

# MORE than just a start up loan- mentoring

Everyone needs help to grow their business, so after you have received your loan a mentor is assigned to you. This might be the same person as who met with you before you received your loan, or your Delivery Partner - who assessed and approved your loan - might introduce you to someone new to support you after you have been approved for a loan.

You can choose what to discuss with your mentor, whether it is planning which customers you could target next, or discussing with your mentor when you might hire your next members of staff – think about the biggest questions that you want to answer to get to the next stage in your business and these are the things you can discuss with your mentor.

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The only thing that your mentor cannot do is give you advice – you can ask questions and discuss different possibilities for your business, but you must always take responsibility for the decisions in your business. You know your business better than anyone and through practice you will learn what is best for it.

A mentor is someone who might have run their own business, worked for many years with clients who run small businesses, or has good experience in an area commonly requested by start ups such as sales or marketing.

ask questions and discuss possibilities for your business

Under the Start Up Loans programme, a mentor offers two hours per month of support to the entrepreneur in the first three months after they have received a loan, and one hour per month thereafter. You can arrange meetings with your mentor at times that suit you both, whether over the phone or face-to-face.

mentor offers two hours per month of support

Every individual who successfully applies for a Start Up Loan is matched by Wirral Chamber of Commerce with a mentor. We also offer peer-to-peer support (talking with fellow small business owners about challenges concerning starting a business), events and training (regular events with topics including digital marketing and bookkeeping), together with telephone/email support to ask questions your mentor may not be able to help with.

## you are entitled to all this support and MORE

[www.wirralchamber.co.uk/startup](http://www.wirralchamber.co.uk/startup)

