



Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil  
Local Enterprise Office

# Supports for Remote Working

Remote Working Conference  
8 March 2019

Local Enterprise Office Offaly





**WHO**

**WHAT**

**WHERE**

**WHEN**

**WHY**

**HOW**

**QUESTIONS**

**ANSWERS**

# Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

## First Stop Shop for Business Supports

- Promote Entrepreneurship
- Foster Business Start-Ups
- Develop Existing Micro and Small Businesses

***Plus Economic Development***



# Local Enterprise Office (LEO)

- **First Stop Shop** for anyone starting or growing a business
- Client focused
- Direct financial supports for eligible micro-enterprises
- Some assistance for all



# Local Authority

- Involvement with Physical Infrastructure and/or Operational Costs of Co-working Hubs
- **Library Services** – Providing meeting rooms and space for informal hot-desking and pre-start-ups
- **Local Community & Development Committee (LCDC)**  
Advice to Community Groups on incorporating co-working spaces into Community Centres
- **Skills Audits & Commuter Surveys** – commissioning research data to stimulate economic investment. Data will highlight opportunities for remote working & cluster development

# Local Authority

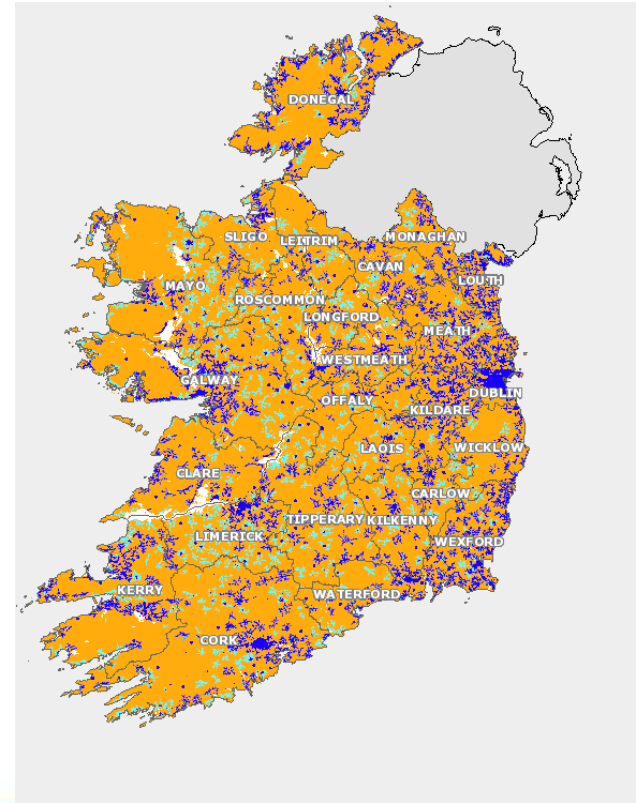
**LA Network of Broadband Officers** – Prioritising needs via network of 296 Broadband Communication Points (BCPs) & collaborating to provide fibre and WiFi solutions for businesses, communities and tourist areas

- Prioritising small hubs in black spots e.g. community centres
- Fibre connection – future proofing

# Local Authority

## Broadband.gov.ie

- Check what's available in your area
- Submit request



# Managed Co-Working Hubs

LEO offices are actively involved in supporting co-working hubs:

- Local Authority Hubs
- Involvement with publicly supported DACs/CLGs (Designated Activity Companies/Companies Limited by Guarantee)





# Managed Co-Working Hubs

Why we like them:

- Collaborations e.g. Grow Remote, Founder Friday
- Hot Deskers get to see business up close
- Early stage and existing business mixing
- LEO & Other Training



# Sector Specific Hubs

These can include food hubs and hubs with a defined theme

Examples from Offaly:



# Sector Specific Hubs

Sector Specific Hubs can:

- create a compelling proposition for IDA to attract related FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) companies to the area
- be a beacon for Diaspora looking to return or invest in their home county

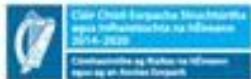


# Help for Employees

- Signposting to other Hubs
- Access to Mentoring & Enterprise Training
- Meeting Room Hire
- Grants if Eligible
- Co-Working Space instead of Working From Home

# Help for Employers

- Information Seminars
- Signposting for Space
- Property Database
- Advice on Finance



FUTURE is NOW

# The Future

- Balanced Regional Development
- Funding Opportunities for more Hubs
- Linked Hubs

*The inclusion of Remote Working and Co-Working Hubs as Strategic Objectives or supporting Actions in a number of the Regional Enterprise Plans demonstrates the importance of the concept, and commitment to further development*

# The Future

- Joint Committee on Rural and Community Development
  - LEO Offaly/Offaly County Council & Enterprise Ireland Witnesses 20<sup>th</sup> February 2019
- Policy Suggestions
- Report



# Policy Suggestions

## Managed Co-Working Hubs:

- *Salary Support for Managers* – 5 years vs 3 years
- *Enhanced Connectivity Between Hubs* – Explore ways to support a formal network of co-working hubs
- *Include Landing Spaces for FDI* – Explore ways to facilitate IDA companies establish initial footprint in town/region via the use of co-working hubs



Cair Chuid Eorpacha Trádairtha  
 agus Inneamairt na hÉireann  
 2014-2020  
 Comhordú agus Foras na hÉireann  
 Maidir le an tAontas Eorpach



An tAontas Eorpach  
 Ciste Forbartha  
 Réigiúnach na hEorpa



Údarás Áitiúla Éireann  
 Local Authorities Ireland

 **ENTERPRISE  
 IRELAND**

  
 Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil  
 Local Enterprise Office

# Policy Suggestions

## Remote Working:

- *Legislation* - Develop a national policy on remote working. This would include appropriate legislation around employment law and enable remote working to become “the norm”
- *Incentivise Employers* - Consider an enhanced Revenue scheme or allowance for remote workers
- *Public Sector Pilots* – Explore opportunities for public sector employees



Local Enterprise Office

#MakingItHappen



Pre-Start

Start

Grow

[Localenterprise.ie/makingithappen](http://Localenterprise.ie/makingithappen)



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Ireland's European Structural and Investment Funds Programmes 2014-2020

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European Union

European Regional Development Fund

