

---

# ACTION PLAN FOR JOBS

2017



TABLE OF ACTIONS

# Table of Contents

<b>2. Responding to Brexit</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3. Driving Enterprise Growth</b>	<b>8</b>
3.1 Growing and scaling enterprise.....	8
3.2 Supporting Foreign Direct Investment.....	13
3.3 Promoting Trade.....	14
3.4 Supporting Entrepreneurship.....	16
3.5 Ensuring Finance for Growth.....	19
<b>4. Delivering Skills for a Growing Economy</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>5. Promoting Innovation</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>6. Stimulating Regional Growth</b>	<b>33</b>
6.1 Regional Enterprise Development.....	33
6.2 Supporting Jobs for Rural Communities.....	35
<b>7. Enhancing Competitiveness</b>	<b>36</b>
7.1 Improving the ease of doing business.....	37
7.2 Workplace Innovation – Building Resilience and Growing Jobs.....	40
7.3 Realising the Digital Economy Opportunities.....	41
7.4 Investing in Economic Infrastructure.....	45
7.5 Transitioning to a Low Carbon Economy.....	47
<b>8. Addressing New Labour Market Challenges</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>9. Strengthening Clusters</b>	<b>51</b>
9.1 Agri-Food and Marine.....	51
9.2 Tourism.....	53
9.3 Retail.....	56
9.4 Design.....	57
9.5 International Financial Services.....	58
9.6 Construction and Housing.....	59
Glossary of Terms .....	61



## 2 Responding to Brexit

<b>1</b>	<b>Provide additional market expertise and initiatives, including measures to drive increased company innovation, and additional staffing in Dublin, the UK and third markets, to support companies dependent on the UK market, to sustain existing market share and drive growth.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Place 39 additional staff in the UK and in Dublin to sustain clients' existing business, and open up new opportunities for companies in the UK market.	Ongoing	EI
	Work with those companies most exposed to Brexit to develop growth plans which will help them to consolidate and grow exports in the UK.	Ongoing	EI
	Continue to collaborate closely with Bord Bia to identify potential sub-sector markets and new collaboration opportunities for food companies, both within and outside of the UK.	Ongoing	EI, Bord Bia
<b>2</b>	<b>Intensify work with companies to grow export opportunities and diversify into markets outside the UK.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop and roll out a client-centric approach to market research in Enterprise Ireland's sectoral and overseas teams to identify market and sector opportunities across its clients' priority areas.	Q2	EI
	Work with those companies most exposed to Brexit to develop growth plans to diversify their exports to other geographies, particularly in the Euro Area, Northern Europe and US and Canada.	Ongoing	EI
	Work with clients and other relevant stakeholders to allow ongoing analysis of, and where appropriate devise responses to, the likely impacts and opportunities posed by Brexit on a sector-by-sector basis.	Ongoing	EI
	Work with pre-HPSUs and HPSUs as early as possible as they develop their product-market fit to encourage a focus on non-UK markets.	Ongoing	EI
	Develop a structured approach to the 'Go-to-Market' programme planning that will be delivered across Enterprise Ireland's overseas network in 2017.	Ongoing	EI

<b>3</b>	<b>Roll out Enterprise Ireland's Global Ambition Campaign to raise awareness and encourage Irish exporters to grow their business globally. This will include sectorally focused messaging targeted at international buyers.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI
<b>4</b>	<b>Run an enhanced programme of trade promotion events and study visits in 2017.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI
<b>5</b>	<b>Deliver an international 'in-market' clustering strategy promoting Irish sectoral cluster capabilities to international buyers in priority markets and sectors.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Scope out new sectoral and geographic opportunities across markets to support clients' scaling agenda through a clustering approach.	Ongoing	EI
	Develop and implement a programme of sectoral clustering initiatives to be rolled out in overseas markets.	Ongoing	EI
<b>6</b>	<b>Enhance the Sales and Marketing Unit within Enterprise Ireland which will act as a centre of excellence for sales and marketing capability working with its clients at each stage of development.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI
<b>7</b>	<b>Engage with State agencies supporting exporting SMEs in their development and tailoring of supports and information in relation to Brexit.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Leverage third party research to access the potential impacts of changes in sterling on both domestic and exporting SMEs.	Q1	SBCI, DJEI, DoF, SME State Bodies Group
	Engage with State agencies supporting exporting SMEs in their development and tailoring of supports and information in relation to Brexit.	Ongoing	DoF, DJEI, SME State Bodies Group
<b>8</b>	<b>Actively promote opportunities arising from Free Trade Agreements with the agencies and business organisations, including improved market access, broader supply channels, greater predictability in the trading environment and less red tape.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DJEI, agencies

9	<b>Provide information to businesses on the importance of certification to international product and management standards.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Roll out an information campaign to SMEs promoting use of updated international business management standards to support competitiveness and create market access.	Ongoing	NSAI
10	<b>Deliver Brexit specific workshops to clients as part of the Finance 4 Growth Series.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI
11	<b>Increase the competitiveness of clients in those sectors and regions most impacted by Brexit through the proactive engagement of our competitiveness, management development and innovation supports.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI
12	<b>Deliver a range of initiatives to assist LEO client companies in meeting the challenges posed by Brexit, including awareness-raising, mentoring, training, developing internationalisation opportunities and Lean.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop supports to facilitate micro-enterprise to identify and develop new internationalisation opportunities.	Q1	LEOs/EI
	Roll out a Lean for Micro programme nationally to help micro-enterprises achieve targeted business improvement measures tailored to suit their situation.	Q1	LEOs/EI
	Implement a range of awareness-raising and information sharing measures, including through mentoring and training on topics such as market diversification and financial management issues.	Ongoing	LEOs/EI
13	<b>Recognising the importance of cross-border economic links on the island of Ireland and the role of InterTradeIreland and other North South bodies in the area of cross-border business development and job creation, particularly in the light of the UK referendum decision, maintain a focus on economic growth and job delivery through the North South Ministerial Council and continue outreach activities, including at Ministerial level, to the Northern Ireland business community.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DFAT, DJEI, ITI with relevant Departments and agencies

<b>14</b>	<b>Fund the development of a programme of initiatives to increase the awareness and capacity of SMEs to deal with the practical consequences of Brexit for cross border trade.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Complete a research project to assess likely tariff and other issues which will impact on cross border trade.	Q4	ITI
	Operate a programme of initiatives to increase the awareness and capacity of SMEs to deal with the practical consequences of Brexit.	Ongoing	ITI

<b>15</b>	<b>Work with retail representative bodies and other relevant members of the Retail Consultation Forum to bring a focus to key evolving challenges for the retail sector resulting from Brexit.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	Retail Consultation Forum, retail representative bodies, DJEI

<b>16</b>	<b>Maximise the opportunities presented by ongoing global developments in front, middle and back office activities in banking, payments, insurance, reinsurance, funds and asset management plus financial market infrastructure arising from Brexit in the context of the Government's IFS2020 strategic measures.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	IDA/DJEI, DoF, DFAT with relevant Departments and agencies

<b>17</b>	<b>Develop Ireland as an attractive location for mobile, globally renowned researchers, including UK based researchers, and strengthen Ireland's research funding collaborations with the UK and Northern Ireland.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop Ireland as an attractive location for mobile, globally renowned researchers, including UK based researchers, using and adapting SFI programmes such as Research Professorship, Future Research Leaders, Investigators Programme, and ERC support schemes.	Q4	SFI
	Encourage more collaboration between Irish and UK researchers through co-funding partnerships between SFI and UK funding agencies.	Q4	SFI

<b>18</b>	<b>Provide specific support and advice to food and drinks companies on the impact of Brexit.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1-Q4	DAFM and agencies

<b>19</b>	<b>Roll out a schedule of trade visits and secure access to new third country markets for Irish meat and dairy products while maintaining access to existing markets.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Secure access to new third country markets for Irish meat and dairy products while maintaining access to existing markets.	Q4	DAFM
	Use Bord Bia's Thinking House 'consumer insights' expertise to help companies market their food produce.	Q4	Bord Bia
	Roll out a schedule of outward and inward trade visits at Ministerial level to promote agri-food exports and foreign direct investment in key markets.	Q4	DAFM, EI

<b>20</b>	<b>Accelerate diversification of overseas tourism to Ireland to reduce the impact of a possible decline in visits from Great Britain.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Complete a new strategy to increase overseas visitor numbers and revenue from developing tourism source markets.	Q1	Tourism Ireland
	Increase tourism marketing expenditure in Mainland Europe and North America.	Q4	Tourism Ireland

# 3 Driving Enterprise Growth

21	<b>Lead and implement an integrated communications plan for enterprise supports that increases awareness among all businesses of the broad suite of supports that are available and how to access them.</b>		
	Steps Necessary for Delivery	Timeline	Responsible body
	Develop an integrated communications plan.	Q1	DJEI, relevant Departments and agencies
	Implement the plan.	Q2-Q4	DJEI, relevant Departments and agencies

### 3.1. Growing and scaling enterprise

22	<b>Implement the new Enterprise Ireland strategy to target the creation of 15,000 new jobs and to support clients to achieve €23 billion in exports in 2017.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI
23	<b>Drive scale in Irish based enterprises through a package of targeted interventions to meet their specific needs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Support 250 new large scale investments including across sectors and regions.	Ongoing	EI
	Support Irish companies to expand their reach in international markets, by assisting EI clients to secure over 1,000 new overseas contracts.	Ongoing	EI
24	<b>Strengthen the potential of Local Enterprise Offices to support jobs and start-ups at local level.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Establish a Customer Relationship Management Project Steering Group to prepare a business case in consultation with stakeholders.	Q1	LEOs/EI
	Scope out an appropriate Customer Relationship Management System for use across the LEOs.	Q3	EI/LEOs
	Roll out a new Portfolio Management Model in the LEOs nationwide, to drive effective client engagement, enhanced portfolio performance and increased levels of client progression towards scale and exporting.	Ongoing	LEOs/EI
25	<b>Enhance leadership capability and address skills gaps by delivering significant Leadership and Management Development programmes to 650 managers and to support the scaling of Irish companies.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Deliver leadership and management development programmes to 650 managers.	Ongoing	EI
	Develop a response to support clients to develop middle management capabilities.	Q1	EI
Establish new "SME learning communities" to facilitate peer-to-peer learning.	Q2	EI	
26	<b>Implement tailored mentoring programmes for the benefit of over 300 Enterprise Ireland supported companies.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI

<b>27</b>	<b>Develop and run a pilot Training Needs Analysis Workshop to provide companies with the framework to identify their training needs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1	EI

<b>28</b>	<b>Target a significant increase in graduate talent into the Enterprise Ireland client base through Graduates 4 International Growth and Grad-Hub.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	EI

<b>29</b>	<b>Generate closer links and business opportunities between Irish-owned and foreign-owned enterprises to achieve increased global sourcing sales.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Undertake a review of the Global Sourcing Initiative and devise specific metrics for both EI and IDA to ensure progress on the above measures.	Q2	EI/IDA/DJEI
	Deliver an enhanced cross-agency 2017 Global Sourcing Trade Mission to Ireland which will build on the success of the 2016 mission and will be held in a number of regional locations.	Q3	EI/IDA
	Increase business links between MNCs and SMEs in key growth sectors and increase the supply opportunities to large companies by leveraging mixed MNC and SME client company membership of Enterprise Ireland Technology Centres and through other cross-agency global sourcing activities.	Ongoing	EI/IDA

<b>30</b>	<b>Develop a new website to drive operational excellence and sustained competitiveness building capability for companies in Ireland through the provision of information and advice.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q3	EI with IDA, ÚnaG, LEOs and industry groups

<b>31</b>	<b>Actively engage with enterprise to facilitate SME participation in public procurement, including training and information events and the development of guidance and information notes.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Participate in training and information events such as Meet the Buyer.	Q4	ITI, OGP/DPER
	Develop guidance and information notes on Public Procurement to bring about a more consistent approach to procurement throughout the State making it easier for SMEs to deal with procurers.	Ongoing	DPER /OGP
	Hold quarterly meetings with SME representative bodies, the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Enterprise Ireland and InterTradeIreland through the SME working group to identify further measures to assist public sector procurement.	Ongoing	OGP, DJEI, EI, ITI, LEOs
	Publish a schedule of contracts and frameworks on a quarterly basis on <a href="http://www.procurement.ie">http://www.procurement.ie</a> to inform SMEs of opportunities that will arise during the year.	Ongoing	DPER/OGP
	Continue the operation of the Tender Advisory Service and review it during 2017.	Ongoing	DPER/OGP

<b>32</b>	<b>Enhance Ireland's position and competitiveness in global aviation to realise the sector's growth potential.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Pursue delivery of the recommended actions of the National Civil Aviation Development Forum (NCDAF) report to Government 2016 with emphasis on those actions to improve the competitive advantage of the aircraft maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) and aviation training sectors.	Q4	DTTAS and NCDAF
	In line with the National Aviation Policy goal of enhancing connectivity, ratify two EU Aviation agreements and two bilateral Air Transport Agreements by year-end.	Q4	DTTAS

<b>33</b>	<b>Implement an ambitious International Education Strategy to strengthen the quality and relevance of our education system in global terms, and to support the development of Ireland's global relationships.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Introduce the International Education Mark (IEM) to ensure quality standard and best international practice for international learners in Ireland.	Ongoing	DES
	Increase the number of international Higher Education and English language training students coming to study in Ireland in 2017.	Q4	DES, HEIs

<b>34</b>	<b>Work with the Irish Film Board and other agencies including Broadcasting Authority of Ireland's Sound and Vision Fund and public service broadcasters to explore the capacity to expand the audio-visual screen content production sector and implement the joint Irish Film Board/Broadcasting Authority of Ireland national strategy on skills shortages and talent development.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Implement increased Irish Film Board funding along with other industry supports including Section 481, to deliver increased employment in the sector of up to 1,000 full time equivalents per annum over the period 2016 to 2020.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, IFB, BAI

<b>35</b>	<b>Assess the potential and conditions necessary for the strategic development of Ireland's bio-economy across all sectors.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Establish a baseline assessment of the current level of bio-economy activity and opportunities across the various sectors in Ireland.	Q1	D/Taoiseach with relevant sectoral Departments
	Hold a consultative seminar on the bio-economy with key stakeholders, including the development agencies and the private sector.	Q1	D/Taoiseach with relevant sectoral Departments
	Publish a high-level policy statement on the bio-economy in Ireland.	Q2	D/Taoiseach with relevant sectoral Departments

### 3.2. Supporting Foreign Direct Investment

<b>36</b>	<b>Target 7,000 net new jobs in 2017 through the creation of new jobs and sustaining current employment in existing IDA companies.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	IDA
<b>37</b>	<b>Work to win another 180 FDI projects in 2017, including investment from high growth and emerging markets together with new forms of FDI.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	IDA

### 3.3. Promoting Trade

38	<b>Deliver the new trading strategy, the successor to the <i>Government Trade, Tourism and Investment Strategy</i> and prioritise its implementation in subsequent years.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DFAT, DJEI with relevant Departments and agencies
39	<b>Develop and implement a programme of Ministerial-led trade missions and other trade, tourism, investment and education events focused on key target markets, and growing existing and new markets.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop and implement a programme of Ministerial-led trade missions and other trade, tourism, investment and education events.	Ongoing	DJEI, EI, DFAT with relevant Departments and agencies
40	<b>Advance and promote participation in EU and multi-lateral Free Trade Agreements to encourage market-deepening and expansion to new markets for Irish firms.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DJEI with relevant agencies
41	<b>Actively manage the Global Irish Network, in cooperation with Government Departments and State agencies to implement the recommendations stemming from Global Irish Economic Fora and to ensure that the Global Irish Network remains a key partner in identifying and delivering actions across the economy that support jobs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DFAT, DJEI with relevant Departments and agencies
42	<b>Deliver focused events and supporting actions to support a deepened economic engagement with Africa, under the banner of the Africa Ireland Economic Forum.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DFAT with relevant Departments and agencies
43	<b>Develop and implement whole-of-Government cross sectoral strategies for Asia-Pacific and the Americas.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DFAT, DJEI with relevant Departments and agencies

44	<b>Enhance the coordinated approach to international messaging across Government, including through the regular updating of key messages and their communication by Ireland's Embassy network and update, on a regular basis, key messages for international audiences on Ireland's economic progress and our trade, tourism and investment strengths.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DFAT with relevant Departments and agencies

### 3.4. Supporting Entrepreneurship

<b>45</b>	<b>Progress the implementation of the <i>National Policy Statement on Entrepreneurship</i>.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Report on 2016 progress.	Q1	DJEI
	Carry out a mid-term review of the <i>National Policy Statement on Entrepreneurship</i> , to include stakeholder engagement.	Q4	DJEI
	Examine, as part of the mid-term review, measures that could ensure that greater numbers of people in cohorts identified in the <i>National Policy Statement on Entrepreneurship</i> , including older workers, start and run their own business.	Q4	DJEI

<b>46</b>	<b>Provide business developmental and financial supports to 180 High Potential Start-Ups and early stage start-ups and develop new and different sources of future High Potential Start-Up companies.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Provide business developmental and financial supports to 180 high potential and early stage start-ups.	Ongoing	EI
	Increase the number of scalable start-ups by targeting new and different sources of HPSU companies e.g. HPSU spin outs from research and HPSUs led by experienced professionals, and disruptive HPSUs.	Ongoing	EI
	Launch targeted Competitive Start Funds aimed at experienced professionals, graduates and overseas entrepreneurs.	Ongoing	EI
	Partner with key providers to provide training and capability development for early stage and established business innovators.	Ongoing	EI

<b>47</b>	<b>Deliver a new approach to the promotion of entrepreneurship at local level.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Launch a pilot Online Competitive Start-up scheme focused on identifying and supporting early stage innovative microenterprise start-ups.	Q2	LEOs/EI
	Build an increasingly higher quality pipeline of LEO funded start-ups by developing deeper relationships with the New Frontiers programme across the country.	Ongoing	LEOs/EI
	Undertake a comprehensive review of the Start Your Own Business programme offered by the LEOs to promote best practice higher quality start-ups in each area.	Ongoing	LEOs/EI

<b>48</b>	<b>Promote and facilitate increased provision of education and training opportunities related to entrepreneurship and identify best practice education and training on entrepreneurship within further education and training provision.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Publish a research report and disseminate findings and recommendations.	Q1	SOLAS
	Include parameters on education and training for entrepreneurship in the 2017 service planning process.	Q1	SOLAS, ETBs
	Commence entrepreneurship summer camps in the HEIs.	Q2-Q3	DES, HEA, HEIs
	Work with Education and Training Boards to promote and facilitate increased provision of education and training opportunities related to entrepreneurship.	Ongoing	SOLAS, ETBs
	Stimulate entrepreneurship from Science Foundation Ireland funded research through the SFI/National Science Foundation Innovation Corps (I-Corps) Collaboration to encourage culture change among Irish STEM researchers and support early-career stage researchers to develop entrepreneurship skills that enable them to pursue entrepreneurial ventures based on their research.	Q2	SFI

<b>49</b>	<b>Create a stronger focus on entrepreneurship, creativity and innovation in schools.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop new Entrepreneurship Education Guidelines for schools.	Q2	DES
	Deliver the highly successful LEO Student Enterprise Awards Programme 2017.	Q2	LEOs/EI
	Introduce a National Entrepreneurial Award for the education sector- both primary and post-primary- to encourage the development of entrepreneurial skills at schools level.	Q4	DES

<b>50</b>	<b>Deliver the Ireland's Best Young Entrepreneur (IBYE) Competition 2017/2018 with a target of 1,500 applicants.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	LEOs/EI

<b>51</b>	<b>Roll out the Women's Entrepreneurship Initiative to promote female entrepreneurship and develop their entrepreneurial capabilities.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Select projects, draw up contracts and commence funding.	Q1	DJE
	Roll out the Women's Entrepreneurship Initiative.	Q4	DJE

52	<b>Further develop female centred entrepreneurial and start up initiatives.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Support and publicise female specific entrepreneur awards and events.	Ongoing	EI, LEOs
	Support women in business networks to establish female specific peer learning.	Ongoing	LEOs
	Publicise and encourage participation by females in start-ups including a targeted Competitive Start Fund.	Ongoing	EI, DJEI
	Deliver the National Women’s Enterprise Day on a regional basis.	Q4	LEOs/EI

### 3.5. Ensuring Finance for Growth

53	<b>Introduce a new Credit Guarantee Scheme to encourage additional lending to SMEs by commercial finance providers.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1	DJEI, SBCI
54	<b>Introduce a new Counter Guarantee Scheme to support the leveraging of greater funds for Irish SMEs from EU risk sharing financial instruments.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1	DJEI, SBCI, DoF
55	<b>Roll out an Export Finance Initiative, in congruence with national and EU legislation, to support export orientated SMEs in order to determine the demand from SMEs for export finance.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DoF, SBCI, DJEI, EI, ISIF, DAFM
56	<b>Deliver, through the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland, effective financial supports to SMEs that address failures in the Irish credit market by sourcing additional funding from international organisations and securing new on-lenders, while driving competition and innovation.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Maintain close co-operation and collaboration with other National Promotional Financial Institutions.	Ongoing	SBCI, DoF
	Work on the potential for use of the European Fund for Strategic Investments (EFSI) through the Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland.	Ongoing	DoF, SBCI, DJEI
	Maintain strong relationships with the EIB Group and the Council of Europe Development Bank.	Ongoing	DoF, SBCI, ISIF, EI
	Develop and roll out a COSME Counter Guarantee facility to support a €150 million Cash Flow Support Loan Fund for Farmers with the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.	Ongoing	SBCI, DoF, DAFM
	Pursue an application to the European Investment Fund for the Innovfin Counter Guarantee Scheme.	Ongoing	SBCI, DoF, DJEI
	Maximise engagement with the relevant elements of the Multiannual Financial Framework.	Ongoing	DoF, SBCI, EI
	Participate in the development of the European Investment Advisory Hub.	Ongoing	SBCI, DoF, SME State Bodies Group

<b>57</b>	<b>Examine ways to support non-bank alternative providers of finance to SMEs in the Irish market both directly as part of the Ireland Strategic Investment Fund's SME strategy, and also indirectly via other strategies including food and agri, real estate and venture capital.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	ISIF

<b>58</b>	<b>Enhance and target direct company equity and grant supports to support Enterprise Ireland's client companies to enhance their competitiveness.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Support and monitor investment activity with Irish SMEs by Enterprise Ireland supported angel, seed, venture and development capital funds.	Ongoing	EI

<b>59</b>	<b>Conduct a review of the Credit Review Office to ensure its statutory base allows it to effectively accomplish its objective of ensuring viable businesses can access credit.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1	DoF

<b>60</b>	<b>Conduct a review of the credit application process with a focus on the administrative burden for SMEs and the time costs to them.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	SME State Bodies Group

<b>61</b>	<b>Enhance awareness amongst SMEs and entrepreneurs of State business supports to raise their financial capacity in either starting a business, or in growing and expanding an established business.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Deliver a revised integrated communications strategy to improve SME knowledge of the range of State supports for their businesses.	Ongoing	SME State Bodies Group

<b>62</b>	<b>Monitor data on lending to SMEs from both bank and non-bank sources, and demand from SMEs for credit to inform policy and ensure that viable SMEs can access appropriate finance.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Collate and monitor data on lending to SMEs from both bank and non-bank sources and report on this issue to the relevant Cabinet Committee.	Q1 and Q3	DoF, SME State Bodies Group
	Survey the demand for SME credit.	Q2 and Q4	DoF
	Collate and examine detailed data from AIB, Bank of Ireland and Permanent TSB on a monthly basis.	Q1-Q4	DoF, CRO

<b>63</b>	<b>Ensure that viable SMEs continue to have access to appropriate alternative sources of finance.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop an awareness campaign to improve SME knowledge of alternative finance options and the suitability of these for their business.	Q3	DoF, SME State Bodies Group, DJEI
	Foster connectivity between investors in equity markets for SMEs by facilitating information sharing and co-investment while increasing awareness and improving the knowledge of financial providers about investment opportunities in SMEs.	Q3	DJEI, EI

<b>64</b>	<b>Improve the financial skills of Irish SMEs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Map the relevant financial training currently available in Ireland and its take-up	Q3	SME State Bodies Group
	Conduct a feasibility study in relation to the provision of a voucher scheme for SMEs wishing to receive financial advice.	Q2	DJEI

<b>65</b>	<b>Promote and monitor improved prompt payment practices in Ireland.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Roll out a prompt payments campaign.	Q1	DJEI
	Deliver and monitor enhanced reporting requirements on prompt payments for public sector bodies.	Ongoing	DJEI

<b>66</b>	<b>Engage and collaborate with other bodies and policy analysts to leverage their expertise and draw on international best practice for developing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating policy initiatives that will provide SMEs access to appropriate finance to meet their enterprise needs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Host a policy conference on finance for growth.	Q2	DoF, SME State Bodies Group
	Engage with the OECD through the Working Party for SMEs and Entrepreneurs.	Ongoing	DoF, DJEI, SME State Bodies Group

# 4 Delivering Skills for a Growing Economy

<b>67</b>	<b>Monitor and progress the actions and recommendations from the <i>National Skills Strategy 2025</i>, which provides the framework for skills development to support long term sustainable growth.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Continue to implement the actions and recommendations in the <i>National Skills Strategy</i> .	Q4	DES, other Departments, agencies, employer representative bodies, enterprise, NSC, RSF

<b>68</b>	<b>Support and strengthen the apprenticeship and traineeship systems through enhancing the range of courses and providing 4,947 apprenticeship places and 2,600 traineeships.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Provide 4,947 apprenticeships and 2,600 traineeships.	Q4	SOLAS, Apprenticeship Council, DES, HEA, HEIs
	Implement the Government's Action Plan to Expand Apprenticeship and Traineeship.	Ongoing	SOLAS, Apprenticeship Council, DES, HEA, HEIs

<b>69</b>	<b>Develop a Further Education and Training policy framework for employee development to guide Education and Training Board activity to support skills development for those in employment, in consultation with partners, aligning with the <i>National Skills Strategy</i>.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Publish the Further Education and Training (FET) policy framework for employee development.	Q1	SOLAS
	Develop the implementation plan for the FET policy framework for employee development.	Q2-Q4	SOLAS

<b>70</b>	<b>Deliver the skills for a growing economy and increase labour market participation through the Skillnets programmes for ICT, bio-pharma, life sciences and med tech.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Enhance industry input into programme content, through provision of work placements and promotion of ICT programmes as part of the implementation of Skillnets ICT conversion programmes.	Ongoing	Skillnets
	Deliver training courses in bio-pharma, life sciences and med tech to industry through Skillnets bio-pharma sectoral networks, with enhanced industry input into programme content and provision of work placements as part of the implementation of Skillnets bio-pharma conversion programmes.	Ongoing	Skillnets
	Deliver Skillnets ICT programmes to industry through its ICT sectoral training networks, including regionally-based ICT networks to stimulate regional growth.	Ongoing	Skillnets

<b>71</b>	<b>Implement the Foreign Languages in Education Strategy, which will focus on and support increased levels of participation and competence in language learning at all levels.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Make available a new Framework for Modern Foreign Languages at Junior Cycle to schools to increase the range and quality of languages which can be taught.	Q3	DES, NCCA
	Increase the diversity and provision of foreign language learning opportunities, including languages like Mandarin which are of relevance to rapidly growing economies of the future.	Q4	DES, HEA, NCCA
	Monitor progress through the strategic dialogue process with the HEIs. The New Systems Performance Framework for Higher Education will include indicators and targets to drive the provision of a diversity of language learning opportunities as a national priority.	Q4	DES, HEA

<b>72</b>	<b>Implement the <i>ICT Skills Action Plan 2014 – 2018</i> through strengthened collaboration between Government, the education system and industry and as part of the goal of making Ireland the most attractive location in the world for ICT skills and ability.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Issue a competitive call for a new round of ICT skills conversion programmes and ICT upskilling courses as part of Springboard+ 2017.	Q1	HEA, DES
	Determine the outcome of the competitive call using an expert panel, in accordance with process and overseen by an independent process auditor.	Q2	HEA, DES
	Launch ICT skills conversion courses under Springboard+ 2017.	Q2	HEA, DES, HEIs, employers
	Roll out new ICT places.	Q3	HEA, DES, HEIs, employers

<b>73</b>	<b>Create a greater diversity of learning opportunities beyond school through competitive calls for Springboard courses.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Issue a competitive call to HEIs for proposals for Springboard+ courses, with a particular focus on priority areas identified by the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs.	Q1	HEA, DES
	Determine the outcome of the competitive process using an expert panel, in accordance with process and overseen by an independent process auditor.	Q2	HEA, DES
	Launch Springboard+ 2017.	Q2	HEA, DES, HEIs, employers
	Roll out Springboard+ 2017.	Q3	HEA, DES, HEIs, employers

<b>74</b>	<b>Improve the dissemination of skills requirements and labour market intelligence, nationally and regionally, to inform dialogue between providers and employers and to underpin the provision of relevant skills development opportunities through the establishment of the National Skills Council.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Commence the work programme of the National Skills Council in line with the <i>National Skills Strategy</i> .	Q2	NSC, EGFSN, SOLAS (SLMRU), DES, RSF, DJEI

<b>75</b>	<b>Implement the objectives in the Action Plan for Education 2016-2019.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Complete and publish the 2016 end of year review.	Q1	DES
	Complete and publish the Action Plan for Education 2017.	Q1	DES
	Publish 2017 progress reports for Q1, Q2 and Q3.	Q2, Q3, Q4	DES

<b>76</b>	<b>Enact the Technological Universities Bill to underpin the development of a new model of higher education in Ireland.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	DES

<b>77</b>	<b>Further scale initiatives to encourage young people and the wider population to participate in STEM disciplines and to raise awareness among the public through broadcasting about STEM, the Smart Futures website and initiatives with industry.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Support the production of STEM programming during the peak schedule of a national broadcaster.	Q4	SFI
	Grow the diversity of career profiles featured on the new Smart Futures website, including a range of qualification paths.	Q4	SFI
	Grow Smart Futures activity in counties identified as receiving low intervention in 2015.	Q4	SFI
	Grow the Smart Futures industry partners and volunteer base.	Q4	SFI
<b>78</b>	<b>Increase the permitted residence period for high performing students who attain a post graduate award at Levels 9 and 10 to up to two years' residence in the State for the purpose of securing employment. Graduates at Level 8 will be permitted one year's residence.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DJE
<b>79</b>	<b>Ensure the Employment Permits System remains aligned with labour market needs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Continue to review the Highly Skilled Eligible Occupations List (HSEOL) and Ineligible Categories of Employment List (ICEL).	Q2 and 4	DJEI
<b>80</b>	<b>Undertake a remuneration review to provide clearly defined criteria for use in an evidence based setting of remuneration thresholds for employment permits.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DJEI
<b>81</b>	<b>Develop and publish the 2017 Further Education and Training Services Plan which will provide detail of all SOLAS funded FET provision and funding provided to agencies and bodies to support the FET sector. The skills needs at national level will be informed by the recommendations of the <i>National Skills Strategy</i> and the regional skills needs identified by the Regional Skills Fora.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Publish the 2017 FET Services Plan.	Q2	SOLAS, ETBs
	Implement the 2017 FET Services Plan.	Ongoing	SOLAS, ETBs

# 5 Promoting Innovation

<b>82</b>	<b>Enhance and support business RDI investment and capacity of both Irish and foreign owned enterprise to achieve the <i>Innovation 2020</i> targets; this will include optimising, simplifying and rebranding Enterprise Ireland's in-company support, rolling out a new Business Innovation Initiative and by enterprise agencies working with companies to ensure they are equipped to exploit disruptive and emerging technologies.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Approve at least 100 companies for RDI funding of €100,000 or more to grow indigenous RDI spend by 50 per cent (to €1.25 billion) by 2020, through optimising, simplifying and rebranding Enterprise Ireland's in-company RDI supports.	Q4	EI
	Achieve €600 million in RDI investment annually to have a cumulative €3 billion in new RDI investments by 2019.	Q4	IDA
	Roll out a new Business Innovation Initiative to help companies develop financially important non-technological innovations such as new delivery methods or business models.	Q1	EI
	Target Enterprise Ireland client SMEs working with "disruptive technologies" in order to help them leverage early stage financing opportunities available in Horizon 2020's SME instrument.	Ongoing	EI
	Ensure that Ireland is equipped to exploit suitable emerging technology areas of economic impact. A pilot action to select one area and test this out will be undertaken in 2017.	Q4	EI, IDA, SFI

<b>83</b>	<b>Build Intellectual Property Capability and strengthen Intellectual Property Management in indigenous enterprise by developing a new financial support to assist SMEs and developing an approach for measuring Intellectual Property activity in the firm base.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop a new financial support aimed at assisting Enterprise Ireland SME clients to build Intellectual Property Management capability and implement Intellectual Property Strategies.	Q2	EI
	Develop an approach for measuring and monitoring the progress of Intellectual Property activity in the firm base.	Q3	EI, DJEI with relevant agencies

<b>84</b>	<b>Drive innovation procurement activities through the implementation of a new Small Business Innovation Research initiative and by identifying and developing a systematic approach to innovative public procurement.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Drive the implementation of the new Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) initiative for Ireland working in partnership with willing Public Bodies and deliver five SBIR collaborative projects in 2017.	Ongoing	EI, public bodies
	Identify and develop a systematic approach to Innovative Public Procurement in Ireland.	Ongoing	EI, OGP, public bodies
	Progress the Knowledge Development Box (Certification of Inventions) Bill 2016 through the Houses of the Oireachtas to enactment to support the Knowledge Development Box.	Q2	DJEI
<b>85</b>	<b>Provide advice through the newly established Innovation Office on regulatory requirements and general guidance on technical or scientific issues to any individual or organisation that may be developing innovative health products or technologies, with a particular focus on academic researchers and early stage developers in start-up companies and SMEs.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Host an Innovation Day for interested stakeholders in Spring 2017.	Q2	HPRA
	Publish general updates and information about regulatory and scientific issues related to innovation.	Ongoing	HPRA
<b>86</b>	<b>Establish an Advisory Office (currently in pilot phase) to provide national scientific and regulatory advice to companies for the development of human medicinal products.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	HPRA
<b>87</b>	<b>Increase collaboration between enterprise and the health sector leading to the development and commercialisation of new healthcare technologies, products and services and to facilitate the health system to find efficiencies and improvements through Health Innovation Hub Ireland by selecting and supporting projects emerging from open and focused calls that create solutions to identified problems/challenges.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Select and support successful projects emerging from competitive open and focused calls.	Q1	HIHI
	Develop and launch a Health Innovation Hub Ireland Health Innovation Education Programme.	Q3	HIHI
	Engage with 50 companies to provide access to the health system and support the testing and validation of 30 industry products or services.	Q4	HIHI
	Issue the 2017-2018 call for new projects.	Q4	HIHI
	Support innovative developments emerging from within the health system.	Q4	HIHI

88	<b>Drive increased collaboration between enterprise and the public research system by increasing the pool of researchers strongly positioned to take up employment in industry in Ireland, supporting over 850 industry-led collaborative research projects, developing a cadre of “industry ready researchers” to increase SME capability, and enhancing the skills of PhD students to meet the demands of industry and academia.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Increase the pool of researchers strongly positioned to take up employment in industry in Ireland by growing the total number of Science Foundation Ireland Industry Fellowships to 135.	Q4	SFI
	Support over 850 industry-led collaborative research projects to drive innovation across all stages of company development in order to help companies scale and grow.	Ongoing	EI
	Develop a cadre of “industry ready researchers” to increase SME capability to innovate through the EU Marie Curie Programme and other Enterprise Ireland funded assets (Technology Centres and Technology Gateways).	Ongoing	EI
	Expand Science Foundation Ireland industry facing programmes to seed the establishment of long term collaborations of academic researchers with SMEs and MNCs in areas of economic importance.	Q4	SFI
	Provide advice and support for research and innovation to Enterprise Ireland client companies and research institutions in the defence sector through the Defence Enterprise Initiative.	Ongoing	DoD
	<p>Maintain enrolment of postgraduate researchers in partnership with enterprise/employers to address economic demands:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a new Frontiers Research competitive fund to enable the next generation of researchers transition to Principal Investigator status.</li> <li>• Maintain the number of postgraduate awards in partnership with enterprise/employers.</li> <li>• Maintain the number of postdoctoral awards in partnership with enterprise/employers.</li> </ul>	<p>Q1</p> <p>Q4</p> <p>Q4</p>	DES, IRC

<b>89</b>	<b>Strengthen the ecosystem of research and technology centres and technology gateways to enhance the competitiveness of enterprise including by reviewing the first seven research centres, launching new research and technology centres in areas of demonstrated enterprise need and developing a plan for the next phase of the technology gateway programme.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop a plan for the next phase of the Technology Gateways programme (the current programme ends in 2017) with a view to enhancing the impacts for regional and nationally based companies.	Q4	EI
	Support excellent and impactful research through Research Centres and Technology Centres and launch new centres in areas of demonstrated enterprise need.	Q4	SFI, EI, IDA
	Carry out a review/renewal process for the twelve Research Centres (at year 2 and year 4 respectively).	Q4	SFI
	Through the Meat Technology Centre, create, validate and commercialise a pipeline of science and technology-based innovations, leading to enhanced processes, product development and job creation in the Irish beef and sheep meat sector.	Q4	Teagasc

<b>90</b>	<b>Implement specific actions in <i>Innovation 2020</i> which will support the development of excellent researchers, world-leading research teams, equipment and facilities across the public research system.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Design a successor to the PRTL Cycle 5. Design a new, competitive-based approach to investment in excellent researchers, world-leading research teams, equipment and facilities across the public research system.	Q3	DJEI and DES in consultation with SFI [HEA] and other funders and stakeholders
	Increase the number of early career independent researcher awards (Starting Investigator Research Grant).	Q3	SFI
	Continue to scale up the Future Research Leaders awards.	Q3	SFI
	Design PhD programmes to develop and enhance the skills of PhD students through cohort-based, discipline centric, PhD programmes to ensure the provision of a skilled in demand workforce to meet the demands of industry and academia.	Q4	SFI
	Roll out regional SME innovation networks ensuring that innovative SMEs' skills and innovation needs are met by the HEIs in their region.	Ongoing	EI, HEIs

<b>91</b>	<b>Ensure RDI supports meet enterprise needs and are readily accessible by finalising a review and streamlining the range of State financial aid for RDI and by promoting the benefits of carrying out RDI including raising awareness to increase the level of collaboration across all sectors.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Launch a new communications campaign promoting the benefits of enterprise carrying out RDI.	Q2	EI
	Work with all Technology Centres to develop company focused value propositions that will act to raise awareness and increase the level of collaboration across all sectors.	Q2	EI
	Finalise the review of the full range of State financial aid for RDI to ensure that the needs of small and young firms are being catered for as well as those of larger, established firms.	Q2	DJEI
	In the context of the review, consider streamlining enterprise RDI support programmes to ensure their comprehensiveness and complementarity.	Q3	DJEI, EI, IDA, SFI and other research funders

<b>92</b>	<b>Develop proposals to put in place a new cycle of Research Prioritisation to align innovation investment with enterprise opportunities through assessment of progress and impact of the current cycle, finalisation of a market horizon scan and identification of technologies that are critical to Ireland's economic and social development.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Finalise a market-led horizon scan to identify strategic areas of commercial opportunity in global markets for Irish based enterprise.	Q2	DJEI
	Finalise the Technology Futures exercise to identify technologies that are critical to Ireland's economic and social development.	Q2	DJEI
	Complete an assessment of the progress and impact of the current Research Prioritisation cycle.	Q2	DJEI
	Develop proposals to put in place a new cycle of Research Prioritisation on foot of the resulting evidence base.	Q4	DJEI

<b>93</b>	<b>Drive research and innovation in advanced manufacturing by developing the necessary research skills and capacity and by progressing the identified need for Research Technology Organisation support.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop research skills and capacity in the key area of advanced manufacturing to improve Irish competitiveness including through the Research Centre and Research Centres Spokes programmes.	Q3	SFI
	Develop proposals in the area of advanced manufacturing delivered through a Research Technology Organisation model for the benefit of both indigenous and multinational companies.	Ongoing	IDA, EI, DJEI

94	<b>Drive EU and international research collaboration to maximise the impact of investment in research and innovation including through new international research partnerships, securing €12 million in product development contracts for Irish based companies from the European Space Agency, and by Enterprise Ireland continuing to lead the national drive to secure €1.25 billion in funding for Irish companies and academics by 2020.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop and progress new international research partnerships including through the: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigators Programme partnership with China</li> <li>• SFI- National Science Foundation (US) Partnerships for International Research and Education</li> <li>• US-Ireland R&amp;D Partnership Programme</li> <li>• Launch of new partnership with the UK Research Council</li> </ul>	Q2	SFI SFI SFI, DJEI, DAFM, HRB SFI
	Provide funding to enable the I-LOFAR Consortium to join the International LOFAR Telescope.	Q3	DJEI
	Continue discussions with CERN and the European South Observatory regarding Membership options for Ireland.	Q4	DJEI
	Continue to lead the national drive to secure €1.25 billion (€150 million in 2017) in research funding from Horizon 2020 for Irish companies and academics by 2020.	Ongoing	EI
	Secure €12 million in product development contracts for Irish based companies from the European Space Agency from which next generation commercial products can be generated.	Ongoing	EI

95	<b>Support knowledge transfer by implementing a successor to the current Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative, delivering on targets for the transfer of economically valuable research outputs to enterprise, from all publicly-funded research, through the knowledge transfer infrastructure supported by Knowledge Transfer Ireland (KTI), reviewing the operations of KTI, finalising and implementing a 2017-2021 strategy for KTI, and by establishing a KTI Industry Connectors group to increase quality engagement and collaboration between companies and publicly funded research and technology in the higher education sector.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Implement a successor to the current Technology Transfer Strengthening Initiative.	Q1	EI with IUA
	Finalise and implement a 2017-2021 Strategy for Knowledge Transfer Ireland to ensure companies continue to benefit from access to Irish expertise and technology through simple connection to and engagement with the Higher Education research base, in turn supporting employment.	Q1	EI/KTI
	Establish a Knowledge Transfer Ireland Industry Connectors group of research and technology domain experts to enable increased quality engagement and collaboration between companies and publicly funded research and technology in the Higher Education sector.	Q3	EI/KTI
	All funders of public research will increase the commercialisation of the research that they support, using the available commercialisation and technology transfer programmes, to ensure the efficient transfer of economically valuable research outputs to enterprise and to meet the following targets: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commercially relevant technologies (licences, options, assignments): over 155</li> <li>• Spin outs: over 25</li> <li>• High Potential Start-Ups from spin outs: over 8</li> </ul>	Q4	EI/KTI in collaboration with all research funders

# 6 Stimulating Regional Growth

## 6.1. Regional Enterprise Development

96	<b>Progress the implementation and monitoring of the Regional Action Plans for Jobs, including promotion of cross regional collaboration and of best practice exemplars. In particular the Regional Action Plans for Jobs will respond proactively to economic developments that have specific impacts on regions, such as Brexit and the Border region, through facilitating and encouraging the development of collaborative initiatives in the areas of entrepreneurship, capability development and mentoring, together with sector and cluster initiatives that could be successful in competitive calls for funding.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1, Q3	DJEI, other relevant public bodies
97	<b>Support all eight Regional Action Plans for Jobs and provide investment of up to €60 million over the period to 2020 to support collaborative approaches to boost enterprise and job creation across the regions. This competitive funding is aimed at accelerating economic recovery in every part of the country by delivering on the potential of local and regional strengths.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Launch and roll out the scheme across the regions, with a focus on larger scale, regionally strategic projects.	Q1	EI, DJEI
	Launch and roll out a Competitive Local and Community Enterprise Initiatives call for Proposals.	Q1	EI, DJEI
	Roll out the Regional Accelerator Scheme 2015-2017 following the first call for expressions of interest in 2016.	Ongoing	EI
98	<b>Complete construction of three new advance buildings in Sligo, Castlebar and Tralee and develop three new advance buildings in Limerick, Dundalk and Galway.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Complete construction in Sligo.	Q1	IDA
	Complete construction in Castlebar.	Q1	IDA
	Complete construction in Tralee.	Q2	IDA
	Commence construction in Limerick, Dundalk and Galway.	Q4	IDA

99	<b>Support the creation of 500 new jobs in 2017 and continue to help maintain existing jobs in Údarás na Gaeltachta client companies in the Gaeltacht, including through supports for post-research and pre-commercialisation units in the life sciences, food and business support services and creative enterprises sectors, as well as for community development initiatives.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
<p>Commence the development of a Marine Innovation Park which will facilitate both research and commercial activities in Cill Chiaráin, Co Galway by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Preparing and completing Full Master Plan</li> <li>• Undertaking and completing an Environmental Impact Study</li> <li>• Preparing and submitting a planning application</li> </ul>	<p>Q1 Q2 - Q4 Q2 - Q4</p>	<p>DAHRRGA, ÚnaG</p>	
<p>Develop four innovation hubs (Donegal, Mayo, Galway and Kerry) by refurbishing existing buildings and investing in ancillary infrastructure which supports and develops entrepreneurship and start-up companies in the Gaeltacht Regions.</p>	<p>Q2 and Q4</p>	<p>DAHRRGA, ÚnaG</p>	
<p>Invest in training and skills development interventions in support of building and improving the skills-base amongst local enterprises and those seeking employment.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DAHRRGA, ÚnaG</p>	
<p>Develop advanced property solutions for new and existing innovative companies.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>DAHRRGA, ÚnaG</p>	

## 6.2. Supporting Jobs for Rural Communities

<b>100</b>	<b>Launch and implement the <i>Action Plan for Rural Development</i>, with over 200 actions across Government which will maximise the potential for jobs and economic and social progress in rural areas.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Launch the <i>Action Plan for Rural Development</i> .	Q1	DAHRRGA
	Implement the <i>Action Plan for Rural Development</i> .	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, relevant public bodies
	Publish Progress Reports on the implementation of the <i>Action Plan for Rural Development</i> on a bi-annual basis.	Q3	DAHRRGA
<b>101</b>	<b>Provide EU LEADER programme funding in support of the enterprise priorities identified in the Local Development Strategies produced by Local Action Groups in every county, including through focused investment in enterprise development and rural tourism.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Put in place funding agreements with Local Action Groups in all rural areas in Ireland.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA
	Provide targeted capacity building sessions with Local Action Groups to identify strategic opportunities.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA
	Finalise the protocol on LEOs and LEADER between both Departments.	Q1	DJEI, DAHRRGA
<b>102</b>	<b>Through the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, support the revitalisation of towns and villages to improve the living and working environment for rural communities and increase the potential to support increased economic activity.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Design and launch an enhanced phase of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme, building on the 2016 scheme.	Q2	DAHRRGA
<b>103</b>	<b>Through the Rural Recreation Scheme, provide funding for new recreation infrastructure and the maintenance of existing infrastructure to support the creation and retention of jobs in rural areas.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Launch call for proposals under the Rural Recreation Scheme.	Q1	DAHRRGA
	Assess applications and announce successful projects.	Q2	DAHRRGA

# 7 | Enhancing Competitiveness

104	<b>The National Competitiveness Council's priority issues for sustainable competitiveness over the short to medium term will be brought to Government. Individual Government departments will respond and bring forward proposals as appropriate to enhance competitiveness. This work will be overseen by the relevant Cabinet Committees.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Respond and bring forward appropriate proposals to address priority issues identified by the NCC to enhance competitiveness and productivity.	Ongoing	D/Taoiseach, all Departments
105	<b>Implement the Cost of Motor Insurance Action Plan.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DoF

## 7.1. Improving the ease of doing business

106	<b>Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DAFM
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DAHRRGA
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DCCAIE
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Children and Youth Affairs towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DCYA
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Finance towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DoF
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Health towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DoH
	Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DHPCLG

Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Justice and Equality towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DJE
Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DJEI
Provide updates each quarter on progress achieved by the Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport towards the Government's commitment to make all licensing, authorisation, certification, permit application, and payment-taking procedures for business fully available online on a progressive basis by November 2017.	Q1-Q4	DTTAS
Provide regular updates through the appropriate Cabinet Committee structures on progress by all Departments to achieving compliance with the requirement of making all licensing and authorisation procedures available online by November 2017.	Ongoing	DJEI
Support the rollout of licences.ie, the integrated one-stop-shop licensing application portal for public sector licensing bodies.	Ongoing	DJEI, LGMA

<b>107</b>	<b>Develop an easy user friendly SME test suitable for the Irish context to ensure policymakers "Think Small First".</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop a test, which implements the 'Think Small Principle', based on the EU Commission's SME test, in consultation with stakeholders.	Q4	DJEI

<b>108</b>	<b>Increase the level of online applications and computerised applications and payment systems from 75 per cent to 80 per cent for 2017 Basic Payment Scheme applications to reduce compliance burden for farmers.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DAFM

<b>109</b>	<b>Invest at least €100 million in energy projects to improve efficiency, and reduce carbon emissions and our overall dependence on imported fossil fuels.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	DCCAE

<b>110</b>	<b>Create awareness of the benefits of standards to Irish businesses particularly in relation to improving competitiveness, and reach out to industry and researchers to engage in international standardisation activities related to future manufacturing technologies for businesses of all sizes.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Publish the study on the <i>Economic Contribution of Standards in Ireland</i> .	Q1	NSAI
	Facilitate a standardisation network for Advanced Manufacturing Technology to enable Irish stakeholders from industry, academia, research and societal interests to participate in International and European standards development activities.	Q2	NSAI
	Publish and promote a new code of practice for slating and tiling to reflect current best practice for the building sector.	Q3	NSAI

<b>111</b>	<b>Work to increase recognition among businesses of the value of sustainable business practices and corporate social responsibility in boosting employment, fostering social cohesion and protecting the environment, in particular through the Corporate Social Responsibility Stakeholder Forum.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Implement Pilot 2 of the Corporate Social Responsibility Voluntary Mentorship Programme for SMEs.	Q1	DJEI, CSR Stakeholder Forum
	Publish the second national plan on corporate social responsibility.	Q2	DJEI, CSR Stakeholder Forum
	Complete a baseline assessment research of Corporate Social Responsibility activity in businesses in Ireland.	Q2	DJEI
	Roll out a regional campaign to promote the Corporate Social Responsibility SME online Tool.	Ongoing	DJEI, CSR Stakeholder Forum
	Publish the quarterly e-zine on Corporate Social Responsibility starting in Q1 2017.	Ongoing	DJEI, CSR Stakeholder Forum

## 7.2. Workplace Innovation - Building Resilience and Growing Jobs

112	<b>Develop a toolkit and checklist for enterprises to develop sustainable plans for workplace innovation, with the objectives of sustaining and growing firm level competitiveness, innovation and employment.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DJEI, WRC, enterprise agencies

113	<b>Roll out a pilot of enterprises across key sectors of the economy, to exemplify good practice and new ways of working, with employer and employee stakeholders.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	DJEI, WRC, enterprise agencies

### 7.3. Realising the Digital Economy Opportunities

<b>114</b>	<b>Establish Ireland as a European leader in the digital economy by ensuring a coordinated whole of Government approach to pursuing the economic opportunities.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Host a stakeholder summit to identify policy challenges and opportunities arising from the digital economy.	Q1	D/Taoiseach, DJEI, other relevant Departments
	Establish an interdepartmental steering group to ensure a coordinated approach to addressing policy areas identified through the stakeholder summit.	Q1	D/Taoiseach, DJEI, other relevant Departments
	Progress the specific enterprise opportunities arising from the digital economy.	Ongoing	DJEI
	Host a Data Summit, which will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>stimulate an inclusive discussion on the role of data in modern society;</li> <li>promote greater awareness of individuals' data protection rights more broadly; and</li> <li>build on Ireland's reputation as a thought leader in the area of data/data protection.</li> </ul>	Q2	D/Taoiseach, other relevant Departments
<b>115</b>	<b>Award the contract to the winning bidder(s) to deliver a high speed broadband network to over 750,000 premises in Ireland.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Manage the procurement process to select a company or companies who will roll out a new high speed broadband network within the State Intervention Area.	Ongoing	DCCAIE
<b>116</b>	<b>Develop proposals in consultation with other stakeholders on the establishment of unique business identifiers and an access and authentication portal which will follow a prototype Government Digital Service Access Gateway to facilitate the development of business in Ireland by ensuring Ireland is well placed to actively participate in the developing European Digital Single Market.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action	Ongoing	OGCIO with relevant Departments
<b>117</b>	<b>Develop proposals in consultation with other stakeholders, which may include the need for legislation, to provide a mechanism regarding employments entailing access to sensitive data, for example, whereby an individual prospective employee may seek from An Garda Síochána a certificate stating their criminal history.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	DJE

<b>118</b>	<b>Roll out a further 1,000 Trading Online Vouchers through the LEOs and identify further initiatives to enable businesses to maximise the opportunities of the digital economy and trading online in international markets.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Following the outcome of the evaluation of the Trading Online Voucher Scheme, identify how the scheme might be enhanced to increase the number of businesses trading online and their export potential.	Q2	DCCAE, DJEI
	Administer and drive the rollout of a further 1,000 Trading Online Vouchers to assist small businesses to trade online.	Ongoing	DCCAE, LEOs/EI

<b>119</b>	<b>Host a conference on the Future of Work, which will bring together policy makers and key stakeholders from industry and academia to address the challenges to the traditional employer/employee relationship posed by the new world of work in an Irish context.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DJDI

<b>120</b>	<b>Implement the <i>Digital Strategy for Schools 2015 -2020</i> to enhance teaching, learning and assessment.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop the pilot for the localised UNESCO ICT Competency Framework and ensure that the eLearning planning resource reflects the framework's requirements.	Q1-Q4	DES, aegis Bodies
	Improve broadband services to schools, allocate grants for ICT equipment and make available advice and support materials for schools.	Q1-Q4	DES, aegis Bodies
	Upgrade primary schools to higher broadband speeds - some 800 by end 2016, and at least a further 300 by end of 2017.	Q1-Q4	DES, aegis Bodies

<b>121</b>	<b>Implement the <i>Strategy for Technology Enhanced Learning in Further Education and Training, 2016-2019</i>, which builds on existing capacity and good practice in technology-enhanced learning, and expand access to and continuously improve and innovate further education and training provision.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop a content sharing and management infrastructure to facilitate sharing and development of learning resources among all teachers.	Q2	SOLAS, ETBs
	Implement a Bring Your Own Device policy in each ETB.	Q2	ETBI, ETBs
	Establish a 2016 baseline technology enhanced learning provision in each Education and Training Board using a shared benchmarking exercise.	Q2	SOLAS, ETBs
	Use funding guidelines to support the expansion of learner access to technology enhanced learning, particularly for disadvantaged learners.	Q2	SOLAS, ETBs
	Develop a Technology Enhanced Learning Action Plan in each of the 16 Education and Training Boards to cover infrastructure, pedagogy and continuing professional development, content creation and sharing and organisational practice.	Q4	SOLAS, ETBs

<b>122</b>	<b>Implement the recommendations of a <i>Roadmap for Enhancement in a Digital World 2015-2017</i>.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop strategies to support the development and embedding of digital capacity in the teaching and learning activities of the HEIs.	Q4	DES, HEA

<b>123</b>	<b>Implement a new programme to provide basic digital skills training to citizens who have never used the internet and support them in taking the first step to get online.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	DCCAIE

124	<b>Develop and roll out a strategy for eHubs for entrepreneurship, eWorking and business growth as part of county development plans, linking effectively with local enterprise stakeholders and enterprise agencies and support the development of ambitious and sustainable proposals for success in competitive calls for funding.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Audit and review current and potential Hubs by county.	Q1	DJEI, LAs, LEOs, EI, ÚnaG and IDA
	Review entrepreneur and enterprise requirements, assess exemplars and best practice models and design framework for Hub concept and development at local level.	Q2	DJEI, LAs, LEOs, EI, ÚnaG and IDA
	Work with ambitious local groups and centres to develop sustainable proposals that could be successful in competitive calls for funding as part of the DJEI Regional Fund Initiative and potential EU funding.	Q3	LAs, LEOs, EI, ÚnaG and IDA
	Establish a network of eHub leaders to engage in peer learning and support collaboration on use initiatives and rollout of best practice models.	Q4	LAs, LEOs, EI, ÚnaG and IDA

## 7.4. Investing in Economic Infrastructure

125	<b>Publish and start to implement the National Planning Framework and the Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies to ensure proper planning and sustainable development and the optimal economic and social development at a national and regional level.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Publish the draft National Planning Framework, which sets out a long-term national framework to ensure proper planning and sustainable development and the optimal economic and social development of the country as a whole. The framework is to be approved by Q3 2017.	Q2	DHPCLG
	Publish the draft Regional Spatial and Economic Strategies, which set a long-term regional framework to ensure the optimal economic and social development of our regions. The statutory process is to be approved by Q3 2018 and implementation will start in Q4 2018.	Q4	Regional Assemblies
	Start to implement the National Planning Framework.	Q4	DHPCLG, all Departments, agencies, Regional Assemblies and Local Government

126	<b>Enhance Ireland's connectivity and grow our aviation sector, by supporting the development of the necessary infrastructure to facilitate new services and passenger growth at the three State airports including support for and improving access to the regions through Exchequer assistance for the regional airports at Donegal, Knock, Kerry and Waterford.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Carry out works at Dublin Airport to facilitate growth, including progressing plans for the second parallel runway; the Pier 1 Extension; additional aircraft stands; and the Pier 2 reconfiguration project (to maximise use of the pier).	Q4	daa
	Undertake a major runway overlay project at Shannon Airport.	Q4	Shannon Group
	Implement the <i>Regional Airports Programme 2015-2019</i> under the various support schemes in line with available Exchequer funding and EU State Aid Guidelines as appropriate at Donegal, Ireland West Airport Knock, Waterford and Kerry airports.	Q4	DTTAS

127	<b>Facilitate an effective and competitive market for maritime transport services to meet the needs of our trading economy.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Implement the Alexandra basin redevelopment project, which will <i>inter alia</i> deepen the navigable channel, reconfigure and/or rebuild quay walls and develop associated port infrastructure.	Q4	Dublin Port Company
	Commence construction on the Ringaskiddy project, which will <i>inter alia</i> facilitate the transfer of port activities from the Upper to Lower Harbour area.	Q4	Port of Cork Company
	Commence the detailed design and planning consent process for Phase 2 of the jetty expansion, which will <i>inter alia</i> improve international connectivity through the construction of new quay walls and associated port infrastructure.	Q4	Shannon Foynes Port Company

## 7.5. Transitioning to a Low Carbon Economy

128	<b>Progress work on the 'national transition objective' through the development and publication of the first statutory national mitigation plan and adaptation framework, exploiting any economic opportunities that may arise and establishing a national dialogue to consider key issues to be addressed in meeting the transition objective.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Initiate a national dialogue to consider key issues to be addressed in the long-term transition to a low carbon and climate resilient economy and society.	Q1	DCCAIE
	Develop and publish the first statutory national mitigation plan.	Q2	DCCAIE, other relevant Departments
	Develop and publish the first statutory national adaptation framework.	Q4	DCCAIE
129	<b>Deliver policy supports to develop Ireland's indigenous renewable energy and further decrease our dependence on imported fossil fuels, including new support schemes for heat and electricity.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Work with all relevant Departments, agencies and stakeholders and complete a mid-term progress review of the <i>Offshore Renewable Energy Development Plan</i> .	Q4	DCCAIE, other relevant Departments and agencies
	Continue the next stage of development of Ireland's Energy Innovation Hub and develop another portal segment.	Q4	DJEI, DCCAIE, DHPCLG, DAFM, DTTAS, SEAI, IDA, SFI, EI
	Develop and implement two new support schemes, the Renewable Heat Incentive focusing on larger heat users and the Renewable Electricity Support Scheme which will address a wider range of technologies and community aspects.	Ongoing	DCCAIE, other relevant Departments and agencies
	Continue the initial development of the Ocean Power Innovation Network in 2017 to build an international collaboration network for Ocean Energy with Scotland and Northern Ireland.	Ongoing	SEAI with EI and IDA
	Continue the development of Ireland's smart grid value proposition.	Ongoing	DCCAIE, SEAI, ESBN, Eirgrid, CER, SFI, IDA, EI

130	<b>Design and implement a national circular economy action plan that increases efficiency, promotes innovation, creates new business models, contributes to our environmental sustainability and enhances our green reputation.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Work with all relevant Departments, agencies and stakeholders to contribute to the design and implementation of the EU's Circular Economy Action Plan in Ireland.	Q4	DCCAIE, DJEI, other relevant Departments and agencies
	Continue to represent Ireland's economic and environmental interests in the negotiation of EU waste directives that will set ambitious new targets for recycling, recovery and landfilling and work with all stakeholders to ensure timely implementation of the targets when agreed.	Q4	DCCAIE, DJEI, other relevant Departments and agencies

# 8 Addressing New Labour Market Challenges

131	<b>Develop and reform the State's public employment services to help ensure that the number of people on the Live Register is reduced as the economy recovers and the labour market responds flexibly and efficiently to employment growth. Under <i>Pathways to Work 2016-2020</i>, this will include consolidation of previous reforms as well as continued prioritisation of long-term unemployed and young unemployed people; as well as expansion of services to currently inactive working age adults with a capacity and a desire to work, that will include lone parents, qualified adults and people with a disability.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Consolidate previous reforms and continue prioritisation of long-term unemployed and young unemployed people; as well as expanding services to currently inactive working age adults with a capacity and a desire to work, that will include lone parents, qualified adults and people with a disability.	Ongoing	DSP
	Lead the development of the dedicated Government 'Pathways to Work for Jobless Households' strategy to support adults in jobless households into employment.	Q2	DSP/Interdepartmental Group
132	<b>Introduce the new Single Affordable Childcare Scheme, which will provide a single, streamlined and more user-friendly scheme, as part of a package to enhance the provision of quality and affordable childcare, which will support increased labour market participation.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	DCYA
133	<b>Roll out training under the Women Returning to the Workforce Initiative, targeting women who are currently detached from the labour market and who are interested in entering/re-entering employment.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Select projects, draw up contracts and commence funding.	Q1	DJE
	Roll out the training initiative.	Q4	DJE
134	<b>Implement the Government's <i>Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities</i>.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DJE

<b>135</b>	<b>Implement the Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) which, as the primary social inclusion programme of Government, will have a strong focus on community activation, social inclusion and community development, while also focusing on those hardest to reach.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Confirm the annual allocation for the programme and ensure Local Community Development Committees are notified of their lot specific allocations.	Q1	DHPCLG
	Set SICAP targets.	Q1	DHPCLG, LCDCs
	Support 160 social enterprises operating in disadvantaged communities in 2017 to provide services to those communities and link people from SICAP target groups with employment opportunities within the sector.	Q4	DHPCLG, Pobal, LCDCs
	Address any issues affecting programme implementation that emerge at the 2016 end of year and/or 2017 mid-year review stage to ensure the programme is reaching its target groups.	Ongoing	DHPCLG, Pobal, LCDCs
	Consult with key Departments and agencies i.e. Department of Social Protection, Department of Education and Skills etc. to agree and manage referral protocols.	Ongoing	DHPCLG, Pobal, relevant Departments

<b>136</b>	<b>Through the Dormant Account Funds, support disadvantaged groups in rural and urban communities through measures that assist their access to employment.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, other relevant Departments

<b>137</b>	<b>Undertake an analysis and make a recommendation on the appropriate level of the national minimum wage.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q3	LPC

<b>138</b>	<b>Examine and advise on the appropriate inflator that should be applied to the board and lodging rates provided for under the National Minimum Wage Act 2000 (National Minimum Hourly Rate of Pay) Order 2000 (SI No.95/2000) and recommend new rates, taking into account the time that has passed since the current rates were set.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	LPC

# 9 Strengthening Clusters

## 9.1. Agri-Food and Marine

<b>139</b>	<b>Support food start-ups through initiatives with retailers including the Food Academy Advance with Musgraves Supervalu and the Taste Buds programme with Tesco.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2-Q4	Bord Bia
<b>140</b>	<b>Undertake commercial project proposals, with the participation of relevant Government agencies, to deliver knowledge transfer on Ireland's sustainable food production systems to international customers using the brand Sustainable Food Systems Ireland.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	SFSI
<b>141</b>	<b>Contribute to attracting and developing graduate talent to the agri-food sector through programmes such as Bord Bia Marketing Fellowship and Food Marketing Graduates; the Origin Green Ambassadors programme; and the undergraduate Language Bursary Programme.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1-Q2	Bord Bia
<b>142</b>	<b>Support a further cohort of new food entrepreneurs under Food Works and develop the Food Works Plus supports for those entrepreneurs continuing to pursue their ventures.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1-Q4	Bord Bia, EI, Teagasc
<b>143</b>	<b>Generate and secure six investments from food FDI firms.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Generate and secure six investments from food FDI firms.	Ongoing	EI

144	<b>Implement supports for the fishing, aquaculture and seafood processing sectors under the European Maritime and Fisheries Fund Operational Programme; the <i>National Strategic Plan for Sustainable Aquaculture Development</i>; and the <i>Harnessing our Ocean Wealth</i> strategy.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Implement supports for the fishing, aquaculture and seafood processing sectors.	Q4	DAFM
	Develop scale and export capability in the seafood processing sector. Bord Iascaigh Mhara, Bord Bia and Enterprise Ireland will work collaboratively to scale up companies in the pelagic, whitefish and shellfish sectors.	Q4	BIM, Bord Bia, EI
	Conduct a strategic innovation plan for a virtual multi-campus centre of excellence for seafood development.	Q4	BIM

## 9.2. Tourism

145	<b>Grow Dublin's international appeal and increase Dublin's competitiveness as a tourism destination.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Implement the Destination Dublin strategy and Grow Dublin Tourism Alliance Progress and Action Plan. The focus will be on: brand activation (Dublin – A Breath of Fresh Air); and enhancing the visitor experience. Cross-promotion, activating a suite of festivals to drive tourism business in the off-peak season and developing an engaging and distinct food story for Dublin is also a main priority.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland/Tourism Ireland
	Work with private sector stakeholders and public decision makers to encourage new quality accommodations to come on-stream, which will increase employment opportunities in the tourism sector.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland
146	<b>Implement the Ireland's Ancient East experience brand and build on the region's comparative advantage in built and cultural heritage, to stimulate regional growth, and to assist Ireland's South, East and Midlands to achieve international "stand-out".</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Roll out a comprehensive Ireland's Ancient East brand strategy, with international activation, work with the domestic tourism trade and other stakeholders to ensure that they can leverage the Ireland's Ancient East brand to grow their businesses, and activate a suite of festivals that complement the experience brand proposition.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland / Tourism Ireland
	Enhance the visitor experience in the Ireland's Ancient East region, by improving the quality of the experience at the main Office of Public Works sites with a particular emphasis on developing facilities and new experiences at less visited sites to offer visitors a wider choice and grow visitor numbers in dispersed locations (thereby aiding regional growth).	Q4	Fáilte Ireland with OPW

<b>147</b>	<b>Deliver balanced and sustainable tourism revenue, jobs growth and economic benefit to communities in the West of Ireland through the Wild Atlantic Way project.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop interpretation projects in association with local communities, the Heritage Council, Local Authorities, Údarás na Gaeltachta, the Office of Public Works and the National Wildlife and Parks Service, which highlight the distinctive Irish Culture in destinations and communities to encourage further dispersal of visitors along the Wild Atlantic Way, and encourage additional start-up tourism enterprises.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland and others
	Deliver innovation supports for experience providers along the Wild Atlantic Way and capture innovations at a range of levels to share with other providers.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland
	Activate a suite of festivals that complement the experience brand proposition, and work with private operators to encourage new quality accommodation to come on stream in rural areas of the Wild Atlantic Way.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland

<b>148</b>	<b>Deliver a new suite of business supports to enable the tourism industry to maximise its potential in growing tourism export earnings.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Work with clusters of circa 150 tourism businesses to enhance their skills and ability to generate international sales in key source markets (Great Britain, France, Germany and the US), and target new leads to secure an increase in programming of Ireland by travel agents and tour operators.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland/ Tourism Ireland
	Develop strategies for seasonal spread of tourism demand and regional dispersal, to drive additional sales to areas where there is under-utilised capacity, thereby stimulating regional tourism growth.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland/ Tourism Ireland

<b>149</b>	<b>Stimulate growth in international tourism to Ireland via the events sector (in particular sporting events), in partnership with key stakeholders to identify, bid for and ultimately secure suitable events for Ireland.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Identify and build a pipeline of relevant and appropriate bid-worthy events for Ireland through collaboration with strategic partners.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland
	Support ten leads in making strong, competitive bids for new sports tourism events.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland
	Secure a minimum of four new events for Ireland (generating an estimated €30 million in revenue).	Q4	Fáilte Ireland

150	<b>Develop heritage tourism initiatives, including a programme of trailway development in National Parks and Nature Reserves, in partnership with key stakeholders, and to enhance Ireland's competitiveness as a tourism destination.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Develop the plan and the initiatives.	Q4	Fáilte Ireland /DAHRRGA
151	<b>Develop the impact of investment in the Irish arts sector both at home and abroad to identify new markets for Irish work, and build awareness of the range and quality of work produced by Irish artists and working with other State bodies.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Work with the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation to carry out a baseline study on arts investment as a priority area for employment creation.	Q4	Arts Council of Ireland, DJEI
	Support up to 300 events worldwide through Culture Ireland in 2017, generating the equivalent of up to 200 full-time jobs for Irish artists and art organisations abroad.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, Culture Ireland
	Support up to 300 individuals and over 500 organisations across a wide range of arts venues, festivals, arts organisations and touring initiatives around Ireland in 2017.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, Arts Council of Ireland
Develop cultural digitisation initiatives to enhance Ireland's roots tourism offering.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, GRO, NLI and NAI	
152	<b>Work with Fáilte Ireland, the OPW and other strategic partners to develop heritage tourism initiatives, based on Ireland's built and natural heritage and the enhanced management and presentation of collections held by the National Cultural Institutions and other bodies, to contribute to the implementation of the growth objectives set out in <i>People, Place and Policy – Growing Tourism to 2025</i>.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Support investment in regional arts and cultural centres nationwide and the application of good heritage practice to the management of places, collections or objects (including buildings).	Q4	DAHRRGA, Heritage Council
	Invest in construction/refurbishment works at the National Gallery, National Library, the National Archives, and Cork Event Centre.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, National Cultural Institutions, LAs, OPW
	Develop trailways in National Parks and Nature Reserves, in partnership with key stakeholders.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, Fáilte Ireland and National Trails Office
	Collaborate with the relevant Departments and agencies to ensure that National Parks, Nature Reserves, National Monuments and historic buildings contribute as signature experiences along the Wild Atlantic Way and Ireland's Ancient East routes.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, Fáilte Ireland, OPW, LAs
Develop and promote Blueways (multi-purpose activity trails on or beside water) on the Royal, Grand and Barrow Canals and on the Shannon Navigation to expand the recreational and tourism offering.	Ongoing	DAHRRGA, Waterways Ireland, Fáilte Ireland	

### 9.3. Retail

<b>153</b>	<b>Launch a Town Centre Revival Framework to support towns and villages, through their local authorities, to address the challenges of creating a vibrant and viable town centre.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1	DJEI, Retail Consultation Forum, LAs, DAHRRGA, DHPCLG
<b>154</b>	<b>Review the Energy, Waste and Water Cost Management Pilot Programme for the retail sector, with a view to mainstreaming the programme, to drive energy efficiency and cost reductions for the sector.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q3	SEAI, Green Business, Retail Consultation Forum
<b>155</b>	<b>Identify skills challenges facing the retail sector, along with practical proposals to address a number of specific skills challenges.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q4	Retail Consultation Forum, DJEI, DES
<b>156</b>	<b>Develop a pilot training programme to support retailers to scale up their online trading activity and expand into international markets.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q3	DJEI, Retail Consultation Forum, retail representative bodies

## 9.4. Design

157	<b>Maximise the potential of the design sector to drive innovation and competitiveness.</b>		
	Steps Necessary for Delivery	Timeline	Responsible body
	Establish a national design consultative forum to bring all the relevant parties together to develop a national design strategy, and priority actions.	Q1	DJEI
	Publish the report of the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs on Design Skills for Enterprise and consider its recommendations.	Q1	DJEI
	Examine gaps in supports and identify market opportunities for design-led innovation within companies and deliver proposals to address these.	Q2	DJEI, EI, IDA, LEOs, DCCoI
	On foot of the evaluation of the pilot scheme, roll out a national Design4Growth scheme on a regional basis for micro and small enterprises.	Q2	DCCoI, LEOs
	Develop and agree an approach to stimulate increased design led innovation among its client base.	Q2	EI
	Develop a strategy and target for EU Funding through the integration and application of design-led innovation.	Q3	EI, DJEI, DCCoI, education Sector
	Develop a proposal for a design innovation clustering initiative in one region, promoting collaboration between industry, design education, designers and agencies.	Q4	DCCoI, EI, IDA
	Promote Irish design internationally through activities such as trade fairs and missions in order to develop export opportunities and enhance Ireland's international reputation for design.	Ongoing	EI, DCCoI and Embassy Network

### 9.5. International Financial Services

158	Implement the <i>IFS2020</i> Strategy Action Plan 2017.		
	Steps Necessary for Delivery	Timeline	Responsible body
	As per headline action.	Q4	IFS2020 Public Sector High Level Implementation Group

## 9.6. Construction and Housing

<b>159</b>	<b>Implement <i>Rebuilding Ireland - Action Plan for Housing and Homelessness</i>, providing monthly updates on activity levels and quarterly progress reports.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	DHPCLG and relevant Departments, LAs and other bodies
<b>160</b>	<b>Progress funding the delivery of 20,000 residential units, on a commercial basis and subject to commercial viability, by the end of 2020.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Ongoing	NAMA
<b>161</b>	<b>Undertake a detailed analysis to benchmark housing delivery input costs in Ireland with a view to identifying economies, and take any steps arising.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q2	DHPCLG, Housing Agency and construction industry
<b>162</b>	<b>Prepare a strategy for the adoption of Building Information Modelling across the public capital programme and to mandate the manner in which it is to be adopted across the public sector.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Prepare a strategy for the adoption of Building Information Modelling across the public capital programme and to mandate the manner in which it is to be adopted across the public sector.	Q2	OGP
	Work with clients, industry associations and third level to promote the adoption of building information modelling as the operating norm across the supply and demand sides of the construction sector and develop the appropriate technical skills among clients in the construction sector as well as contracting bodies to advance the capability of the sector in Ireland leading to a more efficient industry focused on growth and export markets.	Q3	EI
<b>163</b>	<b>Develop proposals to offer competitive financing on a commercial basis to developers to meet on-site and other infrastructure requirements on large development sites.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	As per headline action.	Q1	NTMA

164	<b>Work with public and private sector stakeholders to identify and address skills training needs in traditional building skills and architectural conservation, in order to increase levels of verifiable competence amongst the construction workforce engaged in designing and carrying out repair, maintenance and upgrading of older building stock, to assist regeneration of our historic cities, towns and villages as attractive places to live and visit.</b>		
	<b>Steps Necessary for Delivery</b>	<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Responsible body</b>
	Complete the Traditional Building Skills and Conservation Education Action Plan.	Q2	DAHRRGA, DES, SOLAS, LAs, OPW, Heritage Council, CIF and others
	Commence implementation of the actions with stakeholders.	Q3	DAHRRGA, DES, SOLAS, LAs, OPW, Heritage Council, CIF and others

# Glossary of terms

<b>APJ</b>	Action Plan for Jobs	<b>D/Taoiseach</b>	Department of Taoiseach
<b>BAI</b>	Broadcasting Authority of Ireland	<b>DTTAS</b>	Department of Transport, Tourism and Sport
<b>BIM</b>	Bord Iascaigh Mhara	<b>EGFSN</b>	Expert Group on Future Skills Needs
<b>CIF</b>	Construction Industry Federation	<b>EI</b>	Enterprise Ireland
<b>COSME</b>	EU programme for the Competitiveness of Enterprises and SMEs	<b>ERC</b>	European Research Council
<b>CRO</b>	Credit Review Office	<b>ETB</b>	Education and Training Board
<b>CSR</b>	Corporate Social Responsibility	<b>ETBI</b>	Education and Training Boards Ireland
<b>daa</b>	Dublin Airport Authority	<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>DAFM</b>	Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine	<b>FDI</b>	Foreign Direct Investment
<b>DAHRRGA</b>	Department of Arts, Heritage, Regional, Rural and Gaeltacht Affairs	<b>FET</b>	Further Education and Training
<b>DCCAIE</b>	Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment	<b>FP7</b>	Framework Programme 7
<b>DCCoI</b>	Design and Craft Council of Ireland	<b>GNP</b>	Gross National Product
<b>DCYA</b>	Department of Children and Youth Affairs	<b>GRO</b>	General Register Office
<b>DES</b>	Department of Education and Skills	<b>HEA</b>	Higher Education Authority
<b>DFAT</b>	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade	<b>HEI</b>	Higher Education Institution
<b>DoF</b>	Department of Finance	<b>HICP</b>	Harmonised Index of Consumer Prices
<b>DHPCLG</b>	Department of Housing, Planning, Community and Local Government	<b>HIHI</b>	Health Innovation Hub Ireland
<b>DJEI</b>	Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation	<b>HPRA</b>	Health Products Regulatory Authority
<b>DJE</b>	Department of Justice and Equality	<b>HPSU</b>	High Potential Start-Ups
<b>DoD</b>	Department of Defence	<b>HRB</b>	Health Research Board
<b>DPER</b>	Department of Public Expenditure and Reform	<b>ICT</b>	Information and Communications Technology
<b>DSP</b>	Department of Social Protection	<b>IDA</b>	IDA Ireland
		<b>IFB</b>	Irish Film Board
		<b>IFS</b>	International Financial Services
		<b>IFSC</b>	International Financial Services Centre

<b>IP</b>	Intellectual Property	<b>OGCIO</b>	Office of the Government Chief Information Officer
<b>IRC</b>	Irish Research Council	<b>OGP</b>	Office of Government Procurement
<b>IRDG</b>	Industry Research and Development Group	<b>OPW</b>	Office of Public Works
<b>ISIF</b>	Ireland Strategic Investment Fund	<b>PAYE</b>	Pay As You Earn
<b>ITI</b>	InterTradeIreland	<b>PEIL</b>	Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning
<b>IUA</b>	Irish Universities Association	<b>PPP</b>	Public Private Partnership
<b>KDB</b>	Knowledge Development Box	<b>Q</b>	Quarter
<b>KTI</b>	Knowledge Transfer Ireland	<b>R&amp;D</b>	Research and Development
<b>LAs</b>	Local Authorities	<b>RDI</b>	Research, development and innovation
<b>LCDC</b>	Local Community Development Committee	<b>RSF</b>	Regional Skills Fora
<b>LEADER</b>	Liaisons entre actions de developpement de l'économie rurale	<b>SBCI</b>	Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland
<b>LEO/s</b>	Local Enterprise Office/s	<b>SBIR</b>	Small Business Innovation Research
<b>LGMA</b>	Local Government Management Agency	<b>SEAI</b>	Sustainable Energy Authority of Ireland
<b>LPC</b>	Low Pay Commission	<b>SFI</b>	Science Foundation Ireland
<b>Mbps</b>	Megabytes per second	<b>SFSI</b>	Sustainable Food Systems Ireland
<b>NAI</b>	National Archives of Ireland	<b>SI</b>	Statutory Instrument
<b>NAMA</b>	National Asset Management Agency	<b>SICAP</b>	Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme
<b>NCC</b>	National Competitiveness Council	<b>SLMRU</b>	Skills and Labour Market Research Unit
<b>NCCA</b>	National Council for Curriculum and Assessment	<b>SME</b>	Small and Medium Enterprise
<b>NCDAF</b>	National Civil Aviation Development Forum	<b>SOLAS</b>	An tSeirbhís Oideachais Leanúnaigh agus Scileanna
<b>NLI</b>	National Library of Ireland	<b>STEM</b>	Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics
<b>NPF</b>	National Planning Framework	<b>UN</b>	United Nations
<b>NSAI</b>	National Standards Authority of Ireland	<b>ÚnaG</b>	Údarás na Gaeltachta
<b>NSC</b>	National Skills Council	<b>VAT</b>	Valued Added Tax
<b>NTMA</b>	National Treasury Management Agency	<b>WEF</b>	World Economic Forum
<b>OECD</b>	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development	<b>WRC</b>	Workplace Relations Commission
		<b>WTO</b>	World Trade Organisation



