

Laura Treanor

*Laura Treanor Food
Consultancy Services*



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Laura Treanor had enjoyed a 30-year career as a quality specialist in the food industry when, in November 2022, she decided to set up her own business, Laura Treanor Food Consultancy Services.

The native of Emyvale, Co. Monaghan, admits that while the business has been on a smooth upward trajectory in the three years since she became an entrepreneur, it was the ACORNS programme that helped her understand some fundamental elements vital to the company's continued development.

"You wonder in the first year whether you will earn enough to make it viable. Once I'd proved that, it became very enjoyable. ACORNS played a big role in that by providing me with access to a ready-made network of entrepreneurs who were always on-hand to provide advice on things like finance and strategy, and for keeping me accountable to the goals I set at our monthly roundtables," says Laura.

Laura specialises in food compliance auditing, which involves monitoring the practices at manufacturing and distribution sites to ensure they meet the highest food safety standards, and in assisting companies in their bid to develop systems and train staff to ensure that they achieve and retain certifications for food quality standards.

She is currently working with an established training provider with a view to developing a programme to provide food safety training in schools. "Everyone needs to eat, so it's important that people learn about things like allergens, pests and good food safety practices. You need only look at controversies over listeria and contaminated food to know how important training really is."

Laura is currently working alone on the business but hopes to begin recruiting staff soon. "The great thing about food consultancy is that there are so many strands to it, which makes it a very sustainable sector. I can also provide training, support and mentorship, so it's an attractive proposition for anyone looking to move into the field," she adds.

