

Could you become a DORMEN mentor?

If you think you have the business experience, enthusiasm and commitment to help others develop their businesses, then please see the 'Want to be a Mentor' pages on our website and get in touch with us.



Want to find out more?

If so, please see our website www.dormen.org.uk which includes case studies of clients past and present and their mentors talking about their experiences.



"Having someone with so much experience visiting us each month to discuss the business has been absolutely invaluable"



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Dormen started in 2005 and has been developed by a partnership of local authorities, public and private sector organisations and educational establishments across Dorset.



Could a Business Mentor help you?

Dormen mentors have a wealth of experience and give their time to help local businesses grow and develop



www.dormen.org.uk

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To find out more, visit www.dormen.org.uk or contact us at info@dormen.org.uk or 01202 607530

What is mentoring?

Mentoring is a relationship between two people where one (the mentor) gives the other (the client) guidance to achieve agreed objectives.

Mentors do not give advice. Instead they help their clients develop their own solutions to business problems. They are impartial and meetings are totally confidential.



Who are the mentors?

Dormen business mentors all give their time freely and have a background in setting up and running their own businesses, working in senior industrial or commercial positions or the professions.

All mentors undergo a process of selection and induction training before they mentor client businesses.

Is a Dormen business mentor right for you?

There are a number of questions you can ask about yourself, your business and issues concerning its development that will help you to decide whether a Dormen business mentor is the right type of support for you and your business.

Is your business going in new directions? Could you benefit from a sounding board?

- A mentor can help you review your priorities and plans and is someone you can discuss the options with.
- A mentor is someone who can raise issues and ask challenging questions and bring a fresh perspective on problems and difficulties.
- A mentor is there to help you find solutions using his or her experience and knowledge. Mentors are not there to make decisions for you. It is your business and you are always in the driving seat.
- A mentor is often simply defined as a "friend in business".
- A mentor can assist you to draw up an action plan and then help you implement it and monitor progress against it.
- A mentor is able to draw upon other skills within the Dormen mentor team and from the wider business support network that operates in the region.

"My mentor helped me take control of my business and manage my time far more effectively"

"Our mentor helped us stand back from the day to day pressures and review where we wanted the business to go"

"He helped me focus on the really important things"

"In the end, the decision was easy but without our mentor's help we couldn't see it"

Business needs

- Q *Are you struggling with questions over the direction and future of your business and could do with a high quality sounding board?*
Mentoring might be for you.
- Q *Do you need someone to work with you to review your business plan?*
Mentoring might be for you.
- Q *Are you facing difficult business decisions and could do with someone to talk them through with?*
Mentoring might be for you.
- Q *Do you have a problem that needs a one off piece of advice such as an area of regulation?*
The best solution is an organisation providing advice such as accountants or solicitors.
- Q *Are you looking for quick solutions?*
Mentoring tends to be a medium to long term exercise, not a quick fix. You would probably be better off with a paid consultant.
- Q *Are you planning or just starting a new business?*
It is probably too soon to work with a mentor but contact us if you wish to discuss the possible options.