



An Roinn Fiontar,  
Trádála agus Fostaíochta  
Department of Enterprise,  
Trade and Employment

# Regional Aid Map Objective Model



## Regional Aid Map Objective Model

Table 1 displays the scoring for each LEA. Those highlighted in blue are included on the Map, up to the red cut off line. After that, some strategic exclusions were applied, highlighted in orange. The exclusions allowed the blue highlighted LEAs after the red line to be included.

Table 2 outlines the rationale behind the metrics.

**Table 1. Model Scoring Table**

Model outputs:

- Population coverage cut off at red line
- Included LEAs in blue
- Strategic exclusions in orange

LEA	County	Pobal	Gaeltacht	C1	Border	Towns	Covid	Income	IDA sites	Strat Priority	Score	Pop.	Rank	Cumulative %
Letterkenny	Donegal	3	5	5	5	3	4	5	5	5	40	29,791	1	0.6%
Donegal	Donegal	5	5	5	5	3	5	5	0	5	38	26,492	2	1.2%
Castlebar	Mayo	3	5	5	0	3	5	4	5	5	35	29,992	3	1.8%
Cavan-Belturbet	Cavan	4	0	5	5	3	4	4	5	5	35	25,959	3	2.4%
Glenties	Donegal	5	5	5	5	0	5	5	0	5	35	23,919	3	2.9%
Monaghan	Monaghan	3	0	5	5	2	4	5	5	5	34	22,695	6	3.3%
Tullamore	Offaly	4	0	5	0	4	4	5	5	5	32	29,159	7	3.9%
Carrickmacross-Castleblayney	Monaghan	4	0	5	5	3	5	5	0	5	32	21,436	7	4.4%
Lifford-Stranorlar	Donegal	5	5	5	5	3	4	5	0	0	32	25,889	7	4.9%
Longford	Longford	5	0	5	0	3	4	5	5	5	32	16,046	7	5.3%
Galway City East	Galway	2	5	5	0	3	4	3	5	5	32	26,595	7	5.8%
Buncrana	Donegal	5	0	5	5	2	5	5	0	5	32	22,366	7	6.3%
Carrick-on-Shannon	Leitrim	3	0	5	5	1	5	3	5	5	32	11,361	7	6.5%
Tramore-Waterford City West	Waterford	4	0	5	0	5	5	2	5	5	31	22,372	14	7.0%
Sligo-Strandhill	Sligo	4	0	5	0	4	4	4	5	5	31	21,129	14	7.5%
Bailieborough-Cootehill	Cavan	4	0	5	5	3	5	4	0	5	31	24,415	14	8.0%
Athlone	Westmeath	3	0	5	0	3	5	4	5	5	30	22,692	17	8.4%
Ballyjamesduff	Cavan	4	0	5	5	2	5	4	0	5	30	25,802	17	9.0%

## Ireland's Regional Aid Map

2022 – 2027

LEA	County	Pobal	Gaeltacht	C1	Border	Towns	Covid	Income	IDA sites	Strat Priority	Score	Pop.	Rank	Cumulative %
Athenry-Oranmore	Galway	1	5	5	0	2	4	3	5	5	30	32,833	17	9.7%
Milford	Donegal	5	5	5	5	0	5	5	0	0	30	13,771	17	10.0%
Ballybay-Clones	Monaghan	4	0	5	5	1	4	5	0	5	29	17,255	21	10.3%
Drogheda Urban	Louth	5	0	0	5	3	4	2	5	5	29	27,656	21	10.9%
Portlaoise	Laois	3	0	5	0	4	4	5	2	5	28	31,794	23	11.6%
Carlow	Carlow	4	0	5	0	3	4	2	5	5	28	22,650	23	12.1%
Waterford City South	Waterford	5	0	5	0	3	3	2	5	5	28	22,476	23	12.5%
Westport	Mayo	2	5	5	0	2	5	4	0	5	28	18,378	23	12.9%
Birr	Offaly	5	0	5	0	2	4	5	2	5	28	25,476	23	13.4%
Connemara North	Galway	4	5	5	0	1	5	3	0	5	28	17,191	23	13.8%
Wexford	Wexford	4	0	5	0	4	4	3	2	5	27	29,114	29	14.4%
Ballina	Mayo	5	0	5	0	3	5	4	0	5	27	25,110	29	14.9%
Galway City Central	Galway	2	5	5	0	3	4	3	0	5	27	26,702	29	15.5%
Roscommon	Roscommon	4	0	5	0	3	3	5	2	5	27	22,734	29	16.0%
Borris-in-Ossory-Mountmellick	Laois	5	0	5	0	2	5	5	0	5	27	24,807	29	16.5%
Ballinasloe	Galway	4	0	5	0	2	3	3	5	5	27	28,110	29	17.1%
Enniscorthy	Wexford	5	0	5	0	4	4	3	0	5	26	27,253	35	17.7%
Claremorris	Mayo	4	0	5	0	3	5	4	0	5	26	27,141	35	18.2%
Mullingar	Westmeath	3	0	5	0	3	4	4	2	5	26	25,960	35	18.8%
Ballymahon	Longford	4	0	5	0	2	5	5	0	5	26	14,153	35	19.1%
Dungarvan	Waterford	3	5	5	0	2	4	2	0	5	26	20,497	35	19.5%
Connemara South	Galway	2	5	5	0	2	4	3	0	5	26	21,341	35	20.0%
Carndonagh	Donegal	5	0	5	5	1	5	5	0	0	26	16,964	35	20.3%
Manorhamilton	Leitrim	4	0	5	5	0	4	3	0	5	26	10,821	35	20.5%
Dundalk South	Louth	3	0	0	5	3	3	2	5	5	26	32,436	35	21.2%
Gorey	Wexford	4	0	5	0	3	5	3	0	5	25	27,351	44	21.8%
Kilkenny	Kilkenny	2	0	5	0	3	5	3	2	5	25	28,951	44	22.4%
Granard	Longford	5	0	5	0	0	5	5	0	5	25	10,674	44	22.6%
Tralee	Kerry	4	0	0	0	3	4	4	5	5	25	33,038	44	23.3%
Rosslare	Wexford	5	0	5	0	1	5	3	0	5	24	21,540	48	23.8%
Sligo-Drumcliff	Sligo	2	0	5	0	1	2	4	5	5	24	17,675	48	24.1%
Drogheda Rural	Louth	2	0	0	5	3	2	2	5	5	24	17,876	48	24.5%
Belmullet	Mayo	5	5	5	0	0	4	4	0	0	23	12,600	51	24.8%
Clonmel	Tipperary	4	0	0	0	3	4	2	5	5	23	24,310	51	25.3%
Edenderry	Offaly	5	0	5	0	2	5	5	0	0	22	23,326	53	25.8%

## Ireland's Regional Aid Map

2022 – 2027

LEA	County	Pobal	Gaeltacht	C1	Border	Towns	Covid	Income	IDA sites	Strat Priority	Score	Pop.	Rank	Cumulative %
Boyle	Roscommon	5	0	5	0	2	5	5	0	0	22	21,831	53	26.2%
Kinnegad	Westmeath	4	0	5	0	1	3	4	0	5	22	21,674	53	26.7%
Ballinamore	Leitrim	5	0	5	5	0	4	3	0	0	22	9,862	53	26.9%
Piltown	Kilkenny	3	0	5	0	0	4	3	2	5	22	21,343	53	27.4%
Corca Dhuibhne	Kerry	2	5	0	0	1	5	4	0	5	22	14,181	53	27.7%
Galway City West	Galway	1	5	5	0	3	4	3	0	0	21	25,371	59	28.2%
Tuam	Galway	3	0	5	0	2	3	3	0	5	21	33,191	59	28.9%
Portlaw-Kilmacthomas	Waterford	3	0	5	0	1	5	2	0	5	21	17,120	59	29.2%
Castlecomer	Kilkenny	3	0	5	0	1	4	3	0	5	21	23,581	59	29.7%
Athlone	Roscommon	2	0	5	0	0	4	5	0	5	21	19,979	59	30.2%
Limerick City East	Limerick	2	0	0	0	5	3	1	5	5	21	35,342	59	30.9%
Ardee	Louth	3	0	0	5	2	4	2	0	5	21	25,317	59	31.4%
Dundalk-Carlingford	Louth	5	0	0	5	0	4	2	0	5	21	25,599	59	32.0%
New Ross	Wexford	5	0	5	0	2	5	3	0	0	20	27,739	67	32.6%
Limerick City West	Limerick	2	0	0	0	3	4	1	5	5	20	34,896	67	33.3%
Graigucullen-Portarlington	Laois	3	0	5	0	2	4	5	0	0	19	28,096	69	33.9%
Ennis	Clare	2	0	0	0	3	4	3	2	5	19	30,910	69	34.5%
Kenmare	Kerry	3	5	0	0	2	5	4	0	0	19	25,062	69	35.1%
Waterford City East	Waterford	2	0	5	0	4	5	2	0	0	18	22,987	72	35.5%
Moate	Westmeath	3	0	5	0	1	5	4	0	0	18	18,444	72	35.9%
Muinebeag	Carlow	4	0	5	0	1	1	2	0	5	18	15,630	72	36.3%
Swinford	Mayo	5	0	5	0	0	4	4	0	0	18	17,286	72	36.6%
Cashel-Tipperary	Tipperary	5	0	0	0	2	4	2	0	5	18	27,382	72	37.2%
Nenagh	Tipperary	4	0	0	0	2	3	2	2	5	18	21,373	72	37.6%
Loughrea	Galway	3	0	5	0	2	4	3	0	0	17	23,219	78	38.1%
Kilmuckridge	Wexford	4	0	5	0	0	5	3	0	0	17	16,725	78	38.5%
Shannon	Clare	2	0	0	0	4	1	3	2	5	17	30,397	78	39.1%
Roscrea-Templemore	Tipperary	4	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	5	17	16,594	78	39.5%
Ballymote-Tobercurry	Sligo	4	0	5	0	2	1	4	0	0	16	26,731	82	40.0%
Callan-Thomastown	Kilkenny	3	0	5	0	2	2	3	0	0	15	25,357	83	40.6%
Tullow	Carlow	4	0	5	0	1	3	2	0	0	15	18,652	83	40.9%
Adare-Rathkeale	Limerick	3	0	0	0	0	4	1	2	5	15	27,710	83	41.5%
Gort-Kinvara	Galway	1	0	5	0	1	4	3	0	0	14	23,505	86	42.0%
Killarney	Kerry	2	0	0	0	3	5	4	0	0	14	29,607	86	42.6%
Lismore	Waterford	3	0	5	0	0	3	2	0	0	13	10,724	88	42.9%

## Ireland's Regional Aid Map

2022 – 2027

LEA	County	Pobal	Gaeltacht	C1	Border	Towns	Covid	Income	IDA sites	Strat Priority	Score	Pop.	Rank	Cumulative %
Limerick City North	Limerick	5	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	13	34,714	88	43.6%
Carrick-on-Suir	Tipperary	5	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	13	19,440	88	44.0%
Thurles	Tipperary	4	0	0	0	2	3	2	2	0	13	19,382	88	44.4%
Castleisland	Kerry	4	0	0	0	1	4	4	0	0	13	17,145	88	44.8%
Newcastle West	Limerick	4	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	12	27,416	93	45.4%
Kilrush	Clare	5	0	0	0	1	3	3	0	0	12	20,994	93	45.8%
Listowel	Kerry	5	0	0	0	1	2	4	0	0	12	28,674	93	46.4%
Newport	Tipperary	2	0	0	0	2	5	2	0	0	11	16,355	96	46.7%
Ennistimon	Clare	3	0	0	0	0	5	3	0	0	11	16,408	96	47.1%
Killaloe	Clare	2	0	0	0	0	5	3	0	0	10	20,108	98	47.5%
Cahir	Tipperary	3	0	0	0	1	3	2	0	0	9	14,717	99	47.8%
Cappamore-Kilmallock	Limerick	4	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	7	34,821	100	48.5%
Balbriggan	Dublin	2	0	0	0	5	5	1	0	0	0	36,570	101	49.3%
Trim	Meath	2	5	0	0	5	5	1	0	0	0	31,195	101	50.0%
Rush-Lusk	Dublin	1	0	0	0	5	5	1	0	0	0	34,674	101	50.7%
Cork City North West	Cork	5	0	0	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	40,186	101	51.5%
Cobh	Cork	2	0	0	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	34,117	101	52.3%
Midleton	Cork	2	0	0	0	5	4	2	0	0	0	45,441	101	53.2%
Ratoath	Meath	1	0	0	0	5	4	1	0	0	0	33,318	101	53.9%
Howth-Malahide	Dublin	1	0	0	0	5	3	1	0	0	0	56,139	101	55.1%
Maynooth	Kildare	1	0	0	0	5	3	1	0	0	0	29,730	101	55.7%
Naas	Kildare	1	0	0	0	5	3	1	0	0	0	39,126	101	56.5%
Wicklow	Wicklow	2	0	0	0	5	2	1	0	0	0	28,219	101	57.1%
Carrigaline	Cork	1	0	0	0	5	2	2	0	0	0	35,141	101	57.9%
Kildare	Kildare	3	0	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	25,702	101	58.4%
Clane	Kildare	2	0	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	28,437	101	59.0%
Newbridge	Kildare	2	0	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	35,482	101	59.7%
Ashbourne	Meath	2	0	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	29,081	101	60.4%
Laytown-Bettystown	Meath	2	0	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	0	34,121	101	61.1%
Arklow	Wicklow	4	0	0	0	4	4	1	0	0	0	26,185	101	61.6%
Fermoy	Cork	3	0	0	0	4	4	2	0	0	0	36,406	101	62.4%
Greystones	Wicklow	1	0	0	0	4	3	1	0	0	0	26,323	101	62.9%
Bandon-Kinsale	Cork	1	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	0	0	37,269	101	63.7%
Kells	Meath	4	5	0	0	3	5	1	0	0	0	32,398	101	64.4%
Navan	Meath	3	5	0	0	3	5	1	0	0	0	34,931	101	65.1%

## Ireland's Regional Aid Map

2022 – 2027

LEA	County	Pobal	Gaeltacht	C1	Border	Towns	Covid	Income	IDA sites	Strat Priority	Score	Pop.	Rank	Cumulative %
Mallow	Cork	3	0	0	0	3	4	2	0	0	0	29,157	101	65.8%
Clondalkin	Dublin	3	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	0	46,520	101	66.7%
Skibbereen-West	Cork	2	5	0	0	3	4	2	0	0	0	30,281	101	67.4%
Swords	Dublin	1	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	0	51,370	101	68.4%
Celbridge	Kildare	1	0	0	0	3	4	1	0	0	0	21,626	101	68.9%
Cork City North East	Cork	3	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	42,169	101	69.8%
Cork City South East	Cork	1	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	42,782	101	70.7%
Cork City South West	Cork	1	0	0	0	3	3	2	0	0	0	47,049	101	71.7%
Baltinglass	Wicklow	3	0	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	26,167	101	72.2%
Bray East	Wicklow	2	0	0	0	3	2	1	0	0	0	17,127	101	72.6%
Cork City South Central	Cork	2	0	0	0	3	1	2	0	0	0	38,667	101	73.4%
North Inner City	Dublin	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	63,612	101	74.7%
South East Inner City	Dublin	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	40,603	101	75.6%
South West Inner City	Dublin	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	42,344	101	76.5%
Leixlip	Kildare	1	0	0	0	3	1	1	0	0	0	15,860	101	76.8%
Athy	Kildare	5	0	0	0	2	4	1	0	0	0	26,541	101	77.4%
Kanturk	Cork	3	0	0	0	2	4	2	0	0	0	24,935	101	77.9%
Macroom	Cork	1	5	0	0	2	3	2	0	0	0	36,844	101	78.7%
Bray West	Wicklow	2	0	0	0	1	5	1	0	0	0	18,404	101	79.0%
Bantry-West Cork	Cork	3	5	0	0	1	4	2	0	0	0	22,424	101	79.5%
Artane-Whitehall	Dublin	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	51,156	101	80.6%
Ballyfermot-Drimnagh	Dublin	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	46,068	101	81.6%
Ballymun-Finglas	Dublin	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	55,010	101	82.7%
Tallaght Central	Dublin	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	43,215	101	83.6%
Tallaght South	Dublin	5	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	35,465	101	84.4%
Palmerstown-Fonthill	Dublin	4	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	38,035	101	85.2%
Donaghmede	Dublin	3	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	41,593	101	86.0%
Blanchardstown-Mulhuddart	Dublin	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	35,307	101	86.8%
Killiney-Shankill	Dublin	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	38,082	101	87.6%
Ongar	Dublin	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	35,834	101	88.3%
Blackrock	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	33,727	101	89.0%
Cabra-Glasnevin	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	58,652	101	90.3%
Castleknock	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	46,126	101	91.2%
Clontarf	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	54,182	101	92.4%

## Ireland's Regional Aid Map

2022 – 2027

LEA	County	Pobal	Gaeltacht	C1	Border	Towns	Covid	Income	IDA sites	Strat Priority	Score	Pop.	Rank	Cumulative %
Dun Laoghaire	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	41,627	101	93.2%
Dundrum	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	37,452	101	94.0%
Firhouse-Bohernabreena	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	34,202	101	94.8%
Glencullen-Sandyford	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	36,622	101	95.5%
Kimmage-Rathmines	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	55,861	101	96.7%
Lucan	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	33,421	101	97.4%
Pembroke	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	45,473	101	98.4%
Rathfarnham-Templeogue	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	47,909	101	99.4%
Stillorgan	Dublin	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	30,508	101	100%

1. Please note: LEAs in counties not fully included in the previous Regional Aid Map, namely Dublin, Cork, Wicklow, Meath and Kildare, were not scored. This is in line with government policy to support balanced regional development.

## Table 2

The following table outlines the rationale and scoring structure for each of the nine metrics used to assess each LEA in determining inclusion on the Regional Aid Map.

Component	Description	Values
<b>Pobal Deprivation Index</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> Criterion 5 of the RAGs allows for the inclusion of contiguous areas of 50,000 inhabitants that are undergoing major structural change or are in serious relative decline. The Pobal Deprivation Index is a measure comprising a series of indicators that shows the level of deprivation at both County and LEA level in Ireland. The Pobal Index is a good measure for identifying need for investment.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> The index is a measure of regional variation in relative affluence or disadvantage based on ten indicators gathered from the most recent Census data. LEAs were assigned to one of five quintiles, with the most disadvantaged areas receiving a score of 5 and the most affluent areas receiving a score of 1.</p>	1-5
<b>Disposable Income</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> An important indicator of deprivation that is not included as part of the Pobal Deprivation Index is disposable income and this has therefore been included as part of the overall metrics to measure the need for investment.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> The disposable income per person by county, from 2018 CSO data, converted to quintiles with a score of 5 for lowest disposable income. This data provides a more regional picture of the economic situation than the GDP per person measure used in Criteria 1, which is only available at NUTS3 level.</p>	1-5
<b>Criteria 1 Eligibility</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> The criterion 1 conditions of the RAGs are met if an area has a GDP per capita of below or equal to the EU27 average or has an unemployment rate of above or equal to</p>	

	<p>115% of the national average. This is measured at NUTS 3 level.</p> <p>While this gives a high-level indication of need for investment, it is a measure taken at above County level, so it is not, on its own, a clear measure of relative decline in an area (within a NUTS 3 area there may be a combination of both prosperous and deprived areas which, when averaged out, meet the Criterion 1 conditions.</p> <p>Yet it is important to give some measure of priority to Criterion 1 areas, as under the RAGs, areas that qualify under Criterion 1 qualify for a 15% aid intensity, while areas outside of this qualify for a 10% intensity.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> 5 points are given to LEAs which are eligible under Criteria 1 of the regional aid guidelines, capturing the importance of the higher aid intensity</p>	0, 5
<b>Border</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> The Border counties are the most impacted by Brexit by the very nature that they share a border with the NI/UK which is now a Third Country. In accordance with the NI Protocol, NI is subject to EU Regional Aid rules. However, in terms of the allocation of population coverage, whereby other MS were allocated their population coverage on the basis of GDP per capita, the Commission decided that NI would be given a 100% blanket population coverage. Therefore, the border counties in Ireland are competing directly with NI which has the advantage of full Regional Aid coverage. It was therefore decided that recognition of this would be an important metric in the development of the Map.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> 5 points are given to LEAs in counties which border Northern Ireland</p>	0, 5
<b>COVID Exposure</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> The three Regional Assemblies assessed the impact of COVID-19 on towns and counties in Ireland based on the sectors that are expected to be worst impacted by the pandemic and the proportions of the labour force working in those sectors</p>	

	<p>in each region. These findings have been included as a metric for the need for investment.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> Figures for LEAs were calculated by taking the average value for towns in the LEA, or by taking the county average where there were no towns with scores in the LEA. The LEA figure is converted to a quintile, with a score of 5 for the LEAs estimated to be experiencing the greatest economic impact due to COVID-19. <b>Source:</b> <a href="#">CV19-Regional-Economic-Analysis.pdf (southernassembly.ie)</a></p>	1-5
<b>Strategic Priorities</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> Officials, working with the Enterprise Agencies (EI and IDA) looked at the Map in terms of the strategic importance of an area, the need for investment and the potential for growth and job creation. This was done on the basis of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the geographic locations of clusters of client companies</li> <li>• ensuring regional balance by including at least part of most counties as designated assisted areas</li> <li>• future need for investment in areas impacted by Brexit</li> <li>• level of development of infrastructure and other drivers of regional development</li> <li>• NDP initiations and other national strategies for regional development.</li> </ul> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> Five points are given to LEAs that were included in the proposals from EI and IDA.</p>	0-5
<b>Gaeltacht</b>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> While Údarás na Gaeltachta has a strong enterprise development remit, their remit is broader including social and cultural development and ensuring that the Irish language remains a living language. Údarás na Gaeltachta strategic priorities differ from those of EI and IDA and to ensure fairness and balance, a metric based on whether or not a region included a Gaeltacht area was included.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> 5 points are given to LEAs which include a Gaeltacht region.</p>	0, 5

<p><b>Towns</b></p>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> The purpose of Regional Aid is to attract and stimulate investment in an area. However, regional aid is not the only factor that attracts investment in an area and factors such as infrastructure and skills are also considered. In order to link the Map to the objectives in the NDP and the NPF and, in particular, to focus on developing Regional Growth Centers, a metric based on town size was included.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> 3 points are given to LEAs for each town having a population over 10,000, 2 points for other towns with population over 5,000, and 1 point for towns over 1,500. The number of points that an LEA could score was capped at 5.</p>	<p>0-5</p>
<p><b>Business and Technology Parks</b></p>	<p><b>Rationale:</b> In terms of the potential for investment and growth, weight was given to LEAs with an IDA or Shannon Group property. These LEAs have strong potential for investment and job creation.</p> <p><b>Structure of metric:</b> 2 points are given to LEAs for each site operated by IDA or Shannon Group, since these constitute ideal locations for further development, and 3 additional points are given to IDA sites which are earmarked for expansion in the 2015-2026 period.</p>	<p>0-5</p>