



Lár Bailte ar dTús
Town Centre First



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

Town Centre First Progress Update



Donal Ó Murchadha

Retail Forum Town Centre First/Night
Time Economy Working Group
07.03.2024



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National Office

- **National Town Centre First Day**
 - Town Centre First Brand
 - Town Centre First Website www.towncentrefirst.ie
- **Town Centre First – Suite of Supports 2024**
 - Potential 130 Town Centre First locations.
 - Pilot 1 – 26 No. Towns
 - Pilot 2 – 26 No. TCF Plans + 78 Town Team Support Fund locations





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TCF Pilot – Phase 1

- Final draft/adopted Plans for 25 Pilot Towns Received.
 - Population **82,030 (2016 Census)**
 - Town Team Members – **344**
 - Public engagements – **630**
 - Citizen responses – **7,595**
 - Projects Identified – **749**
- 1 further plan due in March.
- Funding deadline now closed.





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Q2 2024

- Commencement of Pilot Phase 2:
 - Consistent Methodology.
 - Driven by Learnings from Pilot Phase 1 – Town Engagement, Projects identified.
 - Alignment with Policy – develop clear plan process.
 - Digital Blueprints integrated into process.
- Expansion of Funding Associated with Town Centre First
 - Thrive Scheme
 - Continued and strengthened involvement of large urban centres.





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Digital Hub Pilot

- Explore resourcing of potential joint pilot based on engagement with Scottish Towns Partnership
 - Oban (Scotland)
- Potential platform that provides digital infrastructure for Towns (/City)
 - Powerful engagement Tools to promote economic growth, social cohesion, civic pride.
 - Mobile apps & map portal for residents & visitors, and online portals for businesses and placemakers.
 - Data to measure and understand the health of places.
 - Local e-commerce
 - Internet of Things (IoT) in the public Realm. Making things accessible and relevant.





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Questions?

