Grant Thornton

Cheshire LTD.

2026

CHESHIRE LTD.

Contents

CHESHIRE LTD.

Foreword

This year's Cheshire LTD. report captures a county combining long-standing economic strength with renewed momentum across investment, regeneration and private enterprise.

The headline figures tell a compelling story. Cheshire's Top 100 privately owned businesses generated combined turnover of £29.4 billion, with EBITDA reaching £2.1 billion and employment rising by 6.2% across the county. Turnover increased by 9.6% alongside continued improvements in profitability and scale, reflecting strong trading conditions and businesses making confident investment choices. Taken together, these results reinforce Cheshire's position as one of the North West's most commercially significant and diverse private-company landscapes.

What sits behind these figures is a county benefiting from sustained investment, strong connectivity and a clear pipeline of regeneration activity. Major programmes across Crewe, Chester and Warrington continue to reshape commercial space and town centres, supporting business growth and long-term confidence. Alongside this, the ongoing development of innovation-led employment sites - including the Cheshire Science Corridor and Alderley Park - is supporting high-value activity and skilled jobs. Cheshire's proximity to key logistics routes and international gateways further strengthens its appeal as a base for businesses operating across the UK and beyond.

These developments are more than regional milestones. They are practical enablers, shaping how businesses plan, invest and grow. Improved infrastructure, continued regeneration and access to talent are directly influencing the operating environment for Cheshire's private companies - creating the conditions for resilience today and opportunity tomorrow.

Above all, this year's Cheshire LTD. celebrates the businesses themselves. The companies featured in this report demonstrate ambition, adaptability and scale - through investment in people and technology, expansion into new markets, and commitment to building sustainable, future-focused organisations. Their contribution supports jobs, supply chains and communities across the county, and continues to shape Cheshire's economic narrative.

Congratulations to all those featured. Your achievements are central to the county's success and confidence for the future.

Gareth Hitchmough
Partner, Co-head of
Entrepreneurial and SME Services
Grant Thornton UK

CHESHIRE LTD.

About

We are excited to launch the first edition of Cheshire LTD, as part of an annual series of business analysis by UK county which seeks to highlight and celebrate some of the county's most successful, privately owned businesses, and provide them with the recognition they deserve for their contribution to the region and wider UK economy.

We begin this report by reviewing the county's 100 largest privately owned companies, based upon turnover, providing an insight into the scale of Cheshire's privately owned and PE backed business community. The report also showcases the 25 fastest-growing companies in the county with the highest EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation) CAGR (Compound Annual Growth Rate) percentage growth (over a 3-year period).

During the research process, it was identified that Altrincham and parts of Stockport, previously classified within the Cheshire region, are now recognised as part of Greater Manchester and have therefore been excluded from this report.

The analysis is based on businesses with registered addresses within the post-1974 Cheshire county boundary.

Our methodology explained

Cheshire LTD 2026 is compiled using the most recent publicly available accounts (as of 3rd March 2026) of Cheshire's private businesses.

The report excludes companies that are listed, owned by listed businesses, schools, trusts, charities, and businesses that are subsidiaries of overseas companies. We have also compared our data with prior year results to provide an insight into economic trends across sectors.

Inevitably, there is an unavoidable time delay between the availability of data utilised and the ultimate presentation of this report, alongside differing year-ends to consider.

At a glance

Turnover range
£46m - £4.6bn

Turnover
£29.4bn

EBITDA
£2.1bn

Fixed assets
£7.3bn

Long-term debt
£11bn

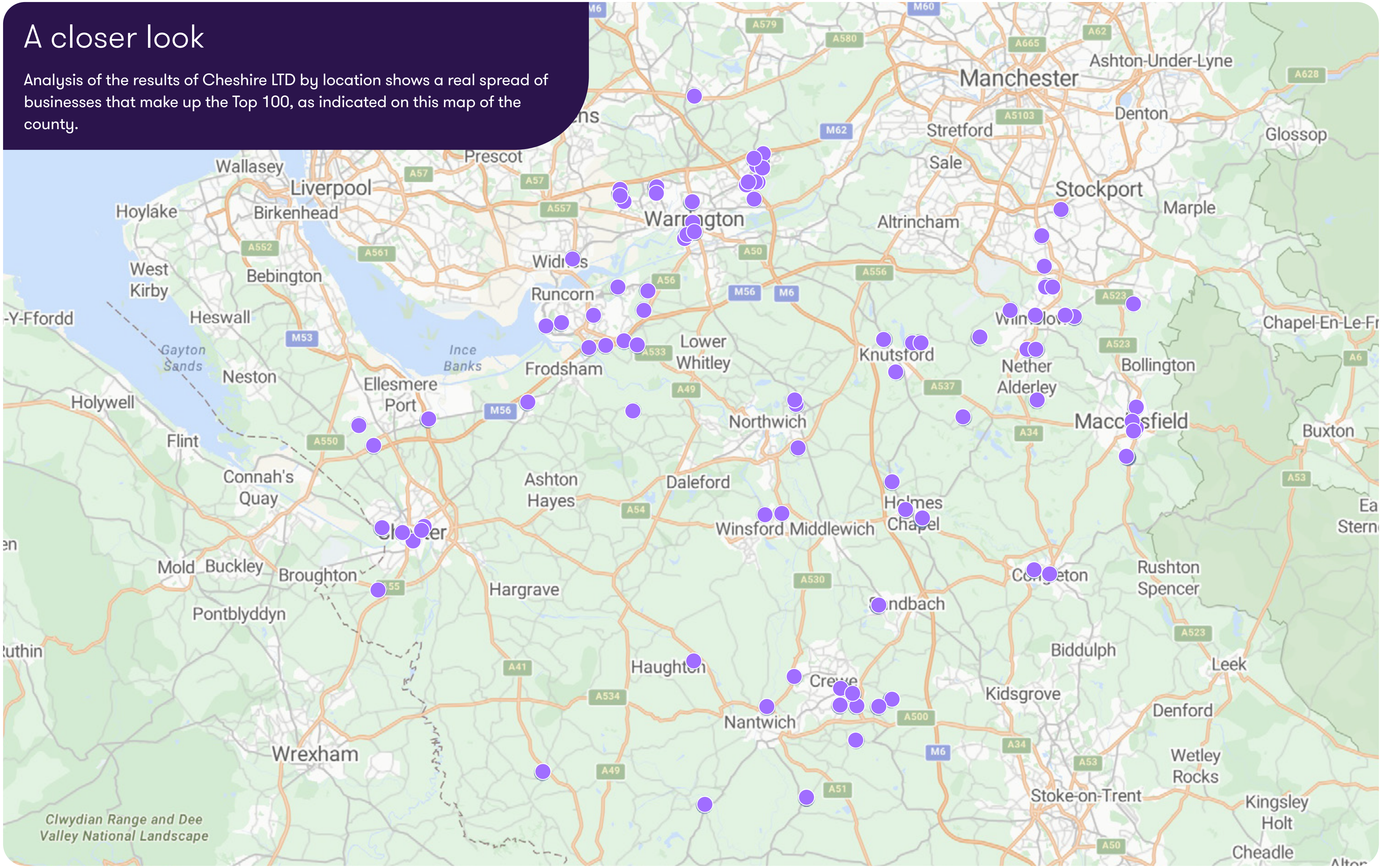
Shareholder funds
£6.8bn

Employees
98,755

Average salary
£43.8k

A closer look

Analysis of the results of Cheshire LTD by location shows a real spread of businesses that make up the Top 100, as indicated on this map of the county.



CHESHIRE LTD.

Case studies

"At Radius, we have always approached growth with an entrepreneurial mindset and a strong focus on innovation. Founded in Cheshire in 1990 from a small local office providing fuel for transport companies, we have grown into a global, technology-enabled organisation supporting customers across telematics, vehicle leasing, EVs, energy solutions, telecoms, insurance, and business payments. Today, we employ over 3,000 team members across 50 offices in 19 countries, serving more than 470,000 customers worldwide. While the business now operates on a global scale, its modern headquarters in Crewe remain at the heart of Radius's operations and continued growth.

A major part of our growth has come from staying close to our customers and continuously adapting to how businesses operate in an increasingly connected and fast-moving world. We operate in markets that are constantly evolving, and our ability to respond quickly, invest in technology, and simplify complexity for customers has been critical to our success. Across every area of the business, we help organisations drive cost savings, efficiency, connectivity, and convenience.

Technology, data, and digital platforms are now central to the way we operate globally. From connected mobility and telematics to digital payment solutions and customer platforms, innovation drives both operational efficiency and customer experience. As emerging technologies continue to reshape industries, we see AI and automation playing an increasingly important role in helping businesses make smarter decisions, improve efficiency, and create more personalised customer experiences. Like many organisations, integrating these technologies brings challenges around scale, adoption, and ensuring the human experience remains central to decision-making.

Our people remain central to that journey. Earlier this year, Radius was recognised for the second consecutive year as one of The Sunday Times Best Places to Work in Great Britain, reflecting the culture, ambition, and collaborative mindset that continue to drive the business forward across every market we operate in. Cheshire has been an important part of the Radius story. The region combines strong business heritage, entrepreneurial ambition, and access to talented people, creating an environment where businesses can grow internationally while remaining connected to their roots.

Looking ahead, our ambition remains focused on sustainable international growth, continued investment in technology and people, and creating connected solutions that help customers navigate an increasingly complex and fast-moving global market."

Lee Everett
Group Chief Executive Officer, Radius

Case studies

"Cheshire has played a central role in our journey from the very beginning. Since founding RSK in 1989 and establishing our headquarters in Helsby soon after, the region has remained our home. It is where many of our people are based and where strong relationships with our businesses and clients continue to grow. For me, Cheshire is not just our history - it is a vital part of our present and future, and it will remain integral to the RSK story for many years to come.

RSK Group is a global leader in environmental and engineering services and I'm proud our long-term ambition is rooted in doing the right thing and building a business that people genuinely want to be part of. By staying true to these values, I believe we can become the world's largest and most trusted provider of sustainable solutions. We deliver these through pragmatic, technical expertise that helps our clients tackle complex environmental and infrastructure challenges, aligned with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

Today, we employ over 17,000 people across more than 200 businesses in 40 countries, working at the forefront of major global challenges such as environmental resilience, energy transition and sustainable resource management. I'm continually inspired by the talent across our teams and the impact they are making every day. With innovation at the heart of our strategy - including the use of digital tools, advanced modelling and AI - we are well positioned to keep evolving, strengthening our offering and continue delivering solutions that make a real difference in the world."

Dr Alan Ryder
Chief Executive, RSK

Case studies

"Cheshire is a key location for us at THOR because it brings together a strong chemical manufacturing heritage, deep technical capabilities, and the infrastructure needed to support high-quality, reliable production. It has long been home to THOR UK, first through our site in Cheadle, before moving to Wincham in 2001. Our Group headquarters were also moved to Wincham in 2011. Being based here allows us to access skilled people and a robust supply network, which underpins everything we do.

At THOR, innovation is in our DNA. Our founder Desmond Cowley started selling bactericide for the paint markets in 1959 in Crayford, south-east London. As the business took off, THOR expanded across the world, first setting up in South Africa, Germany, Australia, and the Far East. Desmond's ingenuity, coupled with his commitment to creating lasting solutions that enable the extraordinary, has led us to today employing approximately 1,800 colleagues, from 19 entities around the world.

There's no one-size-fits-all solution in chemistry, and our approach to innovation is driven by ever-changing customer and regulatory demands. Our longest-serving speciality, the protection and preservation of paints from microbial contamination, has seen a huge shift from generic chemistries towards targeted, application-led solutions. Our portfolio of Acticide® biocides can today meet the demands of numerous industrial sectors from adhesives and sealants, polymer emulsions, construction materials, agriculture, and more. This approach extends across our wider business units, from our Microcare® Personal Care Solutions to our Aflammit® Flame Retardants, where reliability, compliance, and targeted performance are critical to customer outcomes. New innovations like our Amaval® multifunctional additives allow us to simplify chemical formulations, thereby saving time, energy, and costs. By anticipating these shifts early and investing in our technical capabilities, we strengthen long-term relationships and deliver consistent, scalable growth.

The fundamentals of the chemical industry have shifted. Where access to raw materials and energy once defined competitiveness, today the pressure is on efficiency, precision, and control. We focus our investment on process capability, product consistency, and technical expertise across our operations. Technology plays a key role, but always with a clear purpose: to deliver reliable outcomes at scale while maintaining the highest standards of safety and quality.

Looking ahead, our sector is undergoing structural change, shaped by decarbonisation, regulation, and evolving customer expectations. For us, we see sustainability as integral to product function. Extending product life, reducing waste, and ensuring compliance are central to what we deliver. At the same time, our operations continue to evolve to meet higher environmental and safety standards. Our approach is measured. Growth must be sustainable, resilient, and aligned with long-term industry direction."

Philip McDonald
Group CFO, THOR Speciality Chemicals

CHESHIRE LTD.

Top 100 companies

Our Top 100 list is compiled using turnover from the most recent publicly available accounts as of 3 March 2026 and is based on those businesses which are both owned and managed within the county.

01 - 20

01 RADIUS LIMITED *(Radius)*
02 AUSURUS GROUP LTD *(Emr Group)*
03 RSK GROUP LIMITED *(RSK)*
04 SWANSWAY GROUP LIMITED *(Swansway Motor Group)*
05 BETFRED GROUP LIMITED *(Betfred)*
06 TOGETHER FINANCIAL SERVICES LIMITED *(Together Money)*
07 UNITED INFRASTRUCTURE LIMITED *(United Living)*
08 PARASOL GROUP LIMITED *(Parasol)*
09 FF MEADOWTOPCO LIMITED *(Meadow Foods)*
10 TATO HOLDINGS LIMITED *(THOR)*
11 L. ROWLAND & COMPANY (RETAIL) LIMITED *(Rowlands Pharmacy)*
12 CLOUD UMBRELLA LIMITED *(Umbrella.co.uk)*
13 LISTRAC BIDCO LIMITED *(Lifeways)*
14 ALPLA UK LIMITED *(Alpla)*
15 EMERSON DEVELOPMENTS (HOLDINGS) LIMITED *(The Emerson Group)*
16 HCRG CARE SERVICES LTD *(Virgin Care)*
17 COUNTY MILK PRODUCTS LIMITED *(County Milk Products)*
18 WAIN HOMES LIMITED *(Wain Homes)*
19 THE FAYREFIELD GROUP LIMITED *(Fayrefield)*
20 VITA GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Vita Group)*

21 - 40

21 SYKES SEAFOOD HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Sykes Seafood)*
22 NORWEST FOODS INTERNATIONAL GROUP LIMITED *(Norwest Foods International Ltd)*
23 NORKEM HOLDINGS PLC *(Norkem)*
24 MORRIS HOMES LIMITED *(Morris Homes)*
25 AGRI FOOD HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Mornflake)*
26 WHISTLER TOPCO LIMITED *(WHP Telecoms Ltd)*
27 ENRICHMENT TECHNOLOGY COMPANY LIMITED *(Enrichment Technology Company)*
28 AGRI FEED HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Oakes Millers Ltd)*
29 VIP (GROUP) LIMITED *(VIP Computers)*
30 THE DELIVERY GROUP LIMITED *(The Delivery Group)*
31 BRIDGEMERE UK LIMITED *(Bridgemere UK)*
32 JSSH LIMITED *(SHS Estates)*
33 MGH CORPORATION LIMITED *(Heler Foods)*
34 IN VINO LIMITED *(Boutinot International)*
35 HALL & PICKLES 1812 LIMITED *(Hall & Pickles)*
36 HALLIWELL JONES (WARRINGTON) LIMITED *(Halliwell Jones Warrington)*
37 BRITISH ENGINEERING SERVICES TOPCO 1 LIMITED *(BES Group (British Engineering Services))*
38 ALLIANCE DISPOSABLES LIMITED *(Alliance National)*
39 2M GROUP LIMITED *(2M)*
40 MASSEY BROS (FEEDS) LTD. *(Massey Feeds)*

41 - 60

41 CALDER GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Calder Group)*
42 FIRST TECHNICAL RECRUITMENT LIMITED *(First Recruitment Group)*
43 STERLING 2000 GROUP LIMITED *(Sterling)*
44 FORDS CHESHIRE LIMITED *(FOW)*
45 FORETWO GROUP LIMITED *(Fore:Two Group)*
46 SAFEGUARD WORLD INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Safeguard Global)*
47 TANDOM METALLURGICAL GROUP LIMITED *(Tandom)*
48 INTERNATIONAL LEISURE GROUP LIMITED *(American Golf)*
49 SYKES COTTAGES LTD *(Sykes Cottages)*
50 MARCH MIDCO LIMITED *(March Engineering)*
51 MTX CONTRACTS LIMITED *(MTX)*
52 BLUESTONES INVESTMENT GROUP LIMITED *(Bluestones Group)*
53 OTP HOLDINGS LTD *(Exchequer Contracts)*
54 TRAVCORP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Destination2)*
55 RYMAN GROUP LIMITED *(Ryman)*
56 ASM TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED *(asm)*
57 KELLEN HOMES HOLDCO LIMITED *(Kellen Homes)*
58 TIGER TRAILERS LIMITED *(Tiger Trailers)*
59 BOLLIN GROUP LIMITED *(Bollin Group)*
60 ADVISER SERVICES HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Lync Wealth Management)*

CHESHIRE LTD.

Top 100 companies

61 - 80

61 FORRESTERS GROUP LIMITED *(Forresters Farmshop)*
62 THE BEAUTY TECH GROUP TRADING LIMITED** *(Currentbody)*
63 G&J DISTILLERS LTD. *(Quintessential Brands)*
64 HOLLAND GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Spinney)*
65 ARNE CLO LTD *(ARNE)*
66 WE CONTRACTING LTD *(We Contract)*
67 SUPERBIKE FACTORY GROUP LIMITED *(Superbike Factory)*
68 WS SPECIALIST LOGISTICS LIMITED *(WS Transportation)*
69 CHRYSTAL HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Chrystal Medical)*
70 PRESTONS GROUP LIMITED *(Prestons Diamonds)*
71 RUNCORN MCP LIMITED *(Vyonva Group)*
72 MITCHELL NORTH WEST LIMITED *(Mitchell Group)*
73 BIG FISH GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Bigfish)*
74 BLISS NEWCO LIMITED *(Inspiring Travel)*
75 MCGEARY HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Blue Group)*
76 IAN EDGAR (LIVERPOOL) LIMITED *(Edgar Brothers)*
77 CHRISTOPHER TOPCO LIMITED *(New World Trading Company)*
78 EGERTONS HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Egertons)*
79 PHD INDUSTRIAL HOLDINGS LIMITED *(PHD Industrial Holdings)*
80 MILLB 2018 LTD *(Millbank)*

81 - 100

81 SPEEDY FREIGHT HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Speedy Freight)*
82 PAM HEALTHCARE LIMITED *(PAM Group)*
83 ZUTO HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Zuto)*
84 MERCIAN LIMITED *(Mercian)*
85 SEDDON HOMES LIMITED *(Seddon Homes)*
86 ENGENDA GROUP LIMITED *(Engenda Group)*
87 BENTWORTH HOLDINGS LIMITED *(E.Park & Sons)*
88 BUTTERCUP TOPCO LIMITED *(The Alchemist)*
89 FRANK ARMITT & SON LIMITED *(Armitt)*
90 PIONEER DESIGN AND BUILD LIMITED *(Pioneer)*
91 BARLOWS (U.K.) LIMITED *(Barlows)*
92 LEAP29 HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Leap29)*
93 HHT DEVELOPMENT LIMITED *(Halton Homes)*
94 J. S BAILEY LIMITED *(J.S Bailey)*
95 IN TOUCH WITH BRICKS LIMITED *(In Touch With Bricks)*
96 ROWLINSON CONSOLIDATED LTD *(Rowlinson Packaging)*
97 CLD GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED *(CLD)*
98 EA TECHNOLOGY LIMITED *(EA Technology)*
99 TOTAL FITNESS HEALTH CLUBS GROUP LIMITED *(Total Fitness)*
100 CHESS LIMITED *(Chess)*

**The Beauty Tech Group Trading Limited listed on the main market of the London Stock Exchange in October 2025, and is now known as The Beauty Tech Group plc.

CHESHIRE LTD.

Sector breakdown

Consumer | Manufacturing and industrial | Business support services | Real estate and construction | Private healthcare | Technology, media and telecomms | Financial services

Consumer

Turnover range
£48.5m - £0.6bn

Turnover	**£5bn**
EBITDA	**£225.3m**
Fixed assets	**£1.4bn**
Employees	**17,538**
Average salary	**£34k**

33 **Total companies**

- 15 Food and beverage
- 11 Other
- 5 Retail
- 2 Leisure

Manufacturing and industrial

Turnover range
£46.1m - £4.6bn

Turnover	**£14.4bn**
EBITDA	**£525.5m**
Fixed assets	**£2.3bn**
Employees	**29,738**
Average salary	**£50k**

22 **Total companies**

- 6 Automotive
- 6 Other
- 4 Energy and environment
- 2 Manufacturing
- 3 Oil and gas
- 1 Mining

Sector breakdown

Consumer | Manufacturing and industrial | Business support services | Real estate and construction | Private healthcare | Technology, media and telecomms | Financial services

Business support services

Turnover range
£52.2m - £0.9bn

Turnover	£3.5bn
EBITDA	£94.7m
Fixed assets	£143.9m
Employees	29,366
Average salary	£41k

21 Total companies

- 17 Business support services
- 4 Recruitment

Real estate and construction

Turnover range
£51.1m - £0.7bn

Turnover	£2.5bn
EBITDA	£265.8m
Fixed assets	£2.4bn
Employees	6,108
Average salary	£46k

14 Total companies

- 8 Construction
- 6 Real estate

Sector breakdown

Consumer | Manufacturing and industrial | Business support services | Real estate and construction | Private healthcare | Technology, media and telecomms | Financial services

Private healthcare

Turnover range
£62.2m - £0.5bn

Turnover	**£1bn**
EBITDA	**£123.8m**
Fixed assets	**£273.4m**
Employees	**5,540**
Average salary	**£46k**

4 Total companies

- 2 Healthcare services
- 1 Medical services
- 1 Pharma and biotech

Technology, media and telecomms

Turnover range
£46m - £1bn

Turnover	**£1.2bn**
EBITDA	**£217.5m**
Fixed assets	**£519.7m**
Employees	**8,887**
Average salary	**£30k**

4 Total companies

- 2 Technology
- 2 Telecomms

CHESHIRE LTD.

Sector breakdown

Consumer | Manufacturing and industrial | Business support services | Real estate and construction | Private healthcare | Technology, media and telecomms | Financial services

Financial services

Turnover range

£94.5m - £0.9bn

Turnover	**£963m**
EBITDA	**£670.1m**
Fixed assets	**£28.5m**
Employees	**880**
Average salary	**£81.5k**

2 Total companies

2 Asset management

Fastest growing businesses

This year alongside turnover, we have also looked at the 25 fastest growing businesses with the highest EBITDA and CAGR growth percentages as per their latest accounts (over a three-year period for companies with the latest year EBITDA greater than £1 million and turnover greater than £10 million).

01 - 15

01 HHT DEVELOPMENT LIMITED *(Halton Homes)*
02 PRAETURA COMMERCIAL FINANCE HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Praetura)*
03 ACCIDENT CREDIT GROUP LTD *(Acg)*
04 MICRO SYSTEMS (UK) LIMITED *(Micro systems)*
05 LONDON AND MANCHESTER HEALTHCARE (FULWOOD) LIMITED *(L&M Healthcare)*
06 ADVISER SERVICES HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Lync Wealth Management)*
07 THE BEAUTY TECH GROUP TRADING LIMITED *(Currentbody)*
08 BERISFORDS LIMITED *(Berisfords)*
09 UK LANDSCAPES HOLDINGS LIMITED *(UKL)*
10 INNOVATIVE SCAFFOLD SERVICES LIMITED *(Palmers)*
11 T-T PUMPS LIMITED *(T-T Pumps)*
12 SAFEGUARD WORLD INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Safeguard Global)*
13 OLIVER VALVETEK LIMITED *(Olivervalves)*
14 DOORCO LIMITED *(Doorco)*
15 DELAMERE DAIRY LIMITED *(Delamere Dairy)*

16 - 25

16 PROXIMO HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Proximo)*
17 BIOSCRIPT HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Bioscript Group)*
18 BETFRED GROUP LIMITED *(Betfred)*
19 CARECONCEPTS (CHESHIRE WEST) LTD *(Assured Healthcare Solutions)*
20 SYKES SEAFOOD HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Sykes Seafood)*
21 BOTT AND CO SOLICITORS LTD *(Bott and Co)*
22 HCRG CARE SERVICES LTD *(Virgin Care)*
23 LEAP29 HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Leap29)*
24 EA TECHNOLOGY LIMITED *(EA Technology)*
25 J TAYLOR HOLDINGS LIMITED *(Coleherne Group)*

About Grant Thornton

What does a business need now? An adviser that offers a different experience. A better experience. One that delivers technical expertise and a service that goes beyond. Personal, proactive, and agile.

That’s Grant Thornton.

We are the UK member firm of a global network that employs 73,000 people in over 140 markets. We combine global scale with local insight and understanding to give you the assurance, tax, and advisory services you need to realise your ambitions.

We go beyond business as usual, so you can too. We make business more personal by investing in building relationships.

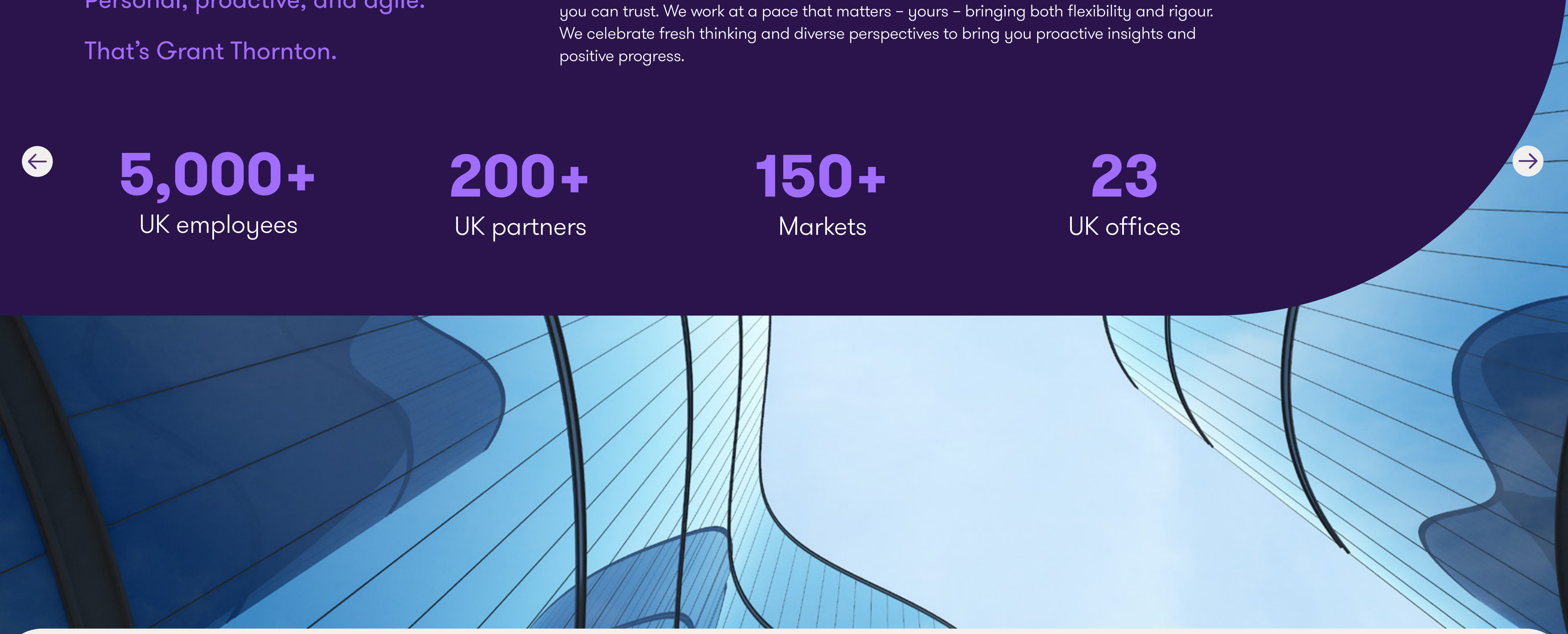
Whether you’re growing in one market or many, you consistently get a great service you can trust. We work at a pace that matters – yours – bringing both flexibility and rigour. We celebrate fresh thinking and diverse perspectives to bring you proactive insights and positive progress.

5,000+
UK employees

200+
UK partners

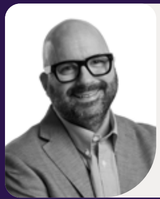
150+
Markets

23
UK offices



CHESHIRE LTD.

Meet our team



Nick Sands
Business Development Director
T +44 (0)161 383 2843
E nick.p.sands@uk.gt.com

Gareth Hitchmough
Partner, Co-head of Entrepreneurial and SME Services
T +44 (0)151 224 7211
E gareth.j.hitchmough@uk.gt.com

Amy Done
Audit Director
T +44 (0)161 953 6341
E amy.l.done@uk.gt.com

Frances Grant
Audit Director
T +44 (0)161 214 6315
E frances.grant@uk.gt.com

Ian Rowland
Transaction and Specialist Tax Partner
T +44 (0)161 953 6411
E ian.rowland@uk.gt.com

Laura Wycherley
Corporate Tax Director
T +44 (0)161 214 6346
E laura.wycherley@uk.gt.com

Marc Balshaw
Corporate Tax Partner
T +44 (0)161 953 6464
E marc.e.balshaw@uk.gt.com

Michelle Lloyd
Audit Director
T +44 (0)151 224 0840
E michelle.lloyd@uk.gt.com

Back to contents page

Grant Thornton