

Midlands Business Networking Organisations

These are not recommendations, but merely suggestions. In some cases, I am a member, in others I know of people who are members. However, there are others where I merely know that the organisation exists.

In each case, you need to be sure that you will get value for money from your membership, that you can meet any obligations (eg to turn up to breakfast every week in some cases) and that you fit in with the people and share the ethos. In particular, ensure that members of the organisation fall within your target market. Any organisation worth joining will allow you to come along as a guest before joining.

National Business Organisations

Name	Website	Clientele	Area
CMI	www.managers.org.uk	Managers	National
IoD	www.iod.com	Directors	National
CBI	www.cbi.org.uk	Employers	National
FSB	www.fsb.org.uk	Small Business	National
Business First Network	http://www.thebfn.co.uk/	Small Business	National

Chambers of Commerce

Name	Website	Clientele	Area
Greater Birmingham	www.birmingham-chamber.com	General	Birmingham, Solihull, etc etc
Black Country	www.blackcountrychamber.co.uk	General	Black Country Towns
Coventry & Warwickshire	www.cw-chamber.co.uk	General	Coventry & Warwickshire
Herefordshire/ Worcestershire	www.hwchamber.co.uk	General	Herefordshire/ Worcestershire
Derbyshire/ Nottinghamshire	www.dncc.co.uk	General	Derbyshire/ Nottinghamshire
Leicestershire	www.chamberofcommerce.co.uk	General	Leicestershire
Staffordshire	http://staffordshirechambers.co.uk	General	Staffordshire
Shropshire	www.shropshire-chamber.co.uk/	General	Shropshire

Local Professional Networking

Name	Website	Clientele	Area
Birmingham Leaders	http://www.birminghamleaders.co.uk	Professional	Birmingham
Birmingham Future	www.birminghamfuture.co.uk	Young Professional	Birmingham
Alliance 4 the Black Country	www.alliance4theblackcountry.co.uk	Professional	Black Country
Future Alliance	www.alliance4theblackcountry.co.uk	Young Professional	Black Country
Birmingham Business Breakfast Club	www.bbbs.biz	Professional	Birmingham
Coventry First	www.coventryfirst.co.uk/	Professional	Coventry
FineST	http://staffordshirechambers.co.uk/professional-services/	Professional	Staffs
PINWM	http://www.pinwm.org/upcoming-events/	Professional	Midlands

National Networking Organisations

Some of these may be operated for profit. Find out – it does not mean that you cannot benefit.

Name	Website	Clientele	Area
BOB	www.bobclubs.com	General	National
BNI	www.bni-europe.com/uk	General	National
BRX	www.brxnet.co.uk	General	National
4 Networking	www.4networking.biz	General	National
NRG	www.nrg-networks.com	Professional	National
Business Biscotti	http://www.businessbiscotti.co.uk/	General	National

Other Organisations/Events

Brummies Networking	http://brummies-networking.co.uk/	General	Birmingham
Telford Business Partnership	www.telfordbusiness.org	General	Telford
Aston Business Network	http://www.aston.ac.uk/aston-business-school/events/aston-business-network	General	Open
Halesowen College	www.halesowen.ac.uk/	General	Open
Quality Solicitors Talbots	http://www.qualitysolicitors.com/talbots/stourbridge-breakfast-club	Professional	Open
Else Solicitors	http://www.elselaw.co.uk/events/	Professional	Open
Dudley & District BC	http://www.ddbc.co.uk/	General	Dudley
Insider	http://www.insidermedia.com/midlands	General	Open
Find it in Birmingham	www.finditinbirmingham.com	General	Birmingham
CherryPick	http://www.cherrypickdirectory.com/	Licensing Trade Suppliers	Open
Find it in Worcestershire	http://www.finditinworcestershire.com/	General	Worcestershire
No Frills	http://www.nofrillsnetworking.com/	General	Stourbridge
St Pauls Club	http://www.stpaulsclub.co.uk/events.html	Professional	Open
Network Villa	http://www.avhe.co.uk/business-networking-villa	General	Open
Blues Network	http://www.bcfc.com/corporate/events/	General	Open

If you know of any other networking organisations in the area, please email enquiries@iwanthomasassociates.co.uk.

This note is written as a general guide only, and is not applicable to every firm or circumstance. It should not be relied upon as a substitute for specific business advice.

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