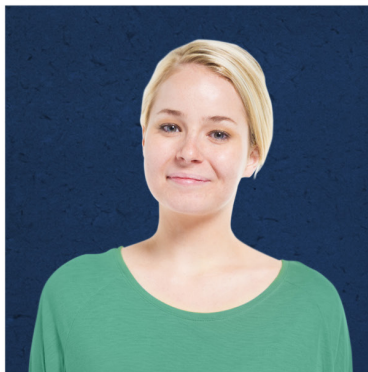




SFEDI DIRECTORY

Statement of Support

SFEDI® DIRECTORY



"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much"

Helen Keller

Foreword



We are delighted that you have decided to support the establishment of the national directory of accredited business and enterprise support professionals.

With 99.9% of the UK made up of micro, small and medium sized businesses contributing £24 billion to the UK economy it has never been more important to link businesses with experienced and high quality business and enterprise support professionals.

Access to high quality accredited business and enterprise support can contribute to the drive towards a more competitive enterprise landscape with increased employment opportunities, improved productivity and, ultimately, greater prosperity locally, regionally and nationally.

The SFEDI Directory is the complete solution for accessing verified and accredited business and enterprise support professionals supporting the development and growth of business to provide the bedrock of a truly entrepreneurial culture and economy.

Regards

Ruth Lowbridge

Ruth Lowbridge
Executive Chair
SFEDI Group

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TEAMWORK



MANAGEMENT



PLANNING



STRATEGY



VISION



Meet SFEDI

Passionate about what we do, SFEDI are the experts in business and enterprise support having supported businesses to start, survive and grow since 1996.

For almost two decades, the Small Firms Enterprise Development Initiative (SFEDI) has engaged with key enterprise stakeholders, supporters, employers and the self-employed to improve their involvement in developing skills.

We have consistently consulted with a broad range of organisations within the sector to make best use of their advice and contributions in researching and developing sectoral skills solutions and policy recommendations.

Our combined experiences have provided the team with in-depth knowledge and understanding of the people development needs of businesses and the requirements of learning and skills support initiatives that seek to achieve public policy objectives.

Guided by our Advisory Council, comprised of representatives from the major national membership and representative organisations for enterprise and enterprise support, we ensure that all of the enterprise solutions we provide are best placed and formulated to deliver the highest impact.

SFEDI has played major roles in national and international projects, including:

- **Get Mentoring** – a £1.8million project to recruit and train 15,000 volunteer business mentors
- **Small Business Finance Taskforce mentoring strand** – developing and delivering a training and accreditation programme for 100 volunteer business mentors from the banking industry
- **Leonardo Project** – leading on a project to create standards, training and support materials for community based business advisers in Germany, Portugal, Spain and the Czech Republic

And what's next ...

The SFEDI Directory, working with you to support the development and growth of business to provide the bedrock of a truly entrepreneurial culture and economy.



Statement of Support

“Associate yourself with people of good quality, for it is better to be alone than in bad company”

Booker T. Washington

By signing this Statement of Endorsement your organisation declares its belief in:

- The need for the provision of verified and accredited business and enterprise support professionals for the growth and prosperity of business and UK PLC
- The part verified and accredited business and enterprise support plays in the increased employment opportunities, improved productivity and, ultimately, greater prosperity locally, regionally and nationally
- The need for an easy to use and free national resource available for use by business and enterprise support organisations and business owners alike
- The need for the verification and accreditation of business and enterprise support professionals underpinned by robust quality assurance processes
- The need for business and enterprise support professionals to update their knowledge and skills through meaningful Continuous Professional Development activities

Name of Organisation

Name of Signature (printed)

Signature

Date



"When you transfer knowledge to someone, you're not giving them everything but rather a foundation to build upon and to make greater"

Terry Mark

SFEDI® DIRECTORY

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