Local Enterprise Office
Monaghan
Mission Statement

We aim to promote entrepreneurship, foster business start-ups and develop existing micro and small businesses to drive job creation and to provide accessible high quality supports for your Business ideas.

The Local Enterprise Office together with our Economic Development Team will enable this local authority to better serve evolving business development needs into the future.
Services Available

• The Local Enterprise Office is the **First Stop Shop** for anyone seeking information and support on starting or growing a business in Ireland.

• Wide range of advice and counselling available to develop business proposals;

• Advice on availability of funding for projects
Types of Support

• **Financial**
  • Feasibility / Innovation Grant
  • Priming Grant
  • Business Expansion Grant
  • *(All Grants now contain a minimum 30% Refundable element).*

• **Non-Financial**
  • Advice and Business Counselling
  • Mentoring Support
  • Management Development
  • Training Programmes for Small Businesses
Feasibility / Innovation Grant

- To assist in establishing the feasibility of a project:
  - Market Research
  - Prototype Production
  - Assessment of suitable plant or equipment
  - Assessment of manufacturing process

- Maximum grant up to 60% of the cost of the study, subject to an overall maximum grant of €15,000
Priming/Business Expansion Grants

- Available to individuals or companies:
- With eligible projects in the commercial sector;
- Manufacturing and internationally traded services sector with employment potential not exceeding 10 people;
- The enterprise must demonstrate a market for the product or service
- The enterprise must have a capacity for growth and new job creation.
- Maximum grant of €150,000 or 50% of approved costs but anything over €80,000 would be the exception.
Potential Eligible Costs

- Capital items
- Salary costs
- Rental / Accommodation for 1st year of project
- Utility costs
- Marketing costs
- Consultancy costs
- Specific Business Training costs
Eligibility Criteria

• Commercial Viability
• Avoid Displacement
• Adequate Market
• Job Creation / Retention
• Adequate Finance
• Management / Technical Ability
• Tax Clearance – Personal, sub-contractors
• Non-Retrospective
Ineligible Projects / Areas

- Projects with potential employment greater than 10 persons
- Projects contrary to public policy
- Primary agricultural production
- Existing companies having a working relationship with Enterprise Ireland
- Finance for working capital
- Finance for mobile assets e.g. transport
- Finance towards cost of purchase or buildings
Application Process

- Client meets with LEO to discuss project
- If eligible, application form completed
- Application considered by Evaluation Committee
- Letter of Offer issued to successful clients with conditions and milestones
- Projects reviewed regularly and additional support such as mentoring / training provided where necessary
LEO Structure

Evaluation and Approvals Committee members:
• Mr. Eamonn O’Sullivan, Chief Executive of Monaghan County Council
• Ms. Anne Caldwell, Enterprise Ireland
• Ms. Bernadine Gormley, DBA Accountants Ltd.
• Ms. Claire Cunningham, Aura Internet Services Ltd.
• Ms. Rita Shah, The Shabra Group
• Mr. Gerry O’Toole, Retired Monaghan County Enterprise Board
• Mr. Allen McAdam, MCA Consulting

LEO Staff members:
• Mr. John McEntegart, Head of Local Enterprise
• Ms. Briege Quinn
• Ms. Sinead McKenna
• Ms. Eilin Connolly
• Ms. Blaithin O’Reilly
• Ms. Eimear McMahon
Non-Financial Supports

• Advice and Business Counselling
• Mentoring Support
• Management Development
• Training Programmes for Small Businesses
Advice & Business Counselling

- Professional advice provides a wide variety of technical, general management and accounting matters;

- Non-professional advice relates to basic information on establishing a business and advice on grant applications, appropriate agencies and sources of finance.

Mentoring

- The Mentor Programme is designed to enable the Local Enterprise Office to provide individuals / companies with temporary advisors to help identify and overcome obstacles in their development / growth stages.
Trading Online Voucher Scheme

- Offers small businesses the opportunity to develop their website or digital marketing strategy by availing of vouchers of up to €2,500 or 50% of eligible expenditure (net of VAT).
Management Development

Addresses lack of management capability identified within micro businesses. Programmes are aimed at:

- Establishing appropriate records and management information systems;
- Building business planning and development expertise;
- Upgrading management skills
General Training

- Local Enterprise Office Monaghan offers a range of training courses including:
  
  - Start Your Own Business
  - Sales & Marketing
  - Finance
  - Information Technology / Office Automation
  - Employment Legislation
  - Taxation
Contact Us

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