



Contents

1.	Economic Development Office
2.	Local Enterprise Office: Training, Mentoring & Financial Grants
3.	Dublin Place Brand - Dublin.ie
4.	Smart Dublin & Smart Districts

1. Economic Development Office



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Progress Report
Economic Development Office
November 2022



Event	Date
National Start Up Awards – City Hall	01/12/22

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

The Dublin Region Enterprise Plan 2022 – 2024 was launched by Tánaiste, Leo Varadkar on April 1st 2022. There are six strategic objectives in the plan and 26 key actions. Dublin City Council is leading on one of the objectives and is leading or participating in 20 of the 26 actions, a number of the actions are progressing well. The next meeting of the Project Team is scheduled for 30th November 2022. The 6 objectives are as follows:

1. Strengthen resilience and the potential for scaling amongst Dublin's SME's and start-Ups

This objective includes actions to develop and grow enterprise hubs for community, social and economic development. To scale-up ecosystems, cultivate SME's on procurement and grow opportunities to SME's in the region to a SMART Connected Technologies Cluster.

2. Promote context specific, attractive and adaptive place-making for an evolving world of work & diverse lifestyles, enabling resilience, business recovery and new opportunities for Dublin

This objective is the promotion of the Dublin Brand for adaptive place-making both domestically and internationally in the context of living, working, investing, studying and visiting the Dublin region. This allows the Dublin region lead in digital transformation.

This action acknowledges the creation of vibrant areas, accessible across all societal needs, ages and abilities with excellent connectivity.

3. Facilitate every individual to realise their full potential through engagement in economic activity

This objective is centered around inclusivity with initiatives that are targeted at marginalised and disadvantaged communities to support their pathway to employment or self-employment.

4. Enable and position business as leaders in Dublin's low-carbon transition

This objective aims to support the activities of the Dublin region to develop transformative projects to guide emerging 'low-carbon economy' focused research and projects aligned to climate challenges we face, establish a circular hotspot and learn from other cities.

5. Ensure the availability of skills and talent to realise Dublin's future economic potential

This objective includes leading the way for educational providers to deliver training supports, growth paths for skills and talent to reach the Dublin region's full potential, ensuring the right skills are available for job opportunities, talent and innovation.

6. Strengthen Dublin's Ecosystem

This objective will allow the collaboration of state agencies, academia, private sector to position Dublin as a Tier 1 capital city through innovative initiatives for sustainable and competitiveness.

Susan Spence, Co-Founder, SoftCo chairs the new plan for the Dublin region, with support from program manager Caroline Power. A meeting with Caroline Power, DREP Programme Manager was held on 10th May to discuss the road map for implementing prescribed actions.

Caroline Power has supported a number of initiatives of this office with a presence from the DREP such as SoCircular and FurthrFestival. An update was provided on the following actions at the first progress meeting setting out current position, planned activity, outcomes and risks as well as the status of funding identified for each of the actions.

Action 1.1 – Supporting Enterprise Hub Provision in Dublin – the first part of the action is complete and the research report on Enterprise Hub Provision in the Dublin Region was disseminated following its inclusion on the SPC Agenda on 12th April with a presentation on the findings arranged for 6th September. The second part of the action will require the drafting of a research to: 'Pilot project area identified for the potential utilisation of an enterprise hub as an area-based intervention and relevant enterprise hub feasibility study completed'.

Action 2.3: Advance the shared brand vision for Dublin. OCO Global and their partner Eutopia have been appointed by Dublin City Council to support the evolution of Dublin's place brand and associated place marketing campaigns. OCO Global and Eutopia facilitated two workshops designed to align all key stakeholders in working to promote Dublin as a great place to Invest, Live, Visit, Work and Study both domestically and internationally. An updated report is being finalised.

An implementation meeting was held on 20/06 and the next meeting is planned for 30/11
<https://enterprise.gov.ie/en/publications/publication-files/dublin-regional-enterprise-plan-to-2024.pdf>

Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor (DBEC) - Placemaking & Clustering

The work of the Dublin Belfast Economic Corridor involving eight local authorities and two universities is on-going. A process designed to produce a Development Plan, a Vision and Strategy followed by an Action Plan for DBEC is being actively progressed by KPMG. KPMG were commissioned to carry out the 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 in November 2021. Stage two saw the presentation of the a detailed draft strategy (consultation, SWOT, Vision Development and Strategy Development) to the second meeting of the Political Advisory Group held on Friday 14th October 2022. The final stage three involves the development of an Action Plan which will be produced in the coming weeks.

The secretariat of DBEC that was managed by Fingal County Council, has now transferred to Newry Mourne 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 and an update report forms part of the agenda for each SPC meeting along with the draft Strategy document.

Dublin Belfast Connected 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 a connected circular economy application was made by Dublin City Council and has been successful. Mary MacSweeney and Sabrina Dekker (DCC) worked with Belfast City Council to develop the 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. The application was submitted on 03/06/22 and DCC/Belfast City Council were invited to an event where the successful applications were announced, we are now working to implement this project in line with the requirements set for the draw-down of the €250,000 in funding awarded.

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

The development of the 2022 – 2027 Local Economic & Community Plan is underway. The required Advisory Group, as set out in the guidelines, has been formed made up of members of the Economic Development & Enterprise SPC and the LCDC. The group have met and workshopped on five occasions to date: 15th March, 27th April, 25th May, 20th July and 19th October. The next meeting is arranged for 28th November.

The LECP follows a six stage development process, stage one is well underway with a socio economic analysis developed that will inform the drafting of a number of high level goals, to be agreed by the LECP advisory group and forwarded to the SPC and LCDC and EMRA for sign off, before the public consultation on the goals commences as part of Stage 2. This may require the arranging of additional meetings to ensure sign off by SPC and LCDC members.

The findings of the Your Dublin Your Voice survey was discussed at the last meeting of the Advisory group and members had an opportunity to feedback on the key findings that they would like to see progressed. The findings will be disseminated and will be used to get feedback on a range of the key issues and cross cutting themes that will underpin the development of the LECP. The findings are circulated as part of the documents for today's meeting.

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

The meeting of the Economic Development and Enterprise SPC is taking place on 8th November 2022, and will be held remotely via Zoom, as the training arranged for SPC Administrator staff, in Zoom Video Conferencing and Webcasting Software, could not proceed due to a temporary loss of connectivity to City Hall. The Chair along with Senior Management have agreed to switch to a remote Zoom meeting for the November meeting in light of this. Hybrid meetings will commence in January 2023.

MODOS- LAPN Grant Funding - Climate & Innovation

The Eastern Midlands Waste Management Planning Office, DCC & DLRD collaborative MODOS programme funded by the EPA was developed and delivered in Spring 2022.

Additional funding has been awarded to MODOS for 2023, this will allow for the further updating and development of MODOS Training on a national basis. Presently a new website is being developed, along with a procurement process for future training, networking and mentoring activity under the MODOS programme.

Dublin Economic Monitor – Promotion & Investment

The Dublin Economic Monitor is a publication for the 4 Dublin Local Authorities, led by Dublin City Council's Economic Development Office in conjunction with Grant Thornton and Packed House consultants.

The Q3 DEM was published on 8th September 2022. An article on skills was written by Andrew Brownlee – CEO of Solas and the second guest article was written by Cormac Halpin, the senior census statistician with the CSO covering the recently released headline census figures. The main economy/business articles covered inflation, interest rates and economic growth outlook. The content was disseminated through the website, press release, the mailing list, social media and by post.

The Q3 Dublin PMI was published on 12th October and was picked up by RTE news. It shows growth in output slowing as inflation weighs. Manufacturing and Construction contracted while the dominant Services sector continued to expand.

Work has commenced on Q4DEM which is scheduled for publication in early December. Further details: www.dublineconomy.ie

Events / Events Sponsorship

The Economic Development Office provided support to various events across the city throughout the year. Each event is designed to make a positive impact on delivering on our key priorities and strategic objectives. EDO have proudly supported the following events during 2022:

Event	Location	Pillar
The African Professional Network Ireland (APNI) Lion's Den 3 rd Event	The Wood Quay Venue	Placemaking & Clusters
Dublin Tech Summit	The RDS Area, June 15 th & 16 th – Launch of Summer edition of Profit with Purpose Magazine	Placemaking & Clusters

Dublin Maker Festival	Merrion Square Park on July 23 rd	Placemaking & Clusters
Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022	The Wood Quay Venue on September 22 nd	Placemaking & Clusters
SoCircular- Promoting Social and Circular Enterprise	The Round Room of the Mansion House on October 5 th .	Placemaking & Clusters
Furthr Festival	The Dublin Convention Centre on October 21 st – launch of Winter Edition of Profit with Purpose Magazine	Placemaking & Clusters

Event Spotlight Reports:

Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022: Placemaking & Clusters

Dublin City Social Enterprise Awards 2022 are managed by Inner City Enterprise, and funded by Dublin City Council, and the Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD). The 2022 awards programme was launched in March during Local Enterprise Week with the closing date for applications extended to 24th May. Of the 8 Social Enterprises shortlisted, 6 were chosen to receive the award. These awardees were celebrated at an award ceremony held in the Wood Quay Venue on the 22nd September. A digital brochure was created and disseminated with links to the bespoke videos created on each of the winning social enterprises and details of the business and its social mission.

Dublin Tech Summit - Placemaking & Clusters

The Economic Development Office, the Local Enterprise Office, the Dublin Place Brand team and Smart Dublin supported the Dublin Tech Summit in 2022 which took place on 15th and 16th June at the RDS. Dublin City Council created a stand at DTS incorporating the Dublin Place Brand, Economic Development, Local Enterprise Office and Smart Dublin. Additional support for the event was provided via participation on judging panels, panel discussion and marketing support including a wrap on the Palace Street office.

Dublin Tech Summit was supported and sponsored by DCC. Multiple leads / connections were made by the various staff on the Smart Dublin, LEO, Dublin Place Brand and Economic Development joint stand. Materials promoting each office were distributed. In addition, the summer edition of the Profit with Purpose magazines supported by Dublin City Council was launched and distributed at this event.

SoCircular – Placemaking & Clusters

SoCircular an initiative of the EDO office took place on the 5th October in the Round Room at the Mansion House. It featured: a welcome address by Lord Mayor of Dublin Caroline Conroy; 50 social enterprise and circular / sustainable enterprises exhibiting along with some support organisations in a trade expo; 4 panel discussions on key social and circular economy themes featuring 18 expert / industry stakeholder representatives; 4 fireside chats with key individuals including Minister Ossian Smyth and an immersive programme of social and circular themed arts and cultural performances. The event took place as part this SPC's

Dublin City Summit Series and an Outcomes Report is currently being developed. It also took place as part of and in alignment with the European Commission – European Social Economy Regions Project & Network; Dublin Regional Enterprise Plan to 2024; UN SDG – European Sustainable Development Week 2022 / Act4SDGs and Circular Week 2022. Approximately 300 people attended, #SoCircular was trending (4th) on Twitter in Ireland on the day and four media outlets reported on the event. The event received very positive feedback from all involved. Various follow on activities are afoot such as a brochure to promote all the exhibitors, a survey to gain feedback from exhibitors and a feedback exercise from key contributors.

EDO also plan to support the following event in 2022:

- National Start-up Awards- December 1st 2022 at Dublin City Hall

Your Dublin Your Voice: Local Economic & Community Plan Process

The YDYV Q3 Survey 2022 closed on 12th August 2022. The survey theme focused on the LECP process and received over 900 responses. Findings have been presented to the LECP Advisory Group and disseminated through the Dublin City Council website. The Q4 YDYV will focus on Retail & Hospitality.

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.

- The Dublin Discovery Trails app is undergoing final development and testing and is due to be launched in Q4 of this year.
- The Smart Tourism programme for Dublin is participating in the European Smart Tourism Data Mentorship Programme delivered by the European Commission.
- On the 13th of September, the Smart Tourism Programme along with the DCC European Office hosted a Smart Tourism webinar with Bordeaux and Valencia.

ENFUSE- Placemaking & Clustering

ENFUSE is a programme initiated by the EDO office that matches local enterprises / social enterprises with teams of MSc. university / college students. This year, 46 enterprises were individually matched with a team of M.Sc. students from the three participating Universities, Technological University Dublin (TUD), Dublin City University (DCU) and National College of Ireland (NCI). From the 46 student teams, 11 were shortlisted and showcased their work at the ENFUSE Finals that took place on the 26th May 2022 in the Wood Quay Venue. ENFUSE has been shortlisted to represent Ireland in the European Enterprise Promotion Awards and has also been shortlisted by Chambers Ireland for their Excellence in Local Government Awards 2022. We await the outcome of the final winners from these two awards processes.

Circular Cities- Climate & Innovation

Dublin City Council is a city partner in the Circular Cities ClimAccelerator. Cities contribute hugely to climate change, material consumption and waste generation. The Circular Cities ClimAccelerator recruits European start-up companies hoping to advance their circular economy solution. Companies participating on this accelerator are developing solutions across transport and mobility, logistics, waste management, construction material, food consumption and packaging to support more sustainable, circular urban environments.

After a break in August, the engagement with project partners and startups recommenced on 6th September. Case studies and examples of best practice have been shared by partner cities. Two of the startups took part in a panel discussion as part of FurthrFestival. The final stages of the current accelerator programme will take place before year end.

World Cities Culture Forum- Placemaking & Clustering

Two Graduates from the Economic Development Office, Manna Thomas & Jack Tonks completed a comprehensive report to the World Cities Culture Forum including a relevant case study and provision of key cultural indicators submitted on 21st June for inclusion in the report launched as part of the annual event held in October 2022.

Milan Food Pact Awards 2022- Promotion & Investment

An application was submitted to the Milan Urban Food Policy Pact Awards, in collaboration with the Climate Action Office in DCC. The application included three submissions: 1. Eat the Streets! 2. Edible Dublin Food Strategy 3. Shared Kitchen at the SPADE Centre.

Night Time Economy - Placemaking & Clustering

Dublin City Council was successful in the pilot application made in June to operate as a pilot under the local government NTE project supported by the CCMA and as an action under the National Task Force report on NTE. DCC hosted the last meeting of the national implementation group on 7/9/22 at the Wood Quay Venue – a presentation on the Draft City Development Plan with focus on how it will support the NTE was provided by Deirdre Scully. Dublin City will now work to implement the actions set out in the successful NTE application, which will include arranging to appoint a Night Time Economy Advisor. The cities and towns selected will help drive and support a more sustainable night-time economy in specific areas. They will work with businesses, communities, venues, residents and artists to create a more vibrant and inclusive NTE offering designed to bring vitality back to our city and town centres in as safe and sustainable a way as can be achieved.

EDO Strategy 2022 - 2024- Strategic Approach

The Economic Development Office presented an updated strategy proposal to the SPC members on 6th September. Following on from the September SPC meeting feedback was sought on the document that will be finalised and published in Q1, 2023. An annual action plan will accompany the strategy setting out key priorities and programming for 2023. The updated plan and annual action plan will be presented to the SPC members at their meeting at the end of January 2023.

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

Environment

We continue to see a move back to pre-pandemic levels of engagement across the suite of LEO products. Clients have become very accustomed to online services, however we are starting to see more walk in / client appointments in Dublin City Council. The attendance in person is well below pre pandemic levels.

We are achieving targets agreed with Enterprise Ireland, however numbers across all products are going back to pre-pandemic levels i.e. slightly above what was achieved in 2019. 2020 and 2021 saw a significant increase in demand for services from Dublin based small and micro enterprises which put a strain on service delivery but provided vital support to local businesses in response to the challenges and opportunities presented by the pandemic. Other organisations that provide financial support to micro enterprises are also seeing a shrinkage of demand in the region of 40% year on year e.g. Microfinance Ireland.

We continue to monitor, analyse & take corrective measures i.e. research on training, further advertising/communications work to sustain & boost numbers.

The war in Ukraine and the corresponding energy crisis, pose further challenge for business, and again we are reviewing and modifying service offerings to provide bespoke solutions to those affected where possible e.g. Leading with resilience through the energy crisis 24th November <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>.

COVID-19 / Coronavirus

We continue to actively promote all ongoing supports provided by the Department of Enterprise Trade & Employment to SME's in our monthly newsletter. New grant schemes are advertised and in this way, we ensure that entrepreneurs have the latest information on any scheme that may be 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.

- October Newsletter issued: Issued 3rd Oct. Open rate 34.5%/1,527 SME's . Reminder sent 12th Oct 32.1% / 14,17 SME's
- November Newsletter due to issue 1st November

Bespoke Newsletters: We are mailing attendees of the Business Advice Clinic post attendance to connect them with follow on services such as the Start Your Own Business programme. This is happening monthly.

Average recipients of newsletters monthly: 4,174

Twitter: 11.1k average followers. Facebook: 3.2k average followers. Instagram: 916 followers – we are developing the following on this channel.

Business Plus Magazine November Issue: A focus on state supports available to SME's. LEO have a one page feature promoting consultancy services – Lean, Green, Digital & export. 12,000 printed copies with 100,000 readers online.

Dublin Gazette, 9th December: Christmas gifting feature – a double page spread promoting the diversity of businesses supported in the city, many with social and green credentials and directing consumers and b2b to shop local.

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/>

Posting a new case study monthly. Recent case studies completed and promoted:

- Spooned luxurious hot chocolate <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Spoond.html>
- Algo Global Rewards <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Case-Studies/Algo-Global-Rewards.html>

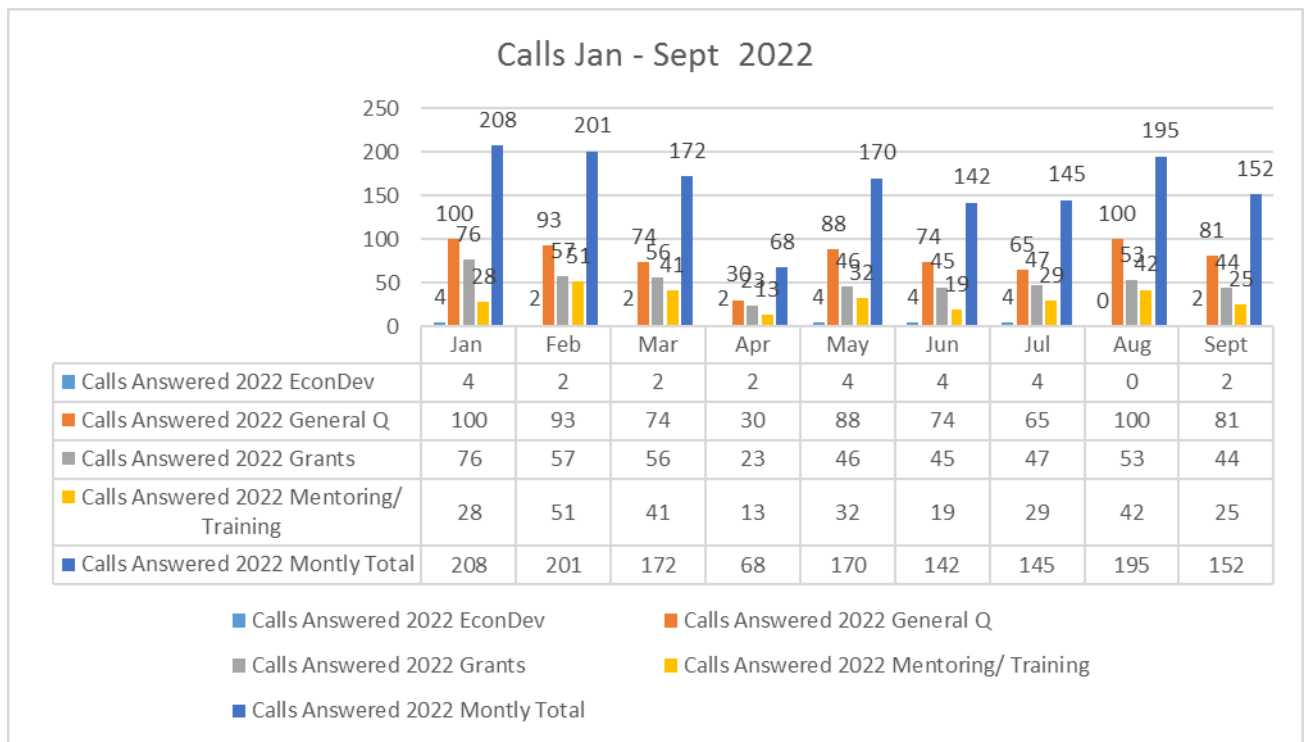
Cross promotion in newsletter and social media.

Dublin City FM: A schedule of activity for Autumn/Winter has been devised.

First Stop Shop

Calls during January - September 2022: 1,456 calls answered Jan – Sept '22 inclusive. 48.4% of calls general enquiries, 30.7% grants, 19.23% mentoring & training.

Calls continue to be monitored weekly from both a qualitative and quantitative perspective. Call scripts are utilised to reflect new products and these provide uniformity of approach to call handling and a training document for new starts.



Emails during January - September 2022: 2,509 emails received and processed. 218 received in September.

Breakdown by category of activity:

- M1 supports: trading online voucher 12% & grants 17.14% = 29.14%
- M2 supports: Training 27.5%, Mentoring 24.67% & Start Your Own Business 18.69%, = 70.86%
- Q1: 993, Q2: 810, Q3: 706

In Person Interactions: Extremely low demand for appointment or walk in service. 9 since staff are full time back in the office.

Mentoring

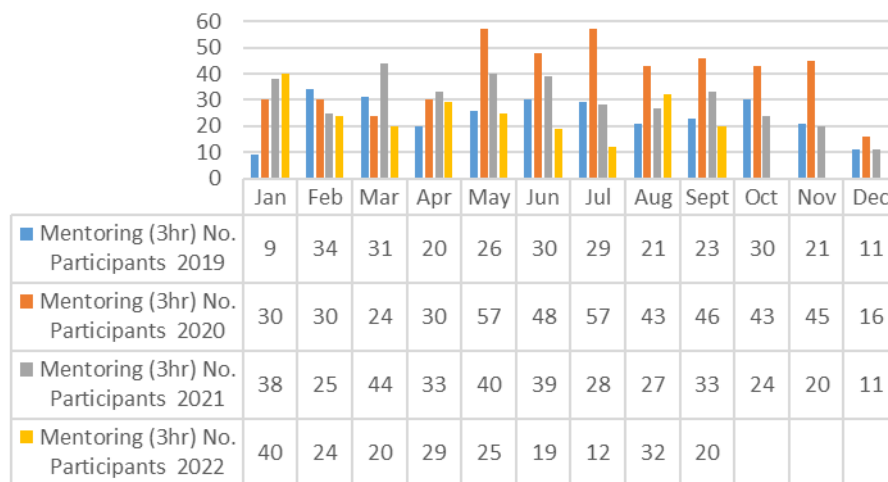
Annual Target 2022: 1,000 hours

1st Jan – 30th September 2022: 808 hours achieved

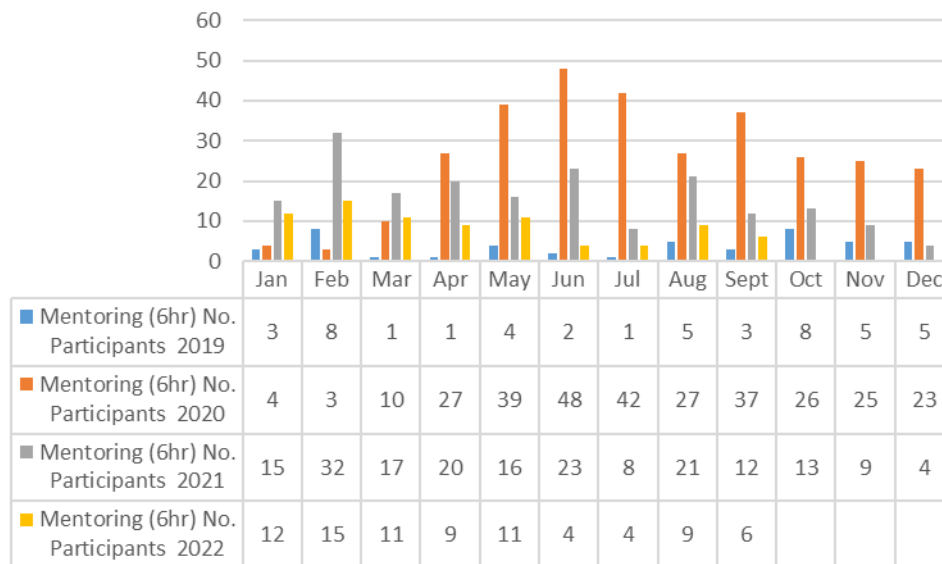
Achieved vs annual target (as at 04/10/2022)

- 3 Hour Product: At 80%
- 6 Hour Product: at 30.67%
- Business Advice Clinics delivered 94.8%

Mentoring 3 Hours - Participant No.s

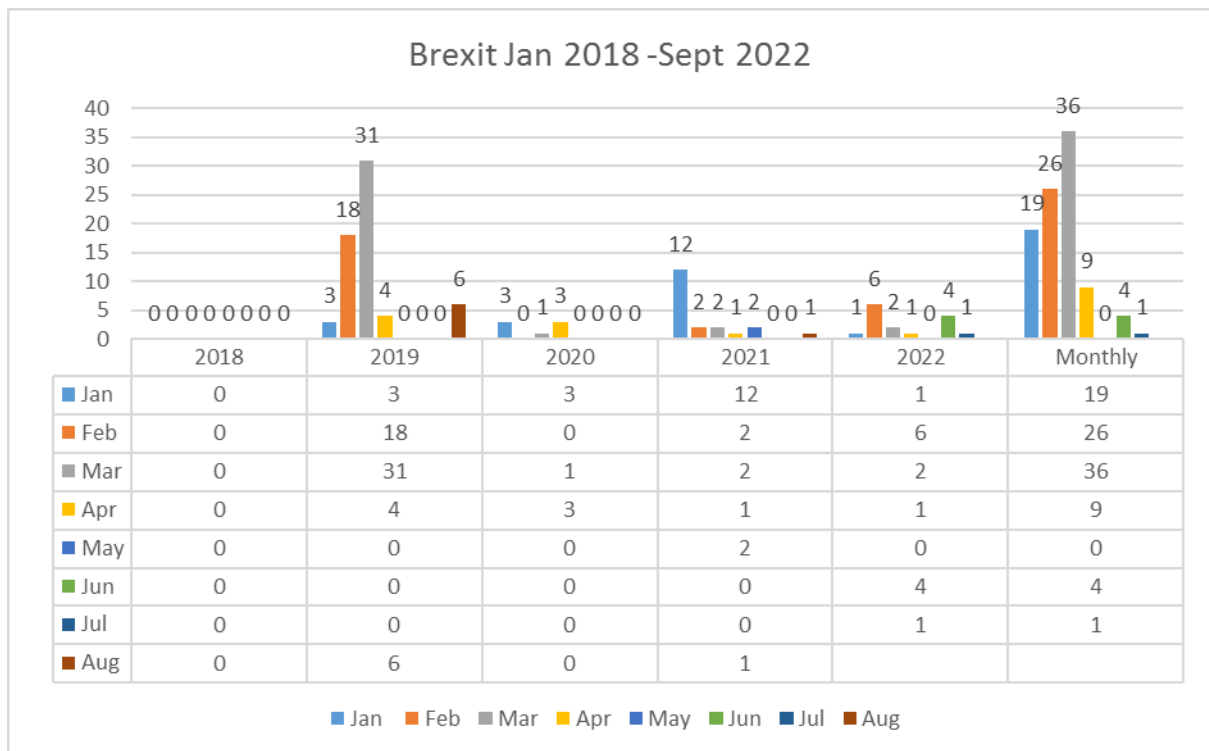


Mentoring 6 Hour - Participant No.s



Mentor Meetings: continuing monthly. Opportunity to gain feedback from the panel and also to update them on emerging products. Last meeting 27th September, next meeting 25th October. Planning an in person training session & Christmas lunch.

Brexit Mentoring: 15 brexit specific mentoring sessions requested Jan – September '22. We continue to promote. An export specific management development training programme with the Irish Exporters Association inclusive of mentoring post training workshops, commenced 28th September. 8 attended. Higher numbers anticipated. This is four half day workshops. <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/Export-Development-Programme.html>

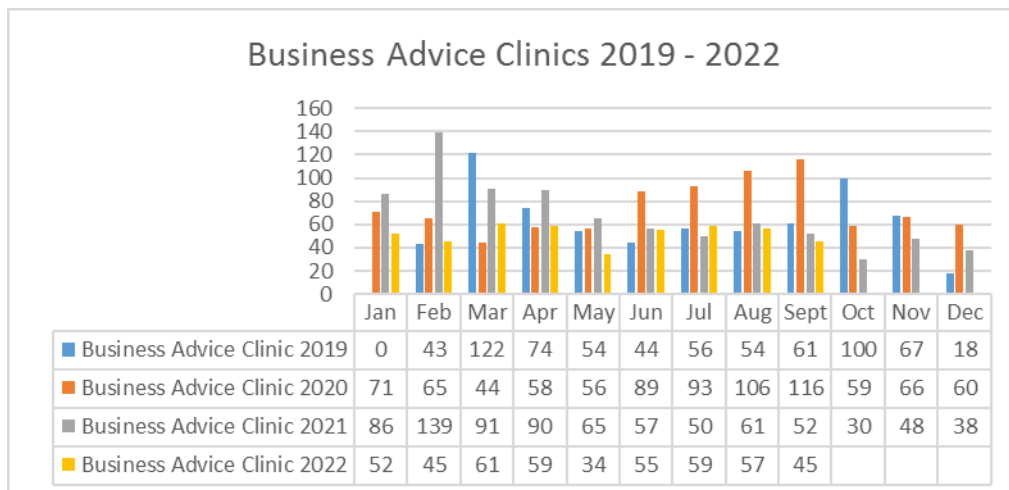


Business Advice Clinics (BAC)

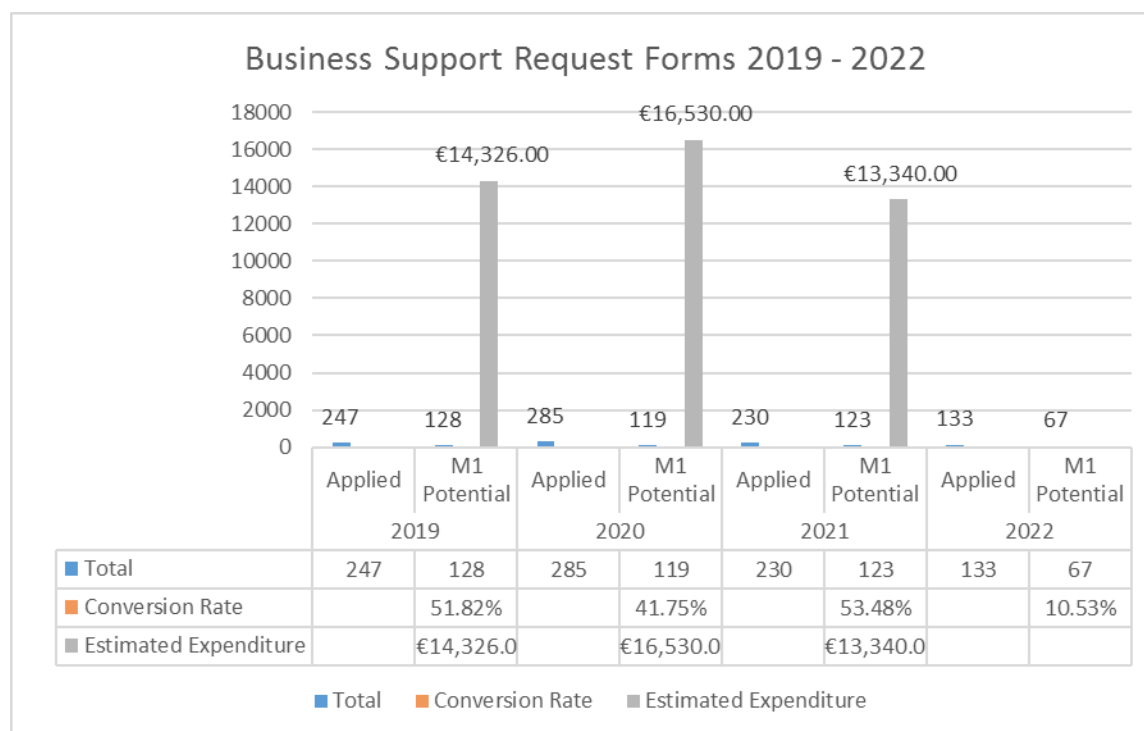
Annual target 2022: 500 participants, 48 clinics

1st Jan – 30th Sept:

- 39 clinics delivered vs 41 in 2021, - 2 clinics.
- Participants: 467 participants Jan - Sept'22 inclusive vs 691 in 2021, -224 participants
- Performance vs annual target: 81.25% of annual clinics delivered. 93.4% of annual participants delivered.



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



As at 30/09/2022. Comment: Both application & our conversion rate is down.

A new process is commencing to contact those who are not put forward to meet with a business advisor or advance to financial supports at this time; to provide additional supports, email went out 1st week in September. Continuing monthly thereafter.

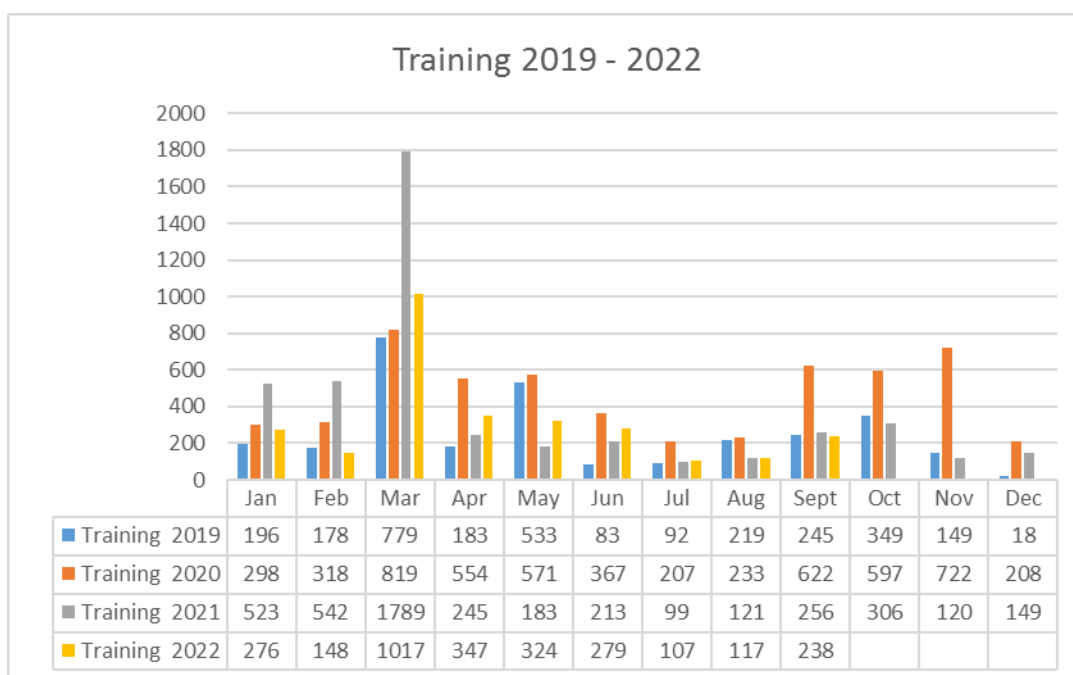
Financial Training (targeted at pre-EVAC and post EVAC clients)

M2 have finance management accountancy training for those being put forward to EVAC to enhance the quality of application and probability of grant application success. 5 participants booked for a the four part training course 'Fundamentals of Business Accounting' commenced 12th October. The course will also provide the entrepreneur with access to a cloud based accountancy package for 1 year. This type of training course will be made mandatory for clients seeking funding. We have an on-going registration open.

Training Schedule '22 <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Training-Events/Online-Bookings/>

Annual Target: 3000 participants

1st Jan – 30th Sept '22: 2,853 participants, 146 courses



We continue to monitor market trends, environmental factors and have regular meetings with training providers for feedback to ensure the courses are offering real value to the entrepreneurs and are relevant to their needs. We are also liaising with other LEO offices in the Dublin region and nationality to gain feedback on their outcomes / market trends. Paul Berry has done a review of the training plan to end of year and added some specific business planning and sales focused training courses. He is working on the 2023 training plan presently.

Training courses completed Sept 2022:

Date	Course Title	Attended
01/09/2022	Lean for Micro Information Session	11
05/09/2022	Food Starter September 2022	11
06/09/2022	Trading Online Voucher Information Session	95
06/09/2022	Business Advice Clinic	9
08/09/2022	Preparing your grant application	9
08/09/2022	Linkedin for business - Building your business	11
10/09/2022	SYOB SAT & WEDS	17
13/09/2022	Business Advice Clinic	12
22/09/2022	Business Advice Clinic	18
28/09/2022	Export Development Programme	9
28/09/2022	Search Engine Optimisation	11
28/09/2022	Business Advice Clinic	6
29/09/2022	SYOB THURS	19

Total	PARTICIPANTS	238
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Training courses completed October 2022:

Date	Course Title	Attended
04/10/2022	Business Advice Clinic	10
06/10/2022	Filing a self assessed tax return - Revenue Online	12
08/10/2022	SYOB Sat & Weds	11
11/10/2022	Tik Tok for business	12
11/10/2022	Business Advice Clinic	9
12/10/2022	Preparing your grant application	10
12/10/2022	Fundamentals of business accounting	5
13/10/2022	Creating video content for social media	7
13/10/2022	Business Advice Clinic	6
13/10/2022	Free Library Talks - Becoming a successful entrepreneur & idea generation	25
15/10/2022	SYOB Tues	0
19/10/2022	Business Advice Clinic	12
20/10/2022	Free Library Talks -Market Research identifying clients competitors & resources	24
27/10/2022	Canva for business	8
27/10/2022	Business Advice Clinic	13
27/10/2022	Free Library Talks -Financial supports & grants for entrepreneurs	34
Total		188

Booking for November

Date	Course Title
01/11/2022	SYOB Mid Week
02/11/2022	Business Advice Clinic
03/11/2022	Lean for Micro Information session
06/11/2022	SYOB SAT & WEDS
08/11/2022	Instagram for business intermediate

08/11/2022	Business Advice Clinic
09/11/2022	SYOB SAT & WEDS
09/11/2022	Techniques & Tactics to reach and engage customers & drive sales for black Friday & beyond
10/11/2022	Trading Online Voucher Information Session
11/11/2022	Selling online with etsy & shopify
15/11/2022	Using facebook to engage customers & increase sales
16/11/2022	Using Linkedin to engage customers & increase sales
19/11/2022	How to advertise online with impact
22/11/2022	Using twitter to engage customers & increase sales
23/11/2022	Instagram reels for your business
24/11/2022	Leading with resilience through the energy crisis
29/11/2022	Reaching new customers using a range of digital tools to increase SEO

Booking for December

Date	Course Title
01/12/2022	Sales vs social media

The training schedule has been devised for 2023. We 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. We have regular meetings with training providers for feedback to ensure the courses are offering real value to the entrepreneurs and are relevant to their needs. We are also liaising with other LEO offices in the Dublin region and nationality to gain feedback on their outcomes / market trends. A training survey is being undertaken in November to inform training requirements for 2023.

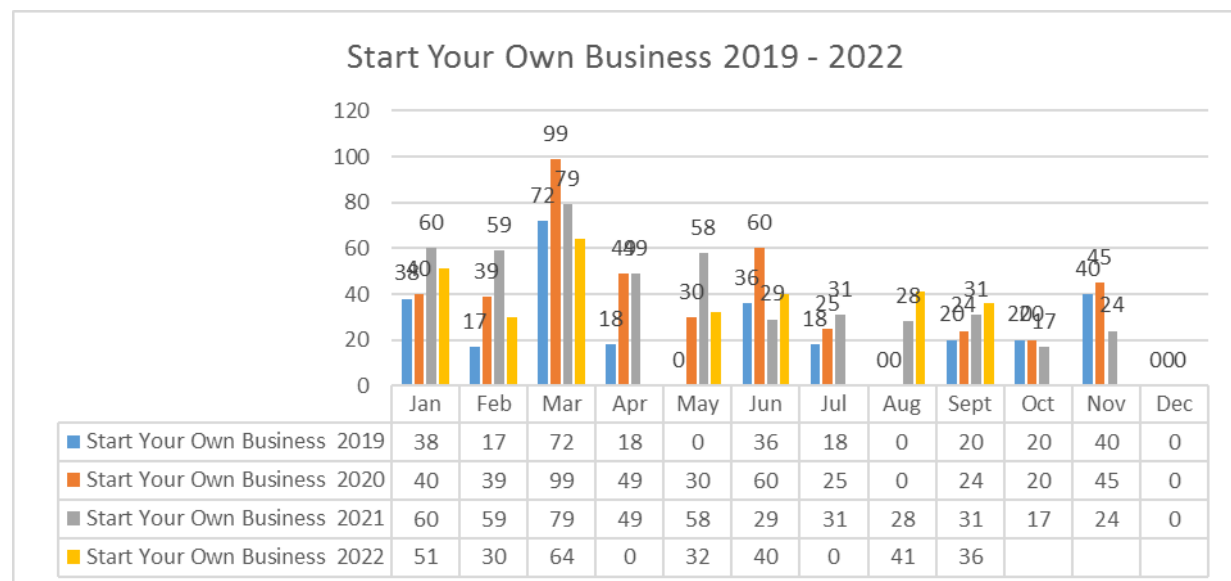
Start Your Own Business (SYOB) Training Courses

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

Jan to Sept 2022: 11 courses, 1 boot camp delivered & 294 participants

Comment: Participant numbers are 49% higher than 2019 however down year on year



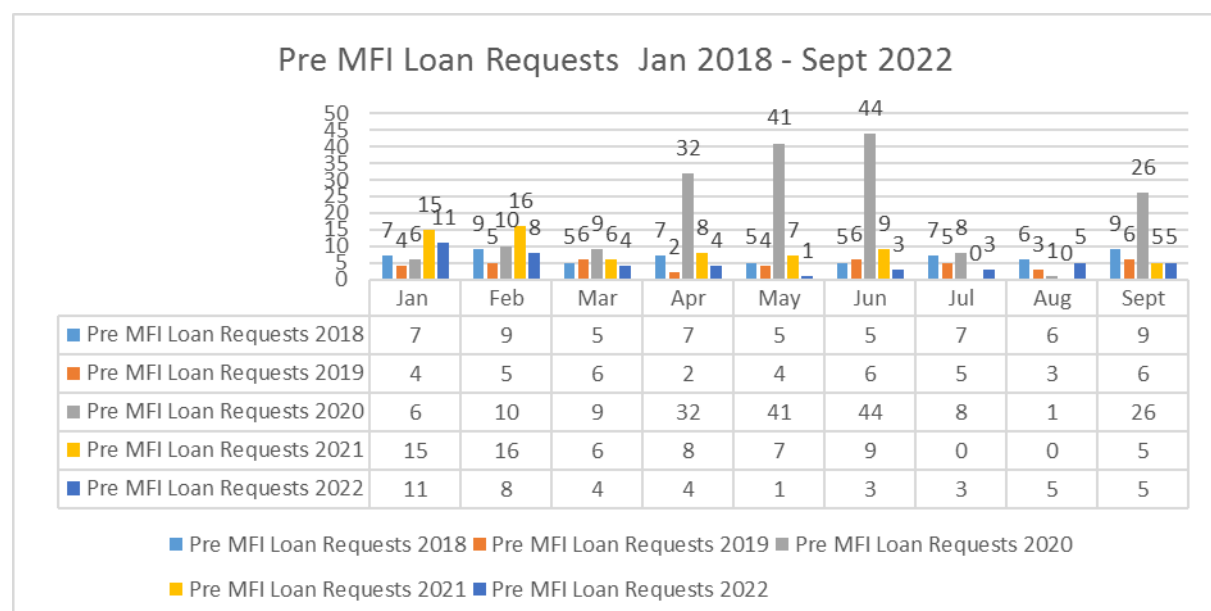
Micro Finance Ireland Pre loan application advice

1st Jan – 30th Sept 2022: 44 pre loan applications year to date.

Comment: Application rate is comparable to 2018 & 2019 and 51% what it was in 2021.

12 loans approved year to date. Some reluctance by entrepreneurs to take loans presently.

Liaising with MFI to receive additional marketing materials and promoting via newsletter & social media posts. MFI continue to radio advert airplay.



vents

National Ploughing Championships 20th – 22nd September

Concept Dairy who bring pricing transparency to the dairy industry represented LEO DC <https://conceptdairy.com/>

SoCircular Round Room Mansion House 5th October <https://www.eventbrite.ie/e/socircular-tickets-394948841617>

Measure 2 provided staffing support for pre event set up, at the event itself and promotional support through a twitter advertising campaign to drive attendance numbers. Planned by EDO, the event celebrated Dublin's social & circular economy.

National Women's Enterprise Day 13th October 2022 <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Enable-Enterprise-Culture/NWED/National-Womens-Enterprise-Day-2022.html>

15 regional in person events are planned nationally. Theme "Our Future Our Way". Strategy focused event. LEO DLR leading the project for the Dublin Region. Project plan shared. Event management company Whitelight enlisted to manage event logistics. Tasks for LEO DC managed by Raquel Hickey:

- Select client to be representative in the panel & media opportunities. Confirmed to DLR.
- Secure 250 items for goodie bags to showcase a number of LEO clients – two products selected
- Supernature Snacks & Quirky Irish Icons
- Assist in managing information stands at the event
- Lord Mayor of Dublin City confirmed to attend

A vibrant event delivered and attended by 250 entrepreneurs at Leopardstown Pavillion.

Furthr Festival 2022 <https://furthr.ie/events/> 21st October 2022

LEO provided support marketing activity to the event i.e. a bespoke e-zine to promote, including a competition in our regular e-zine and scheduling of social media posts. Working with the wider team in run up and on the day to ensure cover for the stand with our colleagues from Dubin.ie, Smart Dublin and EDO, and raise profile of LEO services to develop pipeline for LEO services and supports. Panel sessions to promote Green and Digital delivered. Post event evaluation taking place.

Food Retail & Hospitality Expo, 1st Dec, Sports Campus, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15 <https://www.foodhospitality.ie/>

Speaking engagement by LEO DC. Lorraine Allen mentor to represent a workshop on state supports by LEO when starting, sustaining or growing a food business. Anticipated attendance 3,000.

Women in Business Awards 12th Dec, Radisson Blu Golden Lane

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Start-or-Grow-your-Business/Networking/Women-in-Business/>

This annual event celebrates the achievement of female entrepreneurs in Dublin City. An overall entrepreneur of the year is awarded and also a rising star, with both winning a cash prize, trophy and training supports. Event planning is underway.

Local Enterprise Week 2022 6TH – 11TH March 2023

<https://www.localenterprise.ie/Portal/Week/Local-Enterprise-2022.html>

Save the date! Planning is beginning for this nationwide initiative. A similar approach to 2021 & 2022 is being taken, with National online spotlight events on key topics – Lean, Green, Digital, Export & Energy, regionally organised hybrid events, supplemented by local in persons events on areas such as networking.

Management Development Training Courses

Leadership Development / capacity building

Presently working on development of a tender document with Fingal LEO and planning for 2023.

Consultancy Products – Lean, Green, Digital, Export

The client portfolio (400 clients) are being contacted by a number of mentors during November to scope the clients needs for 2023 on the above products and also energy. Thereafter clients will be channelled to appropriate supports.

A state supports feature is taking place in the November issue of Business Plus, a highly

Lean www.leanformicro.ie increased profitability and competitiveness. LEO Dublin region running explanatory case study driven pipeline events via contractor jigsaw. Info session taking place on 8th November and currently recruiting participants.

Status

Completed: 12 companies

Sum of total savings to LEO participants companies in 2022: €308k, average saving €25k (as at 14.10.22)

Export Development Programme

Export Development programme with Irish export associations commencing 28th September. 4 X Half-Day Workshops covering the key issues, factors and strategic elements needed for business export success.

Mentoring will be provided from the LEO Dublin City panel – mentors with export capability. 9 companies participating.

Targeting for future programmes: from data analysis, 177 companies identified who previously expressed interest in Brexit/Export/Internationalisation. Follow up being carried out by bespoke email with follow up calls to fill future programmes.

Digital Start Voucher: <https://www.localenterprise.ie/Portal/Digital/Digital-Start.html>

Digital Start provides support to obtain digital strategy, technical and/or advisory services for eligible businesses i.e. trading +6 months with turnover of €30k. Some sectoral exemptions apply.

Comment: Uptake has been low. Some companies seeking the support are outside the terms of the scheme e.g. professional services companies.

Status: 10 applications to date. LEO DC took part in a digital webinar hosted by the LEO unit on 19th September which provided opportunity to understand how the scheme has progressed with LEO's around the country and methods to increase engagement.

Development: At local level, we are planning to target prior participants of the trading online scheme, particularly those who have had 2 trading online grants. 129 leads have been identified of small businesses who have previously expressed an interest in digital. These are being followed up with by targeted email and call.

Green for Micro Programme 2022 as at 25.10.2022

Applications: 9

Complete: 5

Comment: uptake slow

Opportunity: to embed Green for Micro / green principles into initiatives as businesses plan and commence. This is a long-term strategy not one of quick wins however would pay long-term dividends for the business and environment.

Work Matters in The Library

Three workshops are being run in October for people thinking of starting a business, the workshops are designed to signpost the SYOB's. Planning for the programme for 2023 has begun.

- 13th October: Becoming a successful entrepreneur – 25 attended
- 20th October: Market Research – Identifying clients competitors & resources – 24 attended
- 27th October: Financial Supports & Grants for Entrepreneurs – 32 booked (as at 25.10.22)

Networks

Women in Business Network

Tender: Finalised, contract issued and we continue to work with coordinator Pauline Logan. A meeting was held on 19th October to discuss the contract and work programme into 2023. The next

women in Business in person event takes place Monday 24th October in the Radisson Blu Hotel <https://www.localenterprise.ie/DublinCity/Start-or-Grow-your-Business/Networking/Women-in-Business/Network-Events/24th-October-Member-Lunch-featuring-Award-Winners-Talks-and-LEO-Overview-12-15-14-30.html>, with further events planned e.g. Dublin City Women in Business Awards taking place 12th December. A mix of online and in person events are taking place.

Dublin Food Chain 25th October Starting a Food Business – Your Roadmap to Success in 2022

<https://www.dublinfoodchain.ie/events/starting-a-food-business---your-roadmap-to-success-2022/>

A half day event to assist those 0-24 months in business.

New Products

- Ukraine Enterprise Crisis Scheme: a new product was launched by An Tanaiste on 27th October, for clients who are currently viable but financially vulnerable as a result of additional energy costs due to the impact of the Ukraine Crisis. [Ukraine Enterprise Crisis Scheme - Enterprise Ireland \(enterprise-ireland.com\)](https://enterprise-ireland.com/ukraine-enterprise-crisis-scheme) This scheme is administered via a hub in Enterprise Ireland, with consultancy services provided by Measure 2 and financial supports provided by Measure 1 via the Evaluation committee.
- LEO's will commence supporting businesses sized 0 – 50 from January 2023. Exact date TBC.

Measure 1 (Grants) Approvals Metrics: November 2022 (January – September Approvals)

M1 Grants Approvals Metrics: November 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	15	8	25	15	€172,500	€150,649	€21,852
Priming	16	9	7	32	22	€240,000	€247,073	-€7,073
Business Expansion	21	20	1	53	52	€525,000	€622,877	-€97,877
TOTAL	60	44	16	110	89	€937,500	€1,020,598	-€83,098

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
9034432	Penny FS Technologies	Feasibility	Lesley	Tully	€15,000	1
9034652	PitchedIt	Feasibility	Scott	Ashmore	€6,600	1
9034651	Popsypops Limited	Feasibility	Luke	Teeling	€12,000	1
10017065-03	The Sweet Potato Pizza Company	Business Expansion	Craig	Grattan	€9,900	1
9034783	Causeway8 Communications Limited t/a CW8 Communications	Business Expansion	Sean	Pattwell	€49,000	4
9034654	Harvest Moon Foods Limited	Business Expansion	Angela	Carney	€48,000	2
9014757-08	Child Paths Limited	Business Expansion	Ciaran	Flynn	€37,500	4
9031436	Too Savage Ltd	Priming	Conor	Bacon	€12,400	1
9034653	What The Faux Ltd	Priming	Alan	Fynes	€37,400	2
9034864	Wits End Drinks	Feasibility	Laurence	Murray	€8,800	1
9010361-04	DB Tours Ltd T/a DB Sports Tours	Business Expansion	David	Berber	€20,000	2
9023531-03	Drink Botanicals Ireland	Business Expansion	Laura	McCarthy	€20,000	2
9023466-02	DOT brew Ltd	Business Expansion	Shane	Kelly	€37,380	3

9028541	Kakushin Design and Marketing Ltd.	Business Expansion	David	Byrne	€32,475	3
9034356	Vico Deodorant Limited	Feasibility	Ben	Breslin	€2,280	1
9035158	Sprint Hit Limited	Feasibility	Caoimhe	Hughes	€9,250	1
9034995	Pause.Penny Limited	Feasibility	Yvonne	Tchrakian	€7,090	1
9007432	Joii Limited	Feasibility	Justyna	Strzeszynska	€7,400	1
9029814-02	The InkSpot Limited	Business Expansion	Gerry	Morgan	€40,000	3
9034865	Scopeasy Construction Software Limited	Priming	Padraig	Reilly	€40,000	4
9024849	Gleneden Clothing Ltd Trading as CLOO	Priming	Louise	Cooney	€32,500	4
9030816-03	Discover Vend Ltd	Priming	Paul	Sandilands	€24,775	2
9035321	Universal Prime Logistics T/A Autohausonline.ie	Feasibility	Robert	Kinsella	€15,000	1
9014649	Lovin from the Oven Ltd	Business Expansion	Caryna	Camerino	€24,825	2
9035315	The Head Plan Ltd	Business Expansion	Ciaran	Byrne	€40,000	3
10019654-02	Arcane Chocolate Ltd	Business Expansion	Erik	Van der Veken	€47,500	5
9032414	Intelligent Enterprises Operations Ltd	Business Expansion	Michelle	MacDonagh	€45,000	3
9035314	Get Dishy Limited	Priming	Gillian	Hynes	€20,000	2
9035320	Food Guard Limited	Priming	Shane	Pemberton	€49,998	4
9033371	T-Tech-Fitness	Feasibility	Daniel	Trimble	€15,000	1
9034049-02	VisionGreen Logistics Solutions LTD	Feasibility	John	Pakenham	€10,728.50	1
9035476	SinoConnect Ireland Limited	Feasibility	Ronan	Nelson	€15,000	1
9005927-05	Rathcreedan Ltd T/A Sushi King	Business Expansion	Audrey	Gargan	€29,906	3
10029003	Hancock & Abberton Ltd T/A FiXX Coffee	Business Expansion	Anne	Abberton	€21,890.50	1
9027535-03	KMH Transit9 Limited	Business Expansion	Keith	MacHale	€15,000	1

9005456-02	Revington Hayes Ltd trading as LEI Worldwide	Business Expansion	Darragh	Hayes	€19,500	2
9035508	Rezero	Priming	Michael	Wylde	€20,000	2
9035509	Ondway Delivery LTD	Priming	Felipe	Antunes	€10,000	1
				Total:	€1,020,598	89

Dublin Place Brand – November 2022

Place Brand Strategy Development

Work has continued through Q3 into Q4 on the development of a place brand strategy with OCO Global and eutopia. An international resource comparison was prepared, based on similar sized regions and cities. Findings and progress to date were presented to the Chief Executive in early September. The Chief Executives of the four Dublin Local Authorities met to examine the potential of working more closely as a region to support the future development of the Dublin place brand. This is an action under the Dublin Region Enterprise Plan 2024. The strategy sets out the additional impact that could be achieved with the provision of further staffing and resourcing committed to support Dublin as a great city region to live, work, study, visit and invest.

Campaigns & Events

Furthr Festival

Dublin Place Brand led much of the Council's substantial involvement with tech, innovation & sustainability event, Furthr Festival at the Convention Centre Dublin. This included:

- The sourcing and build of an exhibition stand made from sustainable and salvaged materials. The design highlights DCC's role in addressing climate change with sections for Smart Dublin, LEO, Dublin Place Brand and Dublin Economic Monitor.
- Social media coverage and marketing communications in advance and on site.



Website Stories Promotion

We began a new campaign to promote 40 stories across Dublin.ie in September. Ten stories from each pillar (Live, Work, Invest, Study) have been chosen and will get €100 worth of paid promotion per story (€4000 total campaign budget) across Meta's platforms (Facebook and Instagram). Paid promotion began on 6th September and will run until 15th November. We will review how the campaign has affected both social and site traffic when it has concluded.

The Dublin Postgraduate Scholarship

In partnership with Education in Ireland, and Dublin's Higher Education Institutions, The Dublin Place Brand ran a postgraduate scholarship competition from April to May. Postgraduate students from France, Italy, Germany, and Spain were targeted by digital advertising and invited to enter via Dublin.ie. The campaign was hugely successful, far exceeding the projected 800 leads, with over 3000 leads received out of which there were 1400 entrants into the scholarship competition.

The winner, Rachele Faggiani from Italy, arrived in September and received a reception from the Lord Mayor at the Mansion House. Rachele will study for a M.Phil. Literary Translation at Trinity.



Dublin.ie Website

Design and development updates

A new way of hosting Dublin.ie was rolled out over the summer. Instead of a request from abroad having to traverse the web to Ireland, we now serve copies of the site in strategic locations across the globe. This will make the site faster for international visitors.

Content:

- Do Dublin for Real: **A new page on Dublin.ie was rolled out to match the city promotion campaign in September.** It features event links, DublinTown info on retail and information on galleries, museums and other things to do.
- What's On: We have featured 240+ events between August and October.

Social

Current Total Followers: 37.4k

- Twitter: 15.6k followers
- Facebook: 18.6k follows (17.7k likes)
- Instagram: 4.3k followers

Stakeholder Engagement

Education in Ireland / HEIs: The Dublin Postgraduate Scholarship campaign has provided an opportunity to further develop relationships with the Lord Mayor, Education in Ireland and Dublin's leading HEIs including UCD, Griffith College and TCD (Trinity College Dublin).

Fáilte Ireland: **Ongoing regular update meetings on activities including on upcoming Winter in Dublin campaign**



Comhairle Cathrach
Bhaile Átha Cliath
Dublin City Council

Strategic Policy Committee

**Economic Development & Enterprise
November 2022**

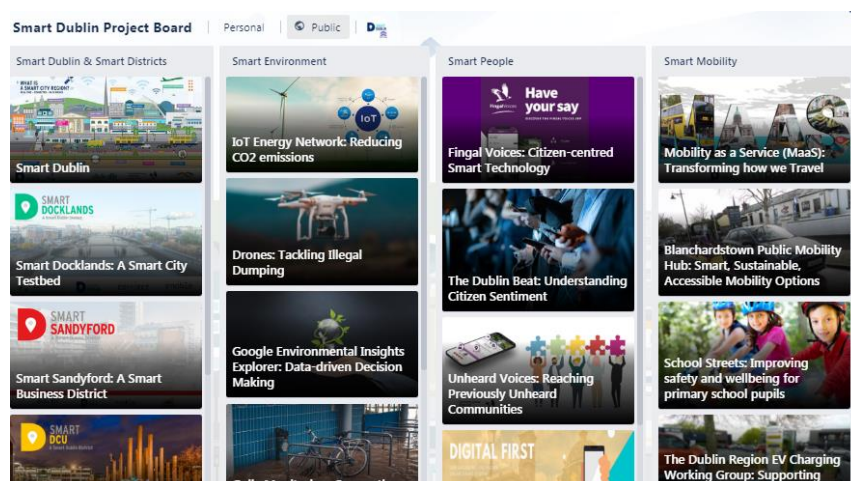
Agenda Item: Smart City Update

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>

Smart Ring Buoys Project Scaled up to 8 local authorities

A new digital initiative is being rolled out to ensure ring buoys are ready to save lives in Ireland's waters. More than 600 low-cost sensors are being installed across eight local authorities in Dublin, Laois, Meath, Sligo and Limerick. These sensors are designed to alert water safety officers when ring buoys are tampered with or go missing. The sensors are paired with a mobile, map-based platform that has real-time monitoring, to ensure ring buoys are replaced as quickly as possible.



The smart buoys project began in 2018 as part of a workshop to identify challenges in Dublin's Smart Docklands area. Around 15 ring buoys go missing or are stolen every week in DCC, costing more than €20,000 per year to replace. The project was developed as part of the Smart Dublin initiative, which aims to future-proof Dublin's regions by trialling technology to address a wide range of local challenges. The Smart Dublin team worked with Dublin-based tech partners Civic Integrated Solutions, mSemicon and ZiggyTec

to develop the technology.

EU Innovation Procurement Award

14 applicants made it to the final stages of the second edition of the EU innovation procurement award to recognise best practices in Innovation procurement. Dublin City Council was shortlisted for the Procurement leadership category for work in developing a new 'pilot to buy' approach addressing water safety. This approach allowed the Smart Dublin team to work with Water Safety Ireland and 23 local authorities to deploy new sensor-based technologies that addresses theft / tampering of ring buoys. Although we didn't make it to the final, we were the only city shortlisted for the semi-finals which is a huge achievement.

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/european-innovation-procurement-awards-euipa-2022-discover-years-semi-finalists-2022-09-12_en



Nature Based Solution's Webinar

During Dublin Climate Action week, Smart Dublin hosted a webinar with KAJO Services about the EU OPERANDUM Project and how Nature Based Solutions can mitigate climate change and help in building resilience to multiple climate hazards like flooding. More information on the OPERANDUM project can be found [here](#).



Sustainable Cities and the role of technology and data

Smart Dublin participated in a live twitter space discussion with Google and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability on how data and technology can support sustainable urban development highlighting examples and solutions as well as the challenges cities have in implementing climate action.

<https://twitter.com/i/spaces/1RDGlacVVqNJL?s=20>



An article based on this discussion was featured in the 'New Statesman' on 'how the lack of data is stymying climate action in cities'

<https://www.newstatesman.com/spotlight/energy/2022/09/how-a-lack-of-data-is-stymying-climate-action-in-cities>

Smart Tourism Best Practice Sharing Webinar

The Smart Tourism Programme for Dublin and the DCC European Office jointly held a best practice webinar on the subject of Smart Tourism Destinations with the EU, Bordeaux and Valencia (current title holders of the European Capital of Smart Tourism award) In 2021 Dublin was shortlisted for the award of European Capital of Smart Tourism.



Dublin City Council's Smart Tourism programme has recently been named as a finalist in the Tourism Innovation Awards for 2022 under the category of **Best Digital & Innovation Award**. The winner will

be announced during the Tourism Innovation Summit in November. More information on the Tourism Innovation Awards here: <https://www.tisglobalsummit.com/awards/tourism-innovation-awards-2022/>

Future Mobility Conference - Motion by Electronomous



Smart Dublin participated in a panel discussions on the topics of Mobility as a Service for Ireland; and Accelerating the potential of drones for local government. The event was hosted in Shannon at the future mobility campus, a testbed for autonomous vehicles and drones with discussions around micro-mobility and autonomous vehicles.

<https://www.electronomous.com/motion-by-electronomous/>

Data Climate Action Challenge Showcase

The Open Data Climate Action Challenge showcase included presentations from seven participating teams (from 37 applicants) that developed tools, dashboards & applications which use open data and support climate action. My

Remote Working Hub ([myRWH](#)) won first place for a web application which uses Data Science and AI to model optimal sites for locating remote hubs and helps would be users find a remote hub that most suits their needs.

Second Place went to [Dublin Cycling Prioritisation Analysis](#)- a

tool to help planners and others identify which areas are relatively better served by cycling infrastructure and bike-share services and which areas require attention. Third place was awarded to [iAdapt](#)- an educational game in which 'players' take on the role of mayor attempting to tackle climate issues including rising waters and flooding ([press coverage](#)) More information here: <https://smartdublin.ie/open-data-climate-action-challenge-2022/>



Bable & Smart Cities Collaboration – Dublin Month Podcasts



Bable Smart cities (a European group specialising in educating and raising awareness on the potential of Smart City solutions) and Smart Dublin have partnered up to share use cases, insights and learnings from smart projects throughout the month of September

for Dublin Month. Smart Dublin team members from across all districts will feature in a series of mini podcasts. View the podcasts [here](#)

Accelerating the potential of drones for local government – Drones Use cases & Industry video



The second video from our Drones showcases event raises awareness about drones within the public sector and has just been published here: <https://youtu.be/KkqEV4IIDoU>

Google Airview Project Update



The Google Air view car has finished its 1 year driving and has generated around 50m data points of air quality covering almost every street in Dublin. An intermediate report with preliminary results have been published as a blogpost in Medium by Dublin City Council's Smart City Team and Environment Health department:

[https://medium.com/google-earth/using-hyperlocal-air-quality-data-to-improve-](https://medium.com/google-earth/using-hyperlocal-air-quality-data-to-improve-dubliners-lives-and-health-45a1db0404)

[dubliners-lives-and-health-45a1db0404](https://medium.com/google-earth/using-hyperlocal-air-quality-data-to-improve-dubliners-lives-and-health-45a1db0404)

We are currently working for final validation of data and it will be made open to Public by Q1 2023

ANF Citizen Science Update



October marked the start of Academy of the Near Future's (ANF) citizen science project as the first of many workshops were delivered to Transition Year students. In collaboration with I-CHANGE researchers based in UCD, ANF is delivering a three-part workshop series where students will use traffic counters and air quality sensors to capture local air pollution data, identify key environmental problems facing

their communities, and develop creative solutions to help solve these challenges. By empowering communities with data, our goal is to show students that science is for everyone, irrespective of your

background or experience in scientific research! You can learn more about our project by reading our most recent [blog post](#) and watching this [short video](#).

DCU Water blitz 2022



community groups were invited to get involved

Find out more information here: <https://bit.ly/3f6Oxiy>

The 2022 Water Blitz hosted by DCU Water Blitz and in partnership with Earthwatch Europe took place from the 7th-10th of October. This project was sponsored by Smart Dublin, Dublin City Council & Local Authority Waters Programme. We are glad to part of an initiative to empower citizens to gather information on the status of water bodies nationwide, celebrating the cleanest water bodies and identifying pollution hotspots. All [Citizen Scientists](#) involved in

The World's Smartest Sandbox in the Heart of Dublin – Smart DCU Digital Twins



At [Dublin City University](#) (DCU), leading-edge digital innovations are being conceptualized, developed and tested. The DCU Glasnevin campus has transformed itself into a small-scale smart city through its Smart DCU program (a partnership with Ireland's national research center for data analytics INSIGHT, DCU, and [Dublin City Council](#)). The impact of our digital twin pilot applications have been being profiled in a recent blog by Bentley Software Systems <https://blog.bentley.com/the-worlds-smartest-sandbox/>

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I-Capital Cities European Capital of Innovation Network



Dublin City Council is represented on a European capital of innovation (iCapital) network of cities who are leading the way in urban innovation. The new network was established in June 2022 and supports sharing of best practice and innovation learning across EU cities. This network meets bi annually for cities to collaborate and develop toolkits for

wider dissemination across EU cities.

https://eic.ec.europa.eu/news/european-capital-innovation-awards-icapital-alumni-network-urban-future-helsingborg-2022-05-17_en

Smart D8 Programme Update

[As part of Dublin City Council's continuing support of the Smart D8 Health and Wellbeing district and through its partnership with the Adapt Research Centre through Maynooth University, we have recently welcomed Jack Lehane, the new Smart D8 Ecosystem Manager to the team. We look forward to working together to explore potential collaboration opportunities as we enter the second two year programme with Smart D8.](#)



Building Smarter and More Resilient Communities event with Dr Johnathan Reichental

In October Dublin City Council, through the Smart Cities team hosted a group of MBA students from the University of San Francisco for a week-long programme of events with world leading expert in Smart Cities – Dr. Jonathan Reichental. This finished with a closing networking event at Dogpatch labs with a keynote on the future of cities with Jonathan and inputs from ESB innovation labs and Limerick City and County.



Pre-COP 27 Seminar – Mansion House



Taking place in the Mansion House, the Smart Docklands team facilitated a session in a Pre-COP 27 seminar organised by Cllr Alison Gilliland. With Minister for Transport Eamon Ryan and representatives from local authority and academia in attendance, our team had the opportunity to discuss the use of sustainable

innovation in creating a better climate future for Dublin and its citizens.