



GMLPN Online Member KIT

29th January 2025

9.00-11.00



Welcome

Mark Currie

Chair | GMLPN



Festival of Technical Education

Sharon Weetman

Principal – Education, Skills & Work | GMCA

GMCA GREATER
MANCHESTER
COMBINED
AUTHORITY

GMLPN 
Greater Manchester
Learning Provider Network

GM Skills Awards 2025



HEADLINE SPONSOR:



THE AWARDS

- Apprentice of the Year (Level 2-3)
- Apprentice of the Year (Level 4, 5, 6, 7)
- 16-19 Learner of the Year
- Adult Learner of the Year
- Shining Star of the Year
- Unsung Hero of the Year
- Team of the Year
- SME of the Year
- Large Employer of the Year
- Community Initiative of the Year
- Outstanding Innovation of the Year
- Partnership Project of the Year

Nominations Close - 28th February 2025
Awards Evening – 3rd July 2025

Sponsors



HEADLINE SPONSOR:



Coyne
Recruitment.



mesma



Joined in 2024



John Ingram

CEO | Bud

HEADLINE SPONSOR:



Economic and LSIP Update

Chris Fletcher

GMLSIP Director and Policy Director | GMCC



GM Chamber Economic and LSIP Update

29th January 2025





- **Economic Update** – QES Q4 results
- **GM LSIP update** - background/future direction



What is the Quarterly Economic Survey (QES)?

- The Greater Manchester QES is part of the UK's largest and most reliable business confidence survey
- GM Chamber administers the survey in GM and co-ordinates the North West QES, which goes to the BCC.



National QES results are used by the likes of HM Treasury, Bank of England and OECD for decision making.



GM QES is the primary source of economic intelligence in Greater Manchester.

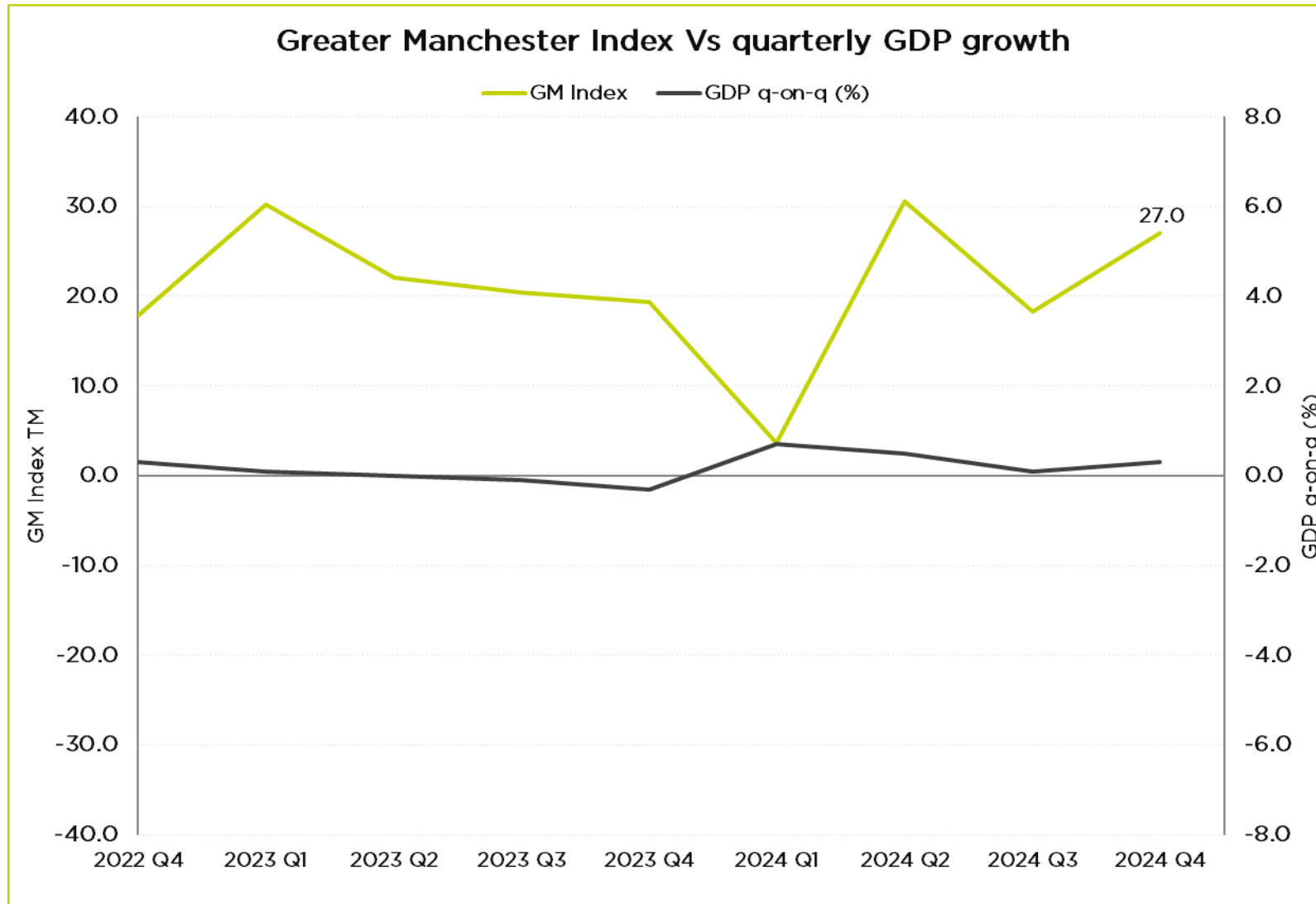


From the QES results, we calculate the GM Index™, a composite economic indicator for the GM Economy.



The findings are presented to the Greater Manchester Combined Authority's Economic Resilience Group and the 10 councils in GM for local decision making.

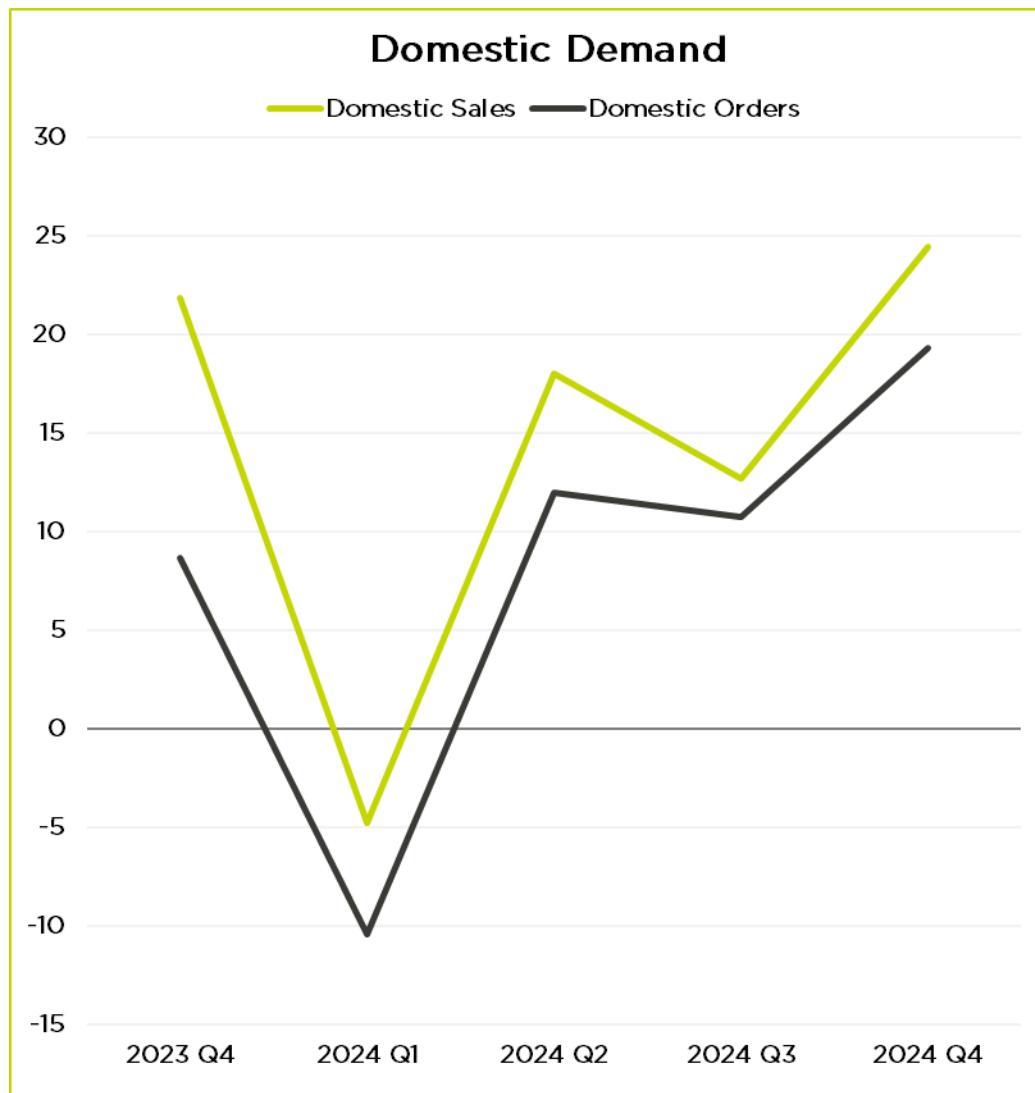
Where are we now?



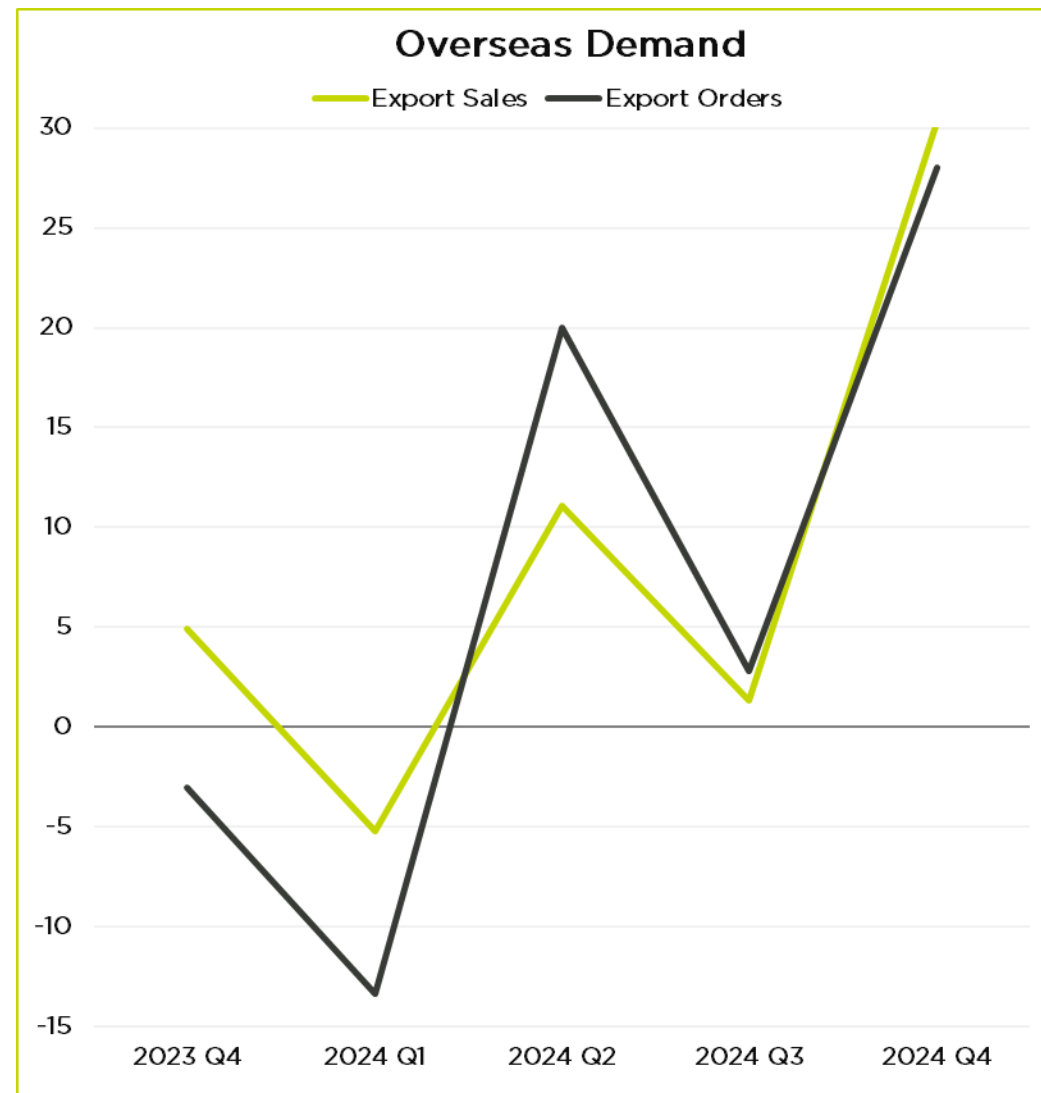
- GM Index in Q4 2024: **27.0**
- Improvement in both domestic and international demand
- Q3 GDP growth of 0.4%
- Latest PMI indices show a mixed picture
 - Services **50.8**
 - Manufacturing **48**
 - Construction **55.2**
- 0.1% growth in Nov. 0% growth in 3 months to November

Source: GMCC QES, ONS GDP Quarter on Quarter growth: CVM SA %

Customer Demand

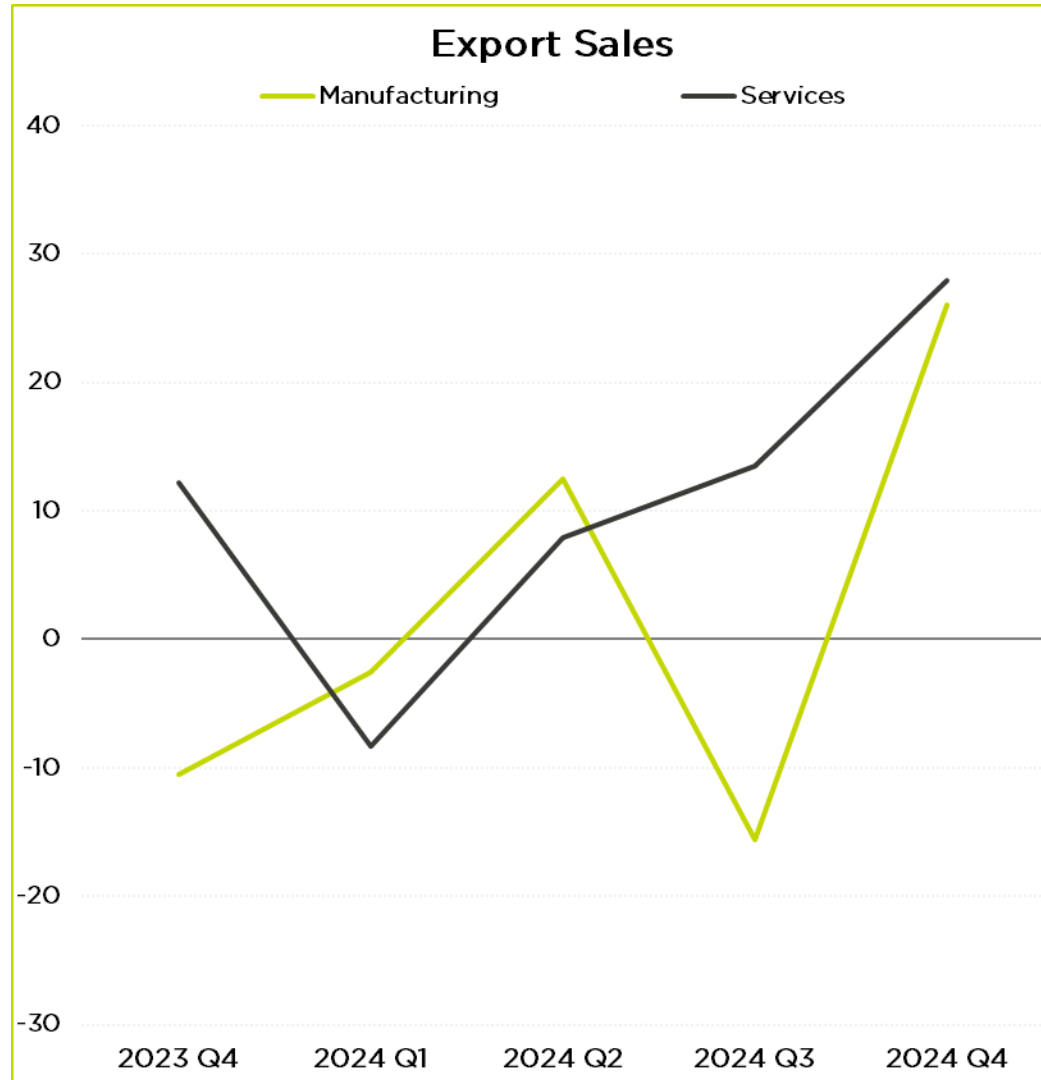


Source: GMCC QES



Source: GMCC QES

Export demand: sectoral



Source: GMCC QES

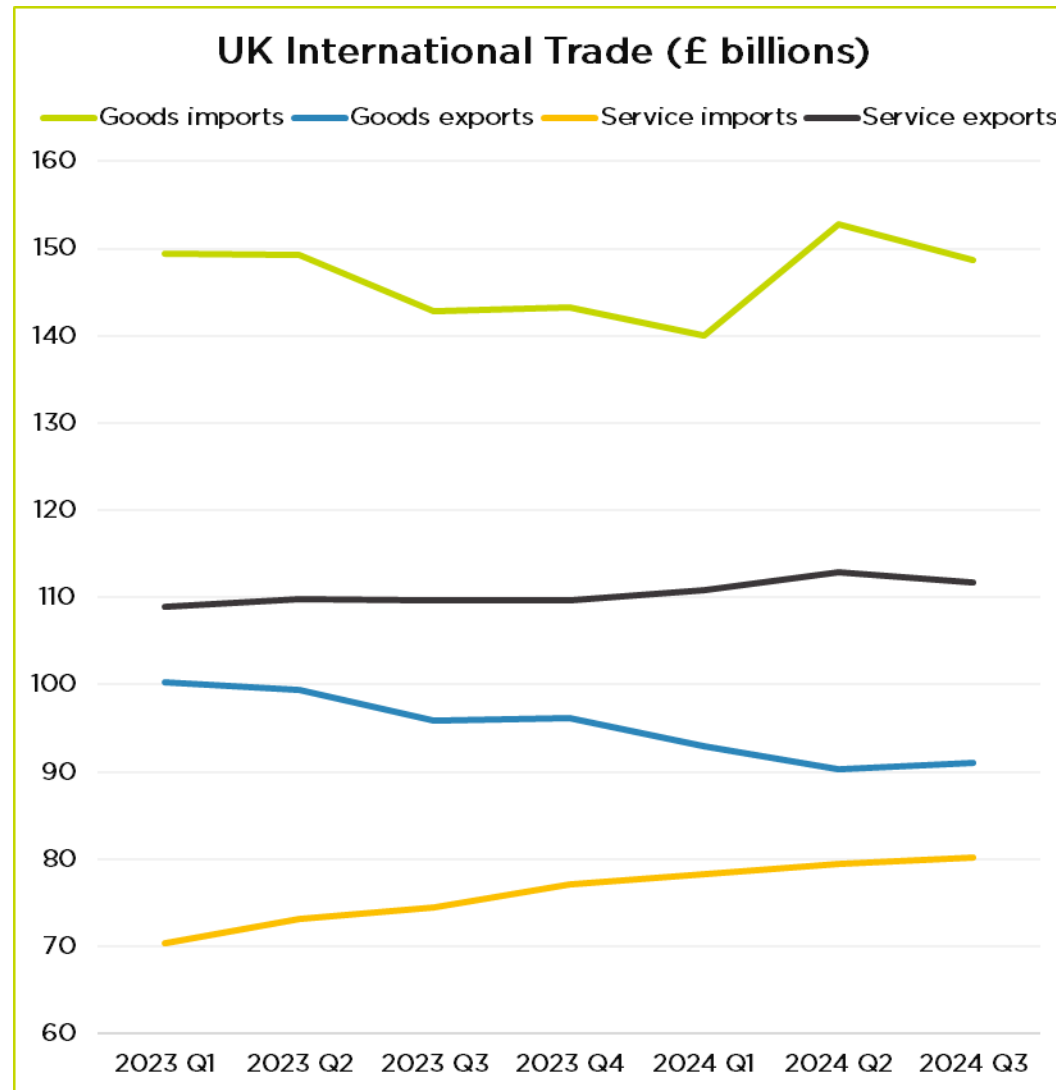


Source: GMCC QES

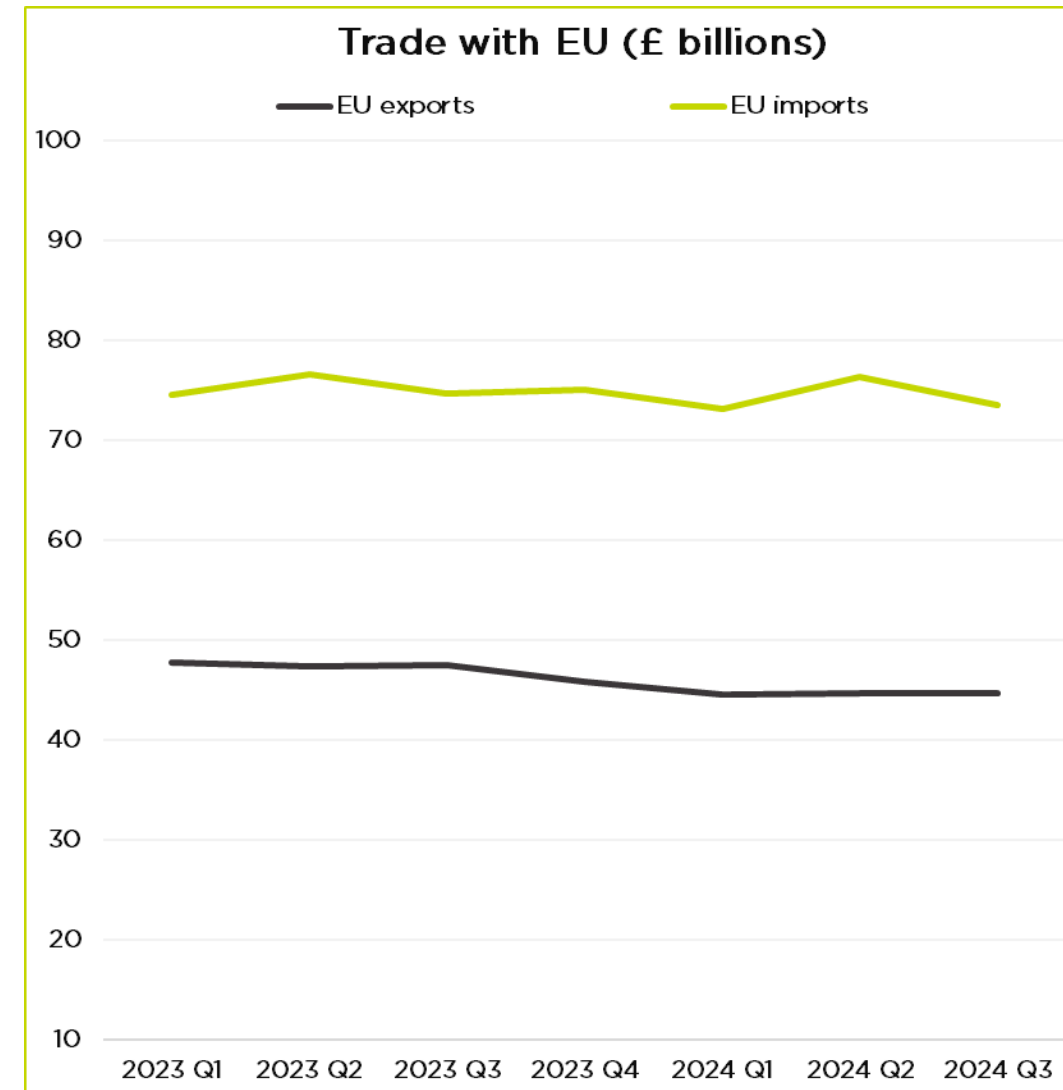


#GMEconomics

UK International trade



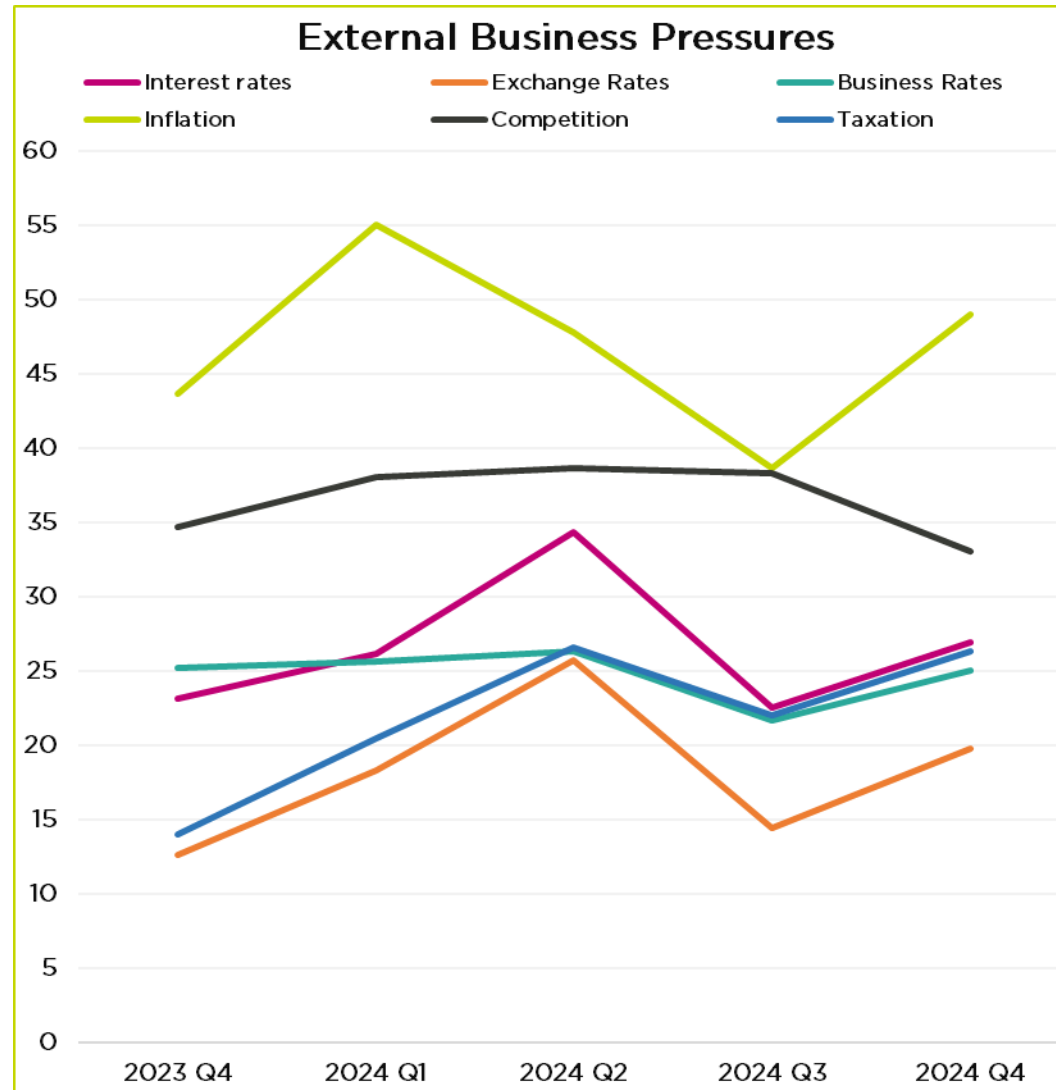
Source: ONS



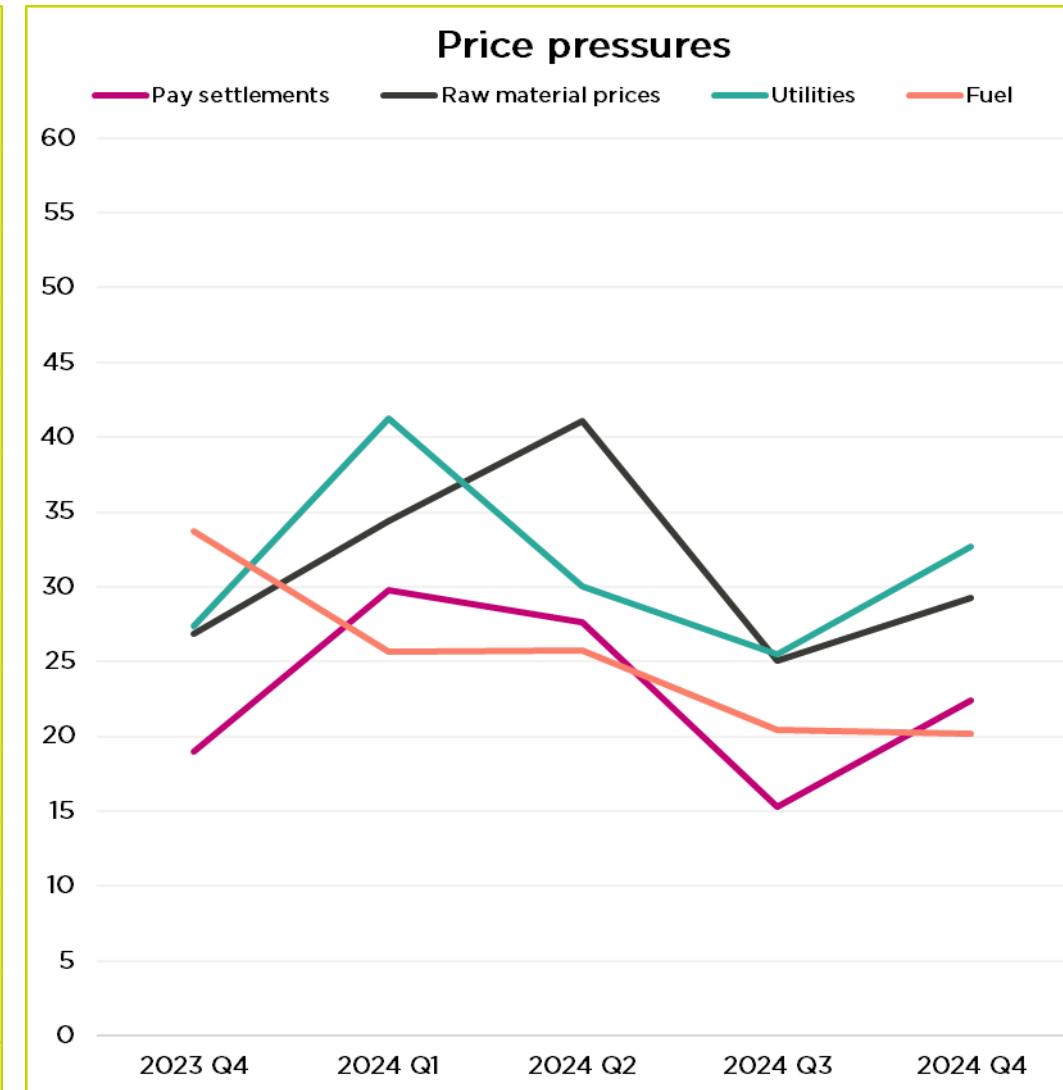
Source: ONS



Business Pressures



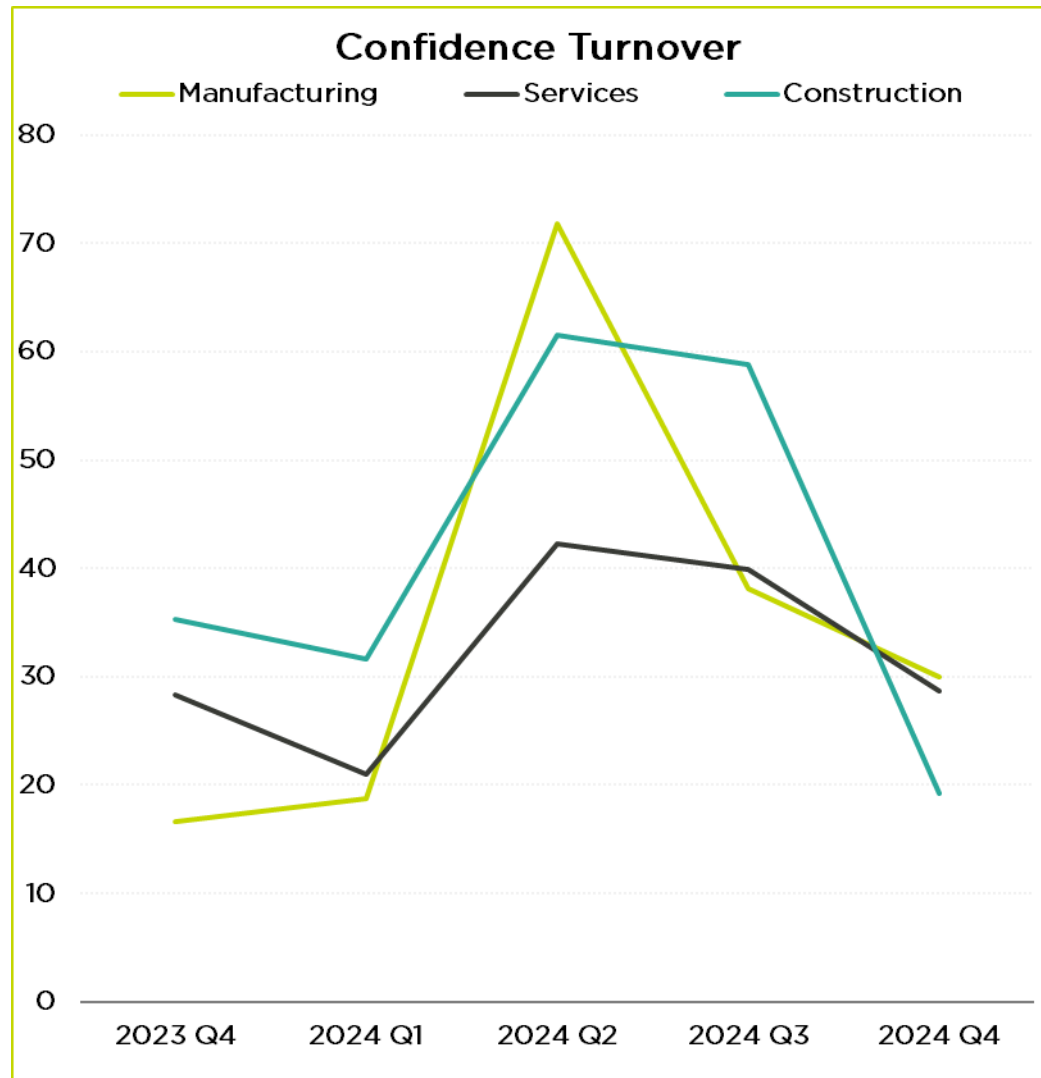
Source: GMCC QES



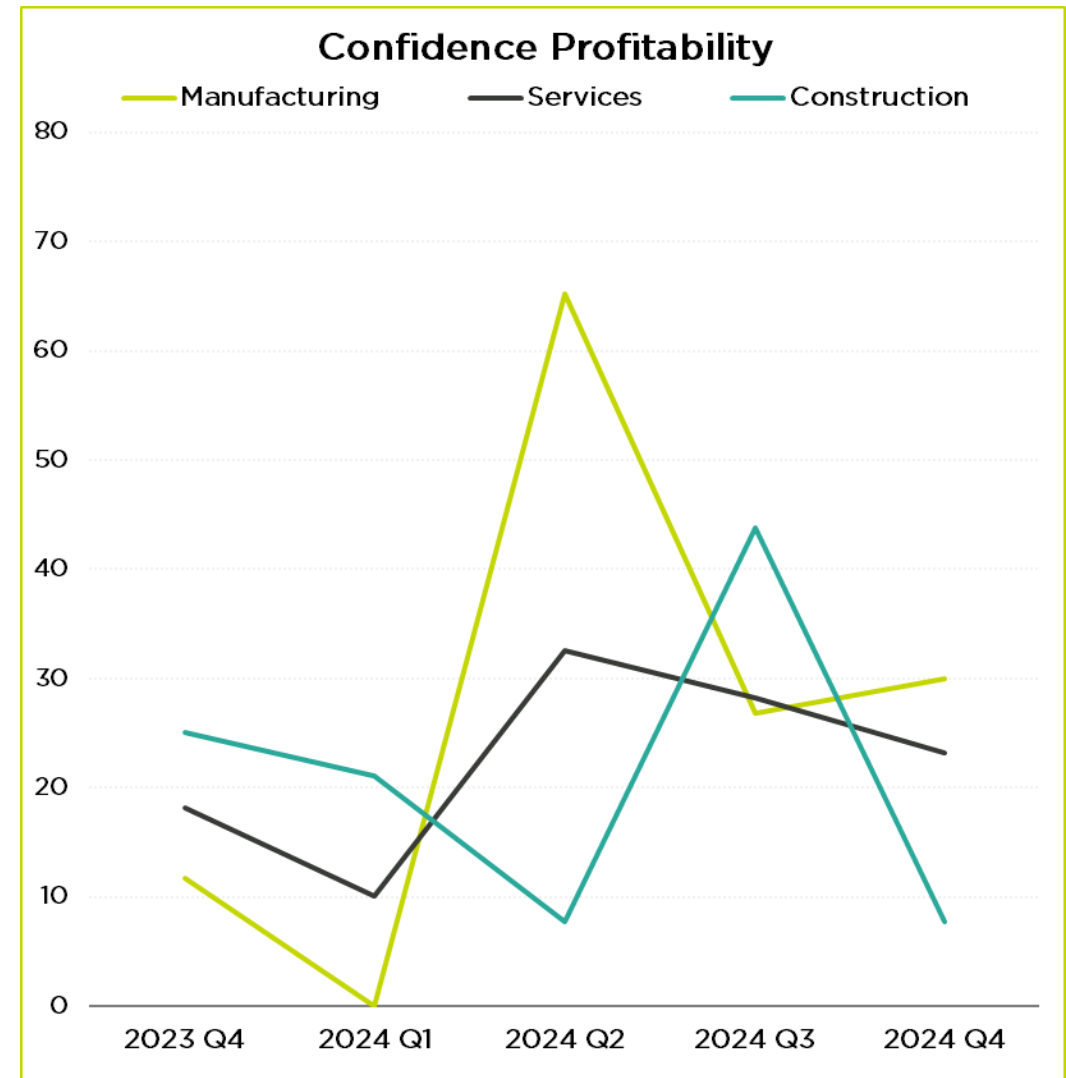
Source: GMCC QES



Business Confidence



Source: GMCC QES



Source: GMCC QES

Business concerns

- “The business is US owned. Increase in NLW/NMW and NI is disastrous. US HQ has paused further investment in the UK. We were looking to expand in Manchester but are now exploring US and Asia for a greenfield manufacturing facility.”
- “Budget and other pressures on business are a disaster and negate growth and confidence.”
- “The budget doesn't feel well thought through. Hoping for growth but no signs from Govt on how this will happen. In the short term we will be significantly financially impacted. Let's hope we survive to take advantage of growth in the years to come. The increase in NLW / NMW is the single biggest price pressure.”
- “There is still a lot of uncertainty / lack of understanding of the practical implications of the budget on some (smaller) SME business owners.”
- “It is too early to tell. However, this government are competent and have a plan, which is more than can be said about the last government. I am very optimistic that the economy will improve over the longer term.”
- “Competition from abroad remains a concern despite our premier product quality. From April 2025 due to this unreasonable budget, and as we cannot raise our prices, we are looking at losing at least 2 people.”
- “US trade barriers proposed by Trump may slow the global economy.”

OUTLOOK

- **NIC rise in April coupled with NLW/NMW rises add to cost pressures**
- **Inflation expected to stick above 2% - January 2.5%**
- **Add in wage increases from NIC rise**
- **Consumer confidence remains low**
- **Interest rates – dependent on inflation but other factors at play**
- **Response to the budget – cost of govt borrowing**
- **Updated financial targets?**
- **Government still focussed on growth.**



GM Local Skills Improvement Plan

DfE funded – identify skills gaps and priorities in local areas (GM) and use this information to ensure provision meets employers needs.

Sep 2022 – May 2023 survey work, interviews, roundtables, meetings to write the plan

August 2023 - SoS (Gillian Keegan) approved the plan – phase 2 embedding the LSIP into the local skill system

January 2024 – Update

June 2024 - Annual Progress Report

January 2025 – Local area update

March 2025 – Current contract ends

June 2025 – Annual Progress Report





Current Government thinking on skills

- Raft of white papers, bills, consultations
- Invest 2035 Industrial Strategy – 8 sectors + construction and health
- Get Britain Working White Paper – tackle economic inactivity, 80% employment target. GM Trailblazer “Connect to Work”
- Devolution White Paper – new devolved landscape/Strategic Authorities – joint ownership of the LSIP – shared data/intelligence
- Still unclear how it all works – Local Growth Plans, Local Get Britain Working Plans, Integrated Settlement in GM and Skills England
- LSIPs picked up by Labour and embedded deeper into the structure





GM LSIP

- LSIPs will continue though in a slightly different way
- Funding is being discussed but no agreement – April onwards
- Clarity on everyone's role in this – Skills England etc.
- Continue carrying on the work – skills priorities
- Look at ways to expand to allow for new government priorities and new mechanisms – Foundation Apps, Skills & Growth Levy etc
- Future funding – Spending Review Spring 2025
- Look out for local updates and annual report in June



GMLPN Update



KEY UPDATES

- Thematic Boards
- Ofsted Consultation
- Northern Skills Network



2025 CALENDAR

February

- 6th February | **NSN Conference** | Manchester | 9am-4pm | [Click here to book](#)
- 28th February | **GM Skills Awards – Nomination Deadline!**

March

- 3rd March | **NSN Manifesto Launch** | Online | 10am-11am
- 6th March | **Quality Professional Exchange** | Venue TBC | 1pm-4pm | [Click here to book](#)
- 20th March | **SEND Professional Exchange** | Venue TBC | 9.30am-12.30pm | [Click here to book](#)
- 26th March | **GMLPN Network Meeting** | Salford Community Stadium | 9am-3pm | [Click here to book](#)

April

- 2nd April | **NSN FE Recruitment Roundtable** | Online | 9.30am-11am
- 3rd April | **Safeguarding Professional Exchange** | Venue TBC | 9.30am-12.30pm | [Click here to book](#)
- 24th April | **Mental Health & Wellbeing Professional Exchange** | Venue TBC | 9.30am-12.30pm | [Click here to book](#)

2025 CALENDAR

May

- 8th May | **FE Recruitment & Workforce Professional Exchange** | Venue TBC | 9am-12.30pm | [Click here to book](#)
- 14th May | **Online Member KIT** | Online | 9.30am-11.30am
- 22nd May | **Quality Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm

June

- 5th June | **SEND Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm
- 18th June | **GMLPN Network Meeting** | Venue TBC | 9.00am-3pm
- 26th June | **Safeguarding Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm

July

- 3rd July | **GM Skills Awards Evening 2025** | The Manchester Monastery | PM
- 10th July | **Mental Health & Wellbeing Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm
- 17th July | **FE Recruitment & Workforce Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm

2025 CALENDAR

September

- 17th September | **GMLPN Network Meeting** | Venue TBC | 9am-3pm
- 25th September | **Quality Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm

October

- 22nd October | **Online Member KIT** | Online | 9.30-11.30
- 23rd October | **SEND Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm

November

- 6th November | **FE Recruitment & Workforce Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm
- 20th November | **Safeguarding Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30-12pm

December

- 3rd December | **GMLPN Network Meeting** | Venue TBC | 9am-3pm
- 11th December | **Mental Health & Wellbeing Professional Exchange** | Online | 10.30am-12pm

PROFESSIONAL EXCHANGES

- Quality – 6th March
- SEND – 20th March
- Safeguarding – 3rd April
- Mental Health & Wellbeing – 24th April
- FE Recruitment & Workforce – 8th May

Can you host the F2F meeting?

Recruiting a volunteer chair for 12 months

- To support the development of each group
- To chair the meetings
- Facilitation and admin support by the GMLPN Team

If you are interested – please e-mail charlotte.j@gmlpn.co.uk with an expression of interest (max 300 words) by 14th February

MULTIPLY – IN HOUSE CONSULTANCY

Fully-funded, two-day in-house Maths Consultancy!

Delivered by one of our Maths Consultants,
the two day fully-funded opportunity offers bespoke in-house
consultancy focused on your maths provision and delivery.

[Submit your expression of interest here](#)



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MULTIPLY – GM MATHS AMBASSADOR

Join our GM Maths Ambassador Network and access:

- Professional Exchanges
- Online Toolkit
 - Resources
 - Online Training
- Up to 3 hours 1-1 coaching

[Click here to sign up!](#)



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MULTIPLY – UPCOMING EVENTS

- **GM Maths Ambassador Online Exchange** | 4th Feb | [Click here to book](#)
- **Utilising Coaching and Feedback Techniques for Maths Tutors** | 13th Feb | [Click here to book](#)
- **Setting Robust Maths Objectives Using AI** | 25th Feb | [Click here to book](#)
- **GM Maths Forum - Innovation & Opportunity in Post 16 Maths** | Date TBC | [Click here to register your interest](#)
- **GM Maths Ambassador Exchange** | 21st March | [Click here to book](#)



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LOBBYING – NSN PRIORITIES

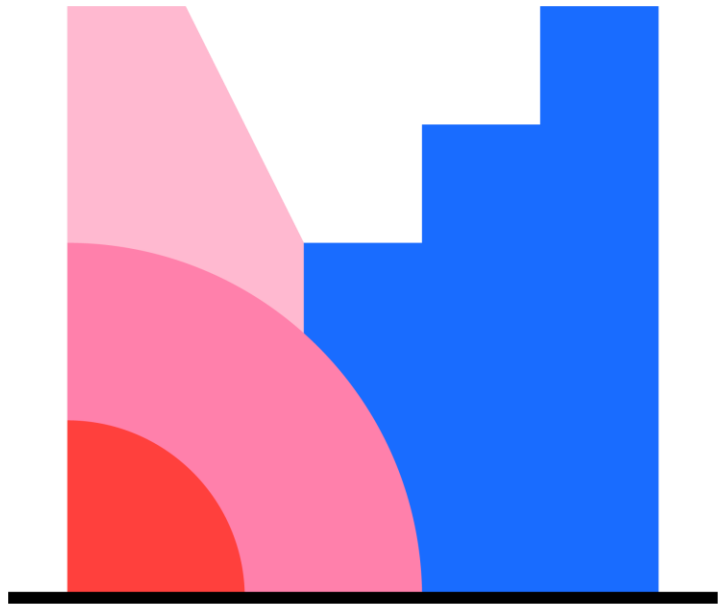


1. Future Skills Landscape – Challenges and Opportunities
2. Protecting the FE Infrastructure - Providers, Provision & the FE Workforce
3. Demand for Skills Across the North – People, Places and Businesses
4. Advocate, Exchange and Meet

LOBBYING – GMLPN PRIORITIES

- FE Recruitment, Retention and Workforce
- Funding Issues
- Functional Skills
- Ofsted Consultation
- Post-16 Sufficiency / NEET Provision
- Anything missing?

YOUR VIEWS



Mentimeter



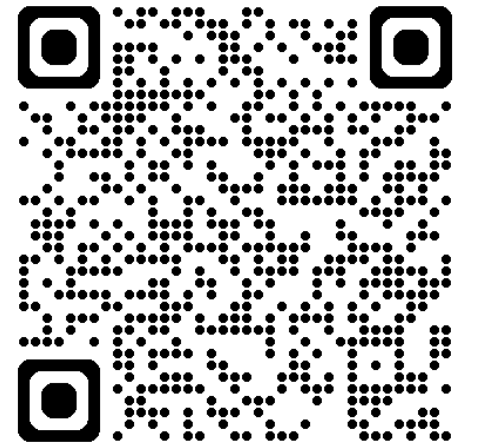
MEMBER CONSULTATION



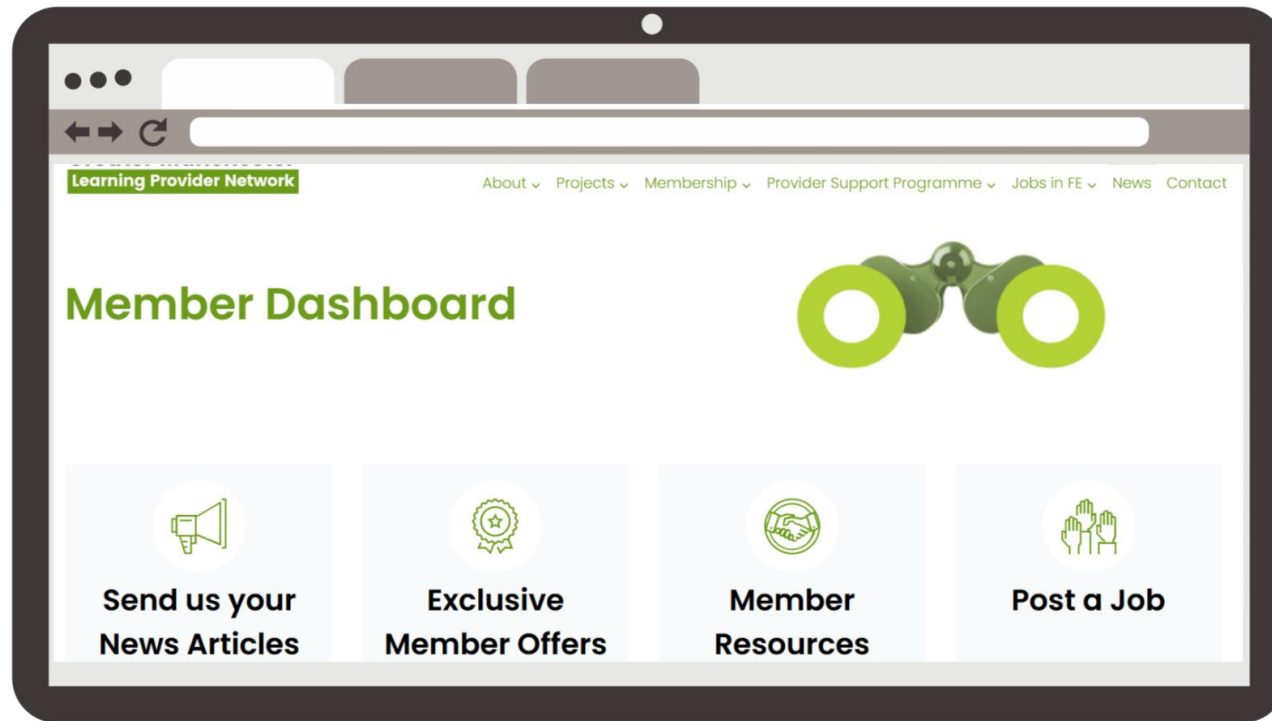
**Deadline extended:
7th Feb 2025**

[Click here to access](#)

Or scan the QR code >>



MEMBER ONLY SECTION



[Click here to create your account](#)

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS



NAW 2025

- National Apprenticeship Week - 10-16 February 2025
- [National Apprenticeship Week 2025, 10 - 16 February 2025](#) has toolkits, resources and logos for members to use
- Events
 - Upload to national event map - [National Apprenticeship Week 2025, 10 - 16 February 2025](#)
 - Promote in GMLPN school bulletin – email matthew.l@gmlpn.co.uk

Essential Work Skills Tender Opportunity

Janine Richardson

Programme Manager | The Growth Company





GMLPN KIT Meeting

ESSENTIAL WORK SKILLS

Wednesday 29th January 2025

growthco.uk

WHAT WE DO



- Empower people
- Make a positive difference
- Stronger together
- Do the right thing
- Build on success

- Enable Growth
- Create Jobs
- Improve Lives



CONTRACT / PROGRAMME CONTEXT

- Commissioned by Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA)
- Sits within Greater Manchester Adult Skills Programme of GMCA's Education, Skills and Work Directorate
- Builds upon previous skills programmes, responding to business and resident needs
- Support residents to acquire a good level of competence in essential work skills and develop occupational competence to progress further in learning and work
- Underpins productivity and growth
- Essential skills - English, Maths, Digital and ESOL



ELIGIBILITY

Businesses

- Trading address in Greater Manchester
- All sizes of registered organisations
- All sectors including VCFSE
- Employees supported – 5 SME, 20 Large / Public Sector

Individuals

- Employed Greater Manchester Resident
- Unpaid work / volunteering with a GM based voluntary organisation
- 19 years +
- ESFA funding eligibility rules apply

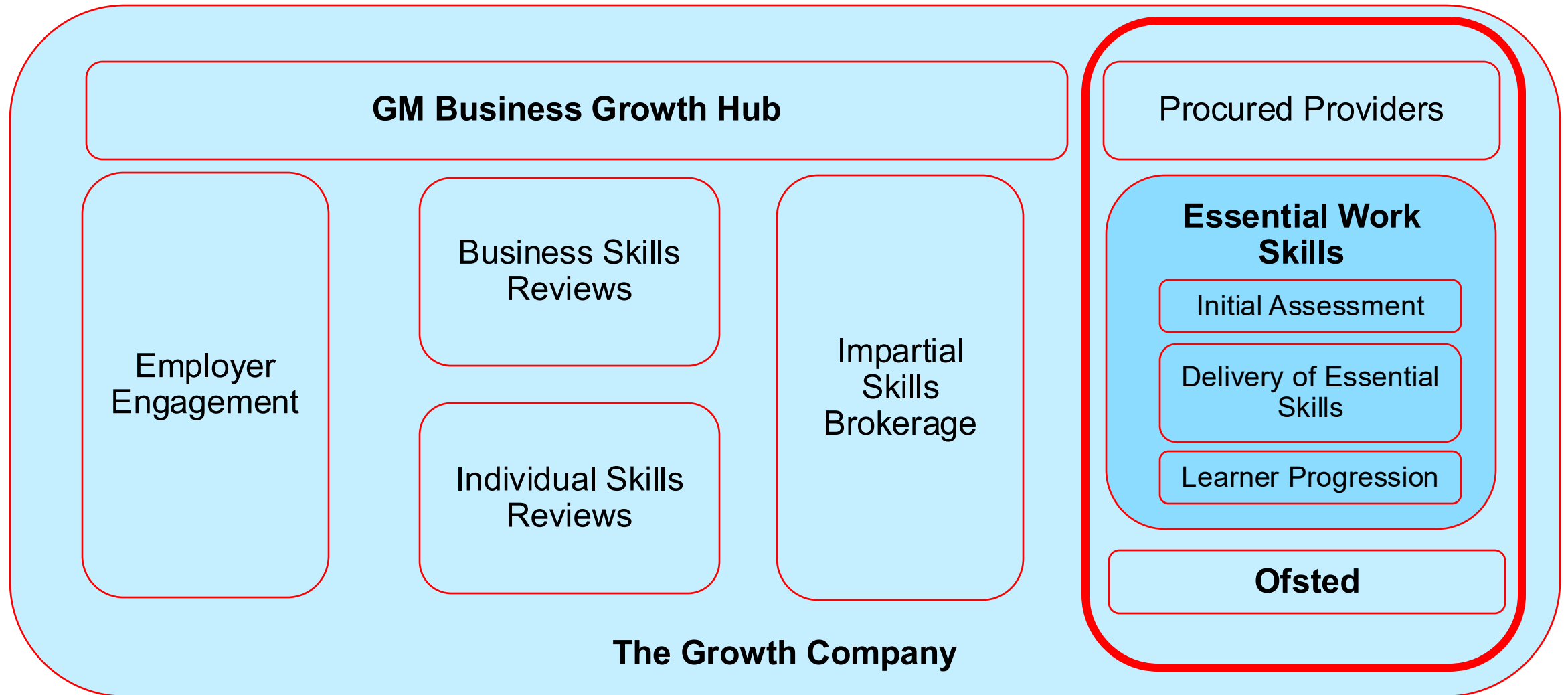


KEY FEATURES

- Business level strategic review of skills requirements
- Support employees across the business -all roles and responsibilities
- Individual skills review aligned to employer skills requirements
- Whole of market skills brokerage
- £2.8 million funding for essential skills



DELIVERY MODEL





ESSENTIAL SKILLS PROVIDER PROCUREMENT

TENDER OPPORTUNITY



DETAILS

Contract Period: Jan 2025 - June 2026

Total Value: £2.8M (including VAT)

Extension: +1+1 basis, subject to funding
GM Skills Map

Delivery of quality essential work skills

Contextualised to sector / workplace needs

Accredited and Non-Regulated learning

Learner wraparound support

Test how skills provision can be delivered to a workforce

Provider Forum



PROCUREMENT / DELIVERY TIMESCALES

Invitation to Tender: 16th January 2025

Supplier's Briefing: 23rd January 2025

Tender Deadline: 17th February 2025

Contract Start Date: 3rd March 2025

Skills Delivery Completed: 31st March 2026

Progressions Claimed: 30th June 2026

Important Note: While The Growth Company (GC) is contracting skills providers through this contract, awarded providers are **not authorised** to subcontract any part of the service delivery.



DELIVERABLES

Funding	Criteria	Funding Amount	Timescales	Claimable frequency
Start	Eligibility met; Essential Skills Initial Assessment completed	£50	Prior to learning commencing.	One Initial Assessment ONLY per individual.
Learning	Non-regulated in Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL & Digital.	£400	Learning must start within 15 working days of referral to Provider	A learner can access all 4 subject areas both accredited and non-regulated but can NOT access 2 accredited or non-regulated courses within the same subject area.
	Accredited in Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL & Digital.	£800		Based on the above principle, a learner can be supported by both Contextualised /Wraparound support for each subject area.
	Contextualised/ in Literacy, Numeracy, ESOL & Digital.	£400		
	Wraparound			
Progression in learning	• Learner progression (onto further learning – additional essential work skills) • Learner progression (onto further learning – other skills provision e.g. apprenticeship, or relevant occupational skills) • Learner progression (increased earnings) • Learner progression (change in job role)	£250	TBC	One progression ONLY per individual.



QUALITY REQUIREMENTS

OFSTED

Providers must have an Ofsted grading which includes Adult Learning provision.

Grading requirements for the provider are:

- Overall grading is outstanding or good
- If overall grading requires improvement, the following criteria applies:
 - 2 core elements must be graded good or outstanding
 - Adult Learning must be good or outstanding
 - No aspect of provision to be inadequate



Full procurement including quality requirements are detailed within the Tender Pack.

The Growth Company Limited Essential Work Skills - Contracts Finder



QUESTIONS

As the Growth Company is in live procurement we can not answer questions relating to the procurement itself instead these can be directed through the Question & Answer Log within the tender portal.

Close

Mark Currie

Chair | GMLPN

