



SKILLS FOR GROWTH SME

BENEFITS TO YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN

SKILLS FOR GROWTH - SME SUPPORT

www.skillsforgrowthsmc.co.uk



SUPPLY CHAIN

Within your supply chain you may be working with SMEs who would benefit individually from our service offering. It is our hope that the following information will help you to help your suppliers, and in doing so, your collective network will reap the benefits of seeing your peers and partners become futureproofed and prepared for a long life of growth. Develop teams, maximise growth and re-shape business with Skills for Growth – SME Support

Why is it important to support the development of SMEs in your network?

If we continue to upskill our workforces at a consistent rate, collectively we can increase the UK GDP by more than 3% by 2030, going from USD\$2.5 trillion to \$8.5 trillion. But more than just financial gain, supporting the skills and development of SMEs in your network will contribute to your CSR and pave the way for a future of increased wellbeing, community culture and trust; all of which lend themselves to higher levels of productivity and prosperity, both within your own organisation and across your network. By unlocking the true potential of your own network of suppliers and partners, you inadvertently contribute to the web of business across Greater Manchester and beyond, by setting new standards for productivity, employment, and growth in the future.

How can we help?

By allocating a dedicated Skills Coach and Account Manager to every individual SME, providing over 6 months fully funded support, offering ongoing consultation and specialist guidance down to the employee level, Skills for Growth – SME Support comes at no cost to the business, offering a bespoke programme of support tailored to the unique needs of each and every business.

Develop teams and maximise growth with [Skills for Growth – SME Support](#).



INTRODUCTION TO SKILLS FOR GROWTH

-SME SUPPORT

Skills for Growth - SME Support is a fully funded, tailored service to help up-skill employees and improve productivity. Delivered by GC Business Growth Hub in partnership with the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce (GMCC), the service is commissioned by the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) and funded through the European Social Fund (ESF), to help SMEs grow through re-shaping, developing talent and enhancing team performance.

Offering impartial advice and guidance over a 26-week programme, our team was developed to help Greater Manchester come back stronger from the challenges presented during the pandemic, this time better equipped and better prepared with the skills for the future. Each participating business is assigned a dedicated Skills Coach who will work with them to develop and action a bespoke productivity plan throughout their 26-week period on the programme.

Specialist areas

We offer 2 specialist services within our wider programme to help SMEs build back better. Our specialists include:



APPRENTICESHIPS

Identify relevant apprenticeships for employees, match with appropriate training providers and assist with levy-matchmaking applications where applicable



HEALTH & WELLBEING

Drive productivity through re-assessment of existing employee and workplace wellbeing strategy

Referrals to specialists will be made where suitable by our Skills Coaches for SME programme participants.

BUILD BACK BETTER

Benefits to the supply chain

SMEs taking part in the programme will have access to a dedicated Skills Coach, up to 26 weeks of support, with an experience tailored to their individual needs at no cost to their business. Benefits include:

- Bespoke skills and productivity consultation down to the individual employee level, including tailored matchmaking to training providers and courses
- Assisted access to Kickstart Scheme, Apprenticeship opportunities and learning initiatives associated with the National Skills Fund
- Explore all grants and funding available from fully and part funded courses, to government grants and incentives
- Specialist consultation and support in health and wellbeing, and apprenticeships
- Guidance with employment, redeployment and redundancy
- Ensure best practice for remote and agile operating procedures, health and safety, and HR practices
- Connection to Greater Manchester Good Employment Charter, Bridge GM, GMCVO, among others dedicated to the development of the region's future industry plan
- Access to GM Skills Map online platform



GM Skills Map

Part of the Skills for Growth – SME Support programme, GM Skills Map aims to bridge the gap between training providers, SMEs and future learners. It is a transparent, online platform, open to help upskill Greater Manchester's workforce.

This innovative, online platform makes the search for workplace training easy, enabling businesses and individuals to explore a highly accessible database of training providers and fully funded training and skills programmes including short courses, professional training and apprenticeships.

[Visit GM Skills Map online.](#)

Benefits to your organisation

By motivating SMEs in your supply chain to come on board our programme, the benefits of our collaboration will eventually make their way up the chain, benefiting you and your wider network and support your corporate social responsibility agendas. You could benefit from:



Better brand recognition



Positive business reputation



Increased sales and customer loyalty



Operational costs savings



Better financial performance



Greater ability to attract talent and retain staff



Organisational growth



Easier access to capital



SKILLS FOR GROWTH SME

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

It's easy to get involved with Skills for Growth – SME Support!

For corporations looking to bolster their supply chain and benefit their entire network with our help, simply:

Contact our Partnerships and Integration manager Thomas Pickford at Thomas.Pickford@growthco.uk to request a call-back

Play your part in the #SkillsRevolution and join Skills for Growth – SME Support today.

For the future of Greater Manchester, let's join together and develop the skills for growth.