Scale Up 4 Growth Gloucestershire

**Scale Up 4 Growth Gloucestershire (S4GG) is a programme of business support and £1m of grant funding, available to help the county’s SMEs scale and grow.**

**What is Scale Up 4 Growth Gloucestershire?**

Led by [UWE Bristol](https://www.uwe.ac.uk), delivered in partnership with [NatWest](https://personal.natwest.com) and [Gloucestershire College](http://www.gloscol.ac.uk); S4GG aims to accelerate the growth of SMEs throughout Gloucestershire, to reach their ambitions and potential, and Scale Up status. By providing funding and specialist business support, the project will enable its client businesses to attract investment and grow in regional, national and international markets.

* SMEs with growth potential and an interest in developing/adopting new digital or cyber technologies will be able to participate in ‘Scale Up Workshops’ free-of-charge. These sessions will address key challenges relating to achieving and sustaining growth, and will be delivered by experts from UWE Bristol, NatWest and local specialists.
* SMEs with growth potential will also be able to apply for match funded-grants of between £10,000 and £40,000, which can make up 35% of total costs. Projects which develop, incorporate or adopt digital/cyber technology to support growth will be prioritised.

**Who benefits from this project?**

Any SME in Gloucestershire with growth ambitions can apply for, and benefit from, S4GG.

**What stage is the project currently at?**

Scale Up 4 Growth Gloucestershire will begin in January 2021 and run until December 2022.

**Why is the project important for Gloucestershire and the local community?**

* 99% of the 33,500+ businesses in Gloucestershire are SMEs.
* [GFirst LEP](https://www.gfirstlep.com) has committed to assisting these enterprises to ‘expand and grow, increase productivity and realise long term potential.’
* S4GG will help realise these goals by providing grants and support, to help achieve their growth ambitions; in particular through supporting the adoption and development of digital/cyber. This will enable SMEs to:
	+ Facilitate the growth of their businesses
	+ Expand operations and improve productivity
	+ Increase jobs and turnover
	+ Create new services and products
	+ Unlock additional private investment in the region
	+ Improve financial readiness and evolve into attractive investor propositions
	+ Support the transition from start-up to scale-up enterprises

**What are the final results of the project?**

By December 2022, S4GG will have achieved the following:

* 71+ high growth potential SMEs will receive between £10,000 - £40,000 in grant funding, plus workshops and business support.
* £1.9m of private investment will be unlocked.
* 35 new jobs will be created.
* Strong relationships and networks will be built between participating businesses.