



**Halton Chamber of Commerce & Enterprise**  
Runcorn & Widnes

The Heath Business and Technical Park  
Runcorn  
Cheshire WA7 4QX

Tel: 01928 516142  
Fax: 01928 516144  
[www.haltonchamber.com](http://www.haltonchamber.com)

## NEWS RELEASE

7 May 2009

### **Halton Chamber launches new Women in Business network**

Calling all business women in the Halton area. A new Women in Business network is being launched by Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise on Tuesday 19 May to cater for the region's growing number of women entrepreneurs.

The inaugural event will be held in the Orchard Suite at The Heath Business and Technical Park in Runcorn, from 2pm-4pm, and will offer women a supportive environment to network, learn and promote their business.

Halton Women in Business will be led by local management consultant Janet Gorry, who is managing director of the Halton business transformation company, Business Solutions by JMC. She has many years' experience of working at a senior level in a number of sectors around the North West, and of juggling work and family commitments.

Janet explained: "There has been a massive growth in the number of women entrepreneurs in the last decade. There are currently one million self-employed women in the UK and 14 per cent of small businesses, with employees, are now led by women. This is a substantial share of the workforce."

A recent Business Link survey revealed that 39 per cent of women still feel they need to try harder than men to prove themselves as business leaders, 29 per cent felt bankers do not take them seriously and 54 per cent identified their biggest obstacle was balancing work and family commitments.

"The aim of our network is to create a level playing field, improve access to financial institutions, provide inspirational speakers and host a series of events tailored to the needs of women," added Janet.

The event, which includes afternoon tea, costs £10 but is free to members of Halton Chamber. To reserve a place, email Kerry Newall at [kerryn@haltonchamber.com](mailto:kerryn@haltonchamber.com) or contact Janet Gorry on 01928 513217. Details are also on the Halton Chamber website: [www.haltonchamber.com](http://www.haltonchamber.com)

***Issued by Lynn Pegler,***

***Pegler Communications.***

***Tel: 01928 789042. Mob: 07783 686246. [lynn@peglercommunications.co.uk](mailto:lynn@peglercommunications.co.uk)***