



FINANCIAL SERVICES

“Edinburgh is an excellent business location for the investment management industry because of its highly skilled workforce, good business infrastructure and because it’s a great place to live. Our location has certainly helped us attract some excellent international talent to our business.”

WILLIE WATT, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, MARTIN CURRIE INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT LTD.



OVERVIEW

Edinburgh's success in financial services is built on a 300-year history of innovation which includes the invention of the overdraft facility and the decimal point. The city has intellectual capital and critical mass in financial services that few European locations can rival.

CRITICAL MASS

- Edinburgh is the UK's 2nd and Europe's 9th most competitive financial centre.
- The city has a critical mass in banking, life and general insurance, securities, corporate finance, broking, asset servicing and support services.
- The west of the city – which encompasses Edinburgh Park, the South Gyle area and Gogarburn – is the 4th largest economic area in Scotland, with some 30,000 people commuting to the area every day. Capable of accommodating international business headquarters, the area boasts world-renowned occupiers such as the Royal Bank of Scotland and AEGON UK.
- City centre financial district The Exchange features a cluster of financial services headquarters including Standard Life and Scottish Widows. The area has over 90,000 square metres of office space and capacity for up to 16,000 jobs.

EXPERIENCED WORKFORCE

- 35,000 people, or 11% of the city's workforce, are employed in financial intermediation, insurance and pension funding.
- A further 51,000 people, or 17% of the city's workforce, are employed in the related sectors of computing and business services.
- The financial product is diverse, with one third of the workforce working in monetary intermediation, one third in life insurance and the remainder in other finance services (fund management, credit granting, pensions, etc).
- An MSc in Finance and Investment launched in 2004 by the University of Edinburgh won the Scottish Financial Enterprise Innovation award in December 2005.



For more information:

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