

David Grey MBE

After college, David Grey joined TW Ward, now the home of Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Industry as a trainee accountant. He left that business to join a sales organisation.

David set up his first company at the age of 23 with a £1000 loan from his mother and a similar loan from a bank. He has built up his business, by acquiring or starting 25 companies. He has sold 20 of those and now owns a group of five manufacturing companies exporting to over sixty countries. He sits as a Non exec Director on a number of businesses.

He was for 3 years a board member of the Sheffield First Partnership, the strategy group for the city. It includes council, private and community sector representation.

He was involved in setting up and then latterly served for 3 years as the Chairman of the inward investment agency for the city, Sheffield First for Investment.

David has, in his time, been a council member of the Sheffield Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a Director of Business Link and the Chairman of the Business Community Partnership.

In 2006, he was asked to lead a bid to win a £26 million grant from Central Government to encourage entrepreneurship in the city. He then chaired the Board charged with delivering that programme and for 10 years has led the Big Challenge bringing entrepreneurship learning into Sheffield schools.

He was awarded an MBE in the 2010 New Year's Honours List for his Services to Industry and Regeneration in Sheffield and has recently been elected to the Sheffield City Region LEP Board.

Ruth and David have 3 sons and a daughter with ages ranging from 31 to 26. He counts skiing, scuba diving, playing football and Motor racing as hobbies. He has a private pilot's licence and a Piper Saratoga aircraft based at Gamston Airport