



Ballyfermot Chapelized Partnership
4 Drumfinn Park
Ballyfermot
Dublin 10
May 14th 2019

Social Enterprise Policy Consultation,
Department of Rural and Community Development,
Trinity Point,
10-11 Leinster Street South,
Dublin 2,
D02 EF85

Re: Public Consultation on the National Social Enterprise Policy

Dear Sir/Madam

I'm writing in response to the National Social Enterprise Policy which has recently opened for consultation.

Please note that the Irish Local Development Network are also submitting a response, as the representative body of Local Development Companies in Ireland.

The overall Policy Objectives identified in the draft Social Enterprise Policy will help encourage and support Social Enterprises in Ireland.

I believe that the thriving social enterprise sector in the United Kingdom can be partially attributed to the specific legal structure available to Social Enterprises – Community Interest Companies.

There are various benefits of Community Interest Companies for Social Enterprises.

- Dedicated legal structure for the Social Enterprise Sector
- A clear commitment to a social mission
- Asset lock
- Option for paid board members

The establishment of this new legal structure would be in line with the Policy Objectives of the draft Social Enterprise Policy and should be made a key measure of the Policy. Community Interest Companies would support the specific objectives of increasing social enterprise initiation, enabling market opportunities, and leadership and governance.

Kind Regards,

Breid Croal

Social Enterprise Innovator, Ballyfermot Chapelized Partnership