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1. Economic Development Office



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Progress Report Economic Development Office 31st March 2022



Event	Date
Economic Development & Enterprise SPC	12 th April 2022
Dublin Tech Summit	15-16 th June 2022
Dublin Economic Monitor Launch Event	June 17 th (TBC)

Dublin Region Enterprise Plan (DREP) 2024 – Innovation & Transformation

Dublin Region Enterprise Plan 2022 – 2024 is led by the Department of Enterprise Trade & Employment; with representation from the four Dublin Local Authorities (Dublin City, Fingal, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire Rathdown), IDA, Enterprise Ireland, Fáilte Ireland, SEAI, Dublin Regional Skills Forum, IBEC, TU Dublin, Dublin Chambers of Commerce (Dublin, Fingal, South Dublin and Dún Laoghaire), with contributions from the private sector.

Project Delivery Teams were established in June 2021 to inform development of next Dublin Region Enterprise Plan up to 2024. Five Strategic Objectives have been identified for the next DREP, with Dublin City Council Economic Development Office leading on Strategic Objective 4 on Transition to Low Carbon Economy; whilst contributing to all other 4 objectives.

Strategic Objective 1 (SMEs & Startups):	Lead: Oisín Geoghan, LEO Fingal
Strategic Objective 2 (Placemaking):	Lead: Aidan Sweeney, IBEC
Strategic Objective 3 (Employment/Enterprise Inclusion):	Lead: Tom Cooney, TUD
Strategic Objective 4 (Low Carbon Transition):	Lead: Mary MacSweeney, DCC
Strategic Objective 5 (Skills & talent):	Lead: Enda McDonnell, EI

The Dublin Region Enterprise Plan 2022 – 2024 will be launched in by Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar on April 1st. Once launched, the EDO team will begin to action the strategic objectives with the assistance of the DREP co-ordinator.

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

The work of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor is being supported by a process that will involve the production of a Development Plan, Vision and Strategy and an Action Plan. This work has been actively progressed by KPMG in consultation with the Chief Executive's, the Directors of Economic Development and the members of the Advisory Group who make up the governance arrangements for DBEC. The Development plan forms stage one of a three stage process. Stage two has commenced and will involve 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 will be handed over to Newry to support the next phase of development of the corridor.

KPMG have been invited to present to the EDE SPC Members at their meeting on 12/04/22.

Local Economic & Community Plan (LECP) – *Innovation & Transformation*

The development of the 2022 – 2027 Local Economic & Community Plan is now underway. The required Advisory Group has been formed and hosted their inaugural meeting on March 15th. The LECP will be developed via a six stage process and regular updates will be provided.

Economic Development & Enterprise Strategic Policy Committee: SPC - *Strategic Approach*

The next meeting of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC is scheduled for April 12th. The agenda will be confirmed early next week.

Dublin City – A Vision for Dublin – *Promotion & Investment*

Dublin City Council has completed an initial process designed to define a new vision for Dublin in response to the challenges facing Dublin city in the post Covid world. In recognition that many of the issues faced are complex and inter-related, the process captured the perspectives of a range of stakeholders. This process provided an opportunity for bold thinking and the creation of a new framework to position Dublin as a dynamic and leading City of the Future – and to enhance its resilience and competitiveness. This work was progressed along-side the work programme to review the current City Development Plan and to develop a new plan for 2022 – 2028.

MODOS- LAPN Grant Funding - *Climate & Innovation*

The DCC & DLRD collaborative MODOS programme was developed and commenced delivery in Spring 2022. Training commenced on March 2nd for course one and March 9th for course two. Following a detailed promotion and communication campaign, 37 participants

registered to attend both courses. Networking events were held on 21st March and one to one mentoring will also be provided to assist the participating businesses in taking action to embed circularity in their business practices.

Dublin Economic Monitor – Climate & Innovation

The Dublin Economic Monitor is a publication for the 4 Dublin Local Authorities, led by Dublin City Council's Economic Development Office. The Q1 2022 DEM was published on March 3rd with an accompanying talking heads video and the content was disseminated through the website, press release, the mailing list, social media and by post.

Planning is underway for the Q2 DEM with the key theme being Urban Regeneration. The annual launch event for the DEM is proposed to take place on the morning of June 17th with details being finalised for the format of the early morning launch.

Further details: www.dublineconomy.ie

Event Sponsorship:

The Economic Development Office provide support to various events across the city throughout the year that are designed to make a positive impact on delivering on our key priorities and strategic objectives. A new application form has been created to streamline the process.

Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022: Placemaking & Clusters

Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022, will continue to be managed by Inner City Enterprise and funded by Dublin City Council and the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD).

A digital brochure of all previous Social Enterprise Award recipients has been developed in line with the requests of the SPC members. The 2022 awards programme was launched during Local Enterprise Week and is now open for applications.

Dublin Tech Summit - Placemaking & Clusters

The Economic Development Office, the Local Enterprise Office and the Dublin Place Brand team will support the Dublin Tech Summit in 2022 which takes place on June 15-16th at the RDS.

Your Dublin Your Voice: Placemaking & Clusters

The YDYV Q1 Survey 2022 was conducted in February in conjunction with the DCC Irish Development Officer, over 1200 responses were received. Work on the Q2 YDYV survey is well progressed focusing on the use of E-scooters in the city centre, this is scheduled to go live on April, 19th.

Further details: www.dublincity.ie/business/economic-development-and-enterprise/economic-development/your-dublin-your-voice

Smart Tourism Data: Placemaking & Clusters

Economic Development staff continue to support the work of the Smart Tourism Data working group. Developments with Mastercard will explore smart tourism data. Three will explore available mobile data. Economic Development supported the Smart Cities application

submission for the European Smart Tourism Campaign 2022. Projects being developed include smart trail apps for the greater Dublin region.

2. Local Enterprise Office: Training, Mentoring & Financial Grants

COVID-19 / Coronavirus

We are actively promoting in our monthly newsletter, the department of enterprise supports to SME's. New grant schemes are advertised on this page. In this way, we ensure that entrepreneurs have the latest information on any scheme that maybe suitable to assist their business.

<https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/What-We-Do/Supports-for-SMEs/COVID-19-supports/Communications>

[A monthly newsletter is disseminated to all subscribers, with reminder mailings also taking place.](#)

- [February Newsletter: Issued 1st February with reminder](#)
- [March Newsletter: issued 1st March with reminder](#)
- April newsletter: issued 4th April

[In addition bespoke newsletters took place during February & March: \(from 01/02/2022\)](#)

- Survey re LEO clients service & communication preferences: issued 16th Feb
- Dublin City Enterprise Awards 2022: Seeking applications pre closing date of 17th Feb. Mailed 1st Feb
- Digitalise Your Business to Drive Growth: Issued 28th Feb to drive footfall to opening event of Local Enterprise Week 2022. 300 attendees achieved.
- Win 3 months free desk/space in Guinness Enterprise Space: issued 22nd Feb with reminder on 28th Feb
- Local Enterprise Week '22 newsletter: A series of newsletters developed and started issuing 18th February i.e. a generic promotion of a the week and spotlight events
- Bootcamp 1 day Intensive Start Your Own Business course 7th March

Case Studies

[Case studies bring the companies and the supports and services provide by LEO to life:](#)

[All case studies https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/](https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/)

Posting a new case study monthly. Case studies completed and promoted in February & March '22:

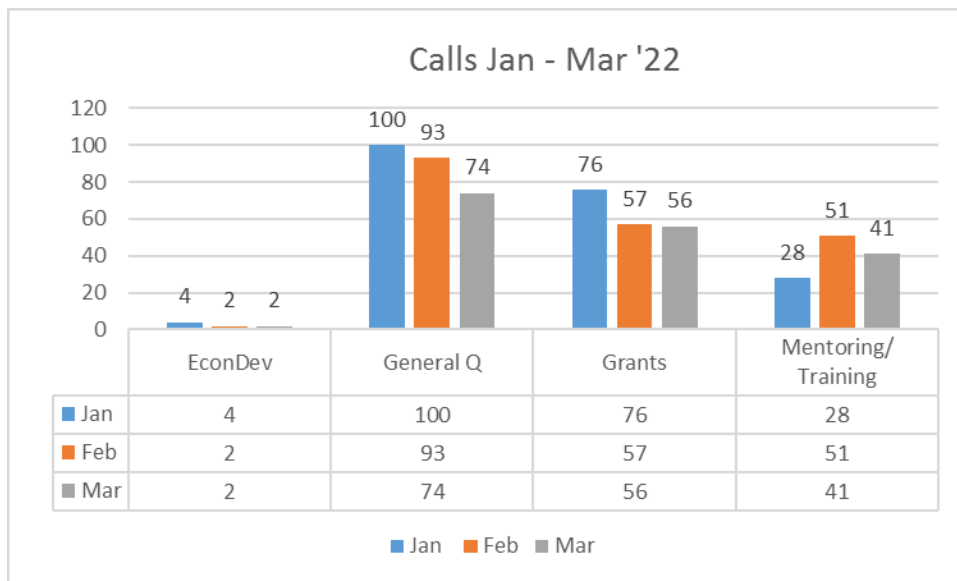
- Stillgarden Distillery <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Stillgarden-Distillery.html>
- Tir Deli <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/T%C3%ADr%20Deli.html>
- Afore After <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Afore-After.html>
- Bounce Back Recycling <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Bounce-Back-Recycling.html>
- Attention Attire <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Attention-Attire.html>
- Sandia Dublin <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Sandia-Dublin.html>
- Kopper Kreation <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Kopper-Kreation1.html>
- Shock of Grey <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Shock-of-Grey.html>
- The Inkspot <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/The-Inkspot-Limited.html>

Focused on those who had been through the Modos programme, participants of Showcase and the recent Dublin City Enterprise Award winner 2022.

Cross promotion in newsletter and social media.

First Stop Shop

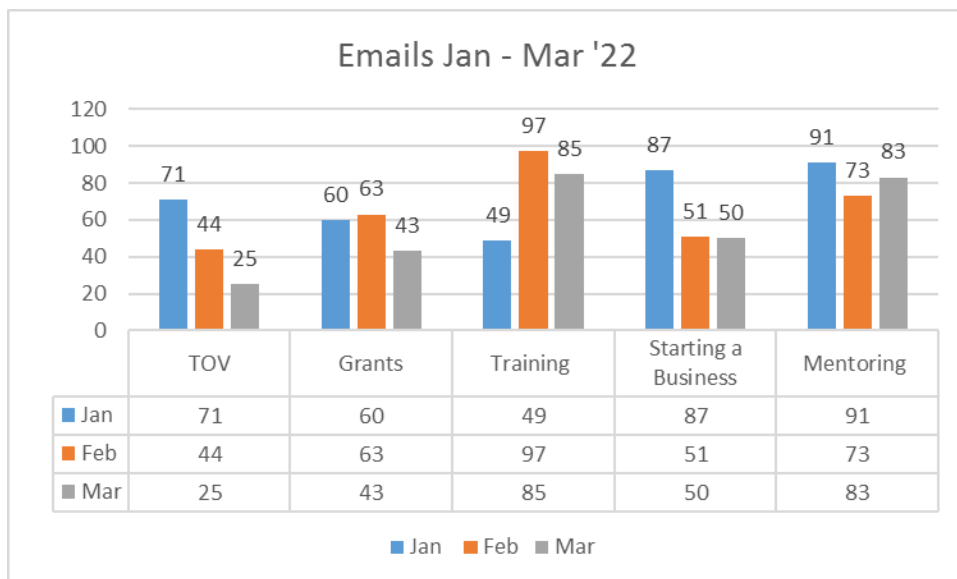
Calls during January - March 2022: 581. At 60% level of 2020. 46% general enquires, 33% grants, 21% mentoring & training.



Emails during January - March 2022: 972

TOV: 14% Grants: 17% - 31% of emails Measure 1 supports

Training: 24% Starting a business: 19% Mentoring: 25% - 68% Measure 2 supports

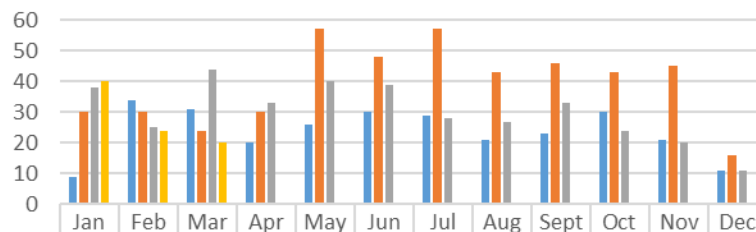


Mentoring – Online Delivery

Annual Target 2021: 1,000 hours

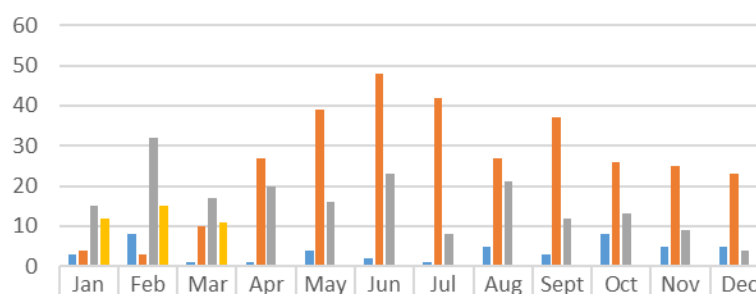
1st Jan – 31st March '22: 297 hours delivered out of a target of 1000. 3 hours @ 28.47% of target 6 hours @ 15.33% of target

Mentoring 3 Hours - Participant No.s



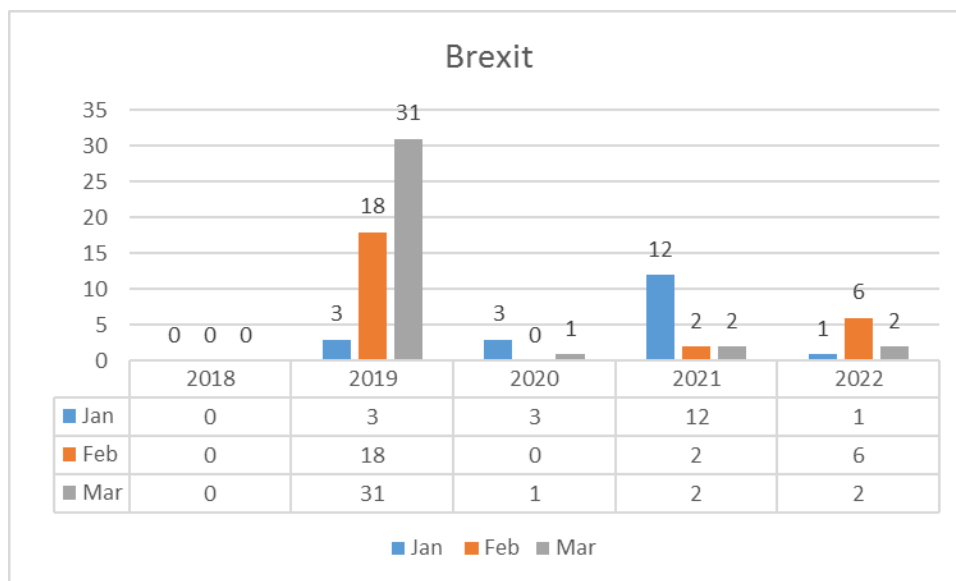
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mentoring (3hr) No. Participants 2019	9	34	31	20	26	30	29	21	23	30	21	11
Mentoring (3hr) No. Participants 2020	30	30	24	30	57	48	57	43	46	43	45	16
Mentoring (3hr) No. Participants 2021	38	25	44	33	40	39	28	27	33	24	20	11
Mentoring (3hr) No. Participants 2022	40	24	20									

Mentoring 6 Hour - Participant No.s



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec
Mentoring (6hr) No. Participants 2019	3	8	1	1	4	2	1	5	3	8	5	5
Mentoring (6hr) No. Participants 2020	4	3	10	27	39	48	42	27	37	26	25	23
Mentoring (6hr) No. Participants 2021	15	32	17	20	16	23	8	21	12	13	9	4
Mentoring (6hr) No. Participants 2022	12	15	11									

Brexit Mentoring: 9 Brexit specific mentor sessions requested Jan to March '22 inclusive vs 16 for the same period in 2021.

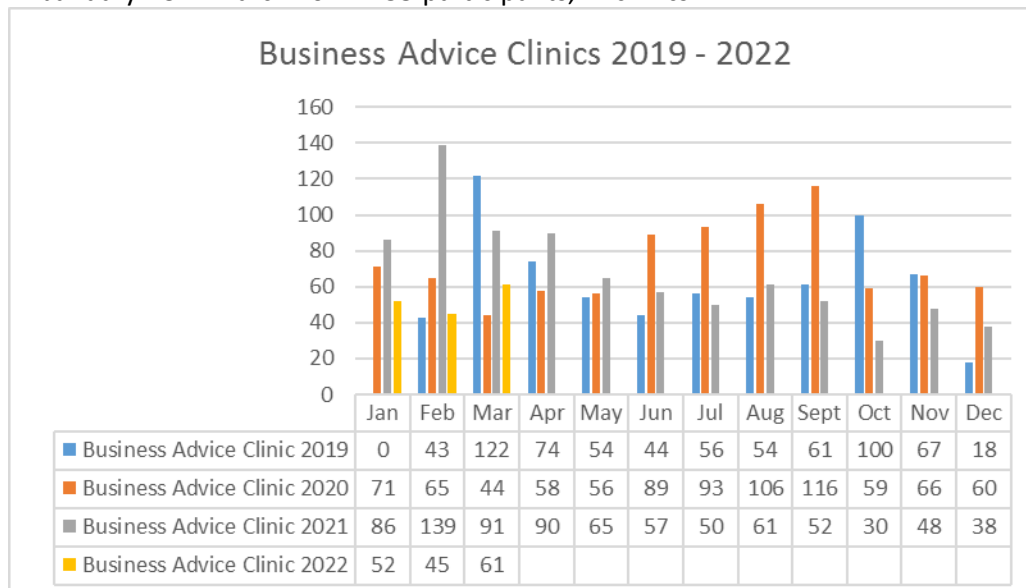


Mentor Meetings: continuing monthly. Opportunity to gain feedback from the panel and also to update them on emerging products. Meeting held 25th January '22, 1st & 29th March. April meeting planned for 26th.

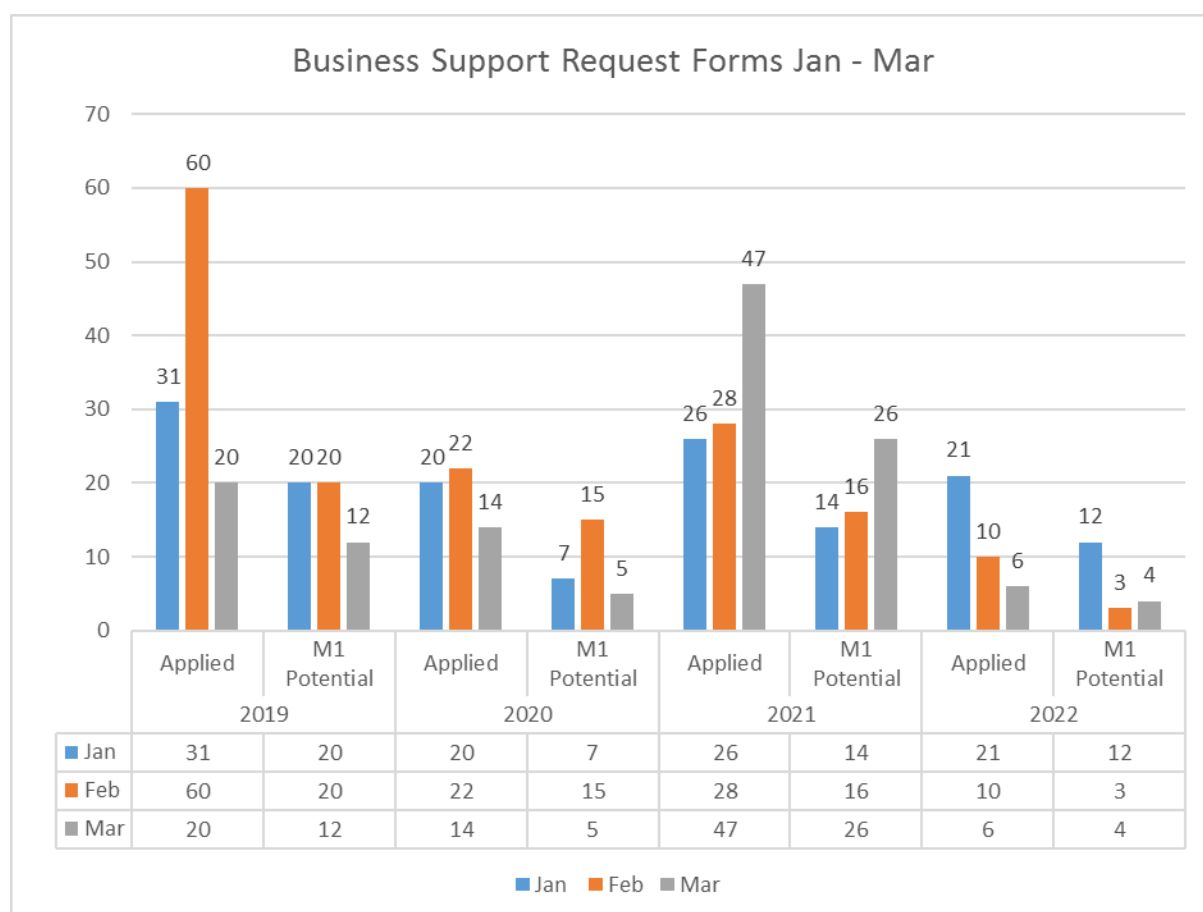
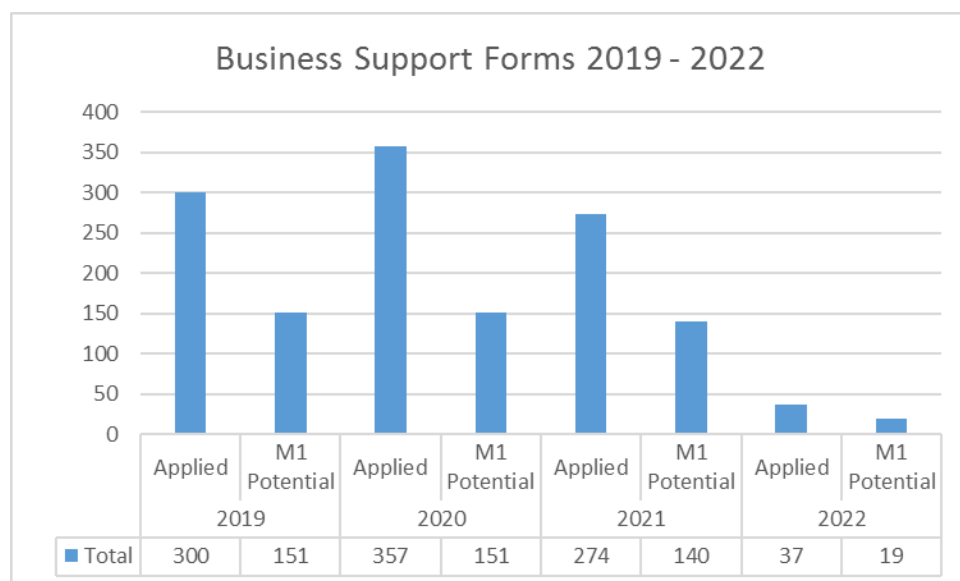
Business Advice Clinics

Annual target 2022: 500 participants, 48 Clinics

1st January – 31st March 2022: 158 participants, 12 clinics



Business Support Forms (Those who seek to consult with a business advisor pre loan application)



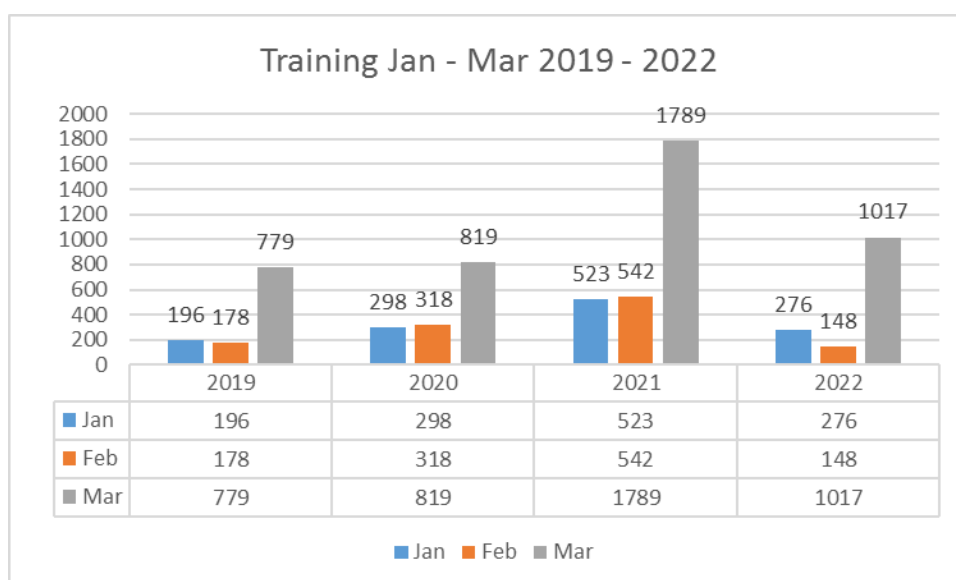
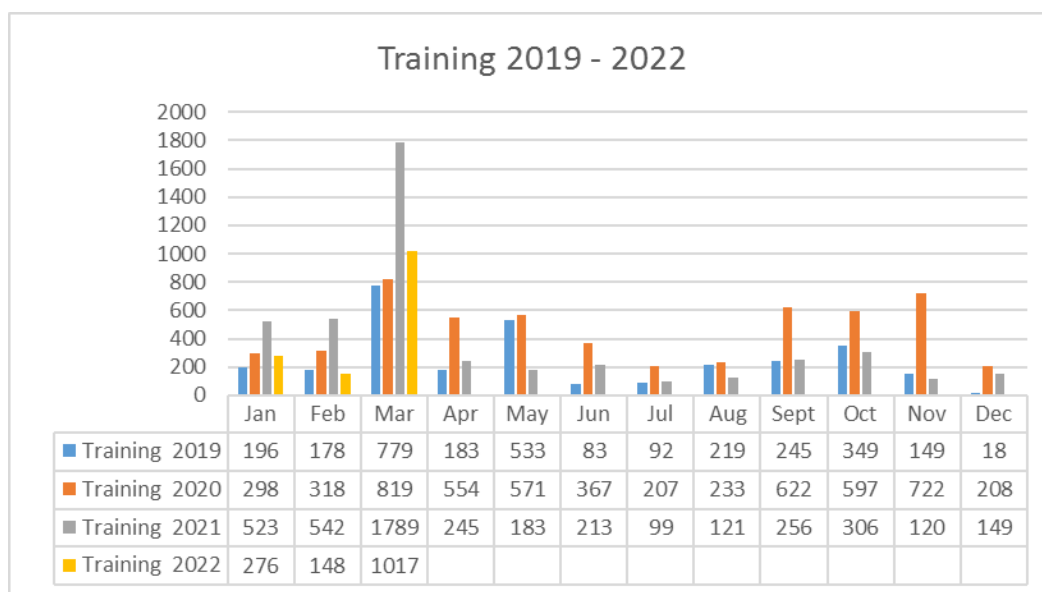
Training – Online delivery

Our training programme has been adapted to reflect business requirements as a result of COVID-19

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>

Annual target 2022: 3,000 participants

1st January – 31st March 2022: Courses 43, participants 1712 during Q1. Participant numbers are down approximately 33% year on year and reverting to pre-pandemic levels as society reopens more fully post COVID-19 lockdowns.



Training courses completed February 2022:

Date	Course Title
02/02/2022	Modos sustainability taster session
02/02/2022	Business Advice Clinics
02/02/2022	Lean for Micro Training Programme
03/02/2022	Modos sustainability taster session
03/02/2022	Online marketing & social media course evenings
09/02/2022	How to maximise your website
10/02/2022	Business Advice Clinics
15/02/2022	Business Advice Clinics
22/02/2022	SYOB 3 (Mid Week)
23/02/2022	Web analytics
23/02/2022	Business Advice Clinics

Training courses completed March 2022:

Date	Course Title
01/03/2022	Learn about tax & vat
03/03/2022	Preparing your grant application
04/03/2022	Business Advice Clinic
07/03/2022	Driving growth through digitisation
07/03/2022	Demystifying market research with mintel
07/03/2022	Benefits of mentoring
08/03/2022	Trading Online Information Session
09/03/2022	Enterprise & Innovation hubs: The unique offering
09/03/2022	Intellectual Property with the patents office
09/03/2022	Funding & Scaling
09/03/2022	Lean for micro information session
09/03/2022	Instagram for business
10/03/2022	Improve your networking skills
10/03/2022	Skills & Talent Development for SME's
10/03/2022	Business Advice Clinic
10/03/2022	Social Enterprise: Impact & Measurement
11/03/2022	SYOB LEW ' 22 BOOTCAMP
15/03/2022	Business Advice Clinic
24/03/2022	Business Advice Clinic
26/03/2022	SYOB 4 (Sat and Wed)
29/03/2022	SYOB 5 (Mid Week)
30/03/2022	Content creating - content to make your brand stand out

Booking for April 2022:

Date	Course Title
01/04/2022	Business Advice Clinic
05/04/2022	The Key to Cash Flow
05/04/2022	Management & Development for SME's
06/04/2022	Business Advice Clinic
06/04/2022	Mind Your Mind in Business
06/04/2022	Business Advice Clinic
13/04/2022	Creating marketing videos on your smartphone
14/04/2022	Business Advice Clinic
20/04/2022	HR Protecting Your Business
21/04/2022	Business Advice Clinic
21/04/2022	FREE Library Talks: Becoming a successful entrepreneur & idea generation
27/04/2022	How to brief your web designer
27/04/2022	HR Protecting Your Business
28/04/2022	Trading Online Information Session
28/04/2022	Business Advice Clinic
28/04/2022	Prepare your grant applications
28/04/2022	FREE Library Talks: Market Research - identifying clients, competitors & resources

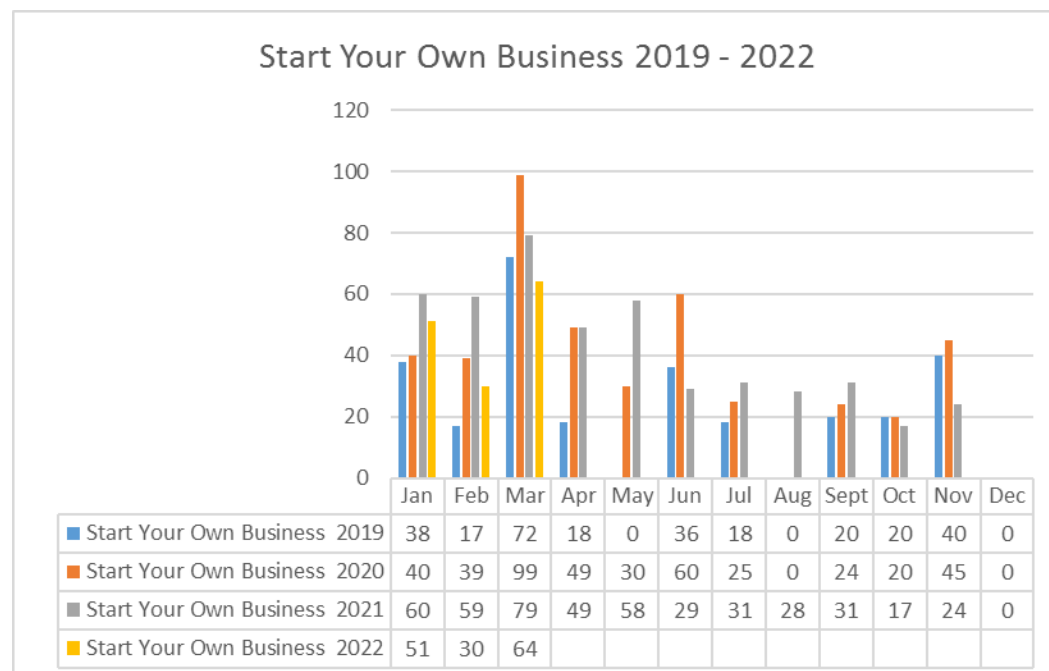
The training schedule has been devised until end of 2022. We will monitor on an ongoing basis to ensure relevance to business requirements and relevance and responsiveness to working with COVID-19 and other market factors e.g. post Brexit and war in Ukraine which is affecting supply & demand for goods and services.

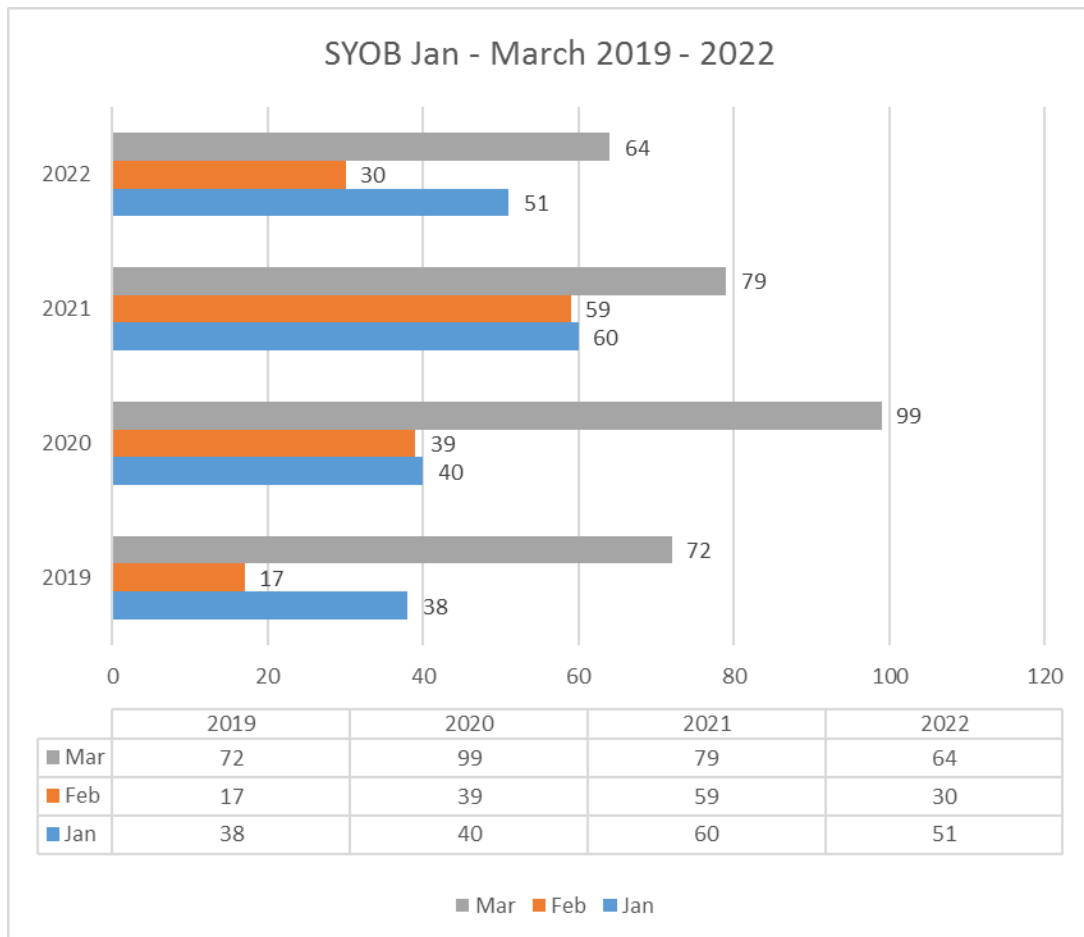
Start Your Own Business Course

This programme provides individuals who are seeking to start their own business with the skills, management tools and expertise in making the right decisions, planning and organising effectively. It helps individuals gauge what will be required in order to keep their new venture running effectively and efficiently.

Annual Target: 13 courses & 221 participants

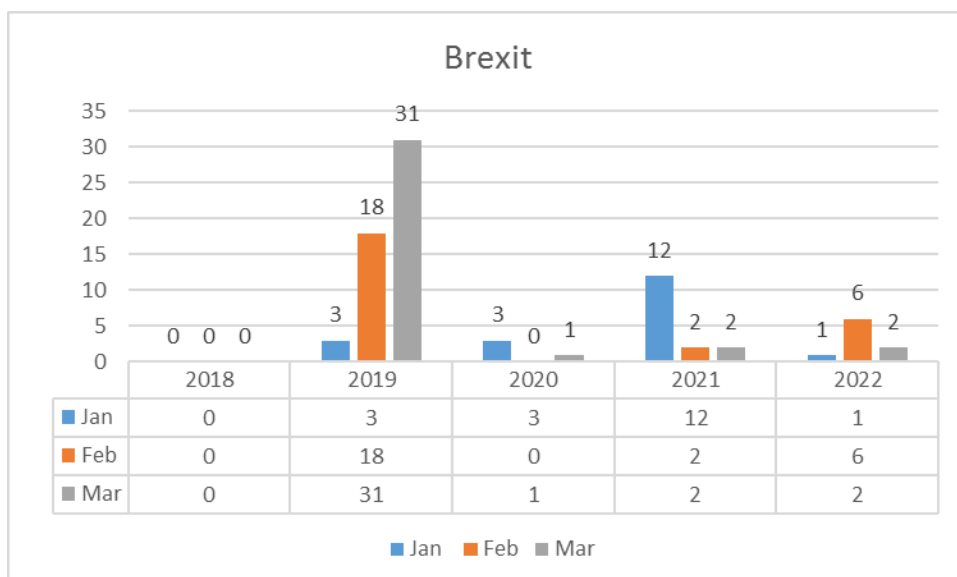
1st January – 31st March 2022: 5 courses & 1 boot camp, 145 participants. Down 54 participants compared to 2021. 144 participants achieved for same period 2020.





Research undertaken by the LEO unit during '22 confirms that 50% of entrepreneurs who undertake the SYOB programme go on to establish a business.

Microfinance Ireland: Pre-loan applications



Management Development Programmes

Lean For Micro <https://leanformicro.ie/>

To enhance companies competitiveness and profitability. LEO's in the Dublin region are working together to host information sessions about the programme. 23 Dublin City clients took part in the information workshop on 19th January. A lean course commenced on 3rd February. Another information session took place as part of Local Enterprise Week '22. Next information session for the Dublin region 7th & 14th April.

Green for Micro www.localenterprise.ie/Green

The objective of the Green for Micro programme - a new initiative from the Local Enterprise Offices - is to help prepare small businesses for the low carbon, more resource efficient economy of the future. Explanatory video <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Green/What-is-Green-for-Micro/What-is-Green-For-Micro.html>

Applicants receive 2 days mentoring/green consultation, with a value of €1,800. This delivers an audit of their green credentials with next steps. This product is suitable for businesses in construction and the built environment, retail, manufacturing, textiles and fashion, food, electronics, plastics, and packaging.

Applications received in 2022 to date = 7

Food Starter

Four half days delivered online. The programme is designed to help those with a food idea/early stage of starting a food business i.e. 0 -24 months, post participation in the Digital School of Food. The programme overviews the Irish Food sector to the specifics of starting a food production business.

Last programme took place 28th Feb, 3rd, 21st & 23rd March '22.

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/FoodSupports/Food-Starter-Programme/>

Food Academy

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/FoodSupports/Food-Academy-Programme/>

A training programme aimed at supporting and nurturing start-up food businesses. An initiative with Bord Bia and Supervalu, providing a consistent level of food marketing knowledge to new and early stage food business owners. Opened for application 21st March. Marketing activity will take place to drive applications until they close on 8th April.

Events

Local Enterprise Week '22 took place 7th – 12th March

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Events%20/Local-Enterprise-Week-2022.html>

LEO DC opened the event with a digitisation event. 300 attendees logged in. Minister English provided a pre-recorded message.

National spotlight events took place online. Staff have been encouraged to access the recordings for training purposes. Events can be watched back here

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Events%20/Local-Enterprise-Week-2022.html>

International Women's Day in person event 9th March Radisson Blu Hotel Golden Lane: 300 registered for this LEO Dublin regional event. Barden recruitment sponsored the event. The keynote speaker was Anne Sheehan General Manager. LEO Dublin City provided the panellists. Full details:

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Start-or-Grow-your-Business/Networking/Women-in-Business/Network-Events/8th-March-2022-International-Women-s-Day-Event.html>

Measure 1 (Grants) Approvals Metrics: April 2022 (January – March Approvals)

4.1 M1 Grants Approvals Metrics: April 2022

	#No of M1 Grant Applications			Jobs		Value of M1 Grants		
Type of Grant	Annual Target	Total # No Approved 2022	Variance	Total Jobs Created Target-Grant Approvals	Total Jobs Created - From Grant Approvals 2022	Annual Target	Total Value M1 Grant Approved 2022	Variance
Feasibility Grant	23	3	20	25	3	€172,500	€26,500	€146,000
Priming	16	0	16	32	0	€240,000	€0	€240,000
Business Expansion Grant	21	3	18	53	8	€525,000	€85,000	€440,000
TOTAL	60	6	54	110	11	€937,500	€111,500	€826,000

List of M1 Grants approved in 2022 to date

GMIS No.	Company Name	Grant Type	first name	Executive Official	Amount Approved	Jobs
9034072	FixxFi Limited	Feasibility	Andrew	Dunne	€5,500	1
9027538-02	Altra Health Ltd	Feasibility	Adam	Keane	€6,000	1
9034073	BoardX Limited	Feasibility	David	Malone	€15,000	1
9034091	Egrtech Limited	Business Expansion	Emre	Uzun	€25,000	2
9025861	Native Events Ltd.	Business Expansion	Megan	Best	€35,000	4
9027535-02	Transit9	Business Expansion	Keith	MacHale	€25,000	2
				Total:	€111,500.00	11

Trading Online Metrics 2022:

Trading Online Vouchers: 1st January 2022 – 30th March 2022	Target 2022	Metrics 2022
No. of Trading Online Vouchers Approved:	200	73
Value of Trading Online Vouchers Approved:		€155,014.00
No. of TOV Drawdowns Received:		52
No. of TOV Drawdowns Paid:		61
Total Amount Paid:		€122,667.95

Summary of TAME Metrics: As at 29th March 2022:

	No of TAME Approvals	Value of Approvals	Payment made to date	Decommital to date	Balance to Drawdown	Budget 2022	Fund available for new TAME Approval
TAME Grants C/F from 2021	5	8,454	1,020	0	€7,434	16,020.11	
TAME Grants Approved 2022	4	€8,603	€0	0	€8,603	45,000.00	
Totals:	9	€17,057	€1,020	0	€16,037	€61,020.11	€44,983.11

3. Dublin Place Brand - Dublin.ie

Place Brand Strategy Development

Work continued through February and March on the development of a place brand strategy with OCO Global. Phase one of included researching perceptions of Dublin from both an international audience and from Irish people and organisations based outside the capital. Additionally, Dublin was benchmarked against 20 other cities across a range of metrics and criteria. The next phases will include a review of the Dublin Place Brand's creative assets, creating a stakeholder steering group to oversee the brand and the development of new communications plan.

Campaigns & Events

The Dublin Scholarship

The Dublin Place Brand, in partnership with Education in Ireland, and Dublin's Higher Education Institutions, are running an international digital marketing campaign targeted at post graduate students in France, Italy, Germany, and Spain. Students can enter to win a full postgrad scholarship at a Dublin HEI of their choosing plus a €10,000 stipend. The campaign will run from mid-April for several weeks. The digital ads will link to a page on Dublin.ie that will host the entry form and provide further information on studying in Dublin.

Brigit 2022 – Dublin City Celebrating Women

Over 30 individual events were featured and promoted on Dublin.ie in the lead up and on the day itself.

Support for Ukraine

The Place Brand's support of Ukraine has included changing the colours of the brand to match the national flag on Dublin.ie, across our social media and JCDecaux digital advertising panels.



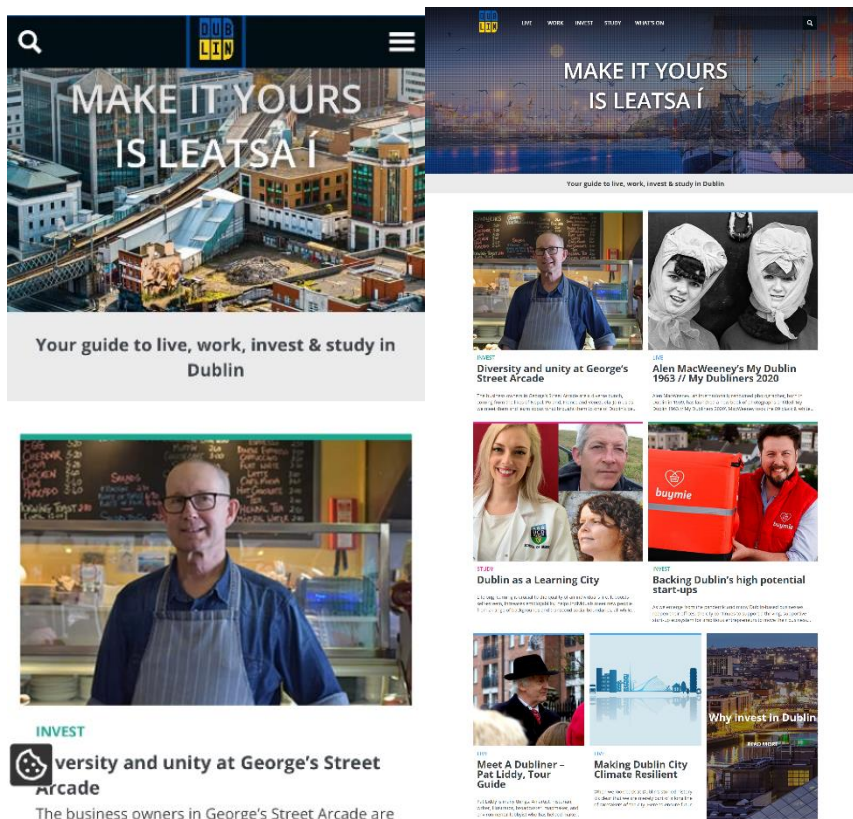
Local Enterprise Week 2022

The Dublin Place Brand provided social media support leading up to and throughout Local Enterprise Week.

Dublin.ie Website

Design and development updates

Following a delay, new performance and user experience upgrades for Dublin.ie were rolled out in March.



Content:

- **Story Updates:** An audit of the almost 300 site stories took place in December. This was done to ascertain how many need updates or removal. A writer has been engaged to update almost 150 site stories in Q2.
- **Enterprise Ireland content series:** Work is ongoing with Enterprise Ireland to produce a content series over the next few months.

Stakeholder Engagement

- **Education in Ireland / HEIs:** The Dublin Scholarship campaign has provided an opportunity to further develop relationships with Education in Ireland and Dublin's leading HEIs including UCD, Griffith College and TCD.
- **DCU and Failte Ireland:** working on a collaborative project with Innovation students at DCU to come up with new and innovative ideas to encourage people from Ireland and Northern Ireland who live outside the capital to visit Dublin and spend at least one overnight.

- **Regional Enterprise Plan:** Presented the Dublin Place Brand to the Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan Programme Manager. We are working to incorporate the brand into the Regional Enterprise Plan and reach a wider number of Dublin's key stakeholders.

4. Smart Dublin & Smart Districts



**Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council**

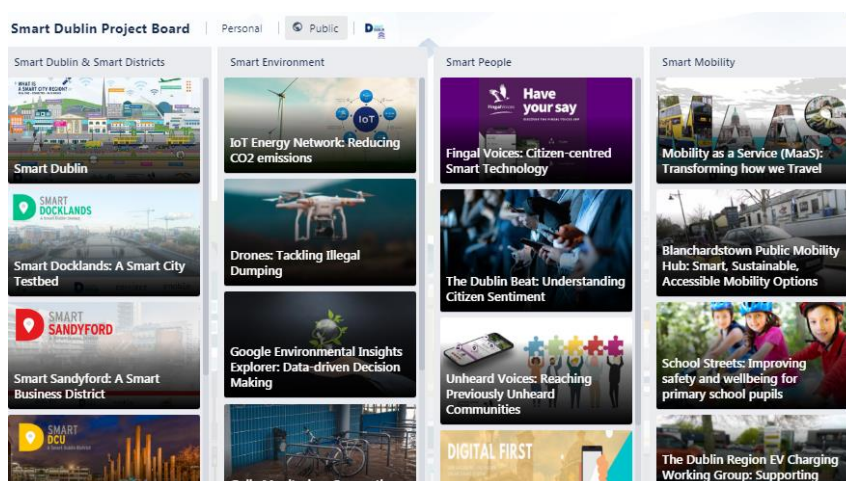
Strategic Policy Committee
Economic Development & Enterprise
April 2022
Agenda Item: Smart City Update

Smart Dublin is an initiative of the four Dublin Local Authorities to engage with smart technology providers, researchers and citizens to solve challenges and improve city life. It aims to position Dublin as a world leader in the development of new urban solutions, using open data, and with the city region as a test bed.

DCC Smart City Unit under the Smart Dublin umbrella has developed a world-leading Smart City programme. It drives forward the use of new technologies to improve our city's operations; improving efficiencies, reducing costs, driving economic growth and future proofing our communities.

Smart Districts are strategically selected locations where targeted smart city projects can be fast-tracked to measure impact and potential scalability. Each Smart District is unique, with bespoke programmes developed to meet the specific needs of the district residents and also provide growing businesses with a wider variety of testbed locations.

Dublin City Council supports three out of the five Smart Dublin districts; Smart Docklands, Smart DCU and our latest smart district Smart D8, a smart district focusing on Health and Well Being. It has also recently established a Smart Tourism Programme in partnership with Fáilte Ireland.



For more information on Smart Dublin Project, see the Public Trello Board: <https://trello.com/b/188O9azF/smart-dublin-project-board>

1. Smart Dublin's Regional [programme highlights](#) for the year of 2022

Despite many challenges in 2021, Smart Dublin has experienced a number of successes across the Dublin Region. A review has been put together showing the main programme highlights for the year. The document captures the variety of projects across our four local authorities, five districts, and Smart Tourism programme. The Smart Dublin team would like to thank everybody who contributed to the programme during 2021 and look forward to continue working on the activities outlined in the report and to start on new initiatives planned for 2022.

The Document is available to download at this link: [Smart Dublin Programme Highlights 2021](#).



2. Dublin City Council launches new Telecoms Unit.

On the 23rd of February 2022, Dublin City Council (DCC) launched a new Telecoms Unit to accelerate the rollout of digital infrastructure and 5G deployments across the city. The Unit will offer a 'one stop shop' service to support the delivery of telecoms both underground (ducting) and over ground (supporting mobile and wireless services). With 5G services expected to facilitate a new wave of innovation and economic growth, DCC is making sure Dublin is not left behind. The establishment of the Unit will also assist DCC in meeting its obligations under the 'European Electronic Communication Code'.

Read the full press release here: <https://www.dublincity.ie/news/dublin-city-council-launches-dedicated-telecoms-unit-accelerate-digital-infrastructure-investments>



3. New citizen science initiative launched to gather flooding and rainfall data for Dublin

Flooding will become more severe and more frequent as the impact of global warming continues, the International Panel on Climate Change has warned. Ireland as an island - with all of its major cities built on the coast - will be vulnerable. A UCD scientist and partner on the Smart Dublin programme is asking people in Dublin to help the city prepare

for future floods by setting up weather stations. Francesco Pilla, an Associate Professor of Smart Cities and Urban Environment at the university, has funding from the EU Operandum project (of which DCC is a partner) to deploy up to 100 weather stations across Dublin and is appealing for schools, businesses and residents to use them to gather local rainfall data. As Dublin's exposure to flooding increases because of extreme weather events and rising sea levels, the data gathered may help the city to reduce its vulnerability.

More information on the project and how to get involved here: <https://www.rte.ie/news/dublin/2022/0319/1287300-weather-stations/>



4. Relaunch of the Dublin City Council's Staff Smart Mobility Hub

The Smart Mobility Hub offers DCC staff an alternative to using their private cars for their business travel. The scheme provides e-vehicles (e-cars and e-bikes) which are free for staff to use during the workday, based in office car parks, and simple to book via an app. The project is co-funded with Enterprise Ireland under their Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) programme, which allows the public sector to test and design new innovative services pre-procurement.

The Smart Mobility Hub is a multi-partner project, supported by UCD and Science Foundation Ireland, and designed and delivered in collaboration with Fingal County Council, and multiple commercial partners including Nifty Cars, GTS and Bleeperbike. Phase two of the pilot has been delayed due to COVID, but has recently relaunched in multiple DCC sites, the largest being at Civic Offices. The pilot project will encourage staff to use the shared vehicles onsite, to provide feedback on their experience, and to build a comprehensive picture of the business needs before scaling up this type of service.

Link for more information:

<https://smartdublin.ie/smart-mobility-hub-privacy-policy-terms-and-conditions-and-fqs/>

5. Open Data Climate Action Challenge

Smart Dublin are running their latest Open Data challenge seeking data based solutions, which support climate action. The challenge will have 5 pillars which include energy & buildings, nature-based solutions, transport, resource management and flood resilience. The challenge launched on Wednesday 30th of March and the deadline for applications will close on the 26th of April.



More information on how to apply can be found here: <https://smartdublin.ie/dublin-region-climate-action-open-data-challenge-2022/>



6. Academy of the Near Future Design your Future City Week

Academy of the Near Future held a week of workshops for Transition Year students (21-24th March) to learn about technology, innovation, smart cities and careers in STEM. The 'Design Your Future City' TY Week is a collaboration between CONNECT at Trinity College Dublin and Dublin City Council. The Academy of the Near Future also partnered

with Virgin Media to deliver this week-long programme for Transition Year students. Students explored the future of cities through collaborative and interdisciplinary workshops and discussion, sparking creativity and critical thinking.

Read more here: <https://smartdublin.ie/academy-of-the-near-future-design-your-future-city/>

7. Civic Dollars, Double Dollar Week update

Civic Dollars ran a double dollar week from the 14th to the 20th of March to encourage additional participation. In March Dublin City Council have enabled the reporting feature on the app to allow users to report littering or damages in the parks. Since its launch in November 2021, the app has attracted 1203 users, encouraged 1666 hours of activity in the park and 1442 dollars donated to local community groups. Interestingly, 43% of the total dollars earned have been donated to local community groups rather than for individual rewards. The pilot will run until the end of April 2022 and a feedback survey will be issued at the start of April which will form part of a final review.

Read more about Civic Dollars [here](#).



8. [Trinity Innovation Awards](#)

On Tuesday 22nd of February, Trinity College Dublin held the Trinity Innovation Awards hosted by Provost, Linda Doyle. The event, now in its fifth year has already established itself as a major event in the College calendar and celebrates innovation and entrepreneurship at Trinity College Dublin. New awards added this

year included recognition for Consultancy and the Partner award for the outstanding contribution of an enterprise partner. Dublin City Council's Smart City Programme Manager, Jamie Cudden received this year's Partner Award.

Read more here: https://www.tcd.ie/news_events/articles/leading-researchers-and-inventors-celebrated-at-trinity-innovation-awards/

9. Smart Dún Laoghaire District Official Launch

Smart Dublin officially launched its newest smart district, Smart Dún Laoghaire supported by Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown County Council on the 10th March. The Programme will focus on delivering smart projects that meet the needs of the local community, including the areas of sustainable mobility, urban resilience and innovation-promotion. Read more about the launch [here](#).



For any queries in relation to any of the above please contact:

Jamie Cudden, Smart City Programme Manager Jamie.cudden@dublincity.ie or; Nicola Graham, Smart City Operations Manager Nicola.graham@dublincity.ie