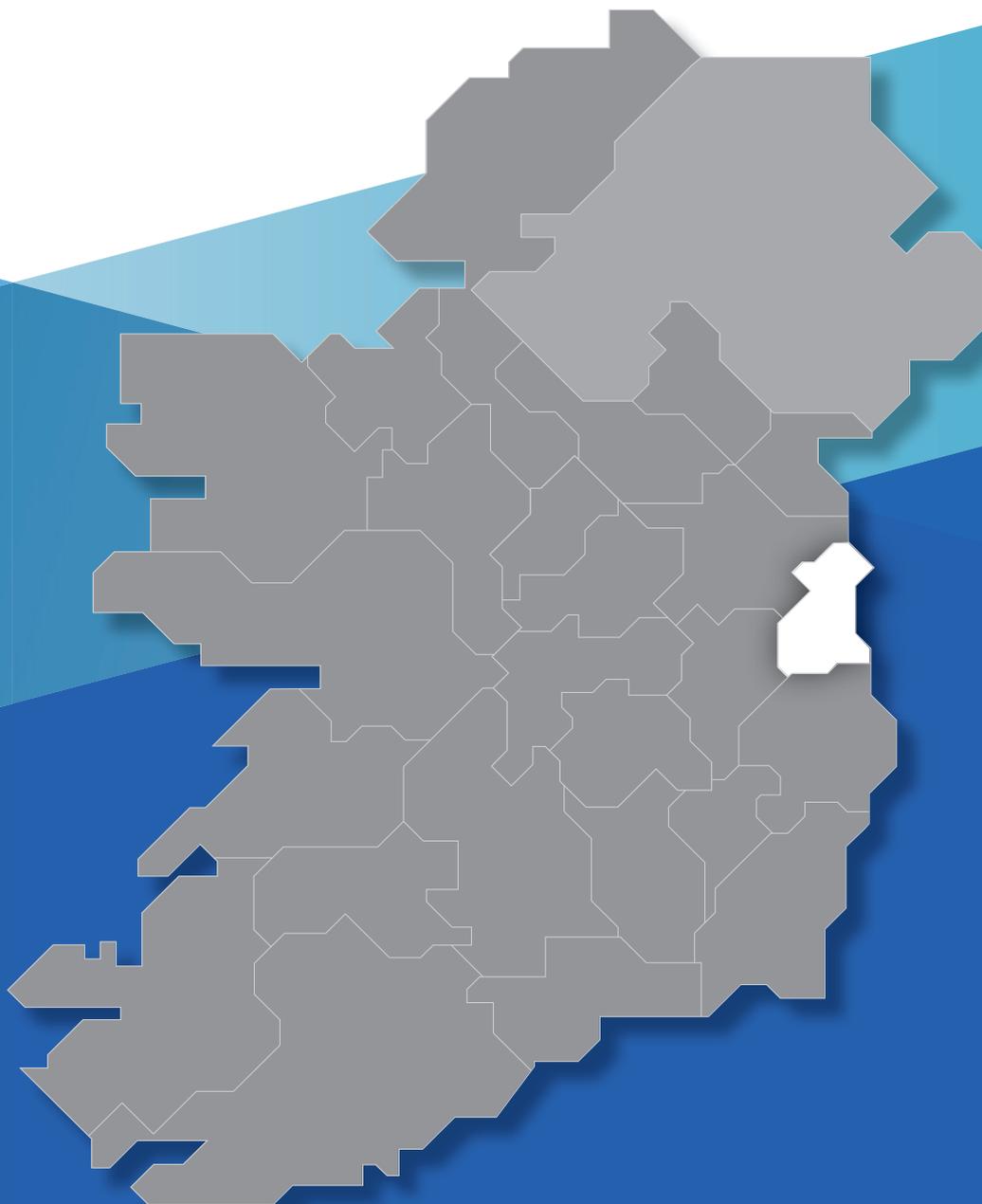




Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

DUBLIN

Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020 – First Progress Report



An initiative of the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation

Contents

1. Introduction	1
2. Enterprise Agencies and LEO activities in Dublin in 2019	2
3. Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020 – Progress Report	6
Dublin Strategic Objectives	6
2019 Highlights	7
Detailed Action Updates	8
Strategic Objective 1	
Ensure the availability of skills and talent to realise Dublin's future economic potential.	8
Strategic Objective 2	
Increase enterprise engagement in innovation, research and development to ensure Dublin's continued competitiveness and productivity.	13
Strategic Objective 3	
Build a pipeline of sustainable and scalable start-ups in Dublin and provide quality support.	17
Strategic Objective 4	
Strategically build on existing activities to enhance the attractiveness of Dublin as a region to live, work, invest and visit.	21
Strategic Objective 5	
Facilitate every individual to realise their full potential through engagement in economic activity.	25
Strategic Objective 6	
Support Dublin enterprises to adapt to more sustainable practices.	27
Appendix 1: Regional Funding approved for Dublin supported by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation	31
Appendix 2: Other Funding approved for Dublin	34
Project Ireland 2040 Funds	34
Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2019	35
Appendix 3: Brief profile and statistical snapshot – Dublin	36
Appendix 4: Employment creation and unemployment - Progress against targets set to 2020	37



1. Introduction

The Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020 is one of nine regional enterprise plans launched in early 2019 by the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation. The Plan was developed by regional stakeholders, and as a 'bottom-up' initiative, it complements national enterprise policies and programmes. The Plan is a 'live' agenda that allows new initiatives to be considered in addition to the strategic focus it currently contains.

The principle underpinning the Regional Enterprise Plans is collaboration between regional stakeholders on initiatives that can help to realise each region's enterprise development potential, adding value to the core activities being delivered by the enterprise agencies, LEOs and other bodies in the region.

Implementation of the Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020 for Dublin is being delivered by the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan Steering Committee, which was chaired by Caroline Keeling, CEO Keelings during 2019. Declan McCulloch, appointed jointly by the four Local Authorities in Dublin, is providing project management support to the initiative. The Dublin Steering Committee has met on three occasions during 2019, and as part of the implementation process has formed smaller Working Groups to drive delivery of actions or groups of actions.

The Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation has oversight of the nine Plans nationally, and in September 2019 facilitated collective engagement between the Chairs of the Steering Committees with the Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation. This meeting provided an opportunity for updating on progress, sharing good practice, and identifying areas for potential inter-regional cooperation.

Climate Action Plan 2019 has tasked each of the Regional Steering Committees with considering 'Just Transition' as part of their ongoing agenda. On 4th December 2019, Just Transition was included as an Agenda item for the first time by the Dublin Steering Committee and this facilitated a discussion on the topic. Just Transition will remain as a standing item on the Steering Committee's agenda.

The Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan is focused around 6 Strategic Objectives to positively influence enterprise and job creation in the region. The Dublin Plan is looking to develop the skills and talent in the region; increase enterprise engagement; build a pipeline of sustainable and scalable start-ups; enhance the attractiveness of Dublin; facilitate individuals to realise their full potential and support enterprise to adapt more sustainable practices.

This Year 1 Progress Report details the progress that has been made to date on the Dublin Plan. It also reports on the outcomes from the Enterprise Agencies and LEOs' core activities in the region during the year. Of particular significance for the region in 2019 is that in excess of €2 million has been secured for Dublin under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF). (detailed in Appendix 1).

Finally, overall employment creation and levels of unemployment continue on a positive track in Dublin. Since the first Regional Action Plan for Jobs was introduced in Q1 2015, 124,200 more people are in employment in Dublin, and the region currently has an unemployment rate of 4.5 percent, down from 9.1 percent in Q1 2015, which means that the region has already exceeded the targets set in relation to employment growth and the reduction in unemployment since 2015.

2. Enterprise Agencies and LEO activities in Dublin in 2019

In order to achieve the 2020 employment targets and maintain strong regional enterprise and job creation performance, the Strategic Objectives and collaborative actions identified for the Dublin region in the Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020 are complemented by the ongoing core activities of the Enterprise Agencies (IDA Ireland and Enterprise Ireland) and the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs).

Representatives of the Enterprise Agencies and the three LEOs are active members on the REP Steering Committee in the Midlands and will continue to work with regional stakeholders on key regional enterprise ecosystem strengthening initiatives in the region in 2020.

The Enterprise Agencies each have corporate strategies which include national level objectives as well as frameworks for bespoke regional activities that support regional enterprise investment and development potential and leverage regional assets and opportunities.

IDA Ireland is currently completing work on its new five-year strategy which will focus on attracting foreign direct investment across all regions. Enterprise Ireland launched its regional plan 'Powering the Regions' in 2019, and in 2020, will commence the preparation of a new corporate strategy, the successor to 'Build Scale and Expand Reach 2017-2020.

Over the course of 2019, the enterprise agencies and the LEOs have achieved impact in a number of areas as they continue to roll out their core activities across all of the regions. The following summarises some key results and developments during the year.

Enterprise Ireland Activities

During 2019, Enterprise Ireland published a new plan 'Powering the Regions' to accelerate growth throughout Ireland's regions. The plan is built on four key pillars, each of which support the nine Regional Enterprise Plans.

4 Key Pillars

1. Maximising growth of Enterprise Ireland clients in the regions
2. Strengthening regional infrastructure to maximise future growth of Irish enterprise in the regions
3. Support entrepreneurship in all regions
4. Work in collaboration to deliver regional growth

In 2019, 16,971 new jobs were created by clients of Enterprise Ireland in all regions with 66% of this growth delivered outside of Dublin. Enterprise Ireland clients employed a record high of 221,895 during the year.

€24m was invested in 127 startups with 42% of these located outside Dublin.

During 2019, Enterprise Ireland ran a third competition for projects under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund. Minister Humphreys announced in January 2020 that under the fund 26 projects across every region were approved funding of over €40m and these will make an important contribution to the delivery of the Regional Enterprise Plans. This builds upon nearly €60m already approved under the Fund.

In December 2019, Ministers Humphreys and McHugh announced €4.6m in government funding under the Enterprise Ireland Regional Technology Clustering Fund to establish 12 technology clusters in partnership with the Institutes of Technology across the country.

In 2019, the Local Enterprise Offices also worked successfully with their clients to assist 162 companies transfer to Enterprise Ireland to help them scale.

In 2019, 78,003 people were employed in 2,178 Enterprise Ireland supported companies in Dublin, up 1.8% from 2018.

Recent EI announcements include:

- Workhuman – 150 jobs
- Test Triangle/ Tech Fynder – 50 jobs

LEO Activities

In 2019, the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) continued to be the ‘first stop shop’ providing entrepreneurs with advice, guidance, financial assistance and other supports available to assist with starting or growing their own businesses, with 31 offices spread throughout the country the LEOs are truly operating at the coalface of job creation and regional development in Ireland, providing a ‘signposting’ service for all the relevant supports available through the state.

The LEOs offer grant aid to businesses employing less than 10 people in manufacturing and internationally traded services sectors which have the potential to develop into strong export entities. They approved 291 priming grants to new start-ups, 80% of the approvals were to companies regionally.

To assist in their remit of developing regional employment, the LEOs also offer ‘soft’ supports by way of training (85%) mentoring (75%) and targeted programmes such as LEAN for micro (90%)*. Participation in these has been successfully targeted by the LEO teams in each of the regions.

In particular, the LEO’s have awarded €2.5m in funding to 16 successful applicants through the LEO Competitive Fund, applications were open to individual LEOs; collaborative projects between two or more LEOs; and LEOs working with other local groups like Chambers, Community Enterprise Centres, Education or training bodies, Local Authorities or colleges. All projects are aligned with the strategic objectives in the Regional Enterprise Plans and the ambitions in Future Jobs Ireland.

The LEOs supported 38,535 jobs across 7,400 client companies in 2019 of which there was an additional 148 companies outside of the Dublin region. 3,149 net jobs were created during the year and 78% of these were produced outside of the Dublin region with an even distribution across the regions. This is the 6th year of continuous employment growth for the LEOs since their inception in 2014. LEOs saw increases across all supports in 2019 including training, mentoring and funding. The number of those trained in 2019 was up 6.4% last year with 37,306 availing of training through their Local Enterprise Office. There was also an 10.5% increase in mentoring assignments completed, with 10,756 clients benefitting from LEO mentoring.

Over €20million was invested in LEO clients and start-ups last year, up from €18.2million in 2018.

There were an additional 682 net jobs created in Dublin in LEO supported companies in 2019.

*Shows the regional percentage of the overall excluding Dublin.

IDA Activities

IDA Ireland is the State's inward investment promotion agency. The mission of the agency is to partner with multi-national companies to win and develop foreign direct investment, providing jobs for the economic and social benefit of Ireland. Regional development is a key pillar of IDA's strategy.

Supporting the execution of the Regional Enterprise Plans across the country through our Regional Manager network and through working with strategic FDI stakeholders, has helped support and drive collaborative Regional enterprise objectives.

IDA Ireland concluded its strategy, 'Winning: Foreign Direct Investment' 2015-2019 in December 2019. The Strategy set out ambitious targets to support the delivery of its mission to win and develop Foreign Direct Investment in Ireland. These targets included a focus on;

- Winning 900 new investments for Ireland
- Supporting clients in creating 80,000 new jobs
- Growing market share and helping maximise the impact of FDI investments
- Driving greater balanced Regional Development

For the first time, ambitious investment targets were set for each region. IDA targeted a minimum 30% to 40% increase in the number of investments for each Region outside Dublin.

Following the conclusion of 'Winning: 2015 - 2019', the key highlights and impact for Regional Development in Ireland are as follows;

- 516 investments overall were won across Regions over the past five years
- 50% uplift in investments for Regions recorded over the course of the five-year strategy
- Every Region delivered the five-year Strategy target of a 30-40% uplift in investments on previous Strategy
- 54,868 jobs were created outside of Dublin over the past five years
- 33,118 additional direct jobs (net) on the ground in Regions
- 57% of total FDI employment is now located in Regional locations

To deliver on these ambitious targets IDA Ireland has;

- Worked with public bodies and the private sector on regional action plans
- Worked with existing clients to retain and strengthen their presence in each region
- Increased Global Business Services and High-Tech Manufacturing investments
- Aligned IDA business sectors with regional strengths to develop sectoral ecosystems
- Worked more closely with EI and its client companies to identify synergies, enhance clusters, participate in site visits and maximise benefits for the region through the Global Sourcing Program
- Delivered property solutions in designated regional locations
- Increased IDA Ireland's regional footprint to adequately support the regional strategy

In addition to direct employment and skills transfer, IDA Ireland's client companies have a hugely positive effect on the local economy with over eight jobs being created for every 10 jobs in an FDI company. 50% of the €5.7bn in annual capital expenditure by IDA client companies occurs outside of Dublin. These investments have been won despite the demographical challenges that exist and international trends of greater urbanisation.

IDA Ireland is committed to playing its part in the economic development of Ireland's regions. However, winning investments is a challenge and will require a continued collaborative effort by all national and regional stakeholders.

Regional locations must continuously demonstrate the capability to deliver on a number of exacting criteria which generally inform the location decisions of multinationals.

An assessment of investments delivered for regions since 2015, would confirm the strategic importance of the following key criteria in actually influencing the investment decision;

- Critical mass in population
- The ability to attract and develop appropriate skills
- The presence of Third Level Institutes
- The existence of clusters of companies in specific industry sectors
- Regional Infrastructure
- Regional Place Making Strategies
- Availability of high spec standard manufacturing and commercial office properties

To support the delivery of IDA's current strategy and the attraction of investments into different parts of the country, a €150m property investment plan was announced in 2015. IDA Ireland's approach of developing strategic sites and developing advanced buildings has proven to be hugely successful. In 2019, IDA Ireland continued its building programme with the design and construction underway of advanced buildings in Sligo, Dundalk, Athlone, Waterford, Galway, Monaghan and Limerick.

IDA Ireland is currently completing work on a new five-year strategy. This strategy will take account of the changing nature of work and the impact of technology on specific sectors. Profound changes are occurring in the world of work and this is already reflected in the jobs being created by the IDA Ireland client base. We can see an increasing complexity in the roles being created, technology skills becoming ubiquitous across roles, increasing demand for business professionals and a fall in the number of low-skilled jobs including back office support and basic manufacturing. This transition is likely to impact the nature and type of roles across the regions of Ireland.

Building on the success achieved to date, IDA will continue to collaborate with all stakeholders and parties in the regions to realise the economic potential and ambition of Ireland's regions under the Regional Enterprise Plans to 2020.

In 2019, the Dublin has 825 IDA supported companies employing 106,466 people, up 10% from 2018.

Recent IDA announcements include:

- Salesforce - 1,500 jobs
- Facebook - 1,000 jobs
- Assystem Technologies- 120 jobs
- IQVIA - 100 jobs
- Markforged - 100 jobs
- LogMeIn - 200 jobs
- Indeed - 600 jobs
- LinkedIn - 800 jobs
- Toast - 120 jobs
- ActiveCampaigns - 200 jobs
- Huawei - 100 jobs

3. Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020 – Progress Report

DUBLIN STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1:

Ensure the availability of skills and talent to realise Dublin's future economic potential.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2:

Increase enterprise engagement in innovation, research and development to ensure Dublin's continued competitiveness and productivity.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3:

Build a pipeline of sustainable and scalable start-ups in Dublin and provide quality support.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4:

Strategically build on existing activities to enhance the attractiveness of Dublin as a region to live, work, invest and visit.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 5:

Facilitate every individual to realise their full potential through engagement in economic activity.



STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 6:

Support Dublin enterprises to adapt to more sustainable practices.

2019 Highlights



The four Dublin Local Authorities produced a report on the full landscape of available co-working spaces in Dublin. To be used for promotional purposes on Dublin.ie and on their own websites.



Dublin Chamber in partnership with external consultants and agencies such as IDA and EI produced a report on Dublin's international reputation with people living abroad and international residents in Ireland.



A seminar “Start Your Own Business Seminar for People with Disabilities” has been developed between the Dublin stakeholders and will be delivered in TU Dublin in 2020.



SME half day pilot training program on circular economy principles (MODUS, DCC) developed and delivered by Dublin LEO.



“Empowered by Innovation” event delivered at the Guinness Enterprise Centre. Over 40 SMEs attended the day-long workshop hosted by the Dublin LEO and Enterprise Ireland.



Explore programme provided by Dublin Regional Skills Forum increased the number of participants from 20 in 2018 to 45 in 2019.

Detailed Action Updates

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

1

Ensure the availability of skills and talent to realise Dublin's future economic potential.



Action 1:

As part of the Skills for Growth initiative the Regional Skills Forum will assist, local enterprises identify their skills' needs through a variety of audit tools to ensure that the Region has the effective use of skills to support economic and social prosperity. Once skill needs have been identified, the Regional Skills Forum will link companies with the education and training providers best suited to responding to identified skills need.

Working Group Members:

Dublin Regional Skills Forum (DRSF)

Educational Providers:

City of Dublin Education and Training Board, Dublin Dun Laoghaire Education and Training Board, Dublin City University, National College of Ireland, Trinity College Dublin, University College Dublin, TU Dublin (Blanchardstown Campus, Tallaght Campus, City Campus), Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art Design and Technology, National College of Art and Design and Skillnet Ireland.

Also working in partnership with other industry bodies including:

DEASP, IDA-Ireland, Enterprise Ireland, National Disability Authority, IBEC, Local County Councils, Local Enterprise Offices, ISME and Dublin Chambers of Commerce.

Timeframe for delivery:

Q4 2019

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

To continue to use the Skills Audit Tool with EI clients who specifically attend this spotlight on skills workshops.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

DRSF continue the use of the Skills Audit Tool with EI clients who specifically attend the Spotlight on Skills Workshop. Agreements are in place by the Department of Educational, Skills at national/regional level to now engage through DEASP to use the skills audit tool through their engagement teams and feed the data back to DRSF. Skills Audits will continue right throughout 2020.

Other highlights include:

- Over 40 companies participated at workshops within the Dublin region
- 20 Companies have already engaged with Dublin Regional Skills Forum Manager
- Connections made for all companies by year end with Educational Providers HE & FE to address skills needs

Progress on engagement of companies with DRSF has resulted in development of provision for skills, connections with educational providers FE & HE with current provisions for springboard-funded programmes, apprenticeships, traineeships, skills to advance and the RSF Explore initiative.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

Agreed plan for 2020 is to continue the EI Skills for Growth Project, which will include the Skills Audit tool being used to establish the critical skills data to be fed back to DES in order to input to secure further funding, and policy decisions for skills provision.

Action 2:

Double the number of participants on the EXPLORE programme over the 2018 figure.

Working Group Members:

Dublin Regional Skills Forum Partners (Educational Providers FE & HE with other Industry bodies) as noted above.

Timeframe for delivery:

Q4 2019

Status:

Work started in 2019 & and likely to continue in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

EXPLORE is a Regional Skills initiative developed to help address the issue of Ireland's low level of participation in lifelong learning, particularly targeting persons over 35 years of age in manufacturing employment. Companies targeted specifically in manufacturing with 15 directly engaging across the Dublin region based on the fund available.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

- 45 participants completed Explore (more than double the 2018 cohort of 20 people)
- 15 Companies engaged with DRSF and Dublin ETB's (CDET B & DDLET B) who delivered the programme 2019

The Explore initiative was run over a six-week timeframe, which included two off site days and the remaining activities onsite. There was additional on-line support provided by a team of tutors. All participants received a laptop to encourage digital skills development both in work and at home.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

2019 saw the completion of the target as set however DES have indicated that this initiative will continue in 2020 through collaboration direct with ETBs nationally under the Skills to Advance programme.

Action 3:

Support education and training providers in preparing applications under Springboard+ 2019 in collaboration with local enterprise in order to increase provision of programmes for upskilling and reskilling within the region.

Working Group Members:

Dublin Regional Skills Forum Partners (Educational Providers FE & HE with other Industry bodies) as noted above.

Timeframe for delivery:

Q2 2019

Status:

Work commenced & completed in 2019

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

To drive application to educational providers with the support of DRSF.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

Over 168 applications in total through educational providers submitted with the support of DRSF based on skills needs within the region. In June, 115 successful Springboard applications were approved for roll out. Programmes commenced in September 2019 with continued intakes in Jan 2020.

Engagement with Industry and Educational providers was critical to input on proposed provision in terms of specific skills needs across all sectors within the region. Research data for all submissions informed by SLMRU (Statistical Labour Market Unit) and engagement specific with sector sub groups and businesses to ensure all applications had clear evidence base to justify the provision to be approved.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

While the action was achieved in 2019, Springboard will continue into 2020, the newly launched Human Capital Initiative (HCI) fund of 300K provides additional opportunities for addressing upskilling and re-skilling needs in the Dublin region. The HCI will consist of 3 main pillars – graduate conversion and specialisation courses, additional places on undergraduate provision, and an innovation and agility fund. These pillars will form the basis of three competitive calls over the coming months. SMEs can access the fund through applications that have been approved with Universities and Institutes of Technology. DRSF will work with stakeholders during 2020 to encourage applications to HCI.

Action 4:

Support all actions in the Regional Enterprise Plan where linkages to Education and Training Providers are required.

Working Group Members:

Dublin Regional Skills Forum Partners (Educational Providers FE & HE with other Industry bodies) as noted above.

Timeframe for delivery:

2020

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

The focus during 2019 was on SME engagement with the objectives of the Regional Skills Forum.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

Linkages continue based on ongoing activity and operational plan within the DRSF and its partners. Activities aligned within the enterprise plan have strengthened relationships with relevant stakeholders and a key collaboration in 2019 saw DRSF role out for the 2nd year our SME Engagement event for Skills and Growth, partnered with Dublin City Council and Enterprise Ireland as part of Start-up Week Dublin 21st to 25th October 2019.

- Over 75 SME's/Start-up participated within the event

4 key Business case studies presented their story of engagement with DRSF educational providers that highlighted the benefits to the businesses and employees, which has since encouraged other business to engage with DRSF since the event.

Collaboration with Dublin City Council and Enterprise Ireland aligned to start-up week was crucial to the event's success and widening of participating to include start-ups, innovators and SME's within the Dublin region.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

Collaborations with all key stakeholders will continue throughout 2020 aligned to priorities and engagement plans going forward.

Action 5:

Communicate to employers the services available through the Regional Skills Forum to assist with resolution of emerging skills needs.

Working Group Members:

Dublin Regional Skills Forum Partners (Educational Providers FE & HE with other Industry bodies) as noted above.

<p>Timeframe for delivery:</p>
<p>Q4 2020</p>
<p>Status:</p>
<p>Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020</p>
<p>What were the milestone(s) for 2019?</p>
<p>To agree & implement an engagement plan with all DRSF partners aligned with the DRSF Operational Plan 2019.</p>
<p>What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?</p>
<p>Increased employer engagement across sectors within the Dublin region.</p> <p>The DRSF Operational plan 2019 and agreed engagement plans of all our partners supported the outcomes and progress made on all activities as detailed within all objectives.</p>
<p>What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?</p>
<p>Communications forms part of the core objective of the Forum and will continue on an ongoing basis throughout 2020 to increase the engagement and participation of SMEs within the Dublin region. Platforms that will continue to be used include the DRSF Website, Monthly E-zine, Social Media and direct event activity as part of the overall operational plan.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

2

Increase enterprise engagement in innovation, research and development to ensure Dublin's continued competitiveness and productivity.

**Action 1:**

Develop a training programme for SMEs on how to carry out R&D projects, develop R&D capability and manage R&D projects.

Working Group Members:

Enterprise Ireland and Dublin Local Enterprise Offices

Timeframe for delivery:

Q3 2019

Status:

Work commenced & completed in 2019

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

- Enterprise Ireland set out to achieve two goals outlined in the REP; to deliver a program for SMEs on how to carry out and manage R&D projects
- Deliver a coordinated Innovation Week, including an awareness campaign, across the Dublin region, to raise awareness of supports and services available and to stimulate networking and engagement

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

- A training day to inform SMEs on the R&D Process was developed. Topics included, “voice of the customer”, problem framing, ideation, iterative testing, prototyping and design, addressing the fear of failure
- 4 SME guest speakers were on hand to inform and encourage attendees on their own innovation experiences
- Attendees were encouraged to finish the day by completing a Lean Canvas, which focused on their own innovation problem
- 5 expressions of interest have been received by EI and have been passed over to the appropriate Local Enterprise Office for consideration, most in the area of feasibility studies

The event “Empowered by Innovation” was held on 23rd October 2019 at the Guinness Enterprise Centre. It was jointly hosted by the Dublin Local Enterprise Offices and Enterprise Ireland. Over 40 people from client and non-client companies attended the day-long workshop which, with the aim of developing R&D capability within SMEs, demonstrated how to carry out R&D projects and the challenges that arise. It included guest speakers from 4 companies who were able to tell of their innovation experiences and showcase the supports they had received. The reactions from attendees was overwhelmingly positive; a feedback survey is currently being conducted.

Additionally, there were two other Enterprise Ireland events associated with Start-Up Week, from New Frontiers and the HPSU team. These further delivered on showcasing the supports from national programs for R&D, Innovation and the Start-up arena. Two articles were published in a special edition of the Dublin Economic Monitor; “What innovation means to Enterprise Ireland”, by Stephen Creaner, Executive Director, Enterprise Ireland, and “More women needed to lead and innovate in start-ups” by Sheelagh Daly Entrepreneurship Manager, Enterprise Ireland. In preparation for the event, there were three opportunities to speak at the townhall meetings, hosted by Tech Stars, in conjunction with Dublin City Council, which were taken up by Enterprise Ireland and highlighted the importance of R&D, innovation and entrepreneurial spirit to Irish SMEs in light of the current economic climate.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

It is proposed to run another event in 2020 either as part of Start-up Week or as a standalone event.

Action 2:

Leverage momentum and potential of the SBIR initiative in the Dublin Region.

Working Group Members:

Enterprise Ireland and 4 Dublin Local Authorities

Timeframe for delivery:

Q4 2019

Status:

Work commenced & was completed in 2019

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

To progress the 5 SBIR challenges approved for Dublin under the 2018-2019 programme.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

The 4 Dublin Local Authorities supported by Smart Dublin were approved for 5 SBIR challenges in 2019. Challenge themes are smart mobility, last mile delivery, engaging unheard voices in communities, new solutions for Internet of Things (IOT), and bathing water quality. These represent an increase from 3 Dublin Challenges in 2017 to 5 Challenges in 2018. In total the 4 Dublin Authorities have run 9 SBIR challenges and have engaged with over 30 SME's through the process. Four of these challenges are ongoing in 2020.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

The 4 challenge themes outlined above are ongoing and will continue throughout 2020.

Action 3:

Deliver a coordinated Innovation Week, including an awareness campaign, across the Dublin region to raise awareness of supports and services available and to stimulate networking and engagement.

Working Group Members:

Enterprise Ireland and Dublin Local Enterprise Offices

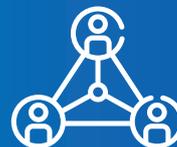
Timeframe for delivery:
2019
Status:
Work commenced & completed in 2019
What were the milestone(s) for 2019?
Deliver an Innovation Week that includes an awareness campaign across the region to raise awareness of supports and services available and to stimulate networking and engagement.
What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enterprise Ireland to engage with Techstars, who run start-up week, in sponsoring the innovation track for the event • A coordinated approach sought to deliver a comprehensive suite of events to assist businesses at all levels in their Innovation and Entrepreneurial Journey • Internal stakeholder engagement at Enterprise Ireland level, was started in June of 2019, to formulate a three-sided approach to innovation in Dublin; HPSU, New Frontiers, and SMEs • External Stakeholder meetings were held in and by Enterprise Ireland from the beginning of July 2019. To ensure a joined-up approach to events being hosted and the energies required therein • An awareness campaign was generated through the vehicle of start-up week. The Enterprise Ireland innovation track was mentioned in national media • 2 articles circulated in the Dublin Economic Monitor on Innovation • Networking and engagement were facilitated at several reach out events leading up to and during the start-up week program. • The event “Empowered by Innovation” was held on 23rd October 2019 at the Guinness Enterprise Centre <p>Additionally, there were two other Enterprise Ireland events associated with Start-Up Week, from New Frontiers and the HPSU team. These further delivered on showcasing the supports from national programs for R&D, Innovation and the Start-up arena.</p> <p>The sponsoring of the event by Enterprise Ireland, the co-hosting of an innovation event with the Local Enterprise Offices from Dublin, and the externalities surrounding the start-up week arena sat squarely on the two pillars of Expanding Reach and Building Scale.</p>
What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?
It is proposed to engage with Dublin Start-up week in 2020 and, in addition, innovation and awareness events will be rolled out independently of start-up week.
Action 4:
Publish a dedicated edition of the Dublin Economic Monitor in order to raise awareness of innovation initiatives being embarked on by Dublin companies and their partners.
Working Group Members:
Led by Dublin City Council in collaboration with DLR, SDCC and Fingal, EI and IDA Ireland and others.

<p>Timeframe for delivery:</p>
<p>Q1 2020</p>
<p>Status:</p>
<p>Work commenced & completed in 2019</p>
<p>What were the milestone(s) for 2019?</p>
<p>Circulate a detailed report on readership and website views in relation to the Dublin Economic Monitor as part of Start-up week in Dublin.</p>
<p>What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?</p>
<p>Start-up Week Dublin - Innovation & Entrepreneurship - Special edition of the Dublin Economic Monitor published as part of Start-up Week Dublin 2019.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Special edition launched at the launch event of Start-up Week Dublin – 21/10/2019 Dublin City Council - Civic Offices • Approximately 1,000 printed copies circulated and disseminated at events during Start-up Week Dublin 21-25/10/2019 • Special edition promoted online via social media • Special edition available at www.dublineconomy.ie • From website - special edition obtained: 88 Reads / 327 Impressions
<p>What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?</p>
<p>Action achieved.</p>

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

3

Build a pipeline of sustainable and scalable start-ups in Dublin and provide quality support.

**Action 1:**

Conduct and publish joint surveys across the four Dublin Local Authority areas on existing co-working and enterprise space in order to identify providers, current trends and gain sector insights to inform future planning and networking. The information will be promoted on Dublin.ie and the Local Authority websites.

Working Group Members:

Led by Dublin City Council in collaboration with DLR, SDCC and Fingal, Dublin Chamber

Timeframe for delivery:

Q2 2019

Status:

Work commenced & was completed in 2019

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

- Survey conducted.
- Report produced of the full landscape of available space.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

- Desktop research conducted which identified the current enterprise and co-working space providers in Dublin
- Survey conducted of enterprise and co-working spaces / centres
- Relevant insights and trends identified
- Draft Report – presented to the Enterprise and Economic Development Strategic Development Committee – Dublin City Council on 12/11/2019
- Final Report – Enterprise and Co-working Space Providers in Dublin – Research Report – produced and presented at the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan Steering Committee Meeting

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

Action achieved.

Action 2:

Establish a sub group to review relevant metrics on start-up survival rates across Dublin to identify gaps and possible improvements in available supports for start-ups.

Working Group Members:

LEOs

Timeframe for delivery:

2019

Status:

Work started in 2019 & continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

A key element of this action in 2019 was to establish if there were gaps in the support systems for start-ups in Dublin and to understand the issue that needed to be addressed.

CRIF was contracted to prepare some stats (over the last 4 years) on the following;

- Number of companies started in Dublin from 2015 to 2018 inclusive
- Number of these companies in Dublin ceased trading
- Number of these companies in Dublin with increasing assets
- Number of these companies in Dublin with decreasing assets

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

The research was completed by CRIF with the following findings;

The increased number of new company formations is in the authors view the best barometer for the health of start-up scene (based on available data) in that it is accurate in any one year. This activity is market and opportunity led particularly in this time of full employment. The number of new company formations has increased year on year in seven of the sectors for the period. The research also shows a trend towards fewer company failures although this has to be put in context with a much-improved economic climate. The fall in unemployment over this period also supports the general trend of improved outcomes for companies in the region. As a network EI and the LEOs produce an annual employment survey which is in itself a strong measure of the health of the sector but does not include financial health. This needs to be taken into account in the study.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

The focus in 2020 will move to seeking to understand why companies fail and how the support environment can be strengthened, including looking at best in class supports in other regions.

A brainstorming session with globally experienced entrepreneurs, agencies and bodies such as Scale Ireland etc. would yield interesting results and may be a better approach to identifying what is broken.

Action 3:

Create an opportunity for practitioners who directly support/advise early stage companies in the incubation/acceleration space to learn best practices through peer to peer learning and training provided by leading practitioners.

Working Group Members:

LEOs, EI

Timeframe for delivery:
2019
Status:
Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020
What were the milestone(s) for 2019?
Deliver a 'Train the Trainer' event in 2019 with input from international experts.
What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?
<p>Bill Aulet from MIT delivered a keynote address on 4 of the 24 steps of the Disciplined Entrepreneurship (DE) Framework which was attended by 103 people on Saturday 5th October 2019 in UCD. The address included the following;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • supporting mentors and entrepreneurs to excel • equipping yourself with the latest thinking on getting product to market • help yourself and clients develop clear strategies towards success • go to market with a clear well-defined plan • Marketing efforts underway - events to be promoted to broader audience - 160 capacity in UCD • Working group members to facilitate promotion of event and good turnout
What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?
<p>The short to medium term objective of this action is to train the trainer initially through one off events, and potentially longer term have a CPD system in place. Formal recognition of a mentor's efforts in upskilling should be a long-term goal of this initiative. Some degree of confidence in a mentor's ability to offer the right value add to a company should be a given.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further rollout and expansion of the DE Framework. • Understanding the journeys of recent entrepreneurs and using these learnings in the mentoring engagements. This would be done with guest speakers. How mentoring supported them. • How to develop a strategic mindset in all the noise, including a funding strategy. • Understanding what entrepreneurs need – discovering their weaknesses and where they need support.
Action 4:
Research the feasibility of establishing a Dublin based 'maker space' or 'tech-shop model' equivalent that will provide the equipment and learning environment that will drive innovation within the smart city, internet of things, tech start-up, and Third Level Institutions eco-system.
Working Group Members:
Third Level Institutions to work with Dublin City Council and other stakeholders including EI.
Timeframe for delivery:
2019 - 2020

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

Undertake a feasibility study.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

Meetings held with various stakeholders regarding the development of 'marker space' and reported back to the Steering Committee.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

Complete feasibility study.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

4

Strategically build on existing activities to enhance the attractiveness of Dublin as a region to live, work, invest and visit.

**Action 1:**

Establish a new branding and marketing forum for the Dublin region to increase the promotion of the Dublin.ie place brand and to ensure consistency of messages and increased collaboration and cross promotion of key sites and content.

Working Group Members:

Dublin Chamber of Commerce, Failte Ireland, IDA Ireland, Four Local Authorities

Timeframe for delivery:

Q4 2019

Status:

Work commenced & was completed in 2019

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

To establish a new branding and marketing Forum for the region and commence work on key deliverables.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

Dublin Chamber conducted a research project to gain an understanding of the international reputation of Dublin through two surveys, one conducted across ten countries globally (Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany UK, USA, India, Sweden, Spain). The second surveyed 1,000 international Dubliners.

- Wording of action to be amended to replace “Forum” with stakeholder engagement process.
- Stakeholders identified and series of stakeholder meetings have begun.
- Stakeholder Engagement & Marketing Officer and Social Media & Online Marketing Officer appointed to the Dublin.ie team.
- Meeting held between Failte Ireland – Visit Dublin Digital Team and Dublin Place Branding Team.
- Forum established by DCC and a work programme developed and underway.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

- Key recommendation from Dublin’s Global Reputation Report to develop a coherent strategic marketing and communications plan for Dublin to improve an international understanding of Dublin is to be actioned. The objective is to develop an international reputation for Dublin as more than a tourism destination.
- Establish a new steering group with stakeholders to represent the viewpoints of live, work, study, invest, and visit, this should include but not be limited to IDA, Failte, Enterprise Ireland, Local Authorities, Dublin Chamber, Universities. (Q1 2020)
- Steering group to develop a Dublin marketing and communications plan proposal. (Q3 2020)
- Further stakeholder meetings led by DCC in conjunction with Fáilte Ireland.

<p>Action 2:</p> <p>Increase collaboration across the four Dublin Local Authority areas to broaden the content available on www.dublin.ie by providing space to an increased number of partners, in particular for campaigns to continue to promote Dublin as a region to live, work, study, visit and invest in.</p>
<p>Working Group Members:</p> <p>Dublin City Council working in collaboration with three other Dublin Local Authorities</p>
<p>Timeframe for delivery:</p> <p>2020</p>
<p>Status:</p> <p>Work started in 2019 & continuing in 2020</p>
<p>What were the milestone(s) for 2019?</p> <p>Increased content and campaigns reflecting the Dublin Region as a whole.</p>
<p>What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?</p> <p>Stakeholder Engagement & Marketing Officer and Social Media & Online Marketing Officer appointed to the Dublin.ie team.</p>
<p>What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?</p> <p>In 2020, continue to increase content and campaigns to promote Dublin as a region to live, work, study, visit and invest on www.dublin.ie</p>
<p>Action 3:</p> <p>Promote the digital resources (www.visitdublin.com www.dublin.ie www.dublineconomy.ie and www.dublinglobe.com, www.dublinsoutdoors.ie) to visiting delegations and international groups and individuals as up to date sources of valuable information to plan a visit to the Dublin region for visiting, living, working, investment or study purposes.</p>
<p>Working Group Members:</p> <p>Fáilte Ireland, Dublin City Council working in collaboration with three other Dublin Local Authorities, Digital Hub and IDA Ireland</p>
<p>Timeframe for delivery:</p> <p>2020</p>
<p>Status:</p> <p>Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020</p>
<p>What were the milestone(s) for 2019?</p> <p>To target visiting delegations and international groups with provision of digital based material in advance of their visit.</p>

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

Official visiting groups / delegations received by Dublin City Council presented with promotional materials.

Dublin Place Branding website included the creation of a sub menu on “Dublin Economic Monitor” with links to under the Invest section of the site.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

A series of stakeholder meeting have been held with stakeholders linked with each of the named digital resources and commitments have been reached to continue the engagement in 2020 ensuring better cross promotion of the combined resources inclusive of associated social media sites, with a view to agreeing a series of actions for 2020. In 2019 the rebuild of the content of the Dublin Place Branding website included the creation of a sub menu on “Dublin Economic Monitor” with links to under the Invest section of the site.

Action 4:

Research, benchmark and monitor Dublin’s progress and position regarding place-making and city branding and seek to enhance Dublin’s position on key international rankings.

Working Group Members:

DCC, DLR, Fingal, SDCC

Timeframe for delivery:

2020

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

Key international rankings identified. Analysis completed. Recommendations on how to enhance rankings formulated and adopted.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

Research report commenced, international rankings identified.

Ranking / Links identified:

- World’s Best Cities
- Place Brand Observatory
- FDI’s European Cities and Regions of the Future 2020/21 – Winners
- Growth for Knowledge
- WSP Global (Cities Index)
- Global City Lab
- Global Power City Index
- Kearney – Global Cities Index
- Mercer Quality of Living – City Ranking

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

- Report completed with current rankings & recommendations
- Recommendation to be considered by newly established branding and marketing forum

Action 5:

Conduct an Audit of existing cultural and creative spaces in the Dublin region to help assess needs of artists, musicians and others in the creative fields.

Working Group Members:

DCC

Timeframe for delivery:

Q4 2019

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

Contractor engaged to identify vacant spaces for use by artists and funding from the Regional Enterprise Development Fund for feasibility study in D8 obtained.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

1,000 studio places being examined.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

Findings to be available early 2020 and workplan to be developed on foot of the findings.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

5

Facilitate every individual to realise their full potential through engagement in economic activity.

**Action 1:**

Develop and communicate a pathway to economic activity for a selected cohort.

Working Group Members:

Prof Tom Cooney (TUD), DEASP, CDETB, Accenture

Timeframe for delivery:

2020

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

To identify a pathway for disadvantaged groups to engage in economic activity.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

It was decided to progress this action with an initial workshop event focused on person with disabilities who wish to pursue entrepreneurship as a career option.

Meetings held with North East Inner City (NEIC) to identify best practice –Prof Tom Cooney outlined the shape of a seminar to be held in February or March 2020 on ‘start your own business targeted at entrepreneurship for disadvantaged groups.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

A seminar “Start Your Own Business Seminar for People with Disabilities” will be held in TUD in 2020 and event is for people with disabilities who are considering starting a business as a future career option.

Action 2:

In conjunction with action 1, develop and deliver a ‘design workshop’ to plot out the high-level pathway and identify policy changes and actions to address barriers.

Working Group Members:

Prof Tom Cooney, DEASP, Accenture, CDETB

Timeframe for delivery:

2020

Status:
Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020
What were the milestone(s) for 2019?
Agreed to hold a seminar on entrepreneurship focused on person with disabilities.
What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?
Outline of the shape of a seminar proposed as above.
What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?
Seminar will take place in April 2020 involving all the key stakeholders.
Action 3:
Develop an overall methodology based on the pilot and apply to other cohorts.
Working Group Members:
EI, CDET, DEASP, Accenture, prof Tom Cooney
Timeframe for delivery:
2020
Status:
To commence in 2020 (dependent on actions 1 and 2)
What were the milestone(s) for 2019?
There were no milestones determined for 2019 as this Action follows implementation of Actions 1 & 2.
What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?
As above.
What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?
A review of the workshop focussed on people with disabilities will be undertaken so as to inform next steps in relation to this action point.

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

6

Support Dublin enterprises to adapt to more sustainable practices.

**Action 1:**

Develop an online checklist for companies to measure their sustainability and to provide an authorised sustainability quality mark.

Working Group Members:

Dublin City Council, BITC

Timeframe for delivery:

Q4 2020

Status:

Work started in 2019 & is continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

Undertake a scoping of potential approaches with input from key stakeholders. I.E. CARO and EI.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

- This action was included in the National Climate Action Plan. It is a sub-action of Action 164 i.e. Coordinate and support the development of tools and supports at regional and enterprise level which address just transition objectives
- A meeting held with the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) to discuss how this action can be made more relevant and impactful for businesses
- Made a submission to the EPA for grant funding under the Green Business programme to determine to support delivery of this action. Unfortunately, this application was not successful
- Initial desk research to determine if there are existing checklists available in Ireland
- Promotion of sustainable business practices in the Oct 2019 (Special Edition) of the Dublin Economic Monitor

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

Based on initial desk research it is recommended that to progress this action in 2020 that it is piloted across two work areas, namely;

1. To pilot the development of a sustainability checklist for companies. Businesses can feel overwhelmed by all that they should do to adopt more sustainable practices. Many do not know where to access credible and relevant information, and so do not take action. Initial research has highlighted two things – an interagency approach would be most beneficial and examination of existing support tools that could be further developed/disseminated to support sustainable business practices.

2. The proposed 2020 workplan will seek to pilot a Sustainability Preparedness Checklist for business. The development of this checklist will be further clarified following discussions with EI and relevant agencies and will draw on existing resources (e.g. EPA's Green Business, EI Build a Green & Sustainable Business, etc). It will also seek to bring together key stakeholders from the state enterprise-support agencies and SEAI and EPA to ensure the sustainability checklist will be useful for all businesses.

Key milestones include:

- Meet with Enterprise Ireland and other Dublin LEOs to agree a collective approach
- Meet with other agencies SEAI, EPA etc
- Interview business to determine their needs/ understanding re sustainability
- Develop a draft sustainability checklist
- Engage with CARO/ DCCAIE on Regional and National Climate Action Plans to ensure alignment

Action 2:

Conduct MODUS - pilot training program to assist small and medium enterprises in the Dublin area to apply circular economy principles to their operations.

Working Group Members:

Dublin City Council and other stakeholders

Timeframe for delivery:

Q2 2019

Status:

Work commenced & was completed in 2019

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

- Pilot training programme designed
- Pilot training programme completed
- Analysis of the feedback from participants and trainers, as well as overall perspective from coordinators
- Analysis of the impact of programme participation on business – changes in supply chain resources used

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

This Action has been delivered.

- This programme was launched in Jan 2019
- 6 workshops were delivered to businesses during April and May. Each workshop was a half day duration, which comprised of a lecture from an industry expert, guest speakers and peer-to-peer learning. Workshops included five core modules (1) Circular Economy; (2) Supply Chain, (3) Resource Efficiency, (4) Design Thinking, and (5) Communications & Customer Engagement
- Seven companies were selected to participate, including (1) Attention Attire; (2) Luncheonette; (3) Monica Libotte; (4) MOXI LOVES; (5) Native Events, (6) Inis Fragrances and (7) Viva Green
- Promotional video produced with participating companies
- Positive collaboration between Dublin City Council and Eastern Midlands Waste Region (EMWR) to deliver this project
- Made a submission to the EPA for grant funding under the Green Business programme to determine to support delivery of this action. Unfortunately, this application was not successful

Company successes include:

- While Moxi Loves didn't complete the full programme, it has since pivoted their product range to introduce a biodegradable product in response to the new EU rules to phase out single-use plastics from 2020
- Four other participating companies stated that they had identified new business opportunities
- Three of the companies are now collaborating on the development of a new sustainable product
- Promotion of sustainable business practices in the Oct 2019 (Special Edition) of the Dublin Economic Monitor
- Inclusion of MODOS case study in the CSR Annual Report including case study of participating business Viva Green

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

While this action was successfully delivered in 2019, the response from the participating companies was overwhelmingly positive.

It is proposed to launch a 1-day version of MODOS in 2020 so as to reach more SMEs.

Based on feedback and lessons learned for the MODOS pilot participants, trainers and coordinators identified the following opportunities:

- It was difficult to take 6-days from work to attend training
- Welcomed peer to peer learning and the opportunity to network with like-minded companies
- Need to align language of "circular economy", "sustainability" and "climate" so businesses are not overwhelmed, and it provides the support they need to achieve long-term growth

Therefore, key milestones for the 2020 workplan include:

- Redesign the six half-day workshops in to a 1-day masterclass, which has an overarching "sustainability" theme but underpinned by "circular economy" principles
- Deliver this training in at least 1 of the four Dublin local authority areas in 2020
- Identify 2 key Dublin-based events where the topic of sustainable business practices can be mainstream and curated to (a) appeal to a wider group of businesses, and (b) facilitate business networking

Action 3:

Develop a template for companies to develop their own Climate Change Action Plans as set out in Dublin LA's "Strategy towards Climate Change Actions Plans" <https://www.sdcc.ie/en/services/environment/environmental-health/climate-change/a-strategy-towards-climate-change-action-plans-for-the-dublin-local-authorities.pdf>.

Working Group Members:

SDCC, DCC, DLR, Fingal, with Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment

Timeframe for delivery:

Q3 2019

Status:

Work started in 2019 & continuing in 2020

What were the milestone(s) for 2019?

Further promote the need for business to take climate action from a policy and a business support perspective.

Seek funding to deliver this action.

What progress was made in reaching the milestone(s) in 2019?

This action was included in the National Climate Action Plan. It is a sub-action of Action 164 i.e. Coordinate and support the development of tools and supports at regional and enterprise level which address just transition objectives.

A meeting has held with the Dublin Climate Action Regional Office (CARO) to discuss how this action can be made more relevant and impactful for businesses. The Dublin CARO is very supportive of collaboration with the Dublin Regional Enterprise Strategy to ensure key messages and resources for SMEs are aligned, as well as optimise resources for maximum impact and delivery of regional and national policy.

Made a submission to the EPA for grant funding under the Green Business programme to determine to support delivery of this action. Unfortunately, this application was not successful.

What will the Workplan for 2020 contain?

It is firstly proposed that Action 3 is reworded to read “Develop a template for companies to develop their own Climate Change Action Plans”. The proposed 2020 milestones include:

- Research and analysis of existing climate change action plan templates relevant to business, and in particular SMEs
- Develop and design a useful climate action plan template
- Liaise with the Dublin CARO to determine how best to promote this tool to businesses e.g. workshops, on-line tutorials etc

Appendix 1: Regional Funding approved for Dublin supported by the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation

Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF)

The Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) was launched in May 2017 with the overarching aim of driving enterprise development and job creation in each region throughout Ireland.

Administered by Enterprise Ireland, it supports new collaborative and innovative initiatives that can make a significant impact on enterprise development in the region/across regions, or nationally. Just under €100m has been approved across 68 projects nationally.

Over the three calls under the REDF, Dublin Region secured funding of nearly €11.5 million across seven projects:

REDF Call	Project	Location	Description	Grant amount
1	BPO Cluster Ireland CLG	Dublin	Scaling the BPO Sector	€155,064
1	Dublin Enterprise & Tech Centre	Dublin	Guinness Enterprise Centre – Co Working Supports	€3,226,776
1	Ghala DAC	Dublin	Innovation Centre at Grand Canal Dock	€2,488,528
1	Social & Local Enterprise Alliance DAC	Dublin	Establishing, hosting and empowerment of Creative/ Artisan Start-ups	€1,135,195
2	Innovate Dublin Communities CLG	Dublin	Co-Working Spaces and Curation of Social Innovation in the Liberties	€249,955
2	St. Paul's Area Development Enterprise CLG	Dublin	Food Kitchen Incubator	€2,094,000
3	LINC Collaboratory Designated Activity Company	Dublin	A learning & innovation centre focussing on Cyber Security, Internet of Things Technology and Artificial Intelligence.	€2,149,940
Call 1 Total				€7,005,563
Call 2 Total				€2,343,955
Call 3 Total				€2,149,940
Grand Total				€11,499,458

Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) successful Call announcement dates:
 REDF Call 1: 4th December 2017
 REDF Call 2: 3rd December 2018
 REDF Call 3: 8th January 2020

Regional Technology Clustering Fund

Under Project Ireland 2040 Government identified an ambition to build sectoral clusters of Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) at regional level. This ambition will be delivered through initiatives supporting the development of business-led clustering of competitive advantage.

As one of the Government initiatives in this area, a multi-annual fund for Regional Technology Clustering was announced in Budget 2019.

An initial €2.75 million budget will be administered by Enterprise Ireland on behalf of the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation to support this initiative. This will be in the form of a competitive fund open to the Institutes of Technology (IoT) / Technological Universities (TU).

Applicant Name (Correct Legal Entity Name)	Stream	Project Summary	Fund awarded (€)
TU Dublin	1	Construction is a strategically important sector for economic growth and employment in Ireland. The proposed project seeks to address current fragmentation with the development of the first national Construction Sector Cluster (positioned as part of the Design & Construct at Broombridge). It will place an emphasis on skills development, technology enhancement, productivity and process improvement, sustainable development, knowledge transfer and internationalisation for SMEs.	€354,669
Total			€354,669

Regional Technology Clustering Fund successful announcement date:
4th October 2019

Funding under LEO Competitive Fund

The LEO Competitive Fund is to encourage LEO projects aligned with the pillars of Future Jobs Strategy and the Regional-Enterprise-Plans. It supports LEOs to collaborate within the network and enterprise eco-system.

Project & Summary	Lead Local Enterprise Office	Partners collaborating in the project	Funding
This project is targeted at established SME Client base to train the management of these companies to be able to conduct an 'Innovation Audit' of their respective companies.	Dublin City	Dublin Business Innovation Centre; Guinness Enterprise Centre, Futurescope Innovation Conference; Trinity Research and Innovation, Dublin City University	€191,392
Total			€191,392

LEO Competitive Fund successful announcement date:
4th October 2019

Appendix 2: Other Funding approved for Dublin

Project Ireland 2040 Funds

In 2018, the Government launched Project Ireland 2040 and committed €4 billion in funding under the Rural regeneration and Development Fund, Urban Regeneration and Development Fund, Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund and the Climate Action Fund.

The four funds are a major innovation in Project Ireland 2040 and rather than allocating funding in a 'business as usual' way to Government Departments, money was allocated competitively to the best projects, which leverage investment from other sources thereby ensuring that the impact of this investment goes further.

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF)

The €2 billion Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) is intended to drive regeneration and rejuvenation of strategic and under-utilised areas within Ireland's five cities, key regional drivers and other large towns. The Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government (DHPLG) has responsibility for implementing the fund, which has €100m available for expenditure in 2019 and an overall allocation of €550 million allocated to the fund up to the end of 2022. The fund will operate on a competitive, bid-based Exchequer grant basis, with proposals being required to demonstrate that they will be:

- Innovative and transformational urban regeneration projects;
- Public-sector led and with the option of community and/or private sector partners;
- Matched by at least 25 percent direct funding from other public and/or private sources;
- A minimum bid of €2m;
- A catalyst for development that would not otherwise occur; and
- Likely to leverage significant further public and private sector investment.

Call	Project	Location	Grant amount
URDF Cat A	Stillorgan public realm works	Dublin	€1,337,500
	Tallaght Town Centre	Dublin	€3,000,000
	No. 11 Parnell Square	Dublin	€343,000
	Rutland Street NEIC	Dublin	€1,794,000
URDF Cat A&B	Campus at Grand Canal Quay	Dublin	€1,500,000
	Cherrywood Public Parks, Greenways	Dublin	€870,000
Total			€8,844,500

Urban Regeneration and Development Fund (URDF) successful Call announcement date: URDF Call: 26th November 2018

Town and Village Renewal Scheme 2019

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme is an initiative under the Action Plan for Rural Development and is part of a package of national and local support measures to rejuvenate rural towns and villages throughout Ireland through the Government's Project Ireland 2040 Rural Regeneration Programme. The Scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered by the Local Authorities.

Local Authorities will be required to advertise for expressions of interest from towns/villages in their area and can select up to 12 proposals for development into detailed applications to be submitted to the Department by the end of June. Selection of projects will be by means of a competitive process, with the final project selection being made by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Project & Summary	Town	County	Funding
Public realm works and renovation of the entrance to Ballyboughal burial Ground.	Ballyboughal	Dublin	€20,000
Design, development and installation of a children's playground.	Loughshinny	Dublin	€100,000
Refurbishment and upgrade of the Rathcoole Courthouse and Public Library.	Rathcoole	Dublin	€200,000
Dublin Total			€320,000

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme successful announcement date:
1st November 2019

Appendix 3: Brief profile and statistical snapshot – Dublin

Constituent counties	Dublin	
Regional Population & change (1996-2016)	1,058,264 (1996): 1,347,359 (2016) increase of 289,095*	
GVA ¹ per person 2000 and 2014	€36,128: €62,594*	
Total in employment	725,100 ²	
Labour Force Participation rate	66.4% ³	
Unemployment rate	4.5% ⁴	
Unemployment blackspots ⁵	12 ⁶	
Percentage employed in Manufacturing: Services: Public sector	7%: 38%: 26% ⁷	
Educated to third level in Dublin: State	54%: 45%*	
Third Level Students (full-time & part-time)	79,266 ^{8*}	
Number of enterprises ⁹ (micro: small: medium: large) (2016)	72,292: 5,846: 1,340: 343*	
Number of Enterprise Ireland High Potential Start-Ups ¹⁰ (HPSUs) Dublin: State (2019)	56: 91	
EI supported employment & no. client Companies (2018 – 2019)	2018	2019
	Jobs: 75,561	Jobs: 78,003
	Companies: 3,311	Companies: 2,178
IDA supported employment & no. client companies (2018 - 2019)	2018	2019
	Jobs: 97,967	Jobs: 106,466
	Companies: 819	Companies: 825
LEO supported employment & no. client companies (2018 - 2019)	2018	2019
	Jobs: 766	Jobs: 682
	Companies: 1,212	Companies: 1,300
Number of LEO Priming Grants ¹¹ Dublin: State (2019)	60: 291	

1. Gross Value Added (GVA) is the measure of the value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of an economy.

2. CSO Labour Force Survey Quarterly Series Q4 2019.

3. CSO Labour Force Survey Quarterly Series Q4 2019.

4. CSO Labour Force Survey Quarterly Series Q4 2019.

5. Unemployment Blackspots are defined as Electoral Districts with at least 200 people in the labour force and an unemployment rate of 27% or higher.

6. Unemployment blackspots in the Region: Dublin City (7), South Dublin (4) & Fingal (1).

7. CSO Labour Force Survey Quarterly Series Q4 2019.

8. National University of Ireland, Dublin (26,252), Trinity College, Dublin (16,479), Dublin Institute of Technology (19,068), Institute of Technology, Tallaght (5,009), Dun Laoghaire Institute of Art, Design and Technology (2,312) Institute of Technology, Blanchardstown (3,087), Colaiste Mhuire, Marino, Dublin (829), National College of Art & Design, Dublin (1152) & National College of Ireland (5,078).

9. A Small Enterprise is defined as: an enterprise that has fewer than 50 employees and has either an annual turnover and/or an annual Balance Sheet total not exceeding €10m: A Medium Sized Enterprise is defined as: an enterprise that has between 50 employees and 249 employees and has either an annual turnover not exceeding €50m or an annual Balance Sheet total not exceeding €43m: A large Enterprise is defined as: an enterprise that employs greater than 250 employees, has either an annual turnover of greater than €50m or an annual balance sheet of greater than €43m.

10. HPSUs are start-up businesses with the potential to develop an innovative product or service for sale on international markets and the potential to create 10 jobs and €1m in sales within 3 years.

11. A priming Grant is a business start-up grant, available to micro enterprises with the first 18 months of start-up.

* Latest available update

Appendix 4: Employment creation and unemployment - Progress against targets set to 2020

Targets for Dublin Region to 2020

Since the launch of the Regional Action Plan for Jobs (RAPJ) there has been an increase of 346,800 people in employment across the State since Q1 2015 to Q4 2019, with 222,600 people in the regions outside of Dublin entering employment in that period.

The RAPJ initiative was a central pillar of the Government's ambition to create 200,000 new jobs by 2020, 135,000 of which are outside of Dublin.

The new Regional Enterprise Plans to 2020 continue the focus on delivery to these targets:

- employment growth of between 10 and 15 percent; and
- an unemployment rate reduced to within one percentage point of the State average.

Utilising data from the CSO Labour Force Survey (LFS), the rate of growth and unemployment rates achieved for the Dublin region during the period Q1 2015 up to Q4 2019 are as follows:

	Numbers Employed				Unemployment Rate	
	Q1 2015	Q4 2019	Change Q1 2015 to Q4 2019	Growth Q1 2015 to Q4 2019	Q1 2015	Q4 2019
Dublin	600,900	725,100	124,200	20.6%	9.1%	4.5%
State	2,014,400	2,361,200	346,800	17.2%	10.5%	4.5%

Source: CSO Labour Force Survey, Q4 2019

Dublin is currently performing ahead of the targets to end of 2020.

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