



Local Enterprise Office
LOUTH

READY TO...

START-UP

FINANCE

GROW

IMPROVE

EXPAND

ACHIEVE

TAKE THE ROAD TO BUSINESS SUCCESS:

Your **Local Enterprise Office** is with you every step of your business journey!

FIND OUT MORE AT:
LocalEnterprise.ie/Louth



Rialtas na hÉireann
Government of Ireland

In partnership with

 **Enterprise
Ireland**



Comhairle Contae Lú
Louth County Council



READY TO... START YOUR BUSINESS

Business Advice Clinics

**to help develop your
business idea**

You have an idea, but don't know where to start. Make an appointment in our Business Advice Clinic to talk it through with one of our Business Advisors. Explore the idea, get clarity and examine next steps.

→ Discover more

Start Your Own Business Programme

The Start Your Own Business Programme is designed for people wishing to start their own business, or those who have recently started trading. It provides practical support, advice and guidance in a broad range of business areas to get you started.

→ Discover more

Training and Mentoring

The Local Enterprise Offices provide an extensive range of high-quality training supports, which are tailored for start-up and growing businesses. Visit the Training and Events page for details of training available throughout the year.

→ Discover more

In some circumstances, new business owners can be eligible for a **Feasibility Study Grant** to assist in researching market demand for a product or service and examining its sustainability. See "Ready To ... Finance your business" for more information.



**ALWAYS
AVAILABLE**

**MENTORING, TRAINING
& BUSINESS ADVICE**



READY TO... GROW YOUR BUSINESS

Business Advice Clinics

Local Enterprise Office Louth has a range of business advisory supports, from Finance to Marketing, Sales to Strategy and everything in between. Call us on **042 933 5457** or email **info@leo.louthcoco.ie** today to book an appointment in our Business Advice Clinic.

Mentoring

Mentoring matches up the knowledge, skills and insights of experienced business practitioners with small business owners who need practical and strategic one-to-one advice and guidance. Mentors contribute independent, informed observation and advice to aid decision making.

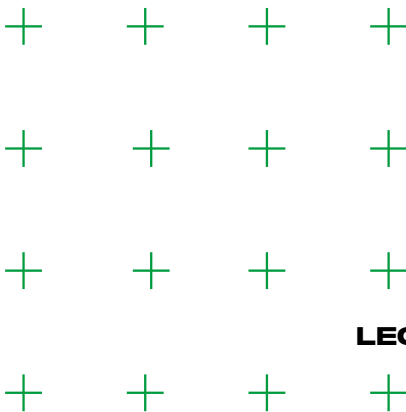
→ Discover more

Management Development

- to build your entrepreneurial and business skills

Developing your business skills is an essential part of growing a successful business. No one knows it all. Local Enterprise Office Louth offers a range of management development training programmes to support your development alongside your business.

→ Discover more



Financial Capability Development

This really practical and highly effective course has been designed to assist business owners to improve their understanding of their business' finances and to understand how financial information can be used to make strategic business decisions.

→ Discover more

New Frontiers

New Frontiers is Enterprise Ireland's national entrepreneur development programme for innovative, early-stage startups. The Regional Development Centre at DkIT is home to this programme in the North-East. Each year, New Frontiers funds 150 companies. If you believe that you are capable of building a sustainable new business, trading internationally, creating employment and generating revenue in your locality, apply now for a place on Ireland's largest entrepreneur development programme.

→ Apply Now

You're The Business Digitalisation Training Programme

A partnership between Local Enterprise Offices, Enterprise Ireland and Google, the "You're The Business" programme aims to accelerate Irish SME growth through digitalisation. This free, online training scheme gives entrepreneurs access to live and on-demand training sessions, geared towards supporting companies at all stages of their digitalisation journey, including those at early stages right through to those more digitally-sophisticated businesses who are ready to export globally. The training consists of 3 modules to help you understand how to use digital platforms to get online, grow online and expand internationally.

→ Discover more

Sectoral Supports:

Talk to us about the sectoral supports offered by Local Enterprise Office Louth:

Craft

Training and development supports for the craft sector are available throughout the year. Each year Local Enterprise Office Louth provides an opportunity for a selection of local craft businesses to attend Showcase, an international trade buyers event, hosted in the RDS.

Food

Louth and Meath are home to a host of talented and passionate food and drinks producers. Together they work under the brand name "Boyne Valley Flavours". Local Enterprise Office Louth offers a range of specialist supports for food businesses including Food Academy for Food Start-Ups and Food Business Management Development Programme.

Clusters

From the North East Lean Network to the M1 corridor, a series of clusters are in operation in the Louth and North East Region to help support and promote excellence in learning, development and enterprise.



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READY TO... IMPROVE YOUR BUSINESS

Drive efficiency and cost savings with Lean for Business

Lean is about doing things quicker, better and saving costs. Lean strives to remove waste and to continually improve a company. Lean For Business is designed to encourage clients to adopt Lean business principles in their organisations to increase performance and competitiveness. Lean is for all companies, regardless of sector.

→ [Discover more](#)

Reduce the carbon footprint of your business with Green for Business

This free programme helps small businesses take the first step towards becoming more sustainable. A green consultant will show you the small changes in your business that can have a big impact on your company - and the world around you.

→ [Discover more](#)

Energy Efficiency Grant

On completion of the Green For Business programme businesses can explore the

Energy Efficiency Grant which can support investment in technologies and equipment to help reduce the carbon footprint of businesses with 50% of eligible costs.

→ [Discover more](#)

Use technology to improve business performance with Digital for Business

Small businesses need to maximise every advantage - and implementing a digital strategy can give businesses a real edge. Our Digital consultant will analyse your existing operating systems and identify potential gaps in meeting business needs.

→ [Discover more](#)

Grow Digital Voucher

On completing the Digital for Business programme, clients can talk to their local LEO on their eligibility for a Grow Digital Voucher which can support investment in software and training/IT configuration, to help streamline operations and enhance productivity with new digital tools with 50% of eligible costs.

→ [Discover more](#)



READY TO... FINANCE YOUR BUSINESS

Feasibility Study Grant

Feasibility Study Grants are designed to assist with researching market demand for a product or service and examining its sustainability. The grant can be used for market research, consultancy, costs associated with development, innovation, prototypes or labour for research.

→ [Discover more](#)

Priming Grant

A Priming Grant is a business start-up grant available to micro enterprises within the first 18 months of start-up. A Priming Grant may be used to buy new equipment and help with direct business costs such as salary, rental costs, utilities, marketing, consultancy costs, etc.

→ [Discover more](#)

Business Expansion Grant

This grant is designed to assist the businesses in a growth phase, after the initial 18 month start-up period. A Business Expansion Grant may be paid to help buy new equipment, help with direct business costs such as new, full-time salaries, rental costs, utilities, marketing and consultancy costs.

→ [Discover more](#)

Low interest business loans via Microfinance Ireland

Microfinance Ireland (MFI), is a not-for-profit lender, established to deliver the Government's Microenterprise Loan Fund. MFI works very closely with the Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs), providing low-interest loans of €2,000 to €50,000 to small businesses to assist start-up, growth and expansion. The team at the Local Enterprise Office can help with preparation of funding applications and a reduced interest rate is available to applications that are made via the Local Enterprise Office.

→ [Discover more](#)

Other financial supports are available for companies with specialist needs:

Unlock Overseas Market Opportunities with Market Explorer Grant

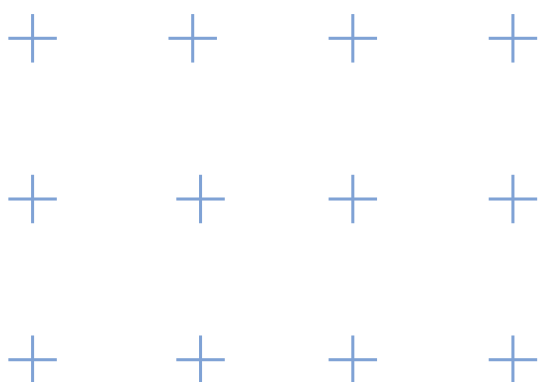
The Market Explorer Grant is available to help eligible small businesses unlock new overseas markets for their products and services within Europe and beyond. This grant can cover up to 50% of qualifying expenditure (excl. VAT), up to a maximum grant of €10,000, and can be availed of up to three times.

→ [Discover more](#)

Research, Development & Innovation Supports

Research, Development, and Innovation (RD&I) and the application of knowledge are critical drivers for the future success of Irish industry. The RD&I offers are designed to provide support for research, development, and technological innovation relevant at all stages of company development, and will enable companies to progress from undertaking an initial research project to high level Innovation and R&D activity. Eligible LEO Client Companies (sole traders are not eligible) can apply to the fund for support to develop new or improved product, services or processes.

→ [Discover more](#)



Louth County Enterprise Fund “The Fund”

The Enterprise Fund was established in 1989 with seed capital provided by the International Fund for Ireland and donations from many Louth-based businesses. The purpose was to provide loan finance to entrepreneurs and small businesses that had difficulty securing funding from the established lending institutions. The outstanding feature of the Enterprise Fund’s structure is its ability to harness local knowledge and apply local intelligence and discretion to its decision making process. The Enterprise Fund offers business loans of up to €25,000 to approved entrepreneurs and enterprises. These loans are repaid over a 3 – 5 year period with a typical interest rate of 7%.

→ [Discover more](#)



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READY TO... EXPAND YOUR BUSINESS

Supports may be available to help your business if you are ready to take the next step and expand your business into international markets. Contact LEO Louth to see how we can assist you.

Graduate to Enterprise Ireland to support your Global Ambition

Typically, the Local Enterprise Office provides support for micro-enterprises and small businesses with less than fifty employees. We provide a range of services such as training, mentoring, and financial assistance to help businesses start and grow.

Some client companies have potential to scale and expand internationally. If that's your business, the Local Enterprise Office, our advisors and mentors, will work with you to help prepare for that transition to Enterprise Ireland.

Enterprise Ireland provide funding, advice, and support to help these businesses develop new products, enter new markets, and increase their sales and profits.

They work with businesses that have a strong track record of innovation and are ambitious for international growth.



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Local Enterprise Office
LOUTH

Local Enterprise Office Louth
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📍 localenterprise.ie/Louth



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Government of Ireland

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