE of business, representing the views of the private sector at local, regional and national levels and lobbying on a range of issues that impact on the Halton business community.

Companies who export goods overseas can take advantage of Halton Chamber's speedy export documentation service through which more than 4,000 certificates are issued annually. This represents millions of GBP worth of business for companies in the Borough and the rest of the UK.



## Business support in Halton continued....



Similarly, companies who are looking for support on Legal, HR and Health and Safety issues have access to a 24 hour, 7 days a week helpline, underpinned by the Chamber's Legal Expenses Insurance providing up to £670,000 worth of cover.

As with any business, embracing new technology is key to the Chamber's future development and growth and Halton Chamber has its own Mobile App (free to download) so that news, events, information, business to business opportunities and more can be brought direct to your iPhone or iPad.

**Contact: Nicola Holland,**  
**Membership & Events Coordinator**  
**T 0333 358 3480**  
**€ nicola.holland@haltonchamber.co.uk**  
**W www.haltonchamber.co.uk**

### Business Start-ups

Halton residents, and those wishing to start up their own business in Halton, can access free business start-up advice and funding from external agencies such as The Prince's Trust and People Plus.

The Prince's Trust offers support for unemployed people up to the age of 30.

It can provide help with producing a business plan, training and access to funding plus the benefit of advice from an experienced business mentor.

People Plus delivers various courses depending on an individual's eligibility and whether the referral is via the Government's Work Programme or through the New Enterprise Allowance Scheme (NEA). Its Business Start-up Programme has three

levels which can be tailored to specific needs depending on existing business experience; Intensive (13 weeks), Intermediate (eight weeks) and Basic (six weeks). NEA provides mentoring support and financial assistance in the form of a weekly allowance for a total of 26 weeks and an eight week business training scheme.

**W** [www.princes-trust.org.uk](http://www.princes-trust.org.uk)

**W** [www.peopleplus.co.uk](http://www.peopleplus.co.uk)

### Funding

Over the last few years, Halton companies have been able to benefit from funding from two highly successful programmes supported by Halton Borough Council.

The **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) 4.2 Merseyside Business Support Programme** provided detailed and tailored support so that SMEs could understand their wider business needs in order to grow. A minimum of two days specialist support was provided by an expert in the required field which included areas such as improving HR practices and procedures, international marketing and exporting, and manufacturing and process efficiency. Nearly £300,000 was provided 'in kind' to the 114 businesses that engaged with the programme and as a direct result, 60 jobs were created and 16 jobs safeguarded.

### Regional Growth Funds 3 & 4 (RGF)

were designed to help companies secure investment in their business and improve their competitiveness resulting in business growth and jobs being created or safeguarded. Capital expenditure for equipment and buildings plus requirements for software and training were some of the eligible categories. Over £680,000 was distributed in grant to 11 companies and 25 jobs were created, with 23 safeguarded. Halton businesses benefited significantly more from this fund than other areas in the Liverpool City Region.

These two specific programmes have now closed but Halton is expecting more funding to be released during 2016. (More information is available from Tim Leather, HBC Business Improvement & Growth Team; see contact details in first section). However, there are currently two RGF programmes which Halton businesses are able to access - the **Merseyside Jobs and Growth Fund** and the **Merseyside Special Investment Fund (MSIF)**.

Launched in February 2015, the **Merseyside Jobs and Growth Fund** is managed by St Helens Chamber and provides grants for existing SME businesses planning to expand or invest in Liverpool City Region, which includes Halton, creating new jobs for local people. Grants of up to £75,000 are available to provide investment for growth when suitable finance is not available elsewhere. Grants are available for a range of projects with a minimum project value of £30,000 that will create new employment opportunities, such as purchasing new premises, expanding

current premises or capital expenditure on plant and machinery.

**Contact: Geoff Bates,**  
Programme Manager,  
St Helens Chamber  
**T 01744 742087**  
**€ Geoff.bates@sthelenschamber.com**

Complementing the above, the **MSIF** is now accepting expressions of interest from SMEs for its new **High Growth Business Investment Programme** funded by the **Regional Growth Fund Round 6 Programme**. MSIF bid for a £5m share of the RGF pot to allow it to invest between £75k and £200,000 by way of grants and between £200,000 and £1 million available as a repayable loan. This finance can be used to support businesses wanting to grow or relocate in the Liverpool City Region and generate or preserve jobs in the area. The grant provided through this fund can total up to 20% of the overall project cost with the remainder coming from other sources of finance or applicants' own funds.

This can include capital to fund new premises and to extend or upgrade existing ones as well as investment for new equipment. Additional related expenditure on training, research and development, and employing disabled or disadvantaged workers can also be included.

More details can be found at [www.msif.co.uk](http://www.msif.co.uk) or e-mail [info@msif.co.uk](mailto:info@msif.co.uk)

## Networking

Halton has a number of networking groups that cover a variety of business sectors:

- **Advanced Manufacturing Cluster**

There are a significant number of companies within Halton which are at the cutting edge of advanced manufacturing, particularly within the automotive and aerospace sector. Halton Borough Council co-ordinates this forum (which will be on a quarterly basis from 2016 onwards) enabling these firms to network and share ideas and concerns. External agencies including Riverside College and the Local Enterprise Partnership are core members and are actively involved in addressing issues and planning strategic improvements requested by the group.

**Contact: Tim Leather**  
**T 0151 511 8337**  
**€ tim.leather@halton.gov.uk**

- **Sci-Tech Daresbury Business Breakfast Networking (BBN)**

This is an opportunity to connect with the North's most dynamic hi-tech entrepreneurs, corporates, universities, support organisations and funding and professional communities. Once a month, a group of over 100 such individuals meets to start their Friday with an hour or two of high-value networking in a relaxed and informal atmosphere to establish new business connections.

**Contact: John Leake**  
**T 01925 607002**  
**€ jleake@sci-techdaresbury.com**





## Business support in Halton continued....

- **Runcorn & Widnes Tourism Business Network**

All tourism, leisure and hospitality businesses in Halton are invited to attend these informal meetings organised by Halton Borough Council which are designed as information sharing events and an opportunity to find out more about developments within the local visitor economy and also to obtain regional and national updates.

Contact: Tim Leather  
T 0151 511 8337  
€ [tim.leather@halton.gov.uk](mailto:tim.leather@halton.gov.uk)

Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise runs a number of groups including:

- **1stuesday**

A highly effective breakfast network, this monthly event attracts business people from across Halton and beyond. With a proven record for enabling businesses to develop new contacts and customers, it provides a vital source of information. It helps to build relationships, develop business to business opportunities, and also provides a dynamic forum through which people can hear about and share new ideas and initiatives locally and regionally.

- **Science & Manufacturing Support Unit**

Launched in March 2015 by Halton Chamber in conjunction with some of Halton's key science and manufacturing firms, its aims are to provide bespoke support to new and emerging companies as well as existing businesses within the sector, to encourage knowledge transfer, identify and address barriers to growth and to provide practical support to help them develop and grow.

Contact: Nicola Holland  
T 0333 358 3480  
€ [nicola.holland@haltonchamber.co.uk](mailto:nicola.holland@haltonchamber.co.uk)





# RUNCORN



# WIDNES

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# Runcorn & Widnes

## Where science succeeds



Halton is renowned as being at the cutting edge of science, technology and advanced manufacturing.

Global players like Inovyn, Saffil Ltd, Thermo Fisher Scientific and the Accelerator Science and Technology Centre all champion scientific excellence in Runcorn & Widnes.

World class research facilities such as Sci-Tech Daresbury and The Heath Business and Technical Park inspire international strength in nano- and bio-technology, alongside the thriving chemical sector. Added research capacity within the North West's universities completes the perfect formula for research and development.



# A location for every business

**For choice and availability of affordable, quality sites and premises in prime locations, Runcorn and Widnes are hard to match. From small starter units and prestigious developments to opportunities for design and build, Halton offers something to suit every individual business need.**

Within Halton there are 16 major industrial areas and three principal retail areas, of which the main ones are listed here.

## Astmoor Industrial Estate

Astmoor Industrial Estate is a large modern estate totaling 2.3 million square feet of primarily industrial space. The estate covers an area of approximately 195 acres and has 120 businesses mainly from the engineering, industrial and manufacturing sectors employing 3,200 people.

Located to the north east of Runcorn, Astmoor has excellent connectivity to the motorway network and is only 15 minutes from Liverpool John Lennon Airport and 25 minutes from Manchester International Airport. It is also only two miles from the 3MG Mersey Multimodal Gateway, a hub for rail, road and sea logistics.

Astmoor is one of two Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in Halton, the other being at Halebank in Widnes. This is a partnership between Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise and the local business community

enabling businesses to commission projects that will lead to improvements in their local trading environment. (See page 30 BID ADVERT).  
[www.astmoor.co.uk](http://www.astmoor.co.uk)

## Daresbury Business Park

Daresbury Park, situated adjacent to M56 Junction 11, is a 225 acre (91 hectare) high quality business park which is home to head office, financial services and high tech operations. In a rural setting, it is fully managed, providing 24-hour on-site security and maintenance.

A recent study by Pricewaterhouse - Coopers identified Daresbury Park as having one of the best 'offers' in the North West. High quality office accommodation ranges from 1,500 sq. ft. up to bespoke HQ office buildings of 500,000 sq. ft. There are also design and build opportunities available on both a purchase or let basis.  
[www.daresburypark.com](http://www.daresburypark.com)

## Manor Park

Manor Park, Runcorn is one of the most attractive business parks in the North West, offering prestigious offices and light industrial units in a landscaped environment. A range of quality refurbished buildings are available, both leasehold and freehold, between 3,000 and 340,000 sq. ft. all within minutes of the M56 and twenty-five minutes of Manchester International Airport.

## The Heath Business and Technical Park

The Heath offers high quality serviced office and laboratory space to all business sizes, from start-up to growing and established SME organisations. Home to 170 businesses, The Heath's 50 acre site has an unrivalled reputation for providing bespoke facilities and support services to meet any business requirement, with specialist laboratory and science support services available to both resident and external businesses.

Owned and operated by SOG Ltd since 2000, The Heath is home to a broad spectrum of business sectors, ranging from leading edge scientific companies at the cutting edge of research and development to business services and advanced engineering and manufacturing.

Serviced office units start from 133 sq.ft. and serviced laboratory units start from 365 sq.ft. New build opportunities are now available for companies wishing to locate at The Heath in their own dedicated building.  
[www.theheath.com](http://www.theheath.com)





## A location for every business continued....

### Sci-Tech Daresbury

Daresbury Science and Innovation Campus (DSIC) is an international hub for world class science and comprises a mix of high quality office, laboratory and technical space. The campus and enterprise zone were re-branded as Sci-Tech Daresbury in July 2012. The campus is currently home to over 100 technology businesses as well as the Science and Technology Facilities Council. Over 1,200 people work in a variety of companies from start-ups to more mature SMEs and international corporates.

The latest developments, Techspace One and Techspace Two, will together provide 56,000 sq. ft. of Grade A office and laboratory space which is expected to attract companies from sectors such as biomedical, material science, advanced engineering and clean technology. One will be home to 16 separate laboratory units of between 900 sq ft and 2,000 sq ft. Construction work is expected to be completed by summer 2016.



Support packages to assist with internal fit-out are available for both the new laboratories and the office space. As an Enterprise Zone, tenants will be eligible to benefit from five years' relief on local authority business rates.  
[www.sci-techdaresbury.com](http://www.sci-techdaresbury.com)



### 3MG

Predicted to be one of UK's largest intermodal logistics parks, 3MG - Mersey Multimodal Gateway in Widnes - is a public/private partnership with daily rail links that offer unrivalled access to the UK's key deep sea ports. The park covers 200 hectares and handles in excess of 190,000 containers each year - of which 100,000 are moved by rail; this saves 25 million miles by road per year. There are currently 530,000 sq. ft. of existing distribution sheds on site, with outline consent for a total of 2.7m sq. ft. of new build, rising eventually to 3.5m sq. ft. of space.

[www.3-mg.co.uk](http://www.3-mg.co.uk)

### Halebank Industrial Estate

Halebank Industrial Estate is a small light industrial estate located on the western side of Widnes with easy access to the A562 Speke Road, the Silver Jubilee Bridge, 3MG and local airports. It houses nearly forty businesses which employ over 1,000 people, covering a wide range of services and manufactured goods. Halebank is also a Business Improvement District (BID). (See page 30 BID ADVERT)

### Widnes Waterfront

The Widnes Waterfront is a multi-million pound regeneration programme driving the transformation of over 360 acres of former industrial land on the banks

of the River Mersey. The programme benefited from £6.2m European Regional Development Funding, £5.1m from the Northwest Development Agency and approximately £3.5m of Halton Strategic Partnership and Halton Borough Council funds.

The revitalised Widnes Waterfront is now a commercial and tourism development site where high quality office accommodation sits alongside a successful leisure park in a stunning riverside setting.

[www.runcorn-widnes.com](http://www.runcorn-widnes.com)

### Runcorn Town Centre

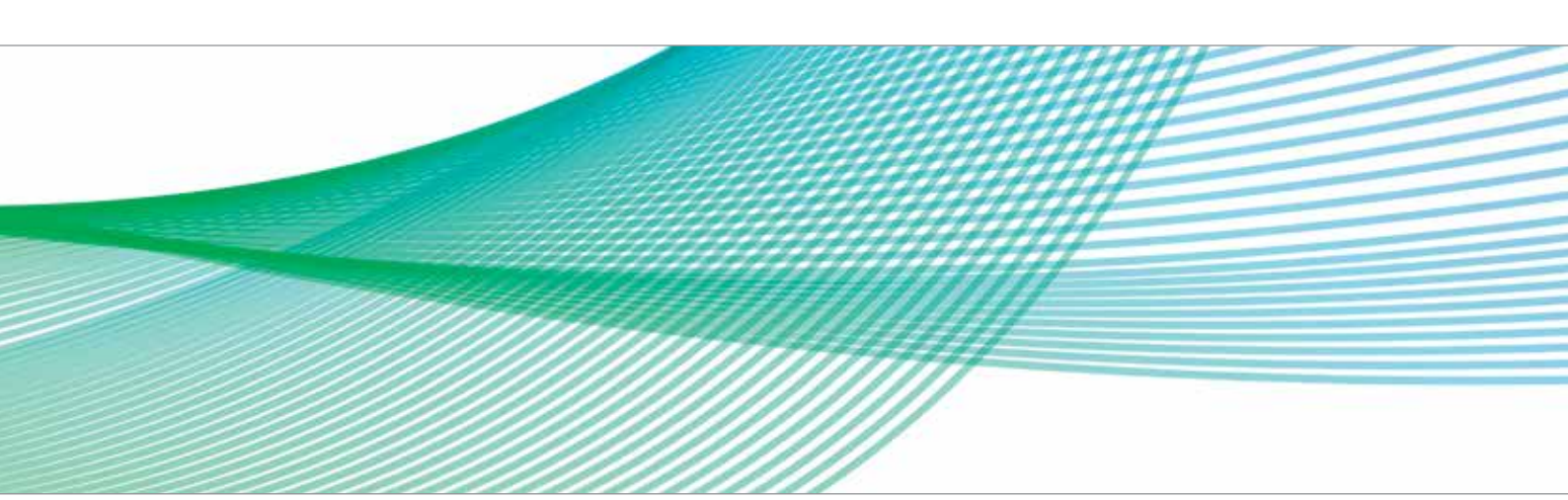
Runcorn Town Centre is full of history and heritage with many independent shops, the award winning Brindley Arts Centre and three integral waterways. The traditional high street shopping atmosphere is complemented by a weekly street market and has the added bonus of plenty of free car parking.

The Council has established Runcorn Town Team, charged with spending the £100,000 High Street Innovation Fund on initiatives to increase footfall in the town. Initiatives to date include the Commercial Property Renewal Grant (now fully subscribed), a Business Start-up Grant, improved signage and more large scale community activities. All have had a positive result, with the grants encouraging new businesses to open and enabling existing ones to update their premises.

[www.runcorntownteam.co.uk](http://www.runcorntownteam.co.uk)

### Runcorn Shopping Centre

The enclosed centre is 550,000 sq. ft. in size and hosts recognizable brands from the high street such as Boots, Argos, Dorothy Perkins and New Look



plus many independent retailers. There is also the opportunity for local, small businesses to take space in the market style environment of The Box, without tying into a long lease.

The large central town square is an ideal community space and hosts exhibitions and events. Use of public transport is encouraged as the Centre contains two of Runcorn's main bus stations and this is complemented by extensive free car parking for 2,200 vehicles.

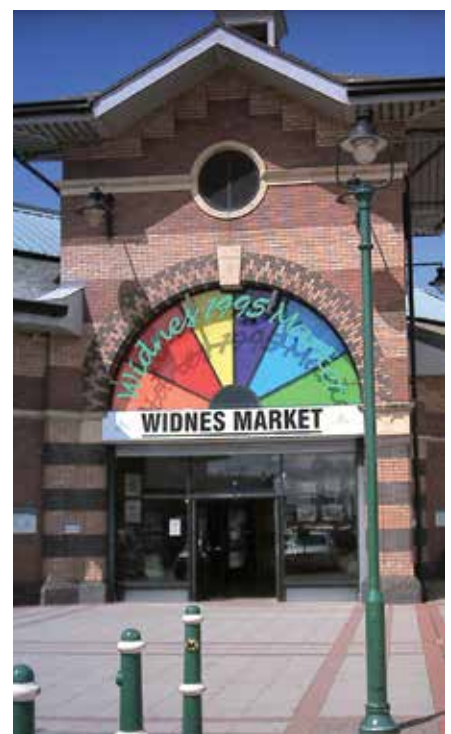
2013 saw a major rebranding and £4m was spent on refurbishment including enhancing the car parks and landscaping the approach. Plans are on-going for the redevelopment of 25,000sq ft. interior space to transform the Centre into a shopping venue that has everything for the local community.

[www.runcornshopping.co.uk](http://www.runcornshopping.co.uk)

### Widnes Town Centre

Widnes has a diverse and expanding shopping offer. Green Oaks Shopping Centre is anchored by an 82,000 sq. ft. WM Morrison Supermarket, set around an undercover mall populated with well known & independent retailers. It is adjacent to the long-established Widnes Market, which has both a market hall and an open market; the latter was awarded the title of 'Best small outdoor market 2014' by the National Association of British Market Authorities. A second shopping centre, Albert Square provides an 84,500 sq. ft. open pedestrianised precinct.

Widnes Shopping Park became the newest addition to the Town Centre when the £25m development opened in March 2010. 750 jobs were created at stores such as a 45,000 sq. ft. Marks and Spencer, BHS Home, Next, River Island, Outfit, Boots, New Look, Wilkinsons and Costa Coffee.



The surrounding streets are mainly pedestrianised and populated by independent businesses of all sizes, trading alongside household names. Plentiful free car parking and a central bus station ensures Widnes provides a pleasurable shopping experience.



Halton offers something for every individual business need



## ASTMOOR & HALEBANK BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (BID)



### What is a BID?

A Business Improvement District (BID) is a partnership between businesses and property owners including Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise.

The vision of the partnership is:

**"To promote Astmoor BID & Halebank BID as a location of choice for both employers and employees across Cheshire and Merseyside, by working in partnership to focus on our four themes for improvement"**

The BID is implementing a range of projects focusing on: increasing business security and preventing crime; image enhancement measures across the estate and; providing a range of support functions that will benefit all businesses.

In December 2007, businesses and property owners on the estate approved the proposal to create a BID between April 1st 2008 and March 31st 2013. The BID was further endorsed by businesses when they voted in favour of a renewal BID, for a further 5 years, in March 2013.



### How is it managed?

The BID is managed by businesses and property owners on the estate through an elected Executive Committee.

The BID manager is responsible for implementing the business plan and ensuring that the BID Levy collected by the Council is spent in line with the BID Business Plan.



### CCTV SYSTEM & CRIME PREVENTION SIGNAGE



### SECURITY SERVICES



### GATEWAY SIGNAGE



### Services Provided By The BID

#### Safe and Secure Trading Environment

- Auto Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) CCTV system
- SmartWater DNA forensic property marking equipment
- Day time security guard Mon - Fri
- 3 x Mobile security patrols (night-time)
- 365 days per year key holding service
- 24 hour alarm / incident response
- Automatic alarm diallers linked to Alarm Response
- Cheshire Police Business Watch email alert service
- High profile crime prevention signage
- Vacant property alarms
- Mobile CCTV

#### Image Enhancements

- Gateway signage at each vehicle entrance
- Landscape improvements
- Gate painting
- Community Payback initiatives

#### Co-ordinated, Supported & Promoted Estate

- Business Steering Group meetings
- Estate Manager
- Free membership to Halton Chamber of Commerce
- BID business directory
- Environmental / Energy Initiatives
- Salt bins & salt store
- Inward Investment marketing

#### Training, Knowledge & Skills

- Free training H&S / Management / Selling / Marketing etc.
- Knowledge Exchange Seminars
- Networking



### FREE TRAINING COURSES



### REDUCTION IN CRIME SINCE THE INCEPTION OF THE BID



### IMPROVED PEDESTRIAN PATHWAYS

**WORKING, IMPROVING, SUCCEEDING - TOGETHER**

# Connecting Cheshire



**As part of the Connecting Cheshire Partnership, Halton along with Warrington, Cheshire East, Chester West and Chester Councils, is working with BT to deliver Superfast fibre broadband to areas hitherto outside the commercial deployment of fibre broadband.**

By the end of 2015, over 90,000 additional premises across Cheshire will be able to upgrade to fibre broadband. This is great news for anyone running a business or with multiple devices all requiring internet access. You can work or play - smarter, faster, better - whether from your smartphone, TV, tablet or computer.

Superfast broadband is not just about a faster internet experience or about doing one thing quicker. You can work smarter, faster, better, with multiple users online at the same time with no slowdown. Superfast broadband will help you improve productivity and use your resources more effectively. For example, you might want to make your marketing digital and enhance your customer communications

with social media by using faster and easier to track options like Facebook and Twitter.

An additional 10,000 premises are also expected to be reached by summer 2017, bringing the total fibre coverage across Cheshire to around 98%.

The project is being funded by the European Regional Development Fund, BT, BDUK, and the four local authorities.

Fibre broadband is the new generation of broadband - much faster, more reliable and it uses a different technology. Whilst traditional broadband (known as ADSL) is delivered via copper telephone lines, fibre broadband commonly uses fibre optic cable to link between the customer and the telephone exchange.

Fibre broadband can be delivered in two ways - fibre to the cabinet (FTTC) and fibre to the premises (FTTP).

FTTC uses fibre-optic cables throughout the network right up to the street cabinet. It then uses copper wires to

connect the cabinet to homes and businesses. FTTC provides wholesale download speeds up to 80Mbps and upload speeds up to 20Mbps. FTTP means fibre-optic cables run right to the door of each house or business. It provides wholesale download speeds up to 330Mbps and upload speeds up to 30Mbps.

Check the Connecting Cheshire website to see if your business can be upgraded and then contact your Internet Service Provider or shop around for the best deal and order a fibre broadband service - it doesn't happen automatically and you could make a saving compared with your current broadband contract.

There is also a video available that explains the upgrading process and one that explains the benefits of fibre broadband. (Search You Tube for the Connecting Cheshire channel).

**For more information about the project visit [www.connectingcheshire.org.uk](http://www.connectingcheshire.org.uk) or Facebook at [www.facebook.com/connectingcheshire](https://www.facebook.com/connectingcheshire) or on Twitter at [www.twitter.com/SFB\\_Cheshire](https://www.twitter.com/SFB_Cheshire).**





# Lifestyle

**Those who either live or work in Halton have amenities, attractions and activities in abundance. From shopping parks to Green Flag award winning parks, rugby to rambling, medieval ruins to a state of the art theatre, there are certainly many diverse opportunities to be explored throughout the area.**

There is no need to go out of the borough to find ideas to fill valuable leisure time. In Widnes, The Hive is a big success with a brownfield site transformed into a high quality leisure park with a 5-screen cinema, bowling alley, ice rink and restaurants. At Select Security Stadium, rugby fans can enjoy watching Widnes Vikings, a club with a long and proud heritage in rugby league. Over in Runcorn, there is a cinema, the award winning Brindley theatre and even a Snowsports Centre.

The two latest additions to Halton's growing leisure offer are E-scape & Velocity. The UK's first designated electric off road riding centre, E-scape, is located at Preston Brook, to the east of Runcorn. Recently opened in Widnes, Velocity is one of the largest indoor trampoline parks in the UK and offers an exhilarating fun experience.

The picturesque villages of Hale and Daresbury hold their own surprises;



one of the thatched cottages in Hale was once home to England's tallest man, 9'3" John Middleton and Daresbury's most famous resident was the famous children's author, Lewis Carroll. Both areas also offer scenic walks; ambling along the Mersey coastline at Hale or wandering through the lush Cheshire countryside surrounding Daresbury.

Nature lovers are catered for with plenty of bird watching locations, nature reserves and sites of special scientific interest (SSIS) on both sides of the bridge. Culture vultures can wander in the footsteps of ancient abbots amongst the medieval ruins at Norton Priory Museum and Gardens and also experience the intricacies of science at Catalyst Science Discovery Centre.

The area offers endless opportunities to enjoy the outdoors, with three canals and miles of footpaths right on the doorstep. Halton Castle, one of only two surviving Norman castles in Cheshire, has the best vantage point in the borough and has impressive views along the Mersey Estuary including the mountains of North Wales. It is an excellent spot to see the ongoing Mersey Gateway works and there is even a pub, built where the old 18th century Court House stood.

Shopping options are plentiful. There are big brand names at Runcorn Shopping Centre and Widnes Shopping Park and innumerable independent traders throughout both town centres. Runcorn has a weekly outdoor market and Widnes Market is renowned for its friendly atmosphere and variety of stalls, both indoor and out.

Eating out is easy, with plenty of options for all ages, budgets and tastes. National chains such as Frankie & Benny's, Nando's and Brewers Fayre can be found at The Hive, with lots of smaller, independent cafes and restaurants dotted throughout Widnes & Runcorn town centres. The Brindley café, for example, overlooks the Bridgewater Canal and is a great place to relax, enjoy a homemade cake and watch the boats pass by. Many of the pubs are renowned locally for their food and regularly hold special themed nights offering different cuisines.

For those who do want to venture further afield, the stunning scenery of North Wales and the Lake District is within one hour's drive. Chester, Liverpool, Warrington and Manchester can all be reached in half an hour and offer their own sporting, shopping and cultural opportunities.

Find out more about what Halton has to offer on [www.visithalton.com](http://www.visithalton.com)



# For all your council services



**Whichever way you choose to get in touch, our expert staff will be there to help. They are fully trained to help with business rates queries and payments, benefits advice, street lighting repairs, pest control, waste management enquiries and much, much more.**

If they cannot help you directly themselves they will ensure your query is passed on to the correct person and that you receive a prompt response.

## In Person

If you would like to speak to one of our expert advisors face-to-face you can visit us at Halton Direct Link. You will find us at:

**Runcorn Shopping Centre:**  
Concourse Level, Rutland House,  
Runcorn Shopping Centre,  
Runcorn, Cheshire, WA7 2ES

**Runcorn:**  
Granville Street, Runcorn,  
Cheshire, WA7 1NE

**Widnes:**  
7 Brook Street, Widnes,  
Cheshire, WA8 6NB

**Ditton:**  
Ditton Library,  
Queens Avenue, Widnes,  
Cheshire, WA8 8HR

## Opening hours:

**Runcorn Shopping Centre  
and Widnes:**  
Monday to Friday 9am to 5.30pm  
Saturday 9am to 1pm

**Runcorn and Ditton:**  
Monday, Tuesday and Friday,  
10am to 4.45pm  
Thursday 9.30am to 4.45pm

## Call us

If it is more convenient for you to use the telephone, then just call our contact centre on 0303 333 4300. We are open 8am - 6pm, Monday to Friday

## Find us online

Don't forget that our website [www.halton.gov.uk](http://www.halton.gov.uk) has lots of useful information about council services, our borough, facts and figures, what's on and other local news. You may also want to follow us on Twitter @HaltonBC and on Facebook [www.facebook.com/haltonbc](http://www.facebook.com/haltonbc)

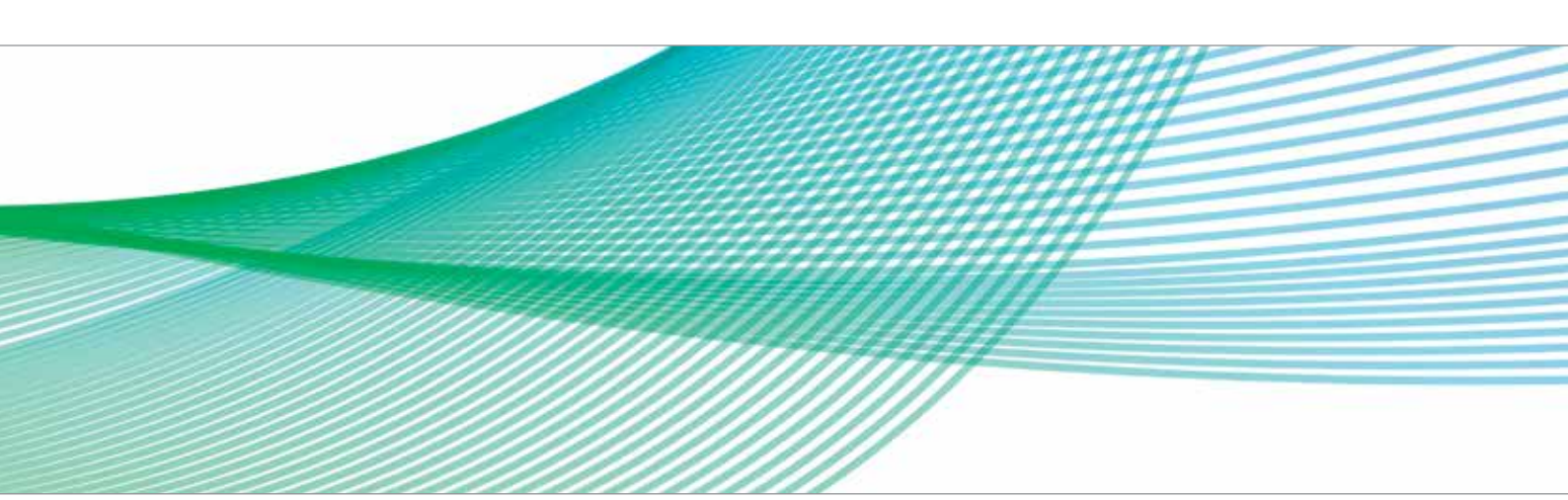


A premier chemical company, INOVYN is at the heart of Europe's chemical industry.

Our products are used in almost every aspect of modern society, keeping people housed, healthy and connected, for example:

- automotive
- building and construction
- paints and adhesives
- healthcare and medical
- personal care
- pulp and paper
- textiles
- water treatment





# Corporate Profiles

5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust.....	36
ABB Limited .....	36
Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise .....	37
Diageo.....	37
Halton Borough Council .....	38
Héroux-Devtek Inc.....	39
Inovyn.....	39
Morbaine Limited.....	40
Redrow Homes.....	40
The Saria Group.....	41
Sentinel .....	41
Sigmatex .....	42
UK Power Reserve.....	43



## 5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust provides treatment, support and guidance for a wide range of health issues for people in Halton, Knowsley, St Helens, Warrington and Wigan. These include physical and mental health issues and learning disabilities.

Through our team of dedicated and expert staff, and working closely with our local partners in each borough, we aim to provide high quality services to enable our service users and patients to live their lives well.

We actively put people first, listening, learning and evolving to keep improving what we do. You will find us open, honest, knowledgeable, trustworthy and friendly.

We aim to deliver the very best care and advice in safe and calm environments. We value the knowledge and experiences of our service users, carers, partners and communities, and involve them wherever possible in the decisions we make.

For more information about the Trust, visit [www.5boroughspartnership.nhs.net](http://www.5boroughspartnership.nhs.net).

5 Boroughs Partnership NHS Foundation Trust  
Hollins Park House  
Hollins Park  
Hollins Lane  
Winwick  
WA2 8WA

Tel: 01925 664000  
[www.5boroughspartnership.nhs.uk](http://www.5boroughspartnership.nhs.uk)  
Twitter: @5boroughsNHS

**5 Boroughs Partnership**   
NHS Foundation Trust

Also see inside front cover

## ABB Limited

**A global power and automation company that enables utility, industry and transport & infrastructure customers to improve performance while lowering environmental impact.**

Headquartered in Daresbury Park, Warrington, ABB's UK operations employ over 3,000 engineers, scientists and other professionals at over 20 locations nationwide. Together we provide around £800m worth of power and automation technologies to customers around the UK and abroad annually. Globally ABB operates in over 100 countries and employs over 140,000 people worldwide.

From the 500 megawatt HVDC underwater power link between Deeside and Dublin, through regional electric vehicle charging infrastructure, advanced industrial process optimisation and commercial/ industrial power quality improvement to domestic home automation, innovative solutions from ABB underpin the daily lives of almost everyone.

To develop, deliver and maintain these solutions we employ exemplary people - people who work safely and with integrity; people who see opportunities, act decisively and are willing to take responsibility and solve our customers' challenges while minimizing environmental impact across the globe.

That's why ABB stands for "Power and productivity for a better world".

ABB Limited  
Daresbury Park, Warrington, WA4 4BT  
Tel: 01925 741111  
Email: [info@gb.abb.com](mailto:info@gb.abb.com)  
Web: <http://new.abb.com/uk>

Power and productivity  
for a better world™ 

Also see page 7

## Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise

Halton Chamber has a strategic as well as operational role within the borough, influencing key stakeholders, representing the private sector interest and delivering services that are relevant in today's challenging climate.

Like any successful enterprise, Halton Chamber is proactive in its approach to supporting business, embracing change and adapting its services and activities to meet the needs of its members and the wider business community. In addressing the ever increasing demands of today's economy it has formed new collaborations with a range of partners, developed and delivered new and additional services, and will continue to review and improve its service offer to help businesses to sustain, develop and grow. Working with Halton Council, it is delivering the new Growth Hub service locally.

Tel: 0333 358 3480  
[www.haltonchamber.co.uk](http://www.haltonchamber.co.uk)



Also see page 45

## DIAGEO

Diageo International Supply Centre, Runcorn, is one of the North West's leading companies, with a long and proud tradition of commercial success and community involvement.

The Diageo packaging site at Runcorn has developed processes to allow it to operate at the highest levels of quality standards and efficiency.

It is one of Diageo's major production facilities responsible for packaging premium brands such as Guinness, Kilkeny and Smirnoff Ice, for domestic and international markets.

Today the site produces over 50 products in over 203 different formats including: Guinness Draught in a Bottle, Guinness Draught in a Can, Guinness Foreign Extra, Kilkeny Irish Cream Ale, and Pimm's.

tel: +44(0)1928 717171  
email: [caroline.beardsell@diageo.com](mailto:caroline.beardsell@diageo.com)

Also see page 47



## Halton Borough Council

Halton Borough Council's Investment & Development Service is responsible for

- provision of a comprehensive support service to business
- the delivery of the Borough's major regeneration schemes
- securing external funding to support a range of Council and partner initiatives
- management of the Council's portfolio of industrial and commercial premises including the management of Halton's markets and Town Centres

The Business Improvement and Growth Team is the main interface between the Council and the business community with regard to a broad range of business support services. One significant aspect is the operation of a highly regarded, free, bespoke commercial property finding service for companies either based in Halton or wishing to move into the area.

The Team is also responsible for managing Halton's funding programmes from Government and Europe relating to business support. This involves working closely in co-operation with companies from the initial expression of interest through to completion of their project and includes the added benefit of on-going support.

As one of the UK's most significant infrastructure projects, The Mersey Gateway Project will be the catalyst for a 20 year regeneration programme covering a total of 20km<sup>2</sup> on both sides of the river. The bridge is due for completion in 2017 and the Council is taking a proactive approach by already assessing opportunities for future development which will enhance business prospects in the borough.

Whatever the query, whether it relates to property, funding or development, the knowledgeable Team will be able to assist and advise.

Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes, Cheshire WA8 7QF  
Tel: 0151 511 7825  
Email: [property@halton.gov.uk](mailto:property@halton.gov.uk)  
[www.runcorn-widnes.com](http://www.runcorn-widnes.com)



## Héroux-Devtek Inc.

Héroux-Devtek Inc. (TSX: HRX) is an international company specialising in the design, development, manufacture, repair and overhaul of landing gear, actuation systems and components for the Aerospace market. The Corporation is the third largest landing gear company worldwide, supplying both the commercial and defence sectors of the Aerospace market with new landing gear systems and components, as well as aftermarket products and services. The Corporation also manufactures hydraulic systems, fluid filtration systems and electronic enclosures.

Approximately 75% of the Corporation's sales are outside Canada, including about 50% in the United States. The Corporation's head office is located in Longueuil, Québec with facilities in the Greater Montreal area (Longueuil, Laval and St-Hubert); Kitchener, Cambridge and Toronto, Ontario; Springfield and Strongsville, Ohio; Wichita, Kansas; Everett, Washington; and Runcorn, Nottingham and Bolton, United Kingdom.

8 Pembroke Court, Manor Park,  
Runcorn WA7 1TG  
Tel: 01928 530530  
[www.herouxdevtek.com](http://www.herouxdevtek.com)



Also see page 8

## INOVYN

A premier chemical company, with key manufacturing operations in Runcorn, INOVYN is at the heart of Europe's chemical industry. Our products are used in some of the most demanding applications and are fundamental raw materials for industry sectors as diverse as automotive; building and construction; paints and adhesives; healthcare and medical; personal care; pulp and paper; textiles; and water treatment.

With more than 4,300 employees, INOVYN has manufacturing, sales and marketing operations in ten countries across Europe. Our well-invested, world-scale assets are complemented by an extensive international supply chain, which provides INOVYN with an excellent competitive position around the world.

INOVYN ChlorVinyls Limited  
Runcorn Site HQ  
South Parade, PO Box 9  
Runcorn  
Cheshire WA7 4JE  
Tel: 01928 561111  
[www.inovyn.com](http://www.inovyn.com)



Also see page 34



## Morbaine Limited

Morbaine is a family run company based in Widnes, Cheshire. Established in 1963, the Company seeks out potential retail and commercial development sites. Morbaine are involved in all stages of the development process from pre-application through to the letting and sale of a development.

Morbaine benefits from a highly experienced team with a family business ethic and as a result the company has built up a substantial property portfolio comprising food and non-food retail schemes.

Morbaine Ltd  
Hale Road, Widnes  
Cheshire WA8 8PU  
Tel: 0151 424 4211  
Email: [info@morbaine.co.uk](mailto:info@morbaine.co.uk)  
[www.morbaine.co.uk](http://www.morbaine.co.uk)



Also see page 15

## Redrow Homes

Redrow Homes is one of the country's largest and most respected housebuilders, with a reputation for quality and innovation.

Operating across Wales and England, Redrow places a strong emphasis on high quality housing in prime locations and is equally at home building small, exclusive developments as large-scale regeneration projects featuring homes, office space, shops and community and leisure facilities.

With headquarters at St David's Park in Ewloe, Flintshire, the NW division oversees developments in Cheshire, North Wales, Merseyside and Greater Manchester. The NW division is very important to the Redrow Group, representing the company's heartland since it was founded more than 40 years ago. The Redrow brand is well-established in this part of the UK and its product set apart for its blend of traditional architecture and high specification modern interiors.

One of 13 Redrow divisions, NW currently has 16 live developments with a target of building 500 homes in the current financial year.

Further information: [www.redrow.co.uk](http://www.redrow.co.uk)



Also see page 1

## The SARIA Group

The SARIA Group operates in a range of sectors worldwide. The Group's companies manufacture quality products for use in human and animal foodstuffs, agriculture, aquaculture, and industrial applications at over 100 plants across Europe. SARIA also produces renewable energy and provides services for farming and the food industry.

SARIA's Widnes site (formerly Granox Limited) is the largest integrated recycling operation of its kind in the UK. The site hosts a number of processing operations including two renewable energy facilities; the ReFood Anaerobic Digestion plant and the SecAnim Biomass Combustion Plant; both use food chain by-products to generate clean, green energy (biogas and combined heat & power) and fertiliser.

In addition to the renewable energy operations, the SARIA Widnes site is also home to a high-grade dry petfood ingredient production plant and a secure disposal facility for high risk animal by-products.

SARIA Group  
Desoto Road, West Bank Dock Estate,  
Widnes, Cheshire WA8 0PB  
Tel: 0151 424 6731  
Email: [info@saria.co.uk](mailto:info@saria.co.uk)  
[www.saria.co.uk](http://www.saria.co.uk)



Also see page 4

## Sentinel

Sentinel is a company with a clear goal: we offer water treatment products and services that provide the best lifetime protection for heating and hot water systems.

Based in Daresbury, we began with a humble range of just five central heating system protection products and we have been constantly innovating ever since. Our story is filled with firsts for the world and for the heating and plumbing industry, from the pioneering practice of jet flush heating system cleaning back in 1998 to the development of the world's first multi-cyclone central heating filter, Eliminator, in 2012.

We're proud to be based in the North West where we develop our product range that Clean, Protect and Maintain domestic, renewable and commercial boilers and heating systems internationally.

To learn more about us and see how our products protect boiler efficiency, deliver energy savings and prolong the life of heating systems just visit us at [www.sentinelprotects.com](http://www.sentinelprotects.com) or contact us on 01928 704330.



Also see page 2



## Sigmatex - Global Carbon Composite Solutions

Sigmatex develops and manufactures carbon fibre textiles for composite material applications. From global locations, Sigmatex supplies carbon fibre textiles including 3D, Spread Tow, Innegra, Recycled, Unidirectional, Multiaxial, and 2D across a broad spread of industries ranging from the world's top supercar manufacturers to aerospace companies.

In all cases, Sigmatex helps its customers to achieve improved product performance through lightweight strength. Headquartered in Runcorn, Sigmatex was established in 1986 and has specialised in helping customers create cutting edge carbon fibre textiles since then.

Sigmatex provides advice to its customers about how to gain maximum benefit from using carbon fibre. Products that may previously have been designed and manufactured from metals are now being replaced by carbon fibre; carbon fibre textiles are an enabling technology and can open up new ways of designing improved products to achieve higher technical performance through lightweight strength. And of course in sport, carbon fibre can make the difference between winning and losing. Sigmatex's customers generally don't have their own textile experts, so Sigmatex can be part of a customer's design team. For many applications, carbon fibre can mean lower whole life costs than using traditional materials, due to benefits such as reduced energy costs.

Sigmatex's independence means that it can advise on what is genuinely the best solution for a customer's requirements, offering a variety of technologies for composite products, sourcing different fibres if required.

Sigmatex Lightweighting Centre of Excellence: located within Sigmatex's global R&D facility and home to the AMSCI funded Lightweighting Excellence Programme (LX). The LX Programme is a strategic cooperation led by Sigmatex and supported by Axillium Research, in partnership with Caparo Advanced Composites, Cranfield University, Engenuity, Expert Tooling & Automation, Granta Design, Group Rhodes, LMAT, Surface Generation and Tilsatec.

The LX consortium is addressing a lack of capability within the UK automotive supply chain to manufacture composite components in medium to high volumes, at affordable prices, by connecting the key functions of material supply, design and manufacturing. The LX Programme consolidates all elements of the supply chain to produce demonstrator components to showcase UK capability.

For more information see: [www.sigmatex.com](http://www.sigmatex.com)

Sigmatex (UK) Ltd  
Manor Farm Road  
Runcorn WA7 1TE  
T: 01928 570050  
E: [info@sigmatex.co.uk](mailto:info@sigmatex.co.uk)



## UK Power Reserve

UK Power Reserve is the leading independent developer and operator of flexible, smart and affordable power generation. We are pioneers in flexible power generation.

Founded by energy experts and investors in 2010, UK Power Reserve combines a specialist team and a portfolio of flexible energy generation assets. From site purchasing to operations and plant design to grid connections, we bring a unique expertise to the UK energy market.

UK Power Reserve's portfolio is the size of a CCGT (combined cycle gas turbine) generator but at a much lower cost to the consumer, with a faster-acting response time and a geographic spread across the country rather than a single plant concentrated in one location. It is the largest reserve power portfolio in the UK and places the company amongst the largest independent reserve power providers in the EU. This ensures greater security of supply at lower risk, while delivering affordability and addressing the Energy Trilemma. We consider ourselves to have the smartest power generation capabilities in the UK.

Our company plays a vital role in the delivery of one of life's most basic requirements - electricity. We participate in a variety of Energy Balancing Services and provide third-party aggregation and Demand Side Response (DSR) management and trading services.

info@ukpowerreserve.com  
www.ukpowerreserve.com  
0121 712 1970

ukpowerreserve  
SUPPORTING A RENEWABLE FUTURE

Also see page 16

Source: [www.carbontrust.co.uk](http://www.carbontrust.co.uk)

# Energy saving



Air conditioning an office for 1 extra hour a day uses enough energy in a month to power a TV for over a year.

Saving energy saves you money, protects your reputation and helps combat climate change.

Your organisation could save up to 10% through housekeeping actions which cost little or nothing.



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# HALTON – A PRO-ACTIVE BUSINESS COMMUNITY



## **Its service offer is extensive and includes:**

- Signposting and Brokerage Service
- Networking and Contact Development
- Guidance and Information
- Advice Clinics, Seminars and Workshops
- Legal, HR and Health & Safety Support
- Employee Health Cash Plan
- Certification and International Trade Services
- Currency Exchange Services
- UK and International Debt Recovery Services
- Discounted Website Design
- Representation and Lobbying

**Join us and help shape the future of Halton.**

*Bringing like-minded business men and women  
together to create a better local economy.*



For more information contact Halton Chamber on 0333 358 3480  
7th Floor, Municipal Building, Kingsway, Widnes WA8 7QF





# Let's re-use paper where possible.

Each year in the UK we use  
10.4 million tonnes of paper and  
cardboard and it takes up to 40,000  
litres of water to make every one.

Source: Confederation of Paper Industries



[www.wrap.org.uk/recycleatwork](http://www.wrap.org.uk/recycleatwork)

help your business, help the environment

DIAGEO



DIAGEO IS THE WORLD'S LEADING  
PREMIUM DRINKS BUSINESS WITH  
AN OUTSTANDING COLLECTION OF  
BEVERAGE ALCOHOL BRANDS.

CELEBRATING LIFE, EVERY DAY, EVERYWHERE  
[D-RINKAWARE.CO.UK](http://D-RINKAWARE.CO.UK)



[WWW.DIAGEO.COM](http://WWW.DIAGEO.COM)







Whitford Headquarters based in Runcorn - UK

**Whitford Worldwide manufactures the largest, most complete line of high-performance fluoropolymer coatings in the world. These coatings are used in countless industrial applications including automotive, industrial, marine and wind energy, offshore oil and gas, petrochemical, etc.**

Whitford Ltd, the European Headquarters based in Runcorn, is our industrial coatings centre of excellence. Established in the UK in 1969, Whitford moved to a newly refurbished site in 2012 to accommodate the growth of the business and to provide room for future expansion. This modern facility covering 80,000 sq ft includes manufacturing, laboratory and office space.

A family company, Whitford believes in providing staff with opportunities and experiences whilst continuously investing in training and development. These factors are responsible for our high levels of staff retention. Whitford are also committed to future workforce generations; being Halton-certified in the support of local young people through offering work experience placements.



Running Customer and Employee satisfaction surveys on an annual basis, Whitford takes an interest in the opinions of those it serves and represents; feedback comments are valued and responded to.



Whitford invests heavily in R&D, focused on new and existing product developments from initial innovation through to manufacture. Products are taken through a complete regulatory-compliance QC test system and adhere to FDA, REACH and other worldwide regulations.



Whitford works closely with regulatory, quality and environmental bodies; working to and maintaining the highest quality standards:

- ISO 9001 & ISO/TS 16949 – Quality Management Systems
- ISO 14001 – Environmental Management System

From a Health & Safety point of view we are now committed to and working towards the ISO 18001 accreditation.



## Whitford Innovation: Driving Coating Systems Forward

A global company, Whitford offers a solution to coating problems through technical expertise and local sales support, positioning Whitford industrial Xylan coating systems above the competition. Whitford operates in every major market in the world, selling products in more than 100 countries. We are proud that our Whitford Runcorn site exports 80% of all products manufactured.

Whitford's ethos is to solve coating problems, through existing or developed products. The Whitford product ranges can be found in many important markets, such as:

Industrial: generally marketed under the Xylan trade name, our coatings serve a range of markets:



**Automotive Technologies:** Specialty coatings for metal, rubber and other flexible substrates, Whitford coatings solve problems of friction, abrasion, corrosion, noise (itch and squeak), release, sealing, weathering and decoration.



**Oil & Gas:** Xylan coatings have been the first choice of many engineers in the offshore industry for more than 40 years, working above and below the sea and in the splash zone, wherever severe conditions demand the finest performance from protective coatings.



**Industrial Bakeware:** Whitford offers a range of coatings for industrial bakeware. Customers can pick and choose, designing and combining to suit whatever their needs may be — from liquid or powder primers, to powder mid-coats, to powder or dispersion topcoats.

Housewares:



**Housewares:** used on cookware, bakeware and small appliances, applications ranging from frying pans and irons to items such as griddles. Easily applied, Whitford offer price/performance options for various market levels.

Find out more about Whitford Ltd:

[www.whitfordww.com](http://www.whitfordww.com)

*Whitford Ltd,  
11 Stuart Road, Manor Park  
Runcorn, Cheshire - WA7 1TH  
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**Whitford**



# TURNING SCIENCE & INNOVATION INTO BUSINESS SCI-TECH DARESBUY



**Sci-Tech Daresbury is one of the UK's national science and innovation campuses.**

To spearhead its ambitious long-term plans and vision, a private-public joint venture was established in December 2010, between Langtree, Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC) and Halton Borough Council.

In April 2012, the campus became one of the UK government's flagship Enterprise Zones, giving businesses potential access to five years business rates relief.

- **First class business location**
  - Home to over 100 technology companies from start-up to IBM, with 20% of them being international
  - Business survival and growth rates amongst the best in the UK
- **Exemplary science and technology location**
  - Home to UK Research council, STFC
  - Multiple-university activity on campus
- **High-tech collaborative community**
  - Network of over 3,000 people including blue chips, SMEs, universities and business support organisations
  - Strong collaborative culture - 50% of companies work with each other
  - Strategic partnerships with blue chip companies, universities, industry groups and investors
- **Provision of a range of property offerings**
  - 'Home for Life' opportunity
  - High quality offices, laboratories and workshops
  - Future developments in 2014 including individual owner-occupier buildings

The campus has also secured funding through the government's Regional Growth Fund programme, to deliver:

- New build developments
- Power upgrade
- Site integration works



If you want to find out more about  
Sci-Tech Daresbury, then...

Call us on +44 (0)1925 607000  
Visit us at [www.sci-techdaresbury.com](http://www.sci-techdaresbury.com)

A joint venture between



Science & Technology  
Facilities Council

