



SME Business Support Services

Expert advice and support to take your business to the next level

Running a business of any size is an exciting and unique experience, as such, there will always be challenges to navigate as your business grows. Many business leaders are excellent at wearing multiple hats as they rise to new opportunities in their business journey. However, sometimes external guidance can be just the right thing to help you to take your business to the next level

Whether you're a maturing business preparing to scale, or a large enterprise looking to improve processes and unlock efficiencies, our team of consultants can provide fresh perspectives helping you to see new opportunities and act on them effectively.

The SAC Consulting team has diverse industry experience across a variety of sectors, from global sales and marketing for FMCG brands, retail buying and operations, food and drink manufacturing, tourism, and export.



Every business can benefit from consultant support.
Consider some of the most significant advantages of engaging additional expertise;

Cost savings and profitability	Our business consultants' capacity to optimise operations by reducing expenses and boosting profitability is one of their strongest qualities. We can assist you with financial planning, implementing cost-saving strategies and more effective working practices that could boost sales or improve services and goods.
Industry expertise	We have members of the team with specific industry experience in a wider variety of fields, including FMCG, food manufacturing, agritourism, retail and agricultural management. In addition, our teams are highly skilled in delivering support in more widely applicable fields, such as stakeholder engagement or sales and strategy planning, as well as employee engagement, recruitment and retention.
Outside perspective	It can be easy to get tunnel vision when building your business, concentrating on keeping all the plates spinning and having an operational focus. The fresh perspective of an outsider can often support with improvements, opportunities and ways of working you may not have considered that will support your business to manage costs and better achieve your ambitions.
Short sprints	Hiring can be challenging and this can be especially difficult for small businesses. When you are under a time constraint, it may take several months before you can recruit a person, which is not always a viable alternative. Engaging one of our consultants can give you immediate access to an expert who can begin to create value quickly. Without becoming permanent, they can assist you for as little or as long as you require.
Networks	Engaging our consultants will unlock a new network and networking opportunities, which can be crucial to the success of a growing business. Expanding your business network may present opportunities for growth, funding and industry expertise.
New ideas	Our consultants can apply their objectivity to significant creative solutions. They are not constrained perceived ways of doing things whilst also applying sensitivity to an organisations history, culture and processes.

Our team has unrivalled expertise and experience to support you with:

Preparing to scale

- Business planning to secure planning or investment.
- Feasibility, viability and desirability reviews
- Natural capital assessments
- Planning applications
- Stakeholder and community engagement
- Customer experience
- Sourcing strategies
- Development of investment decks
- Pitching coaching and support
- Project management

Improving business performance

- Strategy development
- Marketing and branding support
- Support with grant funding applications
- Attracting, retaining and optimising people
- Recruitment and retention
- Mentoring and coaching

For more information, or to discuss your individual business needs, get in touch on foodanddrink@sruc.ac.uk for an initial chat on how we might help you and your business.