



Trading for Impact Stakeholder Engagement Group

Terms of Reference

Context

In July 2024, the Minister for Rural and Community Development published Trading for Impact National Social Enterprise Policy. The Policy is focused on five main Objectives:

1. Building Awareness of Social Enterprise
2. Growing and Sustaining Social Enterprise
3. Supporting the Green Transition
4. National and International Engagement
5. Impact Measurement

The Policy sets out 57 commitments on the part of Government across these Objectives for the development of social enterprise. The National Policy aims to create an enabling environment for social enterprise to grow and contribute to Ireland's social and economic progress.

Social Enterprise Policy Implementation Group

The Policy includes a commitment to:

“Establish a Trading for Impact Stakeholder Engagement Group to co-ordinate input into the delivery of the policy, to meet bi-annually”

The Trading for Impact Stakeholder Engagement Group will be a key vehicle to consult and seek advice on the implementation of the Trading for Impact policy. Whilst responsibility for delivery of the Policy Measures remains with the Department, partnership with a wide range of Social Enterprise stakeholders is key to the success and sustainability of the Policy.

Role and Responsibilities of the Trading for Impact Stakeholder Engagement Group

1. The Engagement Group (the Group) will be chaired by the Department of Rural and Community Development which has responsibility for social enterprise policy in Ireland.
2. The role of the Group is to advise, monitor and co-ordinate the overall implementation of the *Trading for Impact* National Social Enterprise Policy 2024-2027 and, in particular, progress on the delivery of the individual measures (i.e. commitments) set out in the policy.
3. The Group will provide feedback, guidance and advice to the Department in relation to the implementation of the policy, as well as early warning regarding potential obstacles in delivery of the policy.
4. The Group will also provide insights into developments, opportunities and emerging trends in the social enterprise ecosystem in Ireland and internationally (if appropriate).
5. The Group may be invited by the Department of Rural and Community Development to lead on, or participate in, the delivery of some measures in the policy. In such cases, the Department will retain ultimate responsibility for the output.
6. The Group may establish sub-groups to support its work in specific areas. Members of the Group may participate in any sub-group relevant to their area of interest or expertise. Sub-groups may also include members external to the group but must include at least one member of the group who will be responsible for reporting back to the group. Terms of Reference for sub-groups will be established by the Group.
7. Members of the Group are nominated for the term of the policy.
8. The Group will be reviewed after two years, i.e. 2027.
9. Membership of the Group is voluntary and unremunerated. However, reasonable expenses necessarily incurred in the attendance at meetings by members whose expenses are not ordinarily refundable from any other source may have such reasonable expenses refunded by the Department of Rural and Community Development in accordance with public sector guidelines.
10. The role of members of the Group is to represent the interests of the breadth of Social Enterprise in Ireland and not any individual organisational positions and/or interests. A list of members and the organisations they represent is included at Appendix 1.

Secretariat

Secretariat functions to the Engagement Group will be provided by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

Frequency of meetings

It is anticipated that the Engagement Group will meet 2 times per year. The frequency may be adjusted by the group. Any sub-groups which may be formed may determine the frequency of their own meetings.

Appendix 1 - Composition of the Group

The following is the composition of the Trading for Impact Stakeholder Engagement Group:

1.	Department of Rural and Community Development (Chair)	Ciara Bates (Chairperson)
2.	Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science	Laura Brady
3.	Department of Enterprise Trade and Employment	Ross Church
4.	Department of Justice	Lorna Conway
5.	Department of the Environment, Climate and Communications (DECC)	Jacqueline Healy
6.	Department of Social Protection (DSP)	Tony Kieran
7.	Office of Government Procurement (OGP)	Fergal Grogan
8.	Dublin City Council (DCC)	Ross Curley
9.	Social Enterprise Republic of Ireland (SERI)	John Logue
10.	Irish Social Enterprise Network (ISEN)	Chris Gordon
11.	Local Development Companies Network (LDCN - formerly ILDN)	Una Lowry
12.	The Wheel	Johnny Sheehan
13.	Social Entrepreneurs Ireland (SEI)	Tara Wilson
14.	Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed	Rebecca Gorman
15.	Social Enterprise Research Network of Ireland (SERNI)	Deiric O'Broin
16.	Spraoi agus Spórt (SE Practitioner Rural)	Helen Nolan
17.	Football Co-operative (SE Practitioner Urban)	Steven O'Connell