

Are you 2020 ready?

2020 is going to be a year of change for small businesses. Every SME needs to make sure it's ready for the new circumstances that a new decade will bring with it.

Here are five things we'd urge you to take 5 minutes to think about for your business.

1 Are you ready for changes that affect your workforce?

If you employ EU, EEA or Swiss nationals, you need to ensure they apply to settlement schemes that will be required after the UK has left the European Union.

[Read more](#) about the EU Settlement Scheme, who needs to apply, and the deadlines.

2 Are you ready for new trading relationships?

As the UK leaves the EU, its trading agreements are going to change, with both Europe and the wider world.

Read more about how this will affect trade in [goods](#), [services](#) and [digital services](#). Understand the new barriers that could affect your business, different registrations you may need to apply for, and additional contract terms that may be needed.

3 Are you ready for changing regulation?

Once the UK has left the EU, many aspects of law and regulation that are currently governed by EU standards could change over time.

If you're a business that handles personal data from overseas partners, tenders for government contracts, or exports products and services, these are changes you need to know about. Read our short guide.

4 Are you ready for the unexpected?

Every small business is focused on day-to-day priorities, but you also need to be thinking about how unexpected changes could affect your company – and how your business can be resilient in the face of change.

Seek advice on how to get ready your from local Growth Hub in London, Hertfordshire or the South East.

5 Are you ready for new opportunities?

Change can be challenging, but it also provides opportunities. One of the most important is utilising new technology to make your business more efficient and productive.

Talk to your local Growth Hub about digital skills and tools, or access specialist support in London and Hertfordshire.