

Enterprise Newsletter

February 2021

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Brexit one month on: Available supports and advice for businesses

There are significant supports available for Brexit impacted companies. The Local Enterprise Offices' [Prepare Your Business for Customs programme](#), along with Enterprise Ireland's [Online Readiness Checker](#) and [Ready for Customs](#) grant all provide thorough assistance to companies dealing with import and export issues.

The LEOs also have [Brexit Mentoring](#) available to companies where they will appoint an issue specific mentor to a business to help them work through any difficulties.

For businesses needing to avail of finance, the [Brexit Loan Scheme](#), made available in cooperation with the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI) and the European Investment Fund, continues to offer low-cost finance of up to €1.5m to eligible Brexit-impacted businesses as they pivot and adapt to new markets and suppliers.

The [Microfinance Ireland Brexit Business Loan](#) provides up to €25,000 to businesses whose turnover has fallen (or is likely to fall) by 15% or more, or where a business has a short-term cashflow need as a result of Brexit.

InterTradeIreland provides a [Brexit Planning Voucher](#) worth €2,250 to enable SMEs to get professional advice on Brexit matters such as movement of labour, goods, services and currency management.

Public consultation on proposal for an EU Directive on adequate minimum wages in the EU

A proposal for a directive on adequate minimum wages in the European Union was published by the European Commission in October 2020.

This proposal aims to ensure that the workers in the Union are protected by adequate minimum wages allowing for a decent living. The proposal also aims to help protect employers that pay decent wages to workers by ensuring fair competition.

As part of Ireland's national scrutiny of the proposal, Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment welcomes views on the proposal, and invites stakeholders and other interested parties to make a submission.

A public consultation on the draft directive has been published on the Department's website at:

[Public consultation on proposal for an EU Directive on adequate minimum wages in the EU](#)

LEO: Brexit Lunch & Learn Webinar - 5 February at 1:00pm

The webinar will be opened by Minister Robert Troy, T.D., who will speak about the new trading relationship Irish businesses now have with the UK and the supports in place to ensure this can continue.

The webinar will give the audience a chance to hear how Brexit has affected the way we do business. It will look at what issues are arising for small businesses since the UK left the EU and how businesses can access supports to ease this transition to a new way of working with the UK.

The webinar will outline the supports available to small businesses through both their Local Enterprise Office and Enterprise Ireland and will also hear directly from Moxi Loves, an Irish company founded by Pamela Laird who export regularly into the UK and their experience of Brexit.

To attend the webinar on Friday, 5 February at 1:00pm please visit:

[Facebook.com/LocalEnterpriseOffices](https://www.facebook.com/LocalEnterpriseOffices)

[Youtube.com/LocalEnterpriseOffice](https://www.youtube.com/LocalEnterpriseOffice)

EI: The Export Compass webinar series

Enterprise Ireland are presenting a series of workshops to demonstrate and promote ways to overcome the challenges of the pandemic by understanding overseas business cultures, building digital capabilities for selling and developing customer, distributor and/or partner relationships.

The 5-part series will look at:

- What is the basis of your export plan? Where in the world you might export?
- Who is your ideal customer? Culture and doing business in other countries
- How to prepare for export. Sales and marketing to win export customers in a digital world
- How to finance your export plan. Finance management through funding and pricing
- Bringing it all together. Q&A session

Dates:

- 11 February: Who is your ideal customer? Culture and doing business in other countries.
- 25 February: How to prepare for export. Sales and marketing to win export customers in a digital world.
- 11 March: How to finance your export plan. Finance management through funding and pricing.
- 25 March: Bringing it all together, followed by a Q&A session.

Read more: [The Export Compass Webinar series](#)

KTI Webinar: Licensing Agreements - 2 March at 11:00am

The KTI Unlocking Knowledge Transfer webinar series continues on the 2nd March at 11am with a discussion on how **Licensing Agreements** with a research performing organisation could become a key asset for your business.

Knowledge Transfer Ireland (KTI) will be joined by **Samantha Williams, Licensing Manager at Trinity College Dublin** to explore the process of engaging with a Technology Transfer Office (TTO) to obtain an intellectual property licence and **Lorcan Kennedy, Chief Technology Officer at Waterford Technologies** will share his experience of licensing technology from Waterford Institute of Technology and the value it has delivered to the business.

To join the Licensing Agreements webinar you are invited to [register here](#)

Enterprise Ireland continues their series of Agile Innovation Supports webinars

Enterprise Ireland's R&D Core Unit is hosting a number of interactive online webinars on their Agile Innovation, Research and Development funding programmes. Offering fast-track approval and a streamlined online application process, the new Agile Innovation Fund allows companies to access up to 50% in support for product, process or service development projects with a total project cost of up to €300,000.

The Agile Innovation Supports Promotional webinars will continue in 2021 on the following dates:

- **Tuesday, 23 February**
- **Tuesday, 2 March**
- **Wednesday, 14 April**

Further details and registration will be available soon at: [Agile Innovation Fund Promotional Events](#)

You may also contact the R&D Helpline at: +353 1 727 2120 or rdcoreunit@enterprise-ireland.com