

Solihull is ranked 7th in the top 16 of Professional Services in the West Midlands, by share of total firms.

The sector is expected to rise by 14% in the West Midlands by 2010¹ and as such is the fastest growing sector in the Region.

Professional service firms located in Solihull are well placed to serve both the London and North West markets, boasting a location at the heart of the national communications network.



SUCCESS SO FAR

Economic Picture

- There are currently just under 6,000 employees working in the Business & Professional sector in Solihull and just under 100,000 within the West Midlands.
- The number of 'Business & Professional' workplaces have increased by 25% (2003-2005)
- The number of employees in the sector have increased by 6%² (2003-2005)
- The financial and business services sector is the second largest sector in the West Midlands, with an average output growth of 3.9%

“The area boasts a highly skilled workforce, and its central location has excellent transport systems....indeed the borough is now recognised as an international business location.”

Sydney Mitchell Solicitors



SKILLED FOR SUCCESS

Educational & Research Links

Aston Business School

The school is world class Grade 5 for research excellence and has accreditations for its courses from all the leading professional bodies. All of the School's activities are underpinned by rigorous and relevant research, over 98% of which is rated as internationally recognised or internationally excellent.



“The central location with access to public transport and the major motorway networks provide an ideal location for the business and its valued employees.”

Moneyway




“...contributing factors include the ease of access to the motorway network and other transport systems such as the two rail connections to London and the close location of Birmingham International Airport.”

Arup



Birmingham Business School

The country's first Business School, established in 1902. The School is one of only 15 UK Business Schools to be included in the Financial Times global top 100 MBA rankings, and is also in the global top 50 of the MBA rankings by the Economist Intelligence Unit. In 2004-05 the school MBA was ranked 



the UK's number one programme by the EIU. Several of our programmes have been accredited by the ESRC They undertake projects funded by the Research Councils, major trusts, professional institutions, government departments and the EU.

Warwick Business School

The school teaching is rated 'excellent', and our research has been awarded a 5* rating for international and national excellence. They encourage links with many different clients, resulting in a broad range of corporate and governmental contacts including TNT Express, Lloyds TSB, Fujitsu Service, UBS Investment Bank, Peugeot-Citroën, RBS, HSBC, League Managers Association, AEA Technology, Defence Agency, and National Grid Wireless.

Birmingham College of Law

The College of Law is the largest provider of legal training in Europe and in the past five years alone, has trained over 50,000 lawyers from around the UK and overseas. Voted best LPC provider 2005 for the third year running by Legal Week.

Birmingham City University Business School

The Business School is a major centre for business, computing and management education. It has a strong regional base and a national and international perspective. With over 4,000 students studying on full and part-time courses, it is one of the largest business schools in the UK.



NETWORKED
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Local Networks & Associations

- Birmingham Forward (www.birminghamforward.co.uk) – Membership organisation for the professional, financial and business sector.
- Birmingham Law Society (www.birminghamlawsociety.co.uk) – The largest local law society in the country, representing practices across the West Midlands.
- Coventry First (www.coventryfirst.co.uk) Network of business and professional support services.
- Advised in Birmingham (www.birminghamforward.co.uk/info advised) Promotes the full range of professional, legal and business services available in the area both nationally and internationally.
- Professional Institute Network for the West Midlands (www.pinwm.co.uk) – An informal association of the Region's most influential professional institutes.

¹ Advantage West Midlands 'Professional Business Services' – www.advantagewm.co.uk

² Solihull Annual Business Inquiry Data 2003-2005



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Business & Professional Services