

"The project has had an extremely positive effect as we have been able to access high quality professional support. I feel the opportunity to have the Meet the Expert grant has made a vital contribution in helping us grow the business. The grant made sure we chose the right company to do the work rather than just on a cost alone basis".

*Max Strelling, Barton Wykes*

"Support from the Meet the Expert ERDF funded programme has been crucial in getting our project off the ground. The team were very helpful in processing our grant application and we are very confident that the new website that was created from the grant will have an enormous impact. In fact at an event we held in March, we attracted a number of new people, many of whom had said that the new website had been one of the key reasons that they attended".

*Darren Foley, Plymouth Design Forum*

As part of this support package you will also be signposted to local and specialist business support organisations and training providers.

But don't delay! Our 'Meet the Expert' programme is in its final year of operation, so all grant applications have to be in by October 2022.

For more information on grants and how the programme can help support your business please contact:

**Sandy Gianni**

Business Relationship Manager.  
Plymouth City Council

**T** 01752 304373

**M** 07790 880455

**E** Sandy.Gianni@plymouth.gov.uk

**W** [oceansgateplymouth.com/meet-the-expert/](https://oceansgateplymouth.com/meet-the-expert/)



**Fantastic GRANT Opportunity\***  
Don't delay, offer ends this year!



Meet the **Expert**  
Business Support Programme from Oceansgate





If you are looking for new ways to develop and grow your business, then **'Meet The Expert'** Business Support Programme is for you!



#### What is the Meet the Expert programme?

Our programme is a European Regional Development Funded (ERDF) project and is completely free to eligible SME's across the whole of Devon.

#### What is a \*Grant?

Our grants do not have to be repaid! They are a fixed sum of £1,000 (matched by you at a minimum of £515) and this £1,515 minimum pot of money can be used for external consultancy support to buy in the expertise of a private sector consultant to help support your business growth aspirations.

#### What sort of thing can I use the grant for?

You can use the grant to access a variety of advice and support, anything from strategy and management and how to develop a business plan, sales & marketing, website development or updating, social media and SEO advice, accountancy, HR, recruitment – pretty much anything that will help your business to grow and prosper.

#### How long does the process take?

We do have to assess your eligibility, so there are a few forms to complete with us, but the process moves pretty quickly.