



As we wrap up a whirlwind month of global engagements, we step into the new financial year with momentum and impact. From showcasing Manchester's strengths at [SXS](#)W and [MIPI](#)M to forging valuable connections at the Bengaluru Trade Event, our city-region has made its mark on the world stage - bringing home exciting opportunities and new partnerships.

Meanwhile, on home soil, Manchester [launched its very own 'London style' network](#) with a modern tap-and-go contactless payments on buses and tram, with passengers now able to travel seamlessly between the two. Manchester United made headline news as it [announced plans for a brand new 100,000-seater stadium](#) to replace Old Trafford. The stadium will play a key role in the regeneration of the Old Trafford area, aligning with the government's growth agenda.

Finally, building on our international success this month, we shift our focus to UK Fintech Week with our team attending its flagship event, IFGS 2025. The week presents a great opportunity to learn and highlight the opportunities to invest in Greater Manchester.

I want to thank everyone who collaborated with the team to showcase the city-region across the world, and I look forward to seeing you at future events.

Joe Manning

Managing Director, MIDAS, Manchester's Inward Investment Agency

Highlights & Insights



Saica Group invests £6 million in new equipment, creating 20 local jobs in Wigan

[Read more >](#)



Man Utd unveil plans to build new 100,000-seater stadium to replace Old Trafford

[Read more >](#)



Global banking giant BNY viws to grow in Manchester as city becomes one of its key global hubs

[Read more >](#)



University's Institute of Sport secures major global sports science congress for 2027

[Read more >](#)

Wider View



Greater Manchester strengthens links with Austin with Friendship Cities agreement

Andy Burnham, Mayor of Greater Manchester, and Cllr Bev Craig, Leader of Manchester City Council signed a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Austin Mayor Kirk Watson.

The Friendship Cities Agreement marks the first partnership between a UK city-region and Texas since the UK Government signed their landmark Statement of Mutual Cooperation on economic development and trade in March 2024.

[Read more >](#)



Developments that will shape Greater Manchester's visitor economy over the next five years

In January 2025, a new strategy for Greater Manchester's visitor economy was published, setting out a roadmap to lead the sector sustainably through an expected period of growth coming to the region over the next five years.

The strategy recognises that Greater Manchester has been on a rapid growth trajectory over the last two decades, and that during this period the city-region's visitor economy has made a significant contribution to social and cultural life.

[More here >](#)



Visit of India External Affairs Minister to the United Kingdom

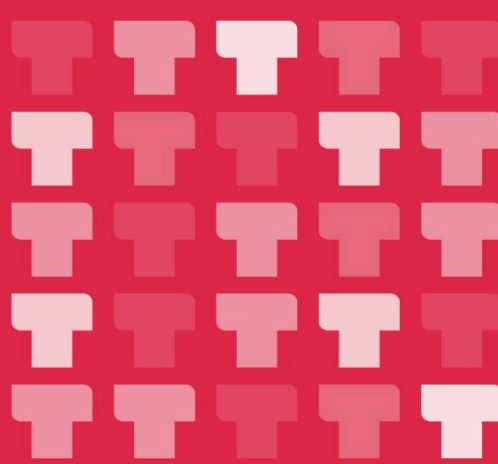
External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar's UK visit strengthened the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, focusing on trade, technology, and political cooperation. He met with PM Sir Keir Starmer, Deputy PM Angela Rayner, and Foreign Secretary David Lammy to discuss FTA negotiations, security, and global issues. He inaugurated Indian Consulates in Belfast and Manchester, engaged with business leaders, the Indian diaspora, and students. With direct IndiGo flights now linking Manchester and India, regional opportunities are expanding, reinforcing economic, political, and cultural ties.

[Read more >](#)

GM T Levels

Your Business, Their Talent

It's time to pledge.



Invest in your business' future with T Level placements

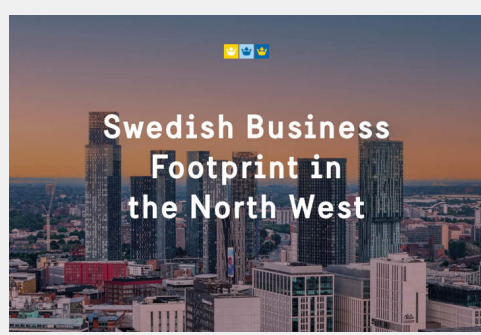
Greater Manchester businesses have a unique opportunity to nurture the next generation of talent and thrive. T Levels are two-year technical education courses for 16-19-year-olds in the UK, equivalent to three A Levels, combining 80% classroom learning with 20% industry placement.

Find out more and pledge to host a T Level placement...

[Read more >](#)

Upcoming Events

Swedish Business Footprint in the North West 2025 | 30 April



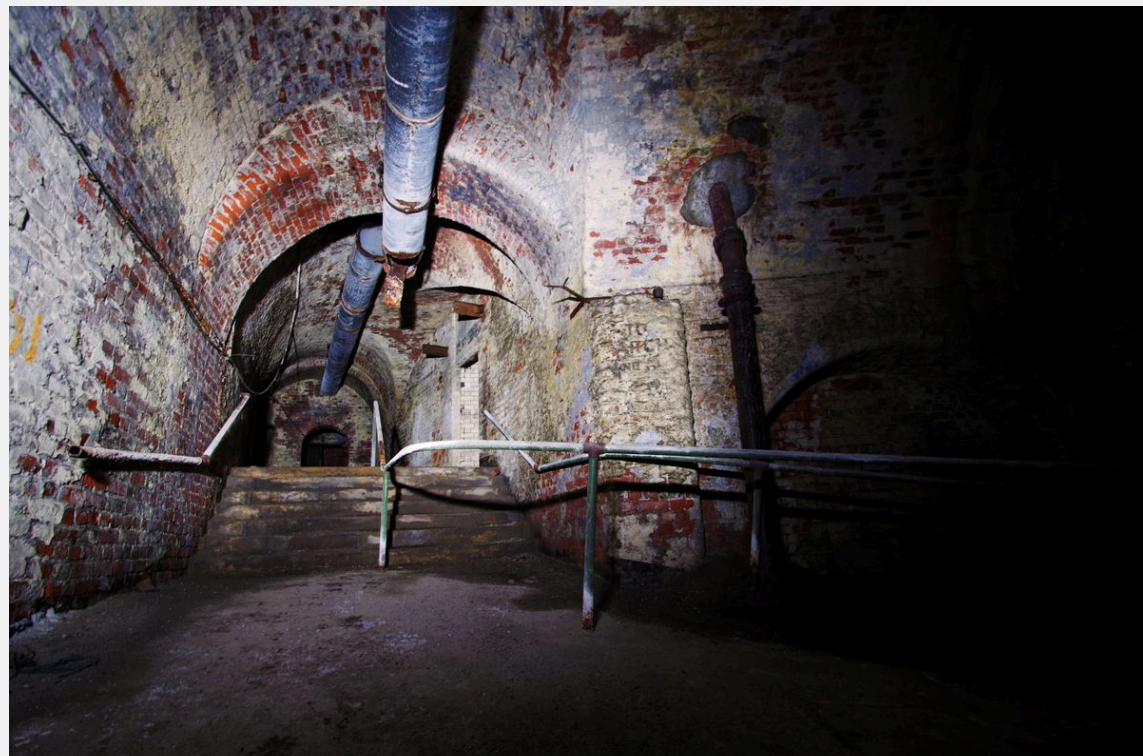
The Swedish Chamber of Commerce will be in Manchester as part of their Swedish Business Footprint in the North West event, which is an ongoing series exploring the role Swedish businesses play in driving regional growth across the UK. [Register here.](#)

Low Carbon and Sustainability Employer Event | 9 April



Attend the exclusive employer event focused on low-carbon solutions and green initiatives. The session will provide valuable insights into cost-effective sustainability strategies, helping you reduce your environmental impact while saving money. [Register here.](#)

Did you know...



Home to the deepest underground music venue

Beneath Manchester's streets lie the Victoria Arches, a hidden network of tunnels built in the 1830s. Originally used for businesses, they were sealed off in 1906 and later served as WWII air-raid shelters. In the late 1980s and 1990s, the arches became a legendary underground rave venue, hosting secret gigs with incredible acoustics.

Need support for your business? [Get in touch >](#)



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