



Our role in Port Macquarie - Hastings

Face to Face Business Assistance

Have a business idea or issue you would like to discuss?

Small Biz Connect advisors Marilyn Breen and Ben Stevenson are available for consultations in Port Macquarie and surrounding areas. Initial programs are available at no cost and can help you to assess your business idea, navigate the start-up process or review and improve aspects of your existing business operation. Ongoing support is also available through subsidised mentoring packages.

Short 'Business Skills' Based Workshops

There are many different aspects to running a successful small business. ETC have developed a wide range of targeted short workshops aimed at giving business operators skills and knowledge they can take away and put to use. These include, but are not limited to, Business, Finance and Marketing Planning or how to utilise digital and social media. Workshops are often only a few hours and at minimal or no cost to participants.

Connection to other Local Businesses and Government Services

Having developed working relationships with network groups, local businesses and other Government services, ETC/Small Biz Connect can connect you to the right people. As the first point of contact, we can help determine where you can get specialised assistance from our extensive network and often provide a personalised introduction to get you started.

Central Point for Information and Resources

ETC / Small Biz Connect have various partnerships with data providers and can therefore access reports on statistical demographic information or utilise industry benchmarking tools. Information that could be vital to analysing markets or business performance when making strategic decisions.

Through the continuing provision of service to small business, ETC have also developed and retained our own extensive bank of knowledge. As a central point for business enquiries, ETC have dealt with or provided assistance for most of the common questions and requests from small business. This could be an answer to a single question or access to a form, web-link, online tools or document templates.

Advocacy for Small Business

As part of the Small Biz Connect Program, ETC have access to The Office of the NSW Small Business Commissioner which was created by the NSW Government as an independent and strong voice for small businesses within government.

The Office works with small businesses directly and with peak bodies to look for issues that are holding small businesses back unnecessarily. The Commissioner can make representations at the highest levels, query government policy, make suggestions, and generally speak up for small businesses whether it's an individual case or on behalf of a whole industry.

Small Biz Bus

Yes, we are the people you have seen at the Small Biz Bus. If you haven't seen the bus (a bright blue Winnebago) it's a mobile advisory service used to connect with people seeking information. When the bus is set up, visitors can speak with a business advisor or representatives from different government services. The bus is fit out with consulting areas for one to one discussions, or leave your contact details for a follow-up meeting. While often at the Glasshouse, the Small Biz Bus will also visit other popular locations throughout the region to make it even easier for business operators to utilise our service.