

Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) - *Placemaking & Clustering*

The work of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor is on-going and is being supported by a process that will involve the production of a Development Plan, Vision and Strategy followed by an Action Plan. This work has been actively progressed by KPMG who were commissioned to carry out this work in consultation with the Chief Executive's, the Directors of Economic Development and the members of the Political Advisory Group who make up the agreed governance arrangements for DBEC.

The Development plan forms stage one of a three stage process and was presented to the Political Advisory Group at their first meeting. Stage two is nearing completion and involves the development of a detailed strategy (consultation, SWOT, Vision Development and Strategy Development). Finally, Stage three will see the development of an Action Plan.

The secretariat of DBEC which was managed by Fingal has been transferred to Newry Council to support the next phase of development of the corridor. KPMG presented to the EDE SPC Members at their meeting on 12/04/22.

The Political Advisory Group will meet at 10am in Louth Co Co offices on 16th September. As part of the agenda KPMG will present to the councillors on the strategy, and discuss what will be involved in developing the action plan.

Dublin Belfast Circular Economy Capital Expenditure Feasibility Shared Island Funding

As part of this work DBEC considered the preparation of two applications for submission under the Shared Island process. Following agreement from the two Chief Executive's that a connected circular economy application would be made, Mary MacSweeney, Sabrina Dekker (DCC) and Belfast City Council have worked together in developing an application to the Shared Island Fund. The ambition is to support start up and scaling businesses who will create solutions to circular economic challenges in Dublin and Belfast and along the corridor with export potential. The application was submitted on 03/06/22. A decision is awaited.