

FSB - THE VOICE OF SMALL BUSINESSES AND THE SELF- EMPLOYED

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**Let's talk about the current business
climate...**

- **Challenges**
- **Opportunities**



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What challenges are small businesses owners facing?

- Increased operational costs: Rent, staff, utilities, tax, stock, services
- Cost of living crisis/inflation
- Hiring staff (Legal)
- Cyber security/GDPR
- Digitalisation
- Overseas/larger businesses/Online competition
- Infrastructure
- Finance
- Work/life balance

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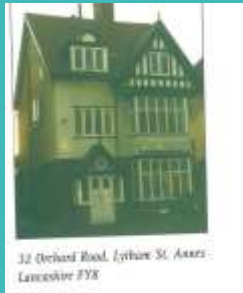
We have been here before

- Big business and unions were influential; small businesses/self-employed were not
- Government announced new National Insurance tax hike to raise £££



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It all started with a letter to The Guardian newspaper on 31 August 1974



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That's why the FSB was formed 50 years ago!

- FSB is a powerful, positive voice to Governments at all levels – we engage in policy work, political engagement and campaigning
- We are a non profit, committed to supporting small business owners and the self employed in the UK
- We are (fiercely) independent, cross-party, evidence-based, solutions-oriented
- Our aim is to win changes for small businesses and the self-employed (and to stop bad policy ideas, too)

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What about the opportunities?

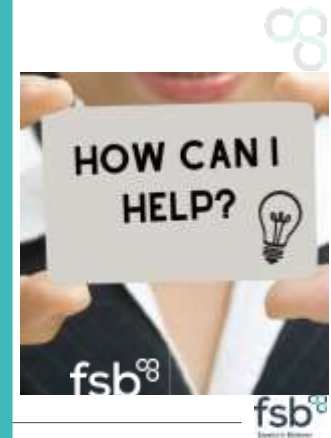
- Exmoor has a great variation of different businesses
- Exmoor has a unique heritage/brand/environment
- Grants
- Small businesses have the means to be more flexible, and innovative/diversification
- Local procurement opportunities
- Support local business initiatives
- Cash/card/online payments
- Heart of the community
- Small businesses are the biggest contributors to the economy both locally and nationally
- Local and national awards
- Media opportunities
- Sustainable business is important for consumers

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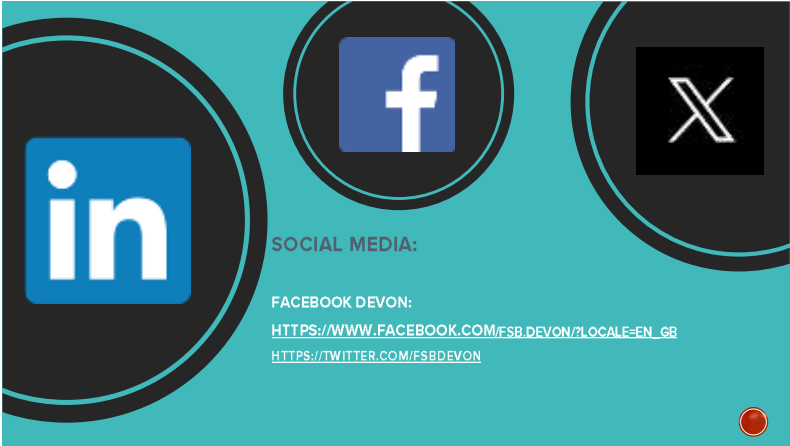
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Your part?

- Ask for support
- FSB
 - Heart of the South West Growth Hub
 - Rural Enterprise Exmoor
 - Visit Exmoor
 - British Business Bank
 - Cyber Resilience Centre for the South West
 - Local Council
- Share your challenges
- Take part in local surveys/round tables
- Network



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A teal slide with three large circular icons at the top: LinkedIn (blue square with white 'in'), Facebook (blue square with white 'f'), and X (black square with white 'X'). Below the icons, the text reads: 'SOCIAL MEDIA:', 'FACEBOOK DEVON:', 'HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/FSBDEVON/?LOCALF=EN_GB', and 'HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/FSBDEVON'. A small red circle is in the bottom right corner.

in

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[HTTPS://TWITTER.COM/FSBDEVON](https://twitter.com/FSBDEVON)

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A teal slide with the text: 'THANK YOU', 'Contact: carmen.hanif@fsb.org.uk', 'www.fsb.org.uk', and the 'fsb^{co}' logo. At the bottom left, there are small icons for Twitter, Facebook, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

THANK YOU

Contact:
carmen.hanif@fsb.org.uk

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