

An Roinn Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

# Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive

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# Background

- European Green Deal and EU Action Plan: Financing Sustainable Growth
- Proposal to significantly revise existing EU requirements for annual non-financial reporting (2014/95/EU) published in April 2021
- More detailed information for investors, employees, consumers and other stakeholders
  - → Harmonized EU requirements for company reporting of sustainability matters
  - → Significantly wider scope and detail in reporting
  - → Introducing mandatory sustainability reporting standards
  - → Introducing an assurance (audit) requirement
- Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (2022/2464) entered into force January 2023



## Scope

- Large companies and large public interest entities (banks, insurance undertakings, listed companies)
- Listed SMEs excluding micros
- Subsidiaries and branches (turnover > 40 million euro ) of non-EU companies with significant presence in the EU (turnover > 150 million euro in the EU)
- Exceptions:

Certain funds already subject to Sustainable Financial Disclosures Regulation
Subsidiary if its information included in the report of a parent undertaking drawn up
in compliance with the Directive or equivalent standards
In total more than 50,000 companies in the EU compared to around 11,000 currently



# Sustainability Information

- Annual report on sustainability matters i.e. environmental, social and human rights, and governance factors
- —Information to be clearly identifiable within the management/directors' report in a dedicated section
- —In accordance with the mandatory EU standards developed by EFRAG and adopted by the Commission entitled European Sustainability Reporting Standards
- Characteristics include double materiality, forward looking information, information on the value chain, taking into account to the maximum extent possible international standards and alignment with other EU law



## Other Elements

- Management report to be produced in European Single Electronic Format
- —Assurance (audit) on a limited basis initially until sustainability assurance standards adopted by the Commission
- —Additional education and training requirements for auditors to qualify to carry out sustainability assurance including transitional provisions
- —Option to allow separate audit firms carry out the sustainability and financial audit
- —Option to introduce a new category of Independent Assurance Service Providers
- —Oversight/sanctions integrated with existing rules in Accounting (2013/34/EU) and Audit Directives (2006/43/EC as amended)



## Timelines

#### Member States

—Transposition in 18 months from entry into force i.e. mid-2024 but some aspects require implementation by 1 January 2024

### Reporting by entities in scope from financial year 1 January

- —2024 large undertakings and large PIEs <u>already</u> in scope of non-financial reporting (> 500 employees)
- 2025 large undertakings and large PIEs (> 250 employees)
- 2026 listed SMEs with further opt outs possible
- 2028 subsidiaries and branches of non-EU companies

#### **EU Commission**

—First set of mandatory European Sustainability Reporting Standards to be adopted by 30 June 2023 and second set 30 June 2024 to include sector specific standards



# Next Steps

- Public consultation on exercise of options/discretions in Directive and other views or questions welcome.
- Development of draft legislation.
- Contact <u>CSRD@enterprise.gov.ie</u> to be included in stakeholder communications in future.