

## **Dublin Economic Development Action Plan Executive Summary**

An economically vibrant City Region is essential to the overall economic success of a country. Despite this there has never been an economic plan tailored specifically at the Dublin City Region.

Dublin City Council, in partnership with South Dublin Co. Council, Fingal Co. Council and Dun Laoghaire Rathdown Co. Council, has drawn up an Economic Action Plan informed by widespread consultation with all the key stakeholders and Agencies. The Plan aims to position the Dublin City Region as a significant knowledge economy hub that provides an environment where creative talent is attracted and thrives. It ties in with Government policy on the 'Smart Economy', which is about building the innovation component of the economy through the utilisation of human capital - the knowledge, skills and creativity of people - and its ability and effectiveness in translating ideas into valuable processes, products and services.

The Dublin City Region is not targeting investment at the expense of other regions in Ireland, but seeks to attract investment that would otherwise be lost to a City Region outside of Ireland.

The Action Plan is divided into three parts:

- The Development of Strong City Leadership,
- The Creation of a Vibrant Place and
- The Attraction and Retention of Creative People.

In order to achieve the three aims a number of key actions are identified.

- Develop the potential of the Creative Dublin Alliance (CDA) to pioneer a number of economic/city region initiatives (CDA is a collaboration between local authorities, Universities, business and not for profit sector)
- Generate a brand for the Dublin City Region that is based on its distinctive identity, its unique achievements and its competitive advantage as an international City Region.
- Develop key economic corridors on the South, North and West of the City Region:
  - Metro North Corridor
  - Naas Road Corridor
  - Southern Economic Corridor (City to Sandyford / Cherrywood)
- Develop appropriate policies in the Development Plans (currently in Draft Form) of the four Dublin Local Authorities to facilitate the development of the above corridors and to embed economic criteria in the planning process.
- Produce an employment and enterprise strategy for the Dublin City Region that will examine how regional competitiveness can generate more enterprise start-ups, provide incubation supports and high quality enterprise supports.
- Compile a quarterly report that measures the City Regions performance in relative international terms utilising an agreed set of appropriate indicators.
- Lobby on a Regional basis for the delivery of identified major infrastructural projects that are critical to the economic success of the City Region:
  - Priority Transport 21 projects – e.g. Metro North and Interconnector
  - Definitive decision on future of Dublin Port
  - Waste and Water infrastructure
  - Roll out of Next Generation Broadband
- Build on existing environmental advantages and emerging high tech and bio tech innovation clusters to identify how the City Region can support the growth of Clean Technology Industries.