



20
25



Chamber
Awards



ZURICH®



AWARDS

- Local Authority Engagement
- Lobbying & Policy Campaign
- Supporting Business
- Event of the Year
- Best International Project
- Community Support Initiates
- Sustainability & Biodiversity
- Digital Campaigns

LOCAL AUTHORITY ENGAGEMENT

Establishing an effective collaboration with the local authority is vital for Chambers, underpinning its effectiveness in our towns and cities.

Engagement with the local authority can help Chambers enrich their community and provide robust support for their members. Recognising the significance of this alliance, we highlight innovative means of working with local authorities which forge strong bonds that contribute to the collective growth and prosperity of our regions.

This year's nominees for the Local Authority Engagement award includes:

Cork Chamber

Local actions, European impact: Cork Chamber's engagement with Cork City Council and members towards the green transition

County Tipperary Chamber

Clonmel Community Conversations on Substance Use

Drogheda & District Chamber

Collaboration is the 'secret to success'

Ennis Chamber

Artisan Christmas Markets

Fingal Chamber

Engagement with Fingal County Council stop a potential increase in commercial rates.

Galway Chamber

One Galway, One Voice

Cork Chamber

Local actions, European impact: Cork Chamber's engagement with Cork City Council and members towards the green transition



Recognising the need for structured collaboration between business and government on climate action, Cork Chamber partnered with Cork City Council to drive sustainability through the Local Green Deals (LGDs), an initiative of the European Commission's Intelligent Cities Challenge (ICC). This initiative enabled the Chamber's members to formalise sustainability commitments in partnership with their local authority, aligning with key policies such as the Cork City Climate Action Plan, Ireland's National Climate Action Plan, and the European Green Deal. Over 2024–2025, Cork Chamber facilitated the development of eight LGDs, supporting businesses across sectors in implementing measurable sustainability actions.

The Chamber played a dual role as facilitator/participant, signing an LGD while embedding sustainability across operations as well as facilitating partnerships between Chamber members and Cork City Council. This collaborative model is delivering economic and environmental benefits while positioning Cork as a European leader in the green transition.

This led to Cork city to be honoured with the European Commission-ICC Award for “Most LGDs of consistently high quality,” selected from over 60 cities across Europe. This recognition reflects the Chambers leadership in engaging with local authorities and the strength of the partnerships formed that led to ambitious sustainability commitments made by their members.

County Tipperary Chamber

Clonmel Community Conversations on Substance Use

In response to growing concerns about substance misuse in Clonmel, County Tipperary Chamber partnered with Tipperary County Council, the HSE, Gardaí, youth services, and schools to support a new community-led initiative: Clonmel Community Conversations.

This wasn't a once-off event it was a series of conversations held over several months. Parents, teachers, frontline services, businesses, and people with lived experience came together to discuss the issues. The Chamber represented the business community to ensure employers had a voice in the room.

In January 2025, the Chamber launched a business survey focused on safety, Garda presence, and the impact on trade and staff. The results fed directly into a public meeting in the Talbot Hotel on March 5th, where eight clear community priorities were agreed. This initiative showed the power of working together. Local businesses helped shape real, practical actions including Garda support and staff training.

**PUBLIC MEETING
ALL WELCOME**

COMMUNITY

**SUBSTANCE
USE IN CLONMEL**

**A COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
UPDATE**

FROM
THE PROJECT COMMITTEE
BUSINESS & HOSPITALITY
CLUBS & COMMUNITY GROUPS
PARENTS & SCHOOLS
THOSE WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE

**WEDNESDAY MARCH 5TH
7PM TO 9PM
TALBOT HOTEL, CLONMEL**

Light Refreshments served from 6:30pm

For more information contact
Catriona Crowe 087 9723482
or visit www.tipperarycoco.ie

Comhairle Contae Thiobraid Árann
Tipperary County Council

Sláintecare
Healthy
Communities

Drogheda & District Chamber

Collaboration is the 'secret to success'



Drogheda and District Chamber has a long history of cooperation and engagement with the local authority, from sitting on various committees to assisting with local developments and supporting business links. One of the key relationships has been with the Local Enterprise Office Louth.

As part of an increased corporate partnership agreement, they launched a 'Secret to Success' series, aimed at furthering links between the LEO and the chamber. The format will feature panel discussion sessions with three local business people being interviewed about their roles and the various elements they've had to contend with to make their business viable and resilient.

The first event was held as part of a morning session during Local Enterprise Week and took place in front of a full-capacity audience. Those present got a good introduction to the concept, with three young, award winning business people selected to tell their stories. The LEO then spoke about its role within the business world and how it can help to deliver vital assistance to firms and people in the area.

Ennis Chamber

Artisan Christmas Markets

Ennis Chamber planned and led the delivery of an 'Artisan Christmas Market' across 4 Saturdays in the lead up to Christmas '24, to showcase locally crafted premium food and drink produce. The produce came from within a 40 KM radius of Ennis. With many Christmas markets across Ireland selling 'imported tat', Ennis Artisan Christmas Market is genuine - the origin of all goods sold could be verified as locally produced. This shows Ennis Chamber's commitment to placing core SDG's at the heart of their actions.

Ennis Chamber worked closely with their local authority - Clare County Council, who provided promotional, logistical and funding support. Ennis Chamber incorporates community engagement into all events. They have organised a number of important events such as a live music programme funded by Ennis Municipal District GMA (General Municipal Allocation) Fund. The event included a performance by an Intergenerational Trad band. This showcases the continuation of local music traditions. It also included Harmony Bro, a male acapella group. A school choir from local primary (Deis) school also performed.

In addition, the Ennis Brass Band - a volunteer group who provide year-round cost-free entertainment performed. Each of these community acts were awarded a 'grant' of €500.



Fingal Chamber

Engagement with Fingal County Council stop a potential increase in commercial rates.

Fingal Chamber successfully engaged with Fingal County Council (FCC) to avoid an increase in commercial rates, safeguarding businesses from additional financial strain. The initiative began in August 2024, with joint Chamber/Council discussions on the potential impact of rate increases. The Chamber CEO engaged directly with the FCC CEO, securing assurances of transparency regarding any proposed changes.

A dedicated working group of Council members was formed to strategise further action. By September, a draft letter was prepared for review. In October, the Chamber formally wrote to the Mayor of Fingal and key Council officials, outlining the economic risks of increased rates. The letter highlighted the challenges faced by SMEs, the importance of maintaining a stable cost environment, and proposed alternative revenue solutions such as expanding the rates base through planning approvals and rezoning.

This persistent engagement resulted in FCC maintaining current commercial rates, helping to ensure a more competitive business environment in Fingal. The initiative demonstrated the Chamber's leadership in policy engagement, further strengthening its role as a vital voice for local businesses.

Through strategic and consistent advocacy, Fingal Chamber effectively influenced the FCC executive to support sustainable economic growth in the region.



Galway Chamber

One Galway, One Voice

One Galway, One Voice is a pioneering initiative that marks the first time Galway City Council, Galway County Council, and Galway Chamber have come together in a unified approach to advocate for the region's strategic infrastructure and development priorities. This collaborative partnership seeks to secure government funding for key projects outlined in Galway City and County Councils' Programme for Government, as well as Galway Chamber members' priorities.

The initiative focuses on essential projects such as transport infrastructure, flood defence, urban development, and cultural investment. Key priorities include the Galway City Ring Road, BusConnects, flood defence schemes, and the development of the Galway Metropolitan Corridor. It also advocates for Galway City's elevation to Tier 4 in the national funding model, which would help ensure the city's growth is matched with adequate government support.

Through regular briefings, workshops, and open engagement, One Galway, One Voice promotes a coordinated advocacy effort, ensuring that Galway's needs are clearly and consistently communicated to both local and national stakeholders.

By fostering collaboration among local authorities, businesses, and the wider community, the initiative strengthens Galway's position as a competitive and sustainable region for future investment and development. This unified approach is key to ensuring that Galway's strategic priorities are realised, supporting long-term economic growth across the region.

LOBBYING AND POLICY

Policy and lobbying are key Chamber activities advocating for the interests of our members and the broader region.

This category acknowledges the effort involved in orchestrating impactful policy campaigns. It highlights the behind-the-scenes work that goes into ensuring the success of these campaigns, which are instrumental in shaping and influencing crucial decisions.

This year's nominees for the Lobbying and Policy award includes:

Athlone Chamber

Pre Budget Breakfast

Cork Chamber

2024: Year of Elections

County Carlow Chamber

Vote Carlow

County Tipperary Chamber

Snow and Ice January 2025

Drogheda & District Chamber

Drogheda's 5 for 25

Fingal Chamber

Withdrawal of bus routes under BusConnects restructuring significantly impacting businesses and employees

Athlone Chamber

Pre Budget Breakfast



The Pre-Budget Breakfast is an innovative initiative by Athlone Chamber of Commerce that provides a platform for business leaders to engage directly with the Minister for Finance. Held annually before the release of the Summer Economic Statement, the event focuses on discussing the upcoming national budget and its implications for business. This high-profile event is designed to foster open dialogue between government representatives and the local business community in a relaxed, engaging setting.

The breakfast features a fireside chat with the Minister, moderated by a nationally recognised journalist, alongside a panel of speakers sponsored by participating businesses. Attendees, which include business leaders and community members, are invited to contribute questions, making it an interactive and impactful forum.

Supported by a professional AV team, the event is also live-streamed for online audiences to ensure broader accessibility. With 100 in-person attendees and an additional 150 online participants, the initiative has become a cornerstone of Athlone Chamber's lobbying efforts, allowing members to voice their concerns and influence policy.

The Pre-Budget Breakfast exemplifies the Chamber's commitment to fostering meaningful engagement between the public and private sectors, strengthening the region's economic landscape.

Cork Chamber

2024: Year of Elections



2024 was a year of considerable political change, locally, nationally, and internationally. This period of transformation coincided with significant changes for Cork City and County, with a rapidly growing population and transformative infrastructural development underway. In response, Cork Chamber undertook a comprehensive year-long policy campaign to showcase key priorities for Cork businesses and communities. The campaign aimed to encourage debate around the critical policy issues for the region among candidates and local stakeholders.

The campaign was centred around the Local and European elections in June and the General Election in November, with comprehensive election manifestos launched ahead of each election. This was supported by a webinar for Local and European election candidates and an in-person debate for General Election candidates. Additionally, sustained engagement and communication activities were carried out in the weeks leading up to each election, ensuring the region's concerns were heard.

Timely media and social media interventions provided a platform for engagement with Chamber members and other local stakeholders. Following the elections, ongoing engagement with newly-elected representatives remains a key priority for the Chamber, with the goal of positively impacting the development of critical policy issues for Cork in the years ahead.

On Election Day –
Vote Carlow

**to secure
two TDs**



County Carlow Chamber

Vote Carlow

In the period leading up to the 2024 General Elections County Carlow Chamber of Commerce launched the 'Vote Carlow' campaign. The purpose of the campaign was to encourage Carlow voters to consider Carlow-based candidates for their preferences when casting their vote. This campaign was stimulated by feedback received by the Chamber of Commerce in a Member Sentiment Survey. Many members felt that there was a need for greater representation for the county at national level.

The Carlow / Kilkenny constituency is a 5-seat constituency - but historically 4 of the 5 seats had gone to Kilkenny-based candidates. The aim of the campaign was to secure a second TD for County Carlow - and to ensure that all of the Carlow candidates running were aware of the needs of the business and local community. The campaign was apolitical - not aligned with any one party or candidate.

It simply encouraged Carlow voters to use their vote to ask candidates on the doorstep what their plans for Carlow were and to express to candidates what their needs for the county were and to consider giving their vote and/or transfers (be it 1st, 2nd, 3rd or indeed 20th preference) to the Carlow candidates that aligned with their views.

County Tipperary Chamber

Snow and Ice January 2025

In January 2025, County Tipperary Chamber launched a local-led lobbying campaign following a period of severe snow and ice which major disruption to businesses in the county. Over 100 businesses from Clonmel to Nenagh completed a survey, sharing the scale of closures, lost income, and rising costs. Using this real-time data, a Business Impact Report was created which captured the experiences of members.

A number of key decision makers including Minister Peter Burke, T.D. were informed of the results of the survey. The message which was communicated was that businesses in Tipperary were hit hard and they needed assistance. County Tipperary Chamber called for financial support, better emergency planning, and improved clearance in commercial zones.

In addition they asked questions on the Thurles Bypass and advocated for its inclusion in the NDP.



Drogheda & District Chamber

Drogheda's 5 for 25



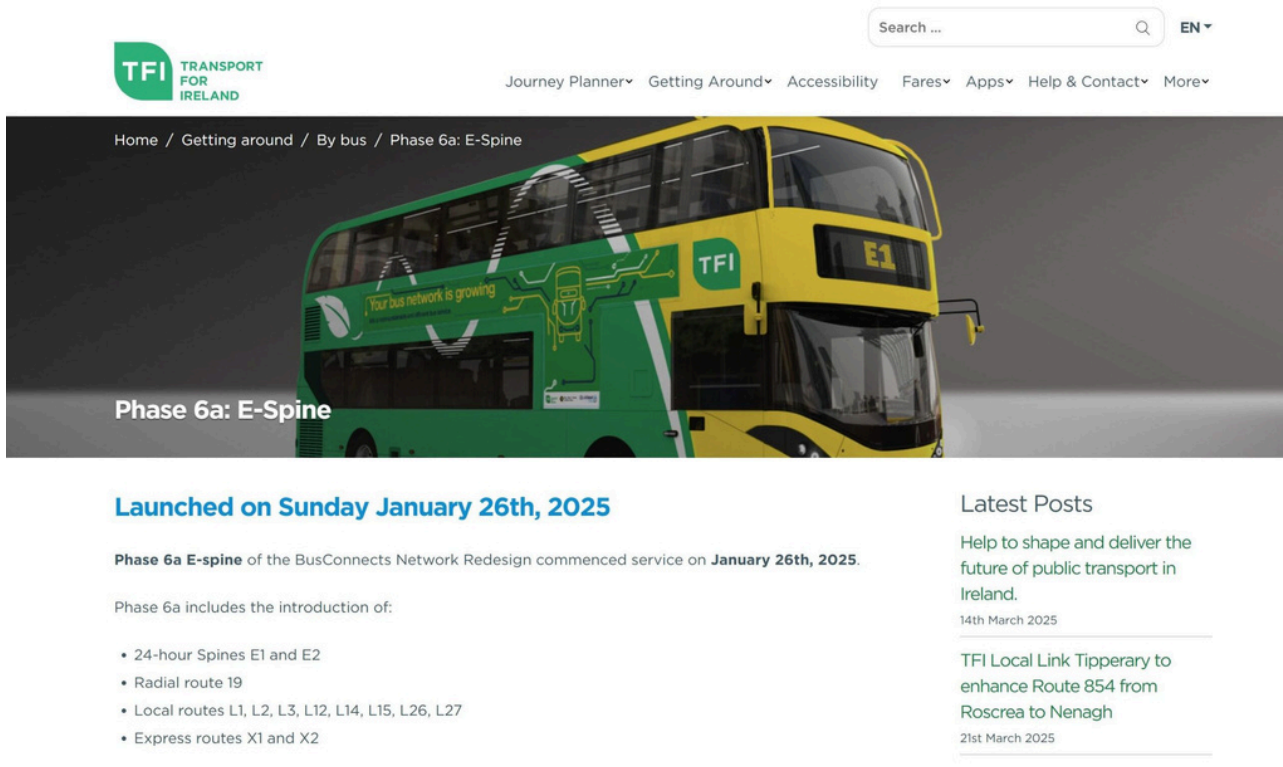
Drogheda, at the last census, was the biggest town in Ireland. As part of the general election build up, the Drogheda chamber drafted a charter, '5 for 25' with five specific aims to be tackled in 2025.

These included building on the idea of providing a taskforce for the town (Ireland's largest) following discussions with the then Taoiseach, Simon Harris. These discussions aimed at making Drogheda a destination town, and progressing the aims of the Regional Growth Centre designation.

It involved concentrating on best practice on governing a county and completion of crucial pieces of infrastructure such as the PANCR or the Northern Cross Route on the northside of the town. It is intended to lead to the development of 7,500 new homes, and deliver a second train station for the town.

Fingal Chamber

Withdrawal of bus routes under BusConnects restructuring significantly impacting businesses and employees.



The screenshot shows the TFI Transport for Ireland website. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links: Journey Planner, Getting Around, Accessibility, Fares, Apps, Help & Contact, and More. The main header features the TFI logo and the text 'TRANSPORT FOR IRELAND'. Below this, a breadcrumb trail reads 'Home / Getting around / By bus / Phase 6a: E-Spine'. The main image is a yellow and green double-decker bus with 'TFI' and 'E1' on it. Text on the bus says 'Your bus network is growing'. Below the image, the title 'Phase 6a: E-Spine' is displayed. The main content area has a blue header 'Launched on Sunday January 26th, 2025'. The text states: 'Phase 6a E-spine of the BusConnects Network Redesign commenced service on January 26th, 2025.' It then lists the introduction of: 24-hour Spines E1 and E2, Radial route 19, Local routes L1, L2, L3, L12, L14, L15, L26, L27, and Express routes X1 and X2. On the right, there is a 'Latest Posts' section with two entries: 'Help to shape and deliver the future of public transport in Ireland.' dated 14th March 2025, and 'TFI Local Link Tipperary to enhance Route 854 from Roscrea to Nenagh' dated 21st March 2025.

Fingal Chamber was alerted by a whistleblower from Dublin Bus about the potential withdrawal of bus services to Horizon Logistics Business Park (BP) near Dublin Airport. The BP, home to approximately 1,400 employees across 15 businesses—with plans to triple in size—faced a critical transport issue due to BusConnects route restructuring.

The revised routes would eliminate direct service, forcing employees to disembark at IKEA and walk a significant distance, even as the new E2 and 19 routes would pass the park's entrance but operate 'out of service' to Harristown. The changes were set to take effect from December 8th—one of the busiest times for logistics businesses—posing challenges for employee retention, recruitment, and overall business operations.

This decision contradicted Government efforts to reduce road congestion by promoting public transport. Fingal Chamber swiftly intervened, advocating for a solution that ensured continued accessibility for workers and supported the long-term growth of businesses in the BP.

SUPPORTING BUSINESS

This award recognises projects which support our Chamber Business members.

Retaining current members and increasing the intake of new members is carried out through a range of initiatives by our members, including targeted communication campaigns and marketing initiatives which highlight our Chambers' relevance to the business community.

This year's nominees for the Supporting Business award includes:

County Tipperary Chamber

Connecting Women in Work

County Wexford Chamber

County Wexford Chamber - Bigger and Better Together

Drogheda & District Chamber

Drogheda meets with Coffee & Chats

Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber

Ireland's First Menopause in the Workplace Employer Support Pack

Kilkenny Chamber

Kilkenny Gift Card

Letterkenny Chamber

20 Years of ShopLK - Has to be Letterkenny

County Tipperary Chamber

Connecting Women in Work

County Tipperary Chamber
Advancing business together

Abbott

CONNECTING WOMEN IN WORK

NETWORKING SERIES

Join Abbott and the County Tipperary Chamber of Commerce

THURSDAY 24 APRIL

ABBOTT VASCULAR CLONMEL E91W N82

9AM - 11AM

EVENT HIGHLIGHTS

Panel Discussion
Inspirational Speaker – Empowering Personal & Collective Betterment

SPEAKERS

Maureen Slattery, Quality Director, Abbott Vascular Clonmel
Sean Corkery, Supply Chain & Finance Director, Abbott Vascular Clonmel
Virginia Foley, Founder of Up She Rises
Aisling Ryan, CEO of Ryans Cleaning

These events provide a forum for female professionals to learn, network and collaborate - we look forward to seeing you there.

LIMITED PLACES AVAILABLE - PLEASE BOOK EARLY TO RESERVE YOUR SPOT

To RSVP or any questions, please reach out to trish@countytipperarychamber.com for more information.

County Tipperary Chamber, together with members of Boston Scientific Clonmel has launched a project called “Connecting Women in Work”. The project held an event at the Boston Scientific premises in Clonmel.

A panel discussion was chaired by Chamber CEO Michelle Aylward. The discussion focused on the often unseen barriers women face every day. Topics such as childcare, maternity leave, confidence, career breaks, and bias were discussed extensively.

The panel included leaders and role models from inside and outside the workplace including the Olympian Sarah Lavin.



County Wexford Chamber

County Wexford Chamber - Bigger and Better Together

County Wexford Chamber has successfully integrated Enniscorthy & District Chamber into its structure, marking a major milestone for the regional business community. This integration brings together the four key districts of County Wexford - New Ross, Wexford, Gorey, and Enniscorthy - under one unified chamber.

The combined efforts aim to deliver expanded support, advocacy, and services for businesses across the entire county, enhancing networking opportunities, and promoting stronger economic development.

The merger will also provide greater representation for local businesses, ensuring that their voices are heard at both regional and national levels.

Drogheda & District Chamber

Drogheda meets with Coffee & Chats



Over the course of the last few years, Drogheda and District Chamber has developed a new, bespoke project, simply called 'Coffee & Chats' and it's based on the concept of simplicity. Following surveys within their membership, the need for more networking and collaboration came to the fore.

It was decided that the best way to collaborate was for members to meet for a tea or coffee at the home of one of the members. A location that could accommodate up to 50 people for one hour was decided upon.



Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber

Ireland's First Menopause in the Workplace Employer Support Pack

The Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber has pioneered Ireland's first Menopause in the Workplace Employer Support Pack—a comprehensive resource designed to equip employers with the tools and knowledge necessary to create inclusive, supportive workplaces for staff experiencing menopausal symptoms.

Recognising that nearly 600,000 women in Ireland (30% of female employees) are affected by perimenopause or menopause at any given time, the initiative addresses the urgent need for workplace policies that respect and support women during this life transition.

Endorsed by national figures including Minister Mary Butler TD and Cyntia Ni Mhurchu MEP the pack offers practical guidance on policy development, reasonable adjustments, and effective communication strategies. It supports a respectful work environment and also contributes to staff retention, productivity, and overall well-being.

Since its launch in 2024, the initiative has been celebrated with awards such as the Menopause Workplace Excellence Award (in the Best Small Business category) and recognised as a national benchmark for supporting women in employment.

The support pack is accessible to all member businesses and has sparked interest from international bodies, with inquiries received from sectors as far afield as Tasmania. It supports sustainable development goals 3 and 5.

Kilkenny Chamber

Kilkenny Gift Card



Kilkenny Chamber launched the Kilkenny Gift Card in November 2024. The gift card is available in both physical and digital formats. This new system replaces the old paper-based vouchers, which had been popular among employers in Kilkenny city and county, and which had been in operation for more than 15 years.

Over 120 outlets have signed up to accept the card to date, making it a versatile option for shopping, dining, and more. The initiative aims to encourage local spending, support businesses, and even boost tourism in the area.

The card operates like a prepaid debit card, allowing users to spend flexibly while keeping the money circulating within the local economy.



Letterkenny Chamber

20 Years of ShopLK - Has to be Letterkenny

Letterkenny has a population of 22,000 and is the only urban centre of substantial scale in County Donegal. It is the central administrative hub of the county everyday the population increases by a minimum of 50% with commuters accessing employment, education and leisure.

As such it is the retail destination of choice for people from across what is a large county. Letterkenny is home to many national chains and has a thriving independent offering.

Recognising it's importance as the regional retail centre and wanting to encourage local economic development Letterkenny Chamber developed ShopLK 21 years ago. ShopLK which was initially a voucher scheme has been in gift card format since 2015.

The gift card is supported by a fully regulated company EML payments that run some of the largest gift card programmes in the world. Letterkenny Chamber currently works with Miconex Ireland with support from EML.

From humble beginnings gift card annual sales have reached a staggering €7m in 2024.

EVENT OF THE YEAR

Events are pivotal to the role that chambers play in their local business communities, providing valuable opportunities for connecting, networking and sharing knowledge.

Chambers organise a diverse range of events, both in-person and virtual, all year round. Recognising the significance of events, this category aims to honor the most exceptional, accomplished, and immersive experiences within our network.

This year's nominees for the Event of the Year award includes:

Athlone Chamber

Public Forum Sessions

Cork Chamber

Cork Financial Services Forum Annual Summit 2024

County Wexford Chamber

Political Leaders Summit

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Chamber

DLR Chamber International Women's Day Event 2025

Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber

The Communications Series

Galway Chamber

Galway Chamber Business Awards 2024

Limerick Chamber

Directly Elected Mayor Debate

Waterford Chamber

Off-Shore Wind Strategic Event



Athlone Chamber

Public Forum Sessions

The Public Forum Sessions are a series of lunchtime events designed to provide valuable insights and networking opportunities for our members.

In 2024, The Public Forum hosted three sessions: "Women in Business," featuring a panel of successful local businesswomen who shared their experiences and strategies; a session with Sinn Féin Finance Spokesperson Pearse Doherty, providing insights into the party's business policies in the lead-up to the general election; and a "Mental Health in the Workplace" session, which explored the impacts of mental health on employees and workplaces.

Each session included expert speakers, facilitated networking opportunities, and a light lunch for attendees. These forums encouraged active participation, provided actionable insights, and strengthened connections among our members.



Cork Chamber

Cork Financial Services Forum Annual Summit 2024

The sold-out Cork Financial Services Forum Annual Summit 2024, organised by Cork Chamber and the Cork Financial Services Forum (CFSF), is a flagship event which has a significant impact on Cork's financial services industry. Now in its third year, the summit successfully showcased Cork as a leading destination for talent and investment.

The event brought together financial services leaders from across Ireland to promote Cork as a premier European hub for international financial services.

This year's summit featured keynote speeches from: - Michael McGrath, European Commissioner - Brian Corr, Head of Funds 2030 Review, Department of Finance - Pat Lardner, CEO, Irish Funds - Tracey Donnery, Director of Policy and Communications, Skillnet Ireland.

A key highlight of the summit was the launch of the "Skillful Futures" report developed by Cork Chamber Skillnet. This report was commissioned to provide an in-depth analysis of the International Financial Services landscape in Cork, aiming to assess current talent needs, future requirements, and propose recommendations to bridge existing gaps and ensure the sector's continued regional growth.

These insights showcased to a diverse audience how Cork is leveraging its strengths in the financial services sector, identifying new opportunities, and strengthening its standing as a global financial services hub.

County Wexford Chamber



The County Wexford Chamber Political Leaders Summit, held on February 17th at the National Opera House, Wexford, brought together newly elected TDs, a Senator, and an Ireland South MEP for a vital discussion on the future of County Wexford. The event featured a dynamic panel with Brian Brennan TD, Malcolm Byrne TD, George Lawlor TD, Johnny Mythen TD, Fionntáin Ó Súilleabháin TD, Senator Cathal Byrne, and Cynthia Ní Mhurchú MEP, moderated by Ivan Yates.

The summit provided a platform for elected representatives to share their vision for the region and discuss key issues impacting the local business community. Attendees had the opportunity to engage directly with political leaders through a moderated Q&A session.

This initiative aimed to give business representatives, community leaders, and residents a direct line to their elected officials, facilitating dialogue on the county's economic future.

By addressing both the Chambers Ireland General Election Manifesto and specific County Wexford opportunities, the summit created a unique space for collaboration between the political and business sectors, ensuring the local economy's interests were well-represented.

Dun Laoighaire- Rathdown Chamber

DLR Chamber International Women's Day Event 2025

Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown Chamber's Annual International Women's Day celebration has become a flagship event, combining empowerment, innovation, and collaboration. Held in the grand ballroom of Fitzpatrick Castle Hotel, the 2025 event welcomed over 150 attendees, including business leaders, public representatives, and entrepreneurs.

The theme "Accelerate Action" was brought to life through a powerful keynote by Dr. Lollie Mancey, an interactive fashion show, and meaningful networking opportunities. In partnership with the Local Enterprise Office DLR, RBK, Frascati Centre, and EirGrid, the event showcased thought leadership while raising €4,000 for Breast Cancer Ireland.

New creative elements included a "Fashion for a Cause" showcase and personal storytelling by Anne-Marie Gannon, bringing authenticity and emotional depth.

Through this initiative, DLR Chamber deepened its impact, celebrating the strength of women in business and uniting multiple sectors with a shared purpose. The initiative also advanced long-term goals around inclusion, sustainability, and enterprise support.



Dungarvan & West Waterford Chamber



The Communications Series was a five-week online programme of one-hour workshops designed to equip local businesses with the digital skills essential for thriving in today's competitive market. Delivered entirely online and free to Chamber members, in partnership with experts in the digital fields.

The series covered key topics including Social Media, Website Design Essentials, Professional Photography for Business, Digital Marketing and Podcasting for Business. Sponsored by the Waterford Local Enterprise Office (LEO), the initiative provided participants with expert-led sessions, interactive Q&A segments, and real-world case studies.

The programme not only demystified complex digital strategies but also fostered a collaborative environment that encouraged dialogue, feedback, and networking among members.

Attendees gained actionable insights, practical tips, and enhanced confidence in managing their online presence—resulting in positive testimonials from businesses such as Ailsing Larkin Modern Lifestyle Food, McHugh Accounting & Consultancy, 360 Cookhouse, and Liberty Blue Estate Agents. This innovative, responsive approach has positioned the Chamber as a thought leader in digital communications and set a benchmark for future online events.

Galway Chamber

Galway Chamber Business Awards 2024

The Galway Chamber Business Awards 2024, in partnership with The Shannon Airport Group, was a sold-out gala celebrating the diversity, resilience, and excellence of Galway's business community. With the bilingual theme "Celebration of Place – Mórtas Áite," the event fused business recognition with local culture, creativity, and pride.

The initiative attracted 75 high-quality applications across eight diverse categories. A key pre-event highlight was a networking visit to Shannon Airport, where finalists toured the Business Park and Future Mobility Campus Ireland, and heard from CEO Russell Vickers on driverless technology. They also learned about the airport's pioneering services including US preclearance, digital innovation, and accessibility leadership.

Held at the Galway Bay Hotel, the evening featured sound-to-light displays, digital screens showcasing Galway's iconic scenery, and innovative entertainment led by James Sexton of Hiya Events, with live table games, real-time voting, and impromptu audience interaction.

Winners received locally commissioned artwork, and diaspora contribution was recognised through the President's Award, presented to Nuala Kavanagh, Co-chair of Chicago Galway Sister Cities. With bilingual menus, local produce and drinks, and widespread media coverage, the event delivered lasting impact and significantly strengthened Chamber visibility and community pride.

Limerick Chamber

Directly Elected Mayor Debate

In May 2024, Limerick Chamber, in collaboration with the Technological University of the Shannon (TUS) and the Limerick Post, hosted Limerick's inaugural in-person debate for the Directly Elected Mayoral position. Held at TUS's Millennium Theatre on May 21, the event attracted over 500 in person attendees and almost 10,000 viewed it online.

Pat Leahy the Political Editor of the Irish Times moderated a debate. This debate provided a platform for candidates to present their visions for Limerick's future. Discussions encompassed a range of topics, including economic development, infrastructure, social and environmental sustainability, housing, and public services.

The debate was organised to engage the public actively in the democratic process, allowing citizens to interact with candidates and express their views on Limerick's future direction. This event marked a significant milestone in Limerick's governance, as the city prepared to elect its first directly elected mayor, a position established following the government's approval of relevant legislation in July 2023.

The successful execution of this debate underscored the community's commitment to participatory democracy and set the stage for future civic engagement in Limerick. It was the only in person debate open to the general public.



Waterford Chamber

Off-Shore Wind Strategic Event



Offshore wind has the potential to transform the South East regional economy through job creation, supply chain opportunities, skills development and investment in infrastructure. Additional benefits include the new enterprises it will attract when the energy lands onshore at Great Island - adjacent to the Port of Waterford.

The Off-Shore Wind Strategic event was designed to inform guests of the opportunities and challenges in delivering off-shore wind projects, during the assembly, construction and commissioning of the wind farms, as well as the delivery of the energy on shore.

The audience was provided with the information which would enable them to lobby or advocate local representatives and Oireachtas members on this issue. In order to drive the development of the supply chain and economic opportunities for the Irish economy - we need the government to be clear about the timeline for future auctions and engagement to facilitate necessary investments in ports and grid infrastructure.

Industry experts clearly outlined the vision, innovation and collaboration that is required to ensure maximum potential is reached in the South East region. The event also presented a networking opportunity for stakeholders to connect and build collaborative momentum going forward.



BEST INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

This award recognises projects which support our Chamber Business members.

Retaining current members and increasing the intake of new members is carried out through a range of initiatives by our members including targeted communication campaigns and marketing initiatives which highlight our Chambers' relevance to the business community.

This year's nominees for the Best International Projects award includes:

Cork Chamber

Enterprise Europe Network – Cork Chamber Food and Drink Mission to Birmingham

Drogheda & District Chamber Chamber

Drogheda, Ireland, Europe

Dublin Chamber

Green Chambers – A new model for upskilling Chambers in ESG

Dundalk Chamber

Cross Border Economic Conference

Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry

NI Chamber's MOU in North Carolina

Waterford Chamber

Building trade links with Märkischer Kreis, Germany

Cork Chamber

Enterprise Europe Network- Cork Chamber Food and Drink Mission to Birmingham



First-time exporters benefit by focusing on direct exports to culturally, linguistically, and commercially similar countries. The UK remains the largest single market for Irish food and drink exports (Bord Bia's Export Performance and Prospects Report 2024/25). Recognising this, in May of 2024, EEN Cork Chamber organised the Food and Drink Mission to Birmingham—an initiative designed to expand international opportunities for Cork's food and drink sector.

Bringing together eleven Cork-based businesses, the mission provided these first-time exporters the platform to promote their products at the Food & Drink Expo in Birmingham's NEC, an event attracting over 25,000 visitors and 1,200 exhibitors.

EEN Cork Chamber strategically partnered with the Cork LEOs to help these micro-enterprises access financing to help cover some of the costs of the mission. To maximise the impact at the Expo, EEN Cork Chamber also partnered with the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce to arrange targeted and tailored B2B meetings, securing high-value connections.

This mission resulted in two exhibitors receiving orders from two Irish buyers, and one exhibitor securing initial orders from three UK buyers: a vending machine supplier placing an order for 15,000 items, and two significant airlines suppliers requesting 25,000 items.

Drogheda & District Chamber

Drogheda, Ireland, Europe



Bringing people together is a core value of the chamber movement. The more we adhere to and embrace that concept, the more our members will benefit and the more members we will take on the journey with us. Drogheda Chamber wanted to challenge themselves and quite simply, build new bridges.

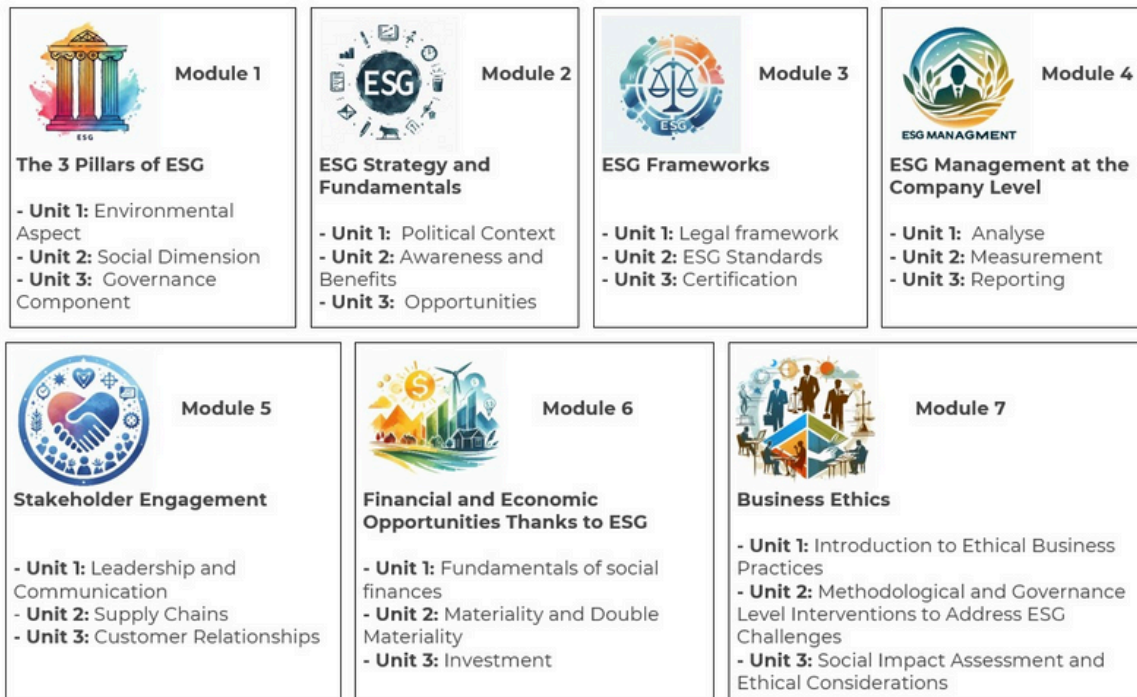
Lisburn was an obvious choice, given its location on the Dublin-Belfast corridor and the opportunity for cross border synergies. At Hampshire's heart is the city of Portsmouth. It obtained it's first business charter in 1194 - the same year and from the same source as Drogheda.

It's emblem is the Star and Crescent - the exact same logo that depicts the port town of Drogheda. The Chamber contacted both areas and those angles created a huge interest in doing business together and created a common bond that came as a welcome surprise to many.

The history of this isle and its relationship with neighbouring regions is dotted with stories of conflict and rancour. Today, those stories are of hope and looking to a bright and strong future together.

Dublin Chamber

Green Chambers - A new model for upskilling Chambers in ESG



To adapt and thrive in a greener economy, Chambers need to transform how they assess SMEs in developing ESG strategies and update their success criteria to meet new evaluation standards. This initiative equips Chambers with tools and training to deliver ESG education as part of a broader business strategy, facilitating the adoption of sustainable practices by SMEs.

Using a vocational education training (VET) model centred on “train the trainer”, Green Chambers enhances Chambers’ ability to support SMEs in developing ESG strategies. This approach significantly improves the ESG frameworks of participating SMEs.

The project encourages practical learning and peer collaboration among Chamber staff, enabling them to create effective ESG strategies. Participants can apply ESG criteria within their operations, positioning Chambers to guide SMEs toward sustainable practices.

Funded by the EU’s Erasmus+ KA2 program, the project is executed by a consortium that includes the Valencia, Polish, Slovenia, and Dublin Chambers of Commerce, Malta Business Bureau, Markeut Skills SL, and Omnia RTD.

Dundalk Chamber

Cross Border Economic Conference



Over 350 business representatives from across the island of Ireland attended the 10th Annual Cross-Border Trade & Economic Conference jointly hosted by Newry and Dundalk Chambers' on Tuesday 4th March in the Carrickdale Hotel. This conference was supported by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council, Louth County Council, InterTradelreland, Louth Local Enterprise Office, Dundalk Chamber Skillnet and M1 Corridor, hosted by Broadcaster & Journalist, Mark Simpson.

This year's conference was addressed by Alan Dillon TD, Minister of State for Small Business and Retail & Circular Economy in the Irish Government and Shane Murphy, Deputy Permanent Secretary, Department for the Economy.

The ongoing theme for the conference is 'Building a Sustainable All-Island Economy' and featured 12 expert speakers from both sides of the border across four sections including the All-Island Economy, Business Supports, Skills & People and Growing Prosperity on a Shared Island.

Northern Ireland Chamber of Commerce and Industry

Cross Border Economic Conference



Last year, NI Chamber signed its first international Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with NC Chamber in the US State of North Carolina. With both Chambers committing to work together to promote international trade, investment and co-operation, the partnership provides member companies with unique access to trading relationships, world-leading research and strategic business alliances in a US State which is globally renowned for its innovation and research capabilities.

Over the course of the past 12 months, NI Chamber has been working intensively with businesses, academics and potential investors in North Carolina, a state which it identified as having many synergies with our own economy. Through the unique partnership, NI Chamber has helped ambitious companies in high-growth sectors to access business growth opportunities in the USA; providing direct links and facilitated introductions to potential customers, suppliers and partners.

Working together, both Chambers have helped a series of exciting developments come to fruition and are now witnessing that MOU translate into game-changing opportunities.

Waterford Chamber

Building trade links with Märkischer Kreis, Germany

Waterford Chamber hosted a delegation who travelled from Märkischer Kreis in Germany to Waterford to explore trade opportunities, exchange cultural experiences and discover opportunities for tourism synergies. Following a reception at City Hall, where the group were welcomed by Mayor of Waterford, Cllr Jason Murphy, delegates were brought to businesses across the city and county to see first hand what incredible talent lies in Waterford, and to see if trade opportunities were viable.

The day proved extremely successful thanks to all the businesses who hosted us on site. The visiting delegation also met with Michael Quinn, Waterford City and County Council; Niall Harrington, President, Waterford Chamber; Kathryn Kiely, SETU; Ciaran Cullen, Enterprise Ireland; Emily Grace, IDA Ireland; David Sinnott, Port of Waterford and Gareth Evans Waterford Local Enterprise Office.

Over the two-day visit members of the South Westphalia University of Applied Science visited SETU to meet with SETU President Prof Veronica Campbell and a number of executive team and faculty members in engineering, business, science and humanities. The group also visited SETU's research centres the Walton Institute, SEAM and PMBRC. Direct business links have resulted and a return visit is currently in the planning.



COMMUNITY SUPPORT INITIATIVES

This award recognises projects which support our Chamber Business members.

Retaining current members and increasing the intake of new members is carried out through a range of initiatives by our members including targeted communication campaigns and marketing initiatives which highlight our Chambers' relevance to the business community.

This year's nominees for the Community Support Initiatives award includes:

Cobh & Harbour Chamber

Celebrating Cobh Christmas Lights: A Business & Community Campaign

Cork Chamber

WorkAbility: Inclusive Pathways to Employment with Cork Chamber & SECAD

Drogheda & District Chamber

Celebrating Drogheda's Community Champions

Dundalk Chamber

Dundalk Chamber School Mentorship Programme

Ennis Chamber

Ennis Chamber iHub

Tralee Chamber

Castle Street – Looking to the Past for the Future

Waterford Chamber

Driving diversity & inclusion in Waterford

Cobh & Harbour Chamber

Celebrating Cobh Christmas Lights: A Business & Community Campaign



"Cobh and Harbour Chamber launched a social media campaign to highlight and celebrate local businesses contributing to the annual Cobh Christmas lights. Facing a funding gap, the initiative aimed to raise awareness of the vital role these businesses play in bringing festive cheer to the community.

Through engaging posts and acknowledgements, the campaign showcased the businesses' generosity and inspired further contributions, even from individuals without direct commercial benefit, fostering a stronger sense of community spirit and appreciation for local enterprises.

This initiative ensured the continuation of the beloved Christmas lights display for the entire community to enjoy.

Cork Chamber

WorkAbility: Inclusive Pathways to Employment with Cork Chamber & SECAD



AWorkAbility is a collaborative initiative between Cork Chamber and SECAD Partnership, designed to create inclusive employment opportunities by connecting job seekers with businesses committed to diverse and accessible hiring practices.

SECAD Partnership is a non-profit organisation that provides employment, enterprise, and community development support across Cork. Through training, mentoring, and business engagement, SECAD works to empower individuals facing employment barriers while helping businesses build more inclusive workplaces.

WorkAbility brings together job seekers, businesses, and support organisations to create structured employment pathways. Participants receive practical job-readiness training, one-to-one mentoring, and access to work placements, helping them develop skills and confidence to secure sustainable employment.

Businesses, in turn, gain access to a diverse talent pool while fostering inclusive hiring practices. The initiative offers tailored support to both job seekers and employers, ensuring that the employment journey is meaningful and sustainable.

By bridging the gap between skilled individuals and businesses, WorkAbility is helping to build a stronger, more inclusive workforce in Cork.

Drogheda & District Chamber

Celebrating Drogheda's Community Champions



The Community Champions Series honours people, groups, business representatives, sports clubs, achievements and other aspects of life within the Drogheda and District region. In conjunction with the chambers corporate partners, Becton Dickinson, Drogheda & District Chamber designed the concept as a bespoke celebration of the spirit of the people who have called this part of Ireland home for many, many generations.

A small committee was formed to put together a list of worthy contenders and a recipient is selected on a regular basis. The series began in January 2025 after agreement with the sponsors in 2024.

The concept came from adversity in many ways. During 2024 it was announced that BD would be leaving town after 60 years in late 2026. Generations of people had worked there, and there was great sadness at the news. As the year progressed, the chamber worked on a legacy idea that would keep the spirit of BD alive in town and the Community Champion series was born.

Dundalk Chamber

Dundalk Chamber School Mentorship Programme

As part of Dundalk Chamber School Mentorship Programme, Dundalk Chamber in association with Dundalk Credit Union, LMETB and Staffline Recruitment held a Business Expo to introduce TY students to the many amazing businesses and business leaders in the area.



School Mentorship Programme

Business Expo

Meet with secondary school students and introduce your organisation

When: Monday 11th November 2024

Where: Dundalk Credit Union, Clanbrassil Street

SIGN UP TODAY

Jenny Gray - jennifer.gray@stafflinerecruit.com
Ann Gallagher - agallagher@lmetb.ie

KINDLY SPONSORED BY



Staffline

Tralee Chamber

Castle Street - Looking to the Past for the Future



The aim of this project is to revitalise and energise the business and community of Castle Street , Tralee. This is a vital part of Tralee town centre and was its focal point since Tralee's Anglo-Norman origins. It is a home to new visitor communities.

Waterford Chamber

Driving diversity & inclusion in Waterford



Waterford Chamber is committed to driving the Diversity and Inclusion agenda in Waterford, and is a key stakeholder in the Autism Friendly Waterford Initiative and the Waterford Area Workability Project, as well as driving the agenda at Government level. Following a two year programme, Waterford is now the first city in Ireland to achieve the recognition as an Autism Friendly City.

A key aspect to this is free training provided through Waterford Chamber for businesses, where they learn to make small adaptations within the business environs. Their Jobs Fair also had a dedicated sensory hour which was a huge success.

In addition, the Chamber now has a group of people with disabilities who are working with Chamber appointed mentors to assist them on their journey back into the workplace. Mentors work with clients in terms of mock interviews, building confidence and making introductions to prospective employers.

The Chamber is also working with South East Technological University and Waterford Area Partnership, Waterford City & County Council and other community based groups to make our city more inclusive. All festivals now have a dedicated sensory area for parades and activities and retail outlets have designated sensory areas, among other positive changes.

SUSTAINABILITY AND BIODIVERSITY

This award recognises projects which support our Chamber Business members.

Retaining current members and increasing the intake of new members is carried out through a range of initiatives by our members including targeted communication campaigns and marketing initiatives which highlight our Chambers' relevance to the business community.

This year's nominees for the Sustainability and Biodiversity award includes:

Cobh & Harbour Chamber

Cobh & Harbour Chamber and Mallow Chamber Launch Joint Sustainability Council

Cork Chamber

Embedding Biodiversity in Business: Cork Chamber's Commitment in Action

County Wexford Chamber

Sustainability Clusters – A Collaborative Initiative by GreenTech HQ & County Wexford Chamber

Drogheda & District Chamber

Making Drogheda dementia inclusive

Dundalk Chamber

ESG & Sustainability in Business Event

Letterkenny Chamber

Sponsor a Tree – Let's Grow Something Amazing Together

Cobh & Harbour Chamber

Cobh & Harbour Chamber and Mallow Chamber Launch Joint Sustainability Council



Cobh & Harbour Chamber and Mallow Chamber launched a pioneering joint Sustainability Council, the first of its kind in Ireland among affiliated Chambers. This initiative, unveiled at the 'Sustainability Pathways: Networking, Workshops, and Opportunities' event, aims to support local businesses in transitioning to a carbon-neutral economy.

The Council aims to provide resources, guidance, and strategic direction, fostering a sustainable, inclusive, and thriving business community. It focuses on long-term sustainability, community development, and monitoring environmental trends, aligning with the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The Council will serve as a central hub, providing resources, guidance, and strategic direction to facilitate this transition. Its mission extends beyond environmental compliance, aiming to cultivate a sustainable, inclusive, and thriving business community that champions long-term ecological and economic resilience.

Key areas of focus include fostering community development through sustainable practices, monitoring emerging environmental trends, and ensuring alignment with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

By bridging the gap between ambition and action, this initiative seeks to create a lasting, positive impact on the region's environmental and economic landscape.

Cork Chamber

Embedding Biodiversity in Business: Cork Chamber's Commitment in Action



Cork Chamber



Sustainable Cork Programme
Building Green Ireland





Embedding Biodiversity in Business: Cork Chamber's Commitment in Action

- Sustainable Cork Programme (SCP) in person Biodiversity event



SUSTAINABLE CORK PROGRAMME
Infrastructure and Biodiversity: Sustaining Cork's Future

TUES 24TH SEPT
11AM-12.15PM
FOTA WILDLIFE PARK
Education, Conservation, and Research Centre

Speakers:

- Claire Quane**
Head of Renewable Operations, ESB Generation and Trading
- Michael Goan**
Urban Design and Sustainability Manager, Land Development Agency
- Colette Shirley**
Director of Sustainability, Bank of Ireland
- Facilitator: Maria Kirrane**
Head of Sustainability and Climate Action, UCC

Partners: Cork Chamber, ESB, Energy for generations, Statkraft

BOOK NOW




70+ registrations

social media engagement:

Aileen Tennant • 2nd
Team Director at Fota Wildlife Park, Cork, Ireland | Regional...

Great to see larger organisations working towards the SDG goals and the focus given to the protection of biodiversity. As Maria Kirrane, Head of Sustainability and Climate Action in University College Cork, reminded us that often we forget that we are living through a dual environmental crisis with climate change taking the headlines and rapid biodiversity loss being sidelined.

Delighted to host such an informative industry event in the sustainability built Education, Conservation and Research Centre at Fota Wildlife Park. The building embodies all that Michael Goan outlined in building for biodiversity... the building is built on brown space making use of existing buildings and repurposed materials as much as possible (such as our whisky barrel floors) while paying attention to local ecology.

Clara McAuliffe • 1st
Offshore Renewable Assistant

This Tuesday I had the opportunity to attend the Sustainable Cork Programme panel discussion in association with Cork Chamber Skillnet, Statkraft and ESB. The event, hosted in the beautiful Fota Wildlife Park, explored the topic of Infrastructure and Biodiversity: Sustaining Cork's Future.

As a Cork native myself I found it very inspiring to meet so many local people and businesses who are so eager to learn about how infrastructure development can co-exist with efforts to preserve and enhance biodiversity and to hear about the practical changes they have implemented within their own businesses to achieve this.

Jennifer Foley • 2nd
Senior Grants Advisor at Statkraft

Lovely morning yesterday at the Sustainable Cork Programme event in Fota Wildlife's Education and Research Centre.

It was great to connect with new peers and learn about more companies in Cork who are all doing positive change 🌱

Cork Chamber are deeply committed to sustainability, and aim to embed it across their activities. Their efforts have been recognised by the Government with their appointment as an SDG Champion for 2024–2025. The Chamber is recognised as a leader in areas such as renewable energy, DEI, and biodiversity.

This year's submission focuses on recent progress in promoting biodiversity and the SDGs. The Sustainable Cork Programme, hosted the 2024 Infrastructure & Biodiversity in-person event during SDG Week at Fota Wildlife Park's Education, Conservation, and Research Centre. The event explored opportunities for businesses within Cork's infrastructure and biodiversity landscape, featuring speakers from ESB, the Land Development Agency, and Bank of Ireland, moderated by UCC's Head of Sustainability.

Another key activity the Chamber partakes in is the Annual Gift of Native Trees. 200 native Irish saplings are offered to Cork Chamber members annually. In 2024, the native species offered to members were Silver and Hazel.

The Chamber's Green Team oversees biodiversity initiatives, ND supports their role as 'Official Business Supporters of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan'. Their commitments include a 'No Mow' policy, pesticide elimination, pollinator-friendly planting, and sustainability awareness campaigns for staff and stakeholders.

SOUTH EAST SUSTAINABILITY CLUSTER EVENT

Join the conversation, make new connections, learn about what's new in innovation & sustainability

26th JUNE @ 6:45pm
Y21 A98k8
www.greentechhq.com

Dr. James Carton
 Head of Hydrogen Ireland

Chloe Donovan
 Natural Building Systems

Andrew Grant
 Aerospace Engineer & coastal erosion expert

26th
 JUNE 06:45pm-09:00pm

Join us for a night of chew and chat!
 (Pizza & drinks)

County Wexford Chamber
 Advancing business together

County Wexford Chamber

Sustainability Clusters – A Collaborative Initiative by GreenTech HQ & County Wexford Chamber

County Wexford Chamber, in collaboration with GreenTech HQ, has established monthly Sustainability Clusters. These clusters bring together business leaders, policymakers, and sustainability experts to share knowledge, address challenges, and develop actionable strategies for reducing environmental impact.

The initiative provides a platform for businesses to engage in peer learning, access industry insights, and explore practical solutions to integrate sustainability into their operations. By fostering collaboration between companies, government bodies, and sustainability professionals, the Clusters create meaningful change at both local and regional levels.

Topics covered include renewable energy, carbon reduction, circular economy practices, and compliance with evolving environmental regulations. Guest speakers provide case studies, and participants receive guidance on implementing sustainable business models.

This initiative strengthens County Wexford's position as a leader in green business, helping enterprises future-proof their operations while contributing to Ireland's broader climate action goals. The Sustainability Clusters not only enhance business resilience but also drive collective action, ensuring that Wexford businesses remain competitive in an increasingly eco-conscious marketplace.

Drogheda & District Chamber

Making Drogheda dementia inclusive



After many years of fundraising and changing bases, Tredagh Lodge Alzheimer's day care centre finally got a new home in recent years. The service caters for dozens of clients on a daily basis and does incredible work for both those suffering from dementia and their families.

From the outset, Drogheda and District Chamber took a keen interest in the organisation, which joined as a not-for-profit member in 2024. Intent on giving back and collaborating with the centre, the chamber became involved in two key projects.

We partnered in a new 'Community Memories' initiative, which formed part of the campaign to make Drogheda a 'Dementia Inclusive Community'. The Chamber provided the materials to spark memories of Drogheda down the years, through images and stories, many of them from a business viewpoint, from old shops and streets to pictures of people.

The campaign was launched in 2024 to make Drogheda dementia inclusive and 12 local businesses signed up to be part of the initial cohort of firms involved. They went through a training event and were presented with certificates afterwards. They now have a better understanding of how to deal with customers who have dementia.

Dundalk Chamber

ESG & Sustainability in Business Event

The highly anticipated ESG & Sustainability in Business event, hosted by Dundalk Chamber of Commerce at The Fairways Hotel on Wednesday, 12 February, proved to be a resounding success.

The event theme was focused on the critical topics of Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) practices, sustainability, and the evolving landscape of associated reporting standards.

This informative event was an excellent platform to educate and prepare local business owners for upcoming changes in reporting obligations. The event will provide a unique platform to share insights, best practices, and practical approaches with fellow members and stakeholders in our community.

A sustainable business approach can also lead to overall efficiencies, cost savings and could position businesses to win new customers and secure new contracts.

With an impressive turnout of over 100 attendees, the event sparked valuable conversations, facilitated important networking opportunities, and fostered collaboration among business leaders and ESG industry experts.



Letterkenny Chamber

Sponsor a Tree - Let's Grow Something Amazing Together

As part of a shared commitment to sustainability and biodiversity, Letterkenny Chamber and Letterkenny Tidy Towns teamed up to plant trees on Sentry Hill, an historical site in Letterkenny Town Centre for the Chamber's 60th Anniversary!

With guidance from Love Woodland Northwest, over 80 native trees were planted by volunteers from local businesses and the wider community. The event followed a successful "Sponsor a Tree" campaign, with companies, individuals and families arriving on the day to plant their sponsored trees, marking a personal and lasting contribution to the environment.

This initiative not only enhances local green spaces but also strengthens community ties and promotes awareness of biodiversity.

Letterkenny Tidy Towns were using the initiative to highlight the vital role tree planting plays in their ongoing work and they applauded collaboration shown on the day. The Chamber were delighted that this day marked the launch of their 60th anniversary celebrations.

This is a tangible sustainability project and is evidence of Letterkenny Chamber's commitment to sustainability. This project is a long-term investment in a greener, more biodiverse Letterkenny.



DIGITAL CAMPAIGNS

This award recognises projects which support our Chamber Business members.

Retaining current members and increasing the intake of new members is carried out through a range of initiatives by our members including targeted communication campaigns and marketing initiatives which highlight our Chambers' relevance to the business community.

This year's nominees for the Digital Campaigns award includes:

Cobh & Harbour Chamber

Cobh & Harbour Chamber's Weekly Newsletter: Connecting and Empowering Business

Cork Chamber

DigiEventGuide

County Wexford Chamber

County Wexford Chamber – Supporting Local Businesses

Drogheda & District Chamber

Wrapping a ribbon around our members



Cobh & Harbour Chamber

Cobh & Harbour Chamber's Weekly Newsletter: Connecting and Empowering Business

Cobh and Harbour Chamber's core digital communication is its consistent weekly newsletter. This initiative serves as a central hub for disseminating vital information to members and the wider business community.

Each issue provides timely updates on Chamber activities, advocacy efforts, and upcoming networking and training events.

Furthermore, the weekly newsletter actively promotes member news, celebrates successes, and shares crucial details regarding available business supports and relevant community news.

By delivering this reliable stream of valuable content directly to inboxes, the newsletter strengthens member engagement, fosters a connected business ecosystem, and reinforces the Chamber's role as a proactive voice and key resource for the Cobh and Harbour region.

Cork Chamber

DigiEventGuide



Since 2016, Cork Chamber has provided a dynamic digital attendee list for its large-scale events via the ConnectMe subdomain, enabling more strategic networking for members and guests.

In 2024, this mobile-responsive, digital tool evolved into DigiEventGuide, a fully customisable platform designed to enhance event engagement while promoting sustainability.

DigiEventGuide allows Cork Chamber and other organisations to create a tailored event experience with a unique URL, showcasing key event details, attendee lists, seating plans, and sponsor information.

At the 2024 Cork Chamber Annual Dinner, DigiEventGuide saw a 300% increase in views, jumping from 4,500 to 13,500, following the complete removal of printed booklets.

Recognising the potential to expand its functionality, Cork Chamber further developed DigiEventGuide to offer an innovative digital solution for other organisations, enhancing both attendee experience, sustainability and brand visibility.

County Wexford Chamber

County Wexford Chamber - Supporting Local Businesses



County Wexford Chamber launched the County Wexford Shop Local Gift Card on November 5th, replacing outdated paper vouchers with a modern, Mastercard-backed solution. This upgrade streamlined local shopping incentives, making it easier for consumers to support businesses while maximising economic benefits for participating outlets.

Accepted today at 197 local businesses across retail, hospitality, and services, the card maintains a competitive 3% commission - far lower than national gift card schemes - ensuring more revenue stays within the community.

In just six weeks, sales soared to €588,000, directly benefiting local businesses and protecting jobs. The digital transition enhanced security, usability, and tracking, improving both customer experience and adoption rates.

Drogheda & District Chamber

Wrapping a ribbon around our members

Drogheda and District Chamber decided on a new marketing strategy in 2024/25 with the aim of increasing membership, awareness and impact. The marketing strategy centred on bringing something unique to the local business world, a ribbon cutting experience, backed by photographs and a video presentation on the day. This was shared across social media channels and the chamber's YouTube account and was an instant hit.

By the end of 2024, membership had risen by almost 30%, with more and more businesses intrigued by the fanfare the project attracted and wanting to be part of it. The Chamber also made sure to engage established members in the project, those celebrating specific anniversaries or new office openings.

The platform is now in place to increase the offerings via sustained and measured marketing in this way. Such a diverse and eye catching platform led to increased engagement with other agencies and stakeholders who saw the impact that the chamber brought in terms of a positive message, thus attracting interested parties to take a new look at what the chamber is about and ask how we can assist them to grow and develop opportunities within the community, including not for profits.





Chambers
Ireland
Advancing business together



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