



# UK'S LARGEST REGIONAL FINANCIAL, PROFESSIONAL AND BUSINESS SERVICES HUB

Home to the UK's fastest growing regional economy, Manchester has established a strong reputation as an economic powerhouse and a competitive place to do business.

Set to see the third-fastest economic growth of all UK towns and cities over the next three years, Greater Manchester is an ambitious economic powerhouse and a competitive place to do business. With depth and diversity across all disciplines across banking, fintech, insurance, accounting and legal, Manchester's financial, professional and business sector is the most evolved in the UK outside of London.

The city is home to some of the world's leading companies including JP Morgan, BNY Mellon,

Vanguard, Freshfields Bruckhaus Deringer, Barclays, Starling Bank and OakNorth. As one of the UK's most innovative cities, our large and diverse Fintech sector is the UK's fastest growing and has the infrastructure and support network for complex, digitally led organisations to scale successfully. We are also a leading destination for customer and corporate services, being home to more than 54 shared service centres as well as 250 contact centres – including Worldpay, Vodafone, BUPA and Marks & Spencer

Located at the heart of the UK, with excellent connectivity to Europe and the rest of the world, Manchester provides companies with outstanding access to market. The city offers businesses a diverse and sustainable talent pool, 20% lower operating costs than in the capital and outstanding quality of life for employees, making it a high quality, low risk investment location.

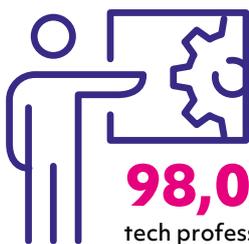
**BEST UK CITY TO LIVE**

The Economist

**TOP 5 EUROPEAN CITY FOR FINTECHS**

Savills

## SECTOR HIGHLIGHTS



**98,000**  
tech professionals



**26,000+**  
students studying Law, Business, and Management



**200+**  
languages spoken by multi-lingual staff



**£25.5bn**  
GVA



**150+**  
FinTechs



**326,000**  
employees in the Financial, Professional & Business Services sector



**1,094**  
M&A deals totalling **£20.4Bn** in the North West in 2024

## IN GOOD COMPANY



## BANKING AND FINANCIAL SERVICES

Banking and Financial Services Manchester's banking and financial services sector has evolved drastically and is now home to more than 60 banks employing 60,000 people across a range of disciplines including retail, corporate, wealth management and investment banking. All of the UK's major retail banks have a regional corporate headquarters in Manchester – many of which also have significant national functions in the city – and a number of investment banks have global operations centres, head offices or regional offices in Manchester, such as BNY Mellon; a sign of their confidence in Manchester as a place where the largest transactions can be made and signed off.



## FINTECH

Home to the UK's largest regional financial services industry and one of Europe's largest digital and technology clusters – Manchester has the fastest growing FinTech ecosystem in the UK. The city has cemented a reputation as the FinTech Capital of the North and is officially a top five European city for FinTechs to locate (Savills). Specialising in payments, platforms, software and data analytics, Manchester has recently seen OakNorth, Adyen, Klarna and MoneySuperMarket expand into the city, complementing homegrown FinTechs including AccessPay, Raisin and Nivo. An array of innovation hubs, accelerators and incubators underpin Manchester's FinTech ecosystem, where start-ups, SMEs and larger firms converge, collaborate and drive innovation.

## LEGAL

Manchester is one of the primary legal centres outside of the capital, having the highest representation of the top 100 UK law firms and the highest number of legal offices and fee-earners outside of London. Key specialisms in the region include corporate, commercial, employment and IP across sectors such as financial services, TMT, transport, property, sport and the public sector.

## SHARED SERVICES

Manchester's capability to deliver world class customer services has enabled the city to cement a reputation as a global business services hub. The city has a proven track record in delivering back office solutions that is unrivalled in Europe due to its well-established business infrastructure, multi-lingual workforce and the potential to cost-effectively and efficiently scale operations.

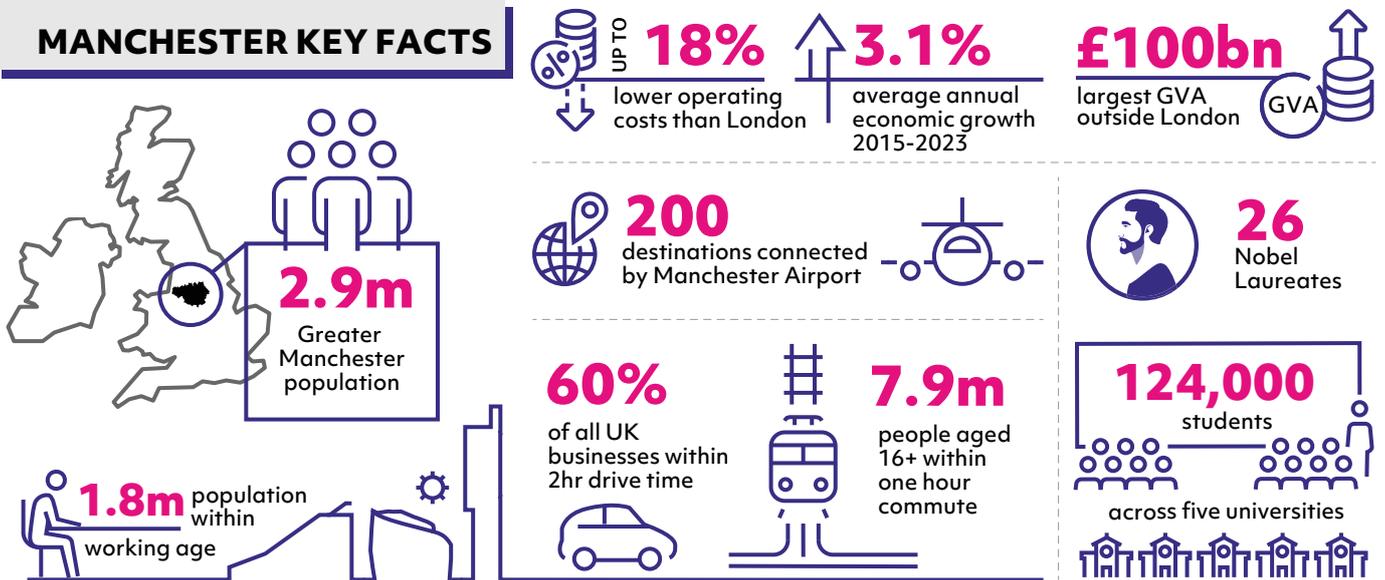
## ACCOUNTANCY

Manchester's accountancy sector employs 22,500 people across private practice and the wider industry. Global firms including PwC, Deloitte, KPMG and EY all have a significant presence in Manchester, employing more than 2,500 staff between them. Manchester's accountancy practices provide advice on all areas of corporate finance including: MBO, MBI, M&As, flotation and stock exchange advice.

## INSURANCE

Manchester has a longstanding history as an important centre for insurance and its related industries. The city is home to the largest general insurance community outside of London, as well as a growing broker base, with national and large provincial insurance brokers choosing to have a significant presence in the city.

## MANCHESTER KEY FACTS



## GET IN TOUCH

MIDAS, Manchester's dedicated inward investment agency, offers an extensive, free and confidential package of advice and assistance for potential investors and location consultants. MIDAS' services are available to companies of all sizes that wish to relocate to or expand within Manchester.

To find out how we can help you, contact



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