



St. Albans Enterprise Agency

Helping startups and small business for 40 years

STANTA who are we?

- We are an enterprise agency providing free business advice meetings and workshop support to pre-starts, startups and young businesses.
- Our focus is St Albans and surrounding towns and villages.
- A small team of 4 people + a volunteer Board + workshop leaders
- We can do this as a result of some external funding through the 'Get Enterprising Scheme' (only about 25% of our operational costs) and income from our 'easy in easy out' office suites and desks.



Our office suites

- St Albans location
- Suites for 3-6 people + some single desks + larger spaces possible
- Air conditioned with sinks in suites and separate suite alarms
- Free parking
- Free use of meeting rooms
- One month deposit three months notice.



Our Business Advisers

Mark Fordham

- Mark spent his early career in small business banking with NatWest. Moving on to accountancy and audit.
- In 2003 Mark set up TaxAssist Accountants providing tax and accountancy services to small businesses
- Director of St Albans Chamber of Commerce
- Mark joined STANTA in 2016.



Our Business Advisers

Steve Bedford

- Operational and Marketing Director roles at two FTSE companies
- Founder of and continuing Director of Conical (marketing consultancy)
- Winner of several 'Marketing Gamechanger' awards
- Fellow and former course Director for Chartered Institute of Marketing
- Director of St Albans Chamber of Commerce
- Joined STANTA in 2023

Our Workshops

- Topics range from business planning, to digital marketing onto bookkeeping and sales
- Workshop leaders are respected practitioners
- Most workshops are delivered in person to enhance team learning.



In Summary

- Free advice and workshops for local pre-starts, startups, and younger businesses (more established can attend for a fee).
- Well equipped office space - 'easy in easy out' - that helps fund our advice and workshops.
- Client satisfaction feedback for our support running at 5/5 from 88% of respondents
- An **essential body** supporting young businesses in and around St Albans.