



NRG Business Networks NRG Advocacy Model





How do you get a better return on your networking investment?

Is this you?

Rollover the buttons below to find out















How do you get a better return on your networking investment?

Would it help if...

...there was some sort of **process** you could follow, which allowed you to **develop** a **plan** to maximize the chance of **gaining business** through your networking on a **consistent** basis? In short, it would be great if there existed a **proven networking system** to supplement your business development acitivity.

That is why we have developed the **NRG Advocacy Model** It is designed for business people, whether new to networking or old hands, to develop their contacts who are able and motivated to deliver business introductions and referrals on a consistent and sustainable basis.

This workbook is designed to help you develop a networking plan

that works for you!





Networking fundamentals

Your network can be divided into the following categories:

Outer network

Those people you have met (got their business card) but haven't followed up.

Resource network

Those people you have met and recognised they have a particular skill or offer a valuable service. These people are useful to know and refer to. You may well have had a One2One with them, but don't wish to continue building the relationship.

Inner network

These are your target referral sources, people you have followed up with, had a One2One meeting and have decided you want to continue the relationship building process. These are the potential networking 'gold mine' you are looking for. They share the same target market as you and are in a complementary market to you. You should go out of your way to find referrals for them and build your relationship with them.

Advocates

These are the small group of people you have decided you are prepared to actively refer to and introduce. You have developed a close relationship with them, you know, like, trust and rate them – you go out of you way to find introductions and referrals for them. In short you are an advocate for them.





The NRG Advocacy Model

The NRG Advocacy Model is based upon the principle that you don't leave your networking to chance – you develop a networking plan and execute it.

Do it right and it will yield predictable and profitable business.

There are four key steps:





Target *market*

1. Target market

It is important to be clear about who you are looking for. It can be defined by a number of things (market sector, geography, business size) but also by the types of problems or pains that your business might have.

Type of business:	Examples of such businesses are:
Size of business:	
Geography:	
Market Sector:	
With the following business issues/concerns:	What I am looking for specifically is (include specific examples of who you are looking for):



Target market

Continued...

I specialise in helping (target market):	So the outcome is (benefits):
who have (their concerns):	So, who do you know (example):
what I do is:	



Target *market*

2. Proposition

A good proposition will have the following elements:

Target market	Be as specific as possible
Their concerns/pains	What keeps them awake at night
What I do	Not too much detail here (couple of sentences maximum)
Benefit	Focus on outcome for the client



Don't go into too much detail – just focus on the benefit you bring to your clients. This encourages the question 'how do you do that?' This gives you permission to tell a story about a real client where you delivered real benefit.



The Story

In order to reinforce your point

Let me tell you about (first name):	I did (keep it short):
His problem was (lay it on with a trowel):	
	And the outcome was:
Which meant that:	As a result he/she benefited because (Focus on this - this is what will be remembered):



Identify your inner network

3.1 Who is most likely to know your target market?

Usually they will be complementary to you. These are the people and organisations who are most likely to be able to make the right introductions and the ideal referrals for you.

You need to target these people you are going to develop in your inner network and be an advocate for. Clearly there has to be a rapport and trust as a precondition.

Consider the following business categories for example We have grouped businesses into 5 main areas:

- Professional Services
- Business Support Services
- Marketing Services
- IT/Telecoms Services
- Other Services

By and large there can be affinity within each grouping as they are addressing similar target markets.

For each business category you choose, try and identify one or more organisation you already know – and a named contact.

Business category		Organisation/contact
	eg.	



Identify your inner network

3.2 These are examples of business categories in each business grouping

Professional Services

Solicitor

Accountant

Architect

Banking

Survey

Financial Planner

Mortgage Broker

Insurance Broker

Pension Consultant

Trade Marks

Tax Consultant

HR

Business Support Services

Business Coach

Management Consultant

Virtual FD

Virtual PA

Training Services

Business Support

Business Directory

Conference/

Venue Organiser

Debt Solutions

Factoring

Recruitment

Translation

Marketing Services

Advertising

Marketing

PR

Design

Printing

Networking Services

Video/Audio Services

Telemarketing

Market Research

Business Development

Sales Services

Photographic

IT/Telecoms Services

Software Development

IT Support

Communication

Services

Telephone Services

Database Services

Information Services

IT Consultant

IT Security

IT Training

Project Management

Branding

Other Services

Charities

Estate Agent

Wine Merchant

Waste

Management







The key to developing relationships is the One2One meeting

4.1 When to do a face-to-face or One2One meeting?

One2One meetings are the 'engine room' when it comes to developing your inner network. They take time, so make sure you are as effective as possible.

Networking meetings can be a prime source of meeting new people. When you meet new people you need to decide:

- Do you like the other person?
- ➤ Is there rapport are there any points of common interest?
- Do you share the same target market? do you 'swim in the same pool'?
- Are you prepared to invest (some) time in developing the relationship further?

If the answer to the above is 'yes' then invite them to a meeting. Keep it light – invite them to have a coffee with you to get to know each other better.





The key to developing relationships is the One2One meeting

4.2 What you should cover in a One2One?

You should allow between 30 minutes to one hour (equal time each). During this:

Background - the 3 A's:

Achievements: How did you get to do what they do now?

Hobbies/activities outside work
What do you consider your major

achievements? (best thing in last year?)

Ambitions: What are you aiming for? (life / business)

Attitude: What's important to you?

Business - the 4 W's:

What do you do? What business issues/pains do

you solve?

What results do you get? What is your real expertise?

(differentiation?)

Who do you do it to? Who is your target market?

Who do you know? Who are your clients?

Who is your best client?
Who do you network with?

What do you need? Who can I introduce you to?

How can I help? (you have to mean it)

Remember...

At the end of each meeting do you want to progress this relationship further?









Build your *inner network*

4.2 To start the process of building advocates you have to develop the relationship with them. In building a relationship you are trying to motivate them to be an advocate for you – to provide you with regular introductions and referrals.

What do I do to grow my advocates/motivate my inner network

Rollover the buttons below to find out



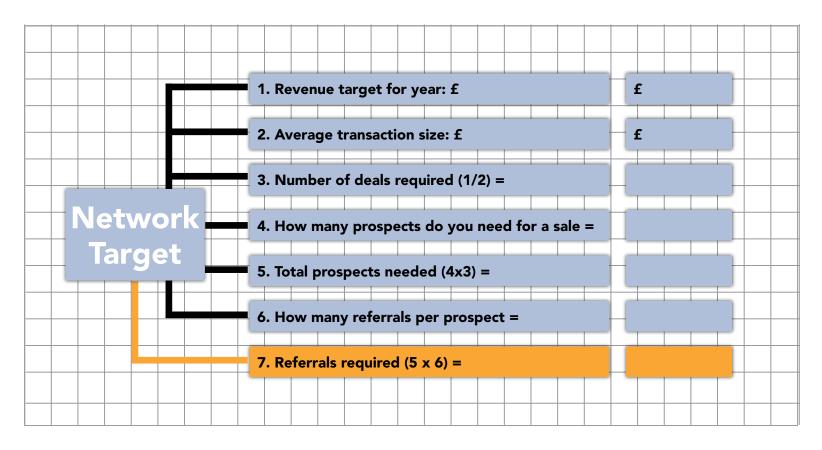
Invest time and effort to understand what is important to them - what makes them tick!



Business goals How many referrals?

How much money do you want your business to make out of your networking activities?

Use this calculator to work out how many referrals you need - complete boxes 1 and 2 to get started.



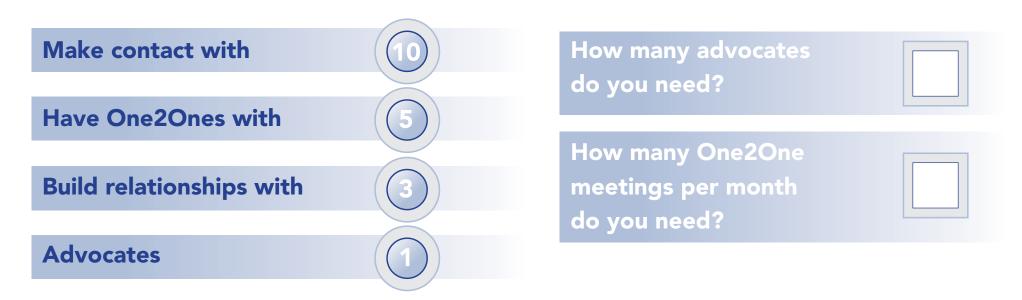
How many advocates do you have today?





How many frogs do I have to kiss to find a prince?

Within NRG we find that, of those you meet networking, you usually



Want more information?

Please visit:

www.nrg-networks.com

