



As we approach the festive season, I want to take a moment to reflect on the city-region's remarkable journey in 2024.

We've seen some truly game-changing businesses choose Greater Manchester as their home, including Kao Data, Teltonika, Valloop, Aira, SafetyCulture, Solotech and many more.

Partnerships have also been formed that will shape Greater Manchester's economic landscape for years to come.

We're looking forward to what comes next for Greater Manchester in 2025. With key moments such as MIPIM and further plans for our US and Japan missions, plus more that we can't wait to share.

So, as we prepare for team MIDAS to toast another year, we would like to extend our thanks to everyone who has been part of our efforts this year and to the new friends and partners we have gained in 2024.

Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, once it arrives.

**Joe Manning**

**Managing Director, MIDAS, Manchester's Inward Investment Agency**

## Highlights & Insights



**IBM Announce Move into new Manchester City Centre Office**

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**Rochdale Council Approve Next Phase of Atom Valley**

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**Andy Burnham Inaugurates Seda's New State-of-the-Art GMP Facility**

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**Lithuanian multi-national tech business chooses Exchange Quay for first UK base**

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## Manchester Metropolitan University and Bosch Team Up to Drive Hydrogen Innovation



Through its landmark Fuel Cell Innovation Centre and its Centre for Enterprise, Manchester Metropolitan University will work with engineering and technology giant Bosch to help the SME community and industry to understand the opportunity of electrochemical hydrogen technologies.

[Read more >](#)

## Wider view



### MIPIM Programme Launch 2025

The launch of the MIPIM 2025 Programme took place at Versa Studios in Manchester, to set the stage for Greater Manchester's ambitious plans to showcase its global investment opportunities at the renowned real estate event in Cannes next March.

Organised by the Manchester Invest Partnership and led by Marketing Manchester, the event highlighted the city-region's robust collaboration between public and private sectors as a blueprint for sustainable urban development.

The launch brought together influential stakeholders, including Cllr Bev Craig, Leader of Manchester City Council, and Caroline Simpson, Chief Executive of the Greater Manchester Combined Authority.

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## Culture Spotlight



**8th November - 22nd December**  
**Christmas Markets in Manchester 2024:**

Manchester's famous Christmas Markets return, running until 22 December. Now in their 26th year, Manchester's Christmas Markets have become legendary, drawing millions to the city centre.

With over 200 stalls spread across nine locations, visitors can enjoy seasonal treats, mulled wine, and a wonderful festive atmosphere.

[More information >](#)

### Did you know...



### Manchester has an iconic Santa Claus

A giant Santa is a centrepiece of Manchester's Christmas celebrations. Standing around 12 meters tall, he's been placed in front of the Central Library, Piccadilly Gardens, Manchester Town Hall in Albert Square and even the Kellogg's factory in Trafford Park.



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