

The Leader Programme

Develop your
leadership skills

Part of the Invest Northern Ireland
Leadership Experience

Transform : Perform : Achieve

investni.com



The Leader Programme aims to develop leadership capabilities to improve productivity in Northern Ireland businesses. The programme will enhance a business leader's performance and help them to realise the potential in their business.

Who should apply?

Leaders (MD/Owner-Manager/CE) who can demonstrate:

- A clear strategic need and willingness to make changes
- Commitment and time available
- Turnover ideally greater than £1 million
- A history of profitable trading
- Existing robust business model

This programme is open to companies that are currently customers of Invest NI.

Why should you apply?

- Are you drawn into operational activities when you need to focus on setting the direction for your business?
- Do you need to build a more professional company structure to grow your business internationally?
- Are you the founder or driving force of the firm?
- Do you now need to take on an enhanced leadership role to support company expansion?
- Has your business grown rapidly but you haven't had the time to focus on setting up processes that support growth?
- Do you sometimes feel isolated in your role as the leader of the business?

This programme will help you:

- Identify the key barriers to growing your business
- Develop a practical action plan to address key business issues and plan for growth
- Better understand your leadership style and how to realise your team's potential
- Develop logical, clear thinking to make informed decisions
- Benefit from peer to peer shared learning
- Access the latest leadership thinking from experts and guest speakers

Programme Structure

Business Mentoring

Experienced entrepreneurs and business owners will provide business mentoring. The mentor will act as your sounding board, challenge you and offer practical advice and support throughout the programme.

Leadership Coaching

Accredited and experienced leadership coaches will provide coaching. The coach will strengthen your leadership characteristics and attributes within the context of your ambitions for your company.

Shared Learning through Peer Networks

This will bring together participants in a group to discuss and share their experiences of leadership and business issues.

Timeline

The programme runs each year from March to December.

Feedback on the 2013 programme

“My advice to anyone that runs a SME and is thinking about joining the Invest NI Leader Programme would be to stop thinking and go and do it. I could not recommend it highly enough!”

*Conor McElmeel, Managing Director,
McElmeel Mobility Services*

“Before I started The Leader Programme I never actually gave myself space to think of myself as a leader and what that actually involved, but through the coaching and mentoring I feel more confident and see the value I can add by taking a step back and focusing more on the business.”

*Oscar Wooley, Managing Director,
Suki Tea*

“I think when you are in business you don't actually take the time to reflect on what you do. One of the values of this programme is that you are actually getting time to reflect on your business practices. I have found the networking hugely valuable. Each company may be from different backgrounds but we have found that we have the same challenges...it makes you feel part of something.”

*Alison Stevenson, Managing Director,
Maurice Stevenson Ltd*

“The Leader Programme has been overwhelmingly a great investment in time and money. I have completely changed my perspective of what good leadership involves. I am more focused on getting the best from my people and understand the impact they generate for the business. I have developed greater confidence and am much more focused on ensuring communication throughout the organisation and with our customers is effective...furthermore I can see a range of tangible business results that I feel I can attribute to this.”

*Paul Lyness, Managing Director,
PIP Security*

“The Leader Programme is everything you need it to be and more. It has undoubtedly helped me grow as a leader and in turn will grow my business to where I want it to go.”

*Gareth Loye, CEO, M & M
Contractors*

Participation on this programme is subject to a competitive process. For an application form please contact Grainne McCurry

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