

**Over 11,000 expected nationally for Local Enterprise Week 2019
Dublin City Entrepreneurs & small businesses gather for a week of talks,
training and networking.**

Dublin City small businesses and entrepreneurs will gather next week for Local Enterprise Week, an initiative of the 31 Local Enterprise Offices (LEO) across the country, which is now in its 5th year. With over 11,000 expected to attend the 370 events nationwide, and the threat of Brexit looming for small businesses, this will be the most significant Local Enterprise Week to date.

Events will be taking place from **Monday 4th March to Saturday 9th March**. They are open to all entrepreneurs and small businesses who are planning, starting or growing their business. The events will cover a whole range of topics from building your brand, dealing with tax issues, to making your business age friendly, pitching your business, getting investment ready and preparing for Brexit.

“The Local Enterprise Office are an essential resource for any entrepreneur or small company in the city. Local Enterprise Week offers everyone the opportunity to understand what Dublin City Local Enterprise Office offers businesses on their own door step. Small Irish businesses rely on the support of those in their communities, particularly in those tough first years and with the uncertainty of Brexit looming. It’s a fantastic chance to learn from the array of great speakers, to network with other likeminded entrepreneurs and business people in their area - helping your business to plan, start and grow” said Greg Swift, Head of Enterprise & Economic Development for Local Enterprise Office Dublin City.

Commenting Owen Keegan Chief Executive of Dublin City Council said *“Local Enterprise Week highlights the business supports provided daily, by the LEO office, Dublin City Council. In 2018, €1.43 million was provided, to 233 business projects, in direct financial support. Over 1,000 business owners availed of mentoring. A further 1,985 businesses availed of training courses. 343 new jobs were created by LEO supported companies in the city.”*

For those starting a business, *“Financial Planning for Start-up’s”* will take businesses through grants available from the Local Enterprise Office, including eligibility criteria. Businesses who have benefitted from funding will be on hand speaking of their experience. The *“Start-up Boot Camp”*, a one-day intensive start your own business course, will help businesses to assess the feasibility of their ideas. For those already in business, the *“Trading Online”* information half day will assist businesses to build their online presence.

For more information on Local Enterprise Week log onto <http://bit.ly/LEW19DC> and you can join the Local Enterprise conversation on social media with #MakingItHappen

ENDS

For media queries on Local Enterprise Week / Local Enterprise Offices see

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Notes to Editor:

The Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) support over 7,000 small Irish businesses and entrepreneurs nationwide who employ in excess of 36,000 people

The LEOs supported the creation of 3,600 jobs nationwide in 2018

The LEOs provide funding to small businesses and provide a range of supports such as mentoring, training and industry specific expert advice to assist businesses who are at any stage of their development

Local Enterprise Office Dublin City is funded by the Government of Ireland through Enterprise Ireland in partnership with Dublin City Council