

# MANUFACTURING PRIORITIES

## FOR THE NEXT MAYOR OF THE EAST MIDLANDS

The East Midlands manufacturing sector accounts for

£19 BILLION OF OUTPUT



Providing 265,000 JOBS

AVERAGE WAGES 21% HIGHER



than the rest of the economy in the region

1.

**Support the ever growing industrial diversification** of the region through policies which allow the transformation of the manufacturing sector to take advantage of the vibrant new and emerging industries throughout the East Midlands, embracing Net Zero, digitalisation and upskilling employees.

2.

**Upgrade transportation networks** such as roads and public transit by utilising local industry to deliver this. The quality of infrastructure can be a large barrier to accessing labour and skills, the lifeblood of the manufacturing sector. As well as this manufacturers more than other make use of road and rail networks for logistical purposes.

3.

Support manufacturers in the region to **deliver the jobs of the future** through the development of regional skills programmes and incentivise employers. These initiatives provide manufacturers with the skills they need and can launch the career of students in a high paying exciting sector.

# MANUFACTURING IN THE EAST MIDLANDS

FOOD & DRINK **19.1%**

TRANSPORT EQUIPMENT **14.6%**

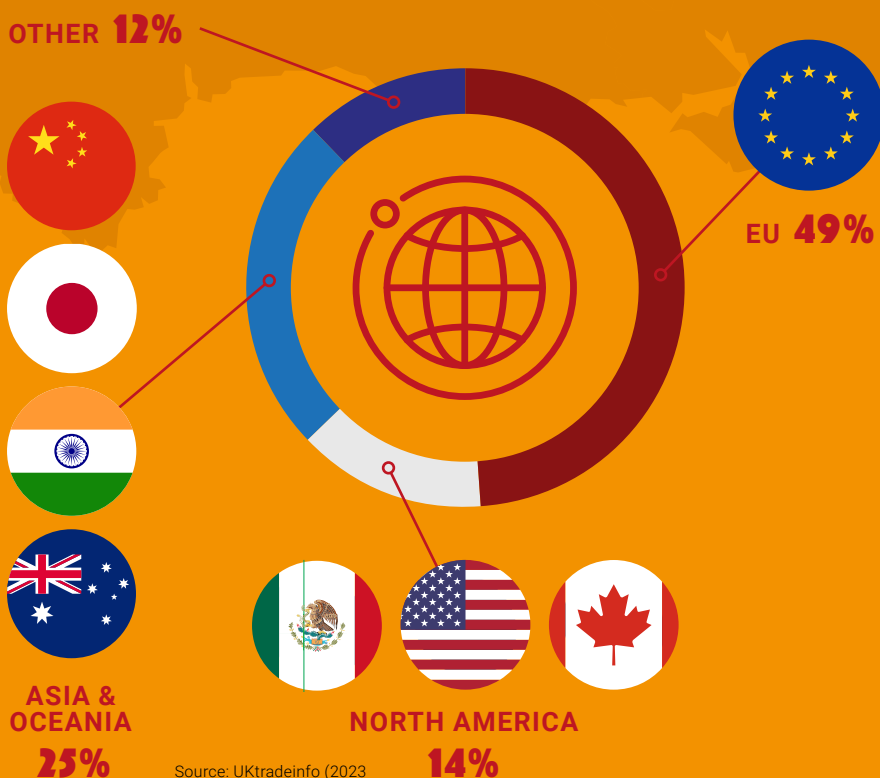
RUBBER & PLASTICS **11.5%**

OTHER  
MANUFACTURING\*  
**54.7%**

\*The sum of subsectors not included in the top 3

Source: ONS (2023)

## WHERE EAST MIDLANDS EXPORTS GO



MANUFACTURING  
ACCOUNTS FOR  
**16%**  
OF THE EAST MIDLAND'S  
TOTAL OUTPUT

THE EAST MIDLAND'S  
OVERALL  
PRODUCTIVITY  
IS THE  
**9<sup>TH</sup> BEST**  
IN THE UK AT  
**91.6%**

# WHERE MANUFACTURERS IN THE EAST MIDLANDS ARE PLANNING TO INVEST IN THE NEXT 12 MONTHS



**1. EXPANSION OF PRODUCTION CAPACITY AND IMPROVED PRODUCTIVITY**  
(BY ADOPTING AUTOMATION AND DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY)



**2. RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**



**3. EXISTING WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING**

# WHERE MANUFACTURERS IN THE EAST MIDLANDS SEE THE BIGGEST NEW MARKET OPPORTUNITIES OVER THE NEXT DECADE



**1. SUSTAINABLE AND ECO-FRIENDLY PRODUCTS**



**3. ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE AND MACHINE LEARNING APPLICATIONS**

**2. RENEWABLE ENERGY TECHNOLOGY**  
(SUCH AS WIND, HYDROGEN, NUCLEAR, JET ZERO)



# CHRIS CORKAN, MAKE UK REGION DIRECTOR – MIDLANDS AND EAST OF ENGLAND

Manufacturing has always had a crucial presence in the economy of the East Midlands and it's vital that the future Mayor continues to build on the region's strength.

Manufacturers in the East Midlands can continue to drive growth through creating well paid, skilled jobs and it is vital that future opportunities provided through the shift to net zero are taken. Building upon this, the Mayor must ensure that the regional infrastructure and skill programmes are improved upon, as these are essential for providing manufacturers with the skills they need to take advantage of emerging industries throughout the East Midlands.

I look forward to working with the Mayor to ensure a successful partnership can be built and that provides a long-term vision with manufacturing continuing to be at the heart of it.



**Christopher Corkan**

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Make UK is backing manufacturing – helping our sector to engineer a digital, global and green future. From the first industrial revolution to the emergence of the fourth, the manufacturing sector has been the UK's economic engine and the world's workshop.

The manufacturers we represent employ 1.2 million people who have created the new technologies of today and are designing the innovations of tomorrow. By investing in their people, they continue to compete on a global stage, providing the solutions to the world's biggest challenges.

Together, manufacturing is changing, adapting and transforming to meet the future needs of the UK economy. A forward-thinking, bold and versatile sector, manufacturers are engineering their own future.

[makeuk.org](https://makeuk.org)

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