

Oifig an Tánaiste agus an tAire,
Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta
Office of the Tánaiste and Minister
for Enterprise, Trade and Employment



Our Ref: 222503/TAN

13 December 2022

Councillor Tom Brabazon
Chair of the Economic Development and Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee
Dublin City Council
Dame Street
Dublin 2
D02 NP93

Dear Councillor Brabazon,

I have been asked by the Tánaiste and Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment, Mr. Leo Varadkar T.D. to respond to your correspondence dated 27th October regarding the distribution of hubs in Dublin and for enclosing the report on 'Enterprise Hubs in Dublin – Research Report 2022'.

Enterprise Centres and hubs are key infrastructure which provide affordable physical workspace for businesses across the country, spaces for start-ups, training and collaborative spaces as well as delivering training and soft supports to their tenants and other companies in their locality.

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has invested in the development of enterprise hubs through the various regional enterprise funds with approximately 40 Enterprise Centres/Hubs having secured funding and at various stages of development.

This Department has also provided a number of schemes for those enterprise centres impacted by Covid, including:

- A competitive fund administered by Enterprise Ireland to provide eligible enterprise centres with financial support for the implementation of a 6 to 12 - month Recovery Plan. Seventeen Dublin based enterprise centres secured funding of over €1.74m under this fund.

- An allocation of €6m to existing Regional Enterprise Development Fund (REDF) and Border Enterprise Development Fund (BEDF) funded projects in 2022 and a further €6m over subsequent years to assist projects which have incurred unforeseen construction costs to allow them to complete their projects as originally planned.

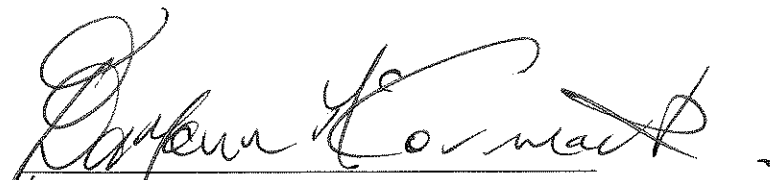
This Department has also secured up to €145m over the coming years from the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) to support projects coming from the Regional Enterprise Plans (REPs). The Tánaiste has asked Department officials to work with Enterprise Ireland on launching the first call of funding under the ERDF early next year.

You may also wish to note that this Department and the Department of Rural and Community Development will lead on the development of a National Hub Strategy which will bring together in a single strategy, the various national policies and schemes into a coherent and over-arching development strategy and identify opportunities to further leverage the National Hub Network as a public asset of significance and scale.

The strategy, which will be published towards the end of 2023, will examine, amongst other things, the distribution and sustainability of enterprise centres and hubs across all regions of the country.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Éamonn McCormack,
Private Secretary.