

## Submission for the Public Consultation on the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022

Rehab Group June 2019

### **Introduction**

Rehab Group's social enterprises employ people with disabilities and who are disadvantaged. They comprise of Rehab Enterprises in Ireland, the country's largest single employer of people with disabilities, and in Scotland by Haven Enterprises.

Rehab Group welcome the opportunity to make a submission to the Public Consultation on the national Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022. We look forward to the launch of this policy in conjunction with the '*Strategy to Support the Community and Voluntary sectors in Ireland*' and the '*National Volunteering Strategy*'. We hope they will prove to be effective in strengthening this sector and improving the lives of the people who rely on and work in this important sector throughout the country.

Rehab Group has been working in this sector nationwide for 70 years through its care, education and training and employment services and we look forward to improved supports and structures to strengthen the social impact we, and the rest of the voluntary sector, make on communities.

Through operating our social enterprises for over a quarter of a century, we realise the valuable contribution social enterprises make to the social and economic development of the country, both through the creation of jobs and the provision of services for the community that Rehab Enterprises provide.

### **Government Policies**

We are also very clear about how Rehab Enterprises activities help deliver on some of the Government's policy goals for. For example we:

- Provide jobs for people with disabilities- an objective outlined in the '*Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People With Disabilities*'<sup>1</sup> The strategy expects that the employment rate of people with disabilities will increase by 15% from its 2011 level, with an increase in the employment rate from 33% to 38% by 2024. Social enterprise can help with to achieve these objectives.
- Provide people with disabilities the opportunity to live independently and be included in their communities, a right outlined under Article 19 in the *UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities*<sup>2</sup> (UNCRPD)

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<sup>1</sup> '*Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities*'

<http://www.justice.ie/en/JELR/Comprehensive%20Employment%20Strategy%20for%20People%20with%20Disabilities%20-%20FINAL.pdf/Files/Comprehensive%20Employment%20Strategy%20for%20People%20with%20Disabilities%20-%20FINAL.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> Article 19 UNCRPD '*Living Independently and Being Included in the Community*'

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/disabilities/convention-on-the-rights-of-persons-with-disabilities/article-19-living-independently-and-being-included-in-the-community.html>

- Provide work and employment for people with disabilities, a right outlined under Article 27 of the *UNCRPD*
  
- Irish Government's Healthy Ireland initiative, one of the stated aims is to: 'improve health and well bring by creating and continually improving its physical and social environments'..and also to ..develop community resources that help people to support each other and achieve their potential.'<sup>3</sup>
  
- The Irish Government's Climate Action Plan 2019<sup>4</sup> In particular actions under section 12- Waste and Circular Economy(See Appendix 1) :
  - Action 135 -Lead the transformation from waste management to circular economy practice through
  - Action 137 Develop a new National Waste Prevention Programme, and Regional Waste Management
  - Action 138 Support the development of eco-design and circular economy opportunities for Irish enterprises to reduce waste over the full lifecycle of products
  - Action 139 Develop and implement a suite of measures to reduce the impact of single-use plastics
  - Action 141 Identify opportunities to strengthen the regulatory and enforcement frameworks and structures for the waste collection and management system, to maximise the collection of clean, segregated materials for reuse and/or recycling from all households and businesses, and to incentivise consumers to reduce, reuse and recycle
  - Action 142 Regulate and incentivise producers of waste, particularly packaging, to ensure the prevention of waste and the use of recycled materials in packaging products
  
- UN Sustainable Development Goals<sup>5</sup>
  - Goal 8-Decent Work and Economic Growth
  - Goal 11 Sustainable cities and Communities
  - Goal 12 Responsible Consumption and Production
  - Goal 13-Climate Change

We have been aware of the 2013 Forfás Report<sup>6</sup> on the potential of, and opportunities for, social enterprises in Ireland and agree that as a prerequisite for growth that there needs to be a coherent Government policy. Supports for social enterprise have been dispersed across a number of Government departments and this has resulted in a lack of clarity around where the policy responsibility for social enterprise lies. We are hopeful that the new strategy will help address this.

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<sup>3</sup>Healthy Ireland <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/d4fa22-healthy-counties-and-cities/#introduction>

<sup>4</sup> Irish Government's Climate Action Plan 2019  
<https://assets.gov.ie/10206/d042e174c1654c6ca14f39242fb07d22.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> <https://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/sustainable-development-goals/>

<sup>6</sup> 'Social Enterprise in Ireland', Forfás 2013 [https://www.tcd.ie/business/assets/pdf/centre-social-engagement/23072013-Social\\_Enterprise\\_in\\_Ireland-Sectoral\\_Opportunities\\_and\\_Policy\\_Issues-Publication.pdf](https://www.tcd.ie/business/assets/pdf/centre-social-engagement/23072013-Social_Enterprise_in_Ireland-Sectoral_Opportunities_and_Policy_Issues-Publication.pdf)

## ***Background on Rehab Enterprises***

Rehab Enterprises demonstrates the potential of social enterprise to successfully create employment opportunities for people who are distant from the marketplace.

Rehab Enterprises was launched in 1994 with a mission to provide sustainable employment in a range of different businesses around the country. The mission of Rehab Enterprises is to provide sustainable employment, skills training opportunities and personal development for people with a disability. It operates an inclusive workforce model of employment where employees with and without disabilities work alongside each other. Rehab Enterprises' principal activities are: recycling; information security management; high tech-logistics; packaging and retail.

There are 152 people with disabilities employed by Rehab Enterprises out of a total workforce of 279 staff. At the heart of the aim for Rehab Enterprises is to balance the employee wellbeing with a successful commercial activity. Our employees continue to fulfil contracts for our key commercial partners including, Public Sector Departments, SMEs, a range of blue-chip large indigenous and multinational companies such as Dell, DuPont and Thermoking.

Rehab Enterprise have an annual turnover of €20m with a diverse range of services which operate in commercial markets in order to create sustainable employment for people with disabilities. This also demonstrates how a social enterprise with a socially integrated employment model can be commercially successful.

## ***Emlyn O'Reilly's story***

Emlyn O'Reilly, from Ballacolla, was unable to work for many years after he suffered extensive third degree burns to his body. This serious accident left him struggling with Post Traumatic Stress Disorder and depression. Then he was offered an opportunity at Rehab Enterprises in Portlaoise.

Three years later Emlyn says his role at Rehab Enterprises has been transformative. "I wake up in the morning looking forward to coming to work and meeting people that I can and do call friends," he said.

"My self-esteem has grown and I am doing things and trying things that years ago I would have run away from. I am in a much better place because I was given another chance here at Rehab Enterprises," he added.

## ***Rehab Enterprises working in Disadvantaged Areas***

Pobal produce a HP Deprivation Index<sup>7</sup> based on:

1. Demographic Profile
2. Social Class Composition
3. Labour Market Situation

Six out of 9 Rehab Enterprise Sites are located in small areas that are considered disadvantaged or below average in the HP deprivation index reflecting Census 2016 data. This highlights Rehab

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<sup>7</sup> Pobal HP Deprivation index <https://maps.pobal.ie/WebApps/DeprivationIndices/index.html>

Enterprises positive impact in community providing employment opportunities to people marginalised within their communities. (see Appendix 2 for details)

## ***Haven Products***

Haven Products in Scotland is Rehab Enterprises Scottish division and is Scotland's largest employer of people with disabilities. People with disabilities and disadvantage represent 208 out of Haven Product's total workforce. Haven wins contracts in both the private and public sectors, including long-term customers and the Scottish Government particularly in the health, central Government and the emergencies services sectors.

## ***Haven Products' important relationship with the Scottish Government***

The Scottish Government are very supportive of social enterprises and Haven Products have been engaged and participate in discussions with the UK Government in both Westminster and in the devolved Scottish Government in Edinburgh on issues about employability and public procurement policies. We have more details later in the document on how Rehab Enterprises' experience of working with government in Scotland could help with the implementation of the National Social Enterprise Policy in Ireland.

## ***National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland***

We see in your consultative paper that you hope that: '... the implementation of the policy will open new opportunities for social enterprises to address social and environmental challenges, contribute to the revitalisation of local communities throughout the country and support many of those most vulnerable in society'<sup>8</sup>

Rehab Enterprises have been fulfilling these objectives for many decades:

- We support the most vulnerable in society. As an inclusive employer, we provide job opportunities in the labour market and hire people with disabilities with the skills to do the job and who contribute to the work environment and business. (RehabCare also support their care and Rehab Group's National Learning Network also supports their education)
- We are nationwide and so are supporting these people who are working in the communities where they live.
- We have been supporting environmental challenges through our recycling operations at Rehab Enterprises long before it was popular and have always realised the importance of environmental protection. Rehab Enterprises is also an 'Environmental Social Enterprise'.

Rehab Enterprises understands that the Government is hoping to deliver its commitments to support a strong and vibrant social enterprise ecosystem in Ireland by working with other Government Departments and in partnership with the sector.

As Ireland's largest and longest established social enterprises, Rehab Enterprises hope that we could have the opportunity to work closely with Government to deliver on this strategy.

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<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/8204/247ecbcf62a441e6b11b927d45bb8534.pdf#page=1>

Through its operations in both Ireland (Rehab Enterprises) and Scotland (Haven Products) Rehab Enterprises have had experience in implementing policies similar to your policy objectives: Building Awareness of Social Enterprise (Policy Objective 1); Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise (Policy Objective 2); and Achieving Better Policy Alignment (Policy Objective 3)<sup>9</sup>

We see that the Department of Rural and Community Development will be establishing an Implement Group to oversee the implementation of the policy and will comprise of representatives from key Government Departments and social enterprise stakeholders. We would be interested in being considered as one of the social enterprise stakeholders on this group, as we believe that representatives from Rehab Enterprises would have information and experience to contribute to this group.

### ***Rehab Enterprises experience of working with Government in Scotland***

In 2012 The Scottish Government created an Advisory Group chaired by a Scottish Government Minister and attended by senior representatives of multiple Government agencies and selected Heads of Supported Businesses in Scotland with the main purpose to promote a proactive approach to using the EU Directive to support public sector bodies to engage with suppliers employing people with disabilities and meet Government policy.

Within existing Irish legislation, there is an opportunity for State agencies to create jobs for people with disabilities through their public procurement. This can be done through the use of European legislation which allows the reservation of contracts for organisations employing more than 30% people with disabilities and people who are disadvantaged.

This provides a very useful tool for social enterprises to create a real opportunity to create substantial new employment opportunities for people with disabilities and people who are long-term unemployed. Unfortunately, so far, this opportunity has been little used in Ireland.

We discuss the potential use of Article 20 for social enterprise in more detail later in this document.

### **Policy Objectives**

Until now, Ireland has not had a Social Enterprise Policy, and so we welcome the development of a National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland. We agree with the policy objectives as outlined:

Policy 1: Building Awareness of Social Enterprises

Policy 2: Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise

Policy 3: Achieving Better Policy Alignment

We also believe that with decades of experience at Rehab Enterprises, we can contribute to these policy objectives.

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<sup>9</sup> P. 5 National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland (draft)

<https://www.gov.ie/pdf/?file=https://assets.gov.ie/8204/247ecbcf62a441e6b11b927d45bb8534.pdf#page=1>

## Policy 1: Creating Awareness of Social Enterprise

### Questions for consideration:

- Are these suggested policy measures sufficient to achieve the objective of raising greater awareness of social enterprise?
- Are there other actions the Government could consider to raise awareness of social enterprise and, if so, what are these actions?

### ***Social Enterprise Definition***

Before creating an awareness strategy, it will important to ensure that Social Enterprise is properly defined to avoid confusion. As stated, there are various currently interchangeable descriptions and definitions, which could be very confusion in terms of public awareness and policy development. So some work needs to be done before on this before the awareness strategy is launched.

### ***Social Enterprise Register***

An idea for raising awareness would be to establish a Social Enterprise Register for social enterprises which could be easily accessible to members of the public who may have a preference for using social enterprises when purchasing items and services. There is a growing public awareness of organisations that bring social value to the community and members of the public want to support those social enterprises, so a register would be useful to them.

### ***Social Enterprise Buyers Guide***

A Social Enterprise Register would also be useful for procurement from Government Departments, local authorities, and other businesses who may wish to partner with the social enterprises. This could also expanded to be used as a 'Buyers' Guide', which is currently used for Social Enterprises in Scotland (see reference to Article 20 under Policy Objective Two)

### ***Social Enterprise Quality Mark***

Another awareness raising policy could be the development of an independently Social Enterprise Quality Mark. There are many examples of this around the world, including the Internationally recognised, Social Enterprise Mark<sup>10</sup>. Such a mark would prove that the social enterprise has a social impact. Each social enterprise applicant for the mark is independently assessed as a genuine social enterprise committed to creating positive social change based on sector-agreed criteria and the mark is internationally recognised.

Rehab Enterprises have had experience of this Quality Mark process via its social enterprises in Scotland, Haven and would be happy to discuss their experience further in the development of the awareness strategy.

### ***Social Impact Measurement***

Another important consideration in raising public awareness is to establish an agreed on measurement of social impact. Rehab Enterprises has used the measurement of Social Return on

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<sup>10</sup>Social Enterprise Mark <https://www.socialenterprisemark.org.uk/about-us/>

Investment to measure the social impact of job creation through their Haven Products operations in Scotland.

It would be important that the measurement of social impact would be accepted and also understood by the Irish social enterprises. The social impact would be an important part of the awareness raising strategy.

As stated in the discussion document, it is important that the Department of Rural and Community Development facilitate the coming together of the social enterprise stakeholders to develop an Awareness Strategy to raise the profile of social enterprises in Ireland (p.15 Point 1).

Rehab Enterprises would be happy to help with identifying 'best practice' examples for social enterprise to improve public understanding and highlight their social impact (p.15 point 2).

It would be important that funding be made available for social enterprises for the measurement of social enterprise.

### ***Social Enterprise Forum***

A annual Social Enterprise Forum would be a useful arena for social enterprises to come together, helping to shape policy, disseminate information and share best practice. (p. 15 point 3). Social enterprises should also be encouraged to take learning from other countries, such as Scotland where the government has been proactively supporting social enterprises for some time now. International partnerships should also be considered.

Again, funding for such an annual forum would be an important consideration, as many social enterprises operate on a tight budget and have limited funding apart from their core social mission.

### ***Partnership***

In addition to internal information sharing it would also be important to include organisations which could help engage with and promote social enterprises such as Ibec, Chamber of Commerce, Local Authorities, Government Departments etc.

Rehab Enterprises has raised its profile told stories locally and nationally. We have partnered with the local chamber of commerce, other businesses, nationally and locally. We have also invited visitors and politicians to see how Rehab Enterprises operates and the impact it has on people and the community.

Rehab Enterprises partner with the other divisions of the Rehab Group, Rehab's National Learning Network (NLN) and also RehabCare. Some students from NLN will find jobs in Rehab Enterprises. RehabCare support is available to employees if they need it.

### ***Initiating Social Enterprises***

Building on existing educational initiatives in the education system would be important for the increased awareness of social enterprise. This increased awareness will benefit students both as customers and also as potential workers in social enterprises.



## **Policy Objective 2: Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise**

### ***Business supports for social enterprise***

At community level there has been some training and mentoring of social enterprises via the Social Inclusion Community Activation Programme (SICAP) and other programmes, but there needs to be more funding to roll these out more extensively.

The Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) is an existing structure which could be developed to include more social enterprise specific training and support, especially in the areas of governance, business planning, capacity building, leadership, financial planning, marketing and social impact measurement. Working through LEOs would also provide the opportunity for mentoring from members of the traditional business community. Again, funding will have to be provided for this expansion of the function of the LEOs.

### ***Incentives for employers***

Employees with disabilities can be employed through the **Wage Subsidy Scheme** which provides financial incentives to private sector employers to employ people with a disability who work more than 20 hours per week.

Employees on the Wage Subsidy Scheme receive the same conditions of employment as other employees and are paid the going rate for this job. This scheme has the potential to be more widely used to create employment for people with disabilities within social enterprises in Ireland.

However, there is a need to ensure that such subsidies keep pace with minimum wage increases to ensure that businesses are sustainable on an ongoing basis.

There are many other incentives for organisations and businesses to employ people with disabilities. This can help social enterprises to improve their social impact. Many of those incentives can be found on the Citizens Information website and should be promoted to social enterprises.<sup>11</sup>

### ***Leadership and Governance***

#### Questions for consideration:

- Are these suggested policy measures sufficient to achieve the objective of raising greater awareness of social enterprise?
- Are there other actions the Government could consider to raise awareness of social enterprise and, if so, what are these actions?

Compiling and making available information on the various business supports available to social enterprises, along with details of the providers of those supports would be very welcome and it is difficult for social enterprises at the moment to navigate through the various appropriate supports in the different government departments. (point 7, p.17)

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<sup>11</sup> [https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/employment/employment\\_and\\_disability/](https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/employment/employment_and_disability/)



## ***Access to Finance and Funding***

### Questions for consideration:

- Are these suggested policy measures sufficient to achieve the objective of improving access to finance and funding for social enterprises?
- How could current Government funding streams be improved to support social enterprise?
- Are there other actions the Government could consider to achieve this objective and, if so, what are those actions?

Establishing where the funding gaps are for social enterprises before establishing new innovative funding schemes would be important before such new schemes are established. A mechanism for capturing this information would be important.

## ***Enabling Market Opportunities***

### Questions for consideration:

- Are these suggested policy measures sufficient to achieve the objective of raising greater awareness of social enterprise?
- Are there other actions the Government could consider to raise awareness of social enterprise and, if so, what are these actions?
- What should the Government's priority be in working towards achieving this objective?

In addressing points 15, 16 and 17 (p.21 and 22), Rehab Enterprises has identified a great opportunity for policy makers and State agencies to work within existing Irish and EU legislation to create jobs for people with disabilities through their public procurement. This can be done through the use of European legislation which allows the reservation of contracts for organisations employing more than 30% people with disabilities and people who are disadvantaged.

This provides a real opportunity to create substantial new employment opportunities for people with disabilities and disadvantage and could be of great advantage to the promotion of social enterprises. Unfortunately, so far, this opportunity has been little used in Ireland.

### ***Article 20 of the 2014 EU Public Procurement Directive***

Transposed into Irish regulations in early 2016, Article 20 of the 2014 EU Public Procurement Directive (See Appendix 3 and 4) permits public sector bodies to reserve contracts for organisations whose main aim is the social and professional integration of disabled or disadvantaged persons, where at least 30% of the employees are disabled or disadvantaged. In order to reserve a contract, the only administrative requirement is that the call for competition must make reference to Article 20 of the Public Authorities Contracts Directive.

These directives were transposed in the European Union (Award of Contracts by Utility Undertakings) Regulations 2016 and the European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016 (See Appendix 2).

Following this transposition, specific national actions are now required to promote the use of Article 20. The 2004 EU Public Procurement Directive contained a similar provision (Article 19) but it was only used a small number of times by Irish public sector bodies due to concerns about the process to follow and the potential for challenge by other suppliers.

## **Rehab Enterprises**

A proactive approach to using Article 20 in Ireland could significantly increase the number of jobs that Rehab, and other similar social enterprises.

## **The Scottish Experience**

Through Haven Products in Scotland, Rehab Enterprises has had very positive experiences of the use of Article 20 and its predecessor Article 19 in creating employment and training opportunities for people with disabilities. In 2012 The Scottish Government created an Advisory Group chaired by a Scottish Government Minister and attended by senior representatives of multiple Government agencies and selected Heads of Supported Businesses in Scotland with the main purpose to promote a proactive approach to using the EU Directive to support public sector bodies to engage with suppliers employing people with disabilities and meet Government policy.

In 2012 The Scottish Government also established a national collaborative framework agreement for Supported Factories and Businesses to provide products and services to the public sector across four lots Furniture, Document Management, Textiles and Signage to the Scottish public sector.

The framework provides an easy, fast and legally compliant route to market for public sector contracting organisations. It allows them to buy directly from supported businesses for smaller volumes and to undertake mini competitions with an existing framework of supported business suppliers for larger orders. The Scottish Government has also developed an online directory of Supported Businesses in Scotland which gives information about the products and services they can provide.

These actions have served to reduce the concerns that public sector bodies have about reserving contracts and have helped Haven to almost double in size and create more than 100 new jobs for people with disabilities within the last four years, a figure that is projected to continue to grow. Case studies of some of the contracts delivered in this way demonstrate an impressive Social Return on Investment (SROI) – an average of £8 for every £1 invested.

## **What needs to be done in Ireland?**

The Scottish experience provides a proven blueprint for action to leverage the potential of Article 20.

The following actions are proposed:

1. Establish a **national collaborative framework agreement** for businesses which employ more than 30% people with disabilities or people who are disadvantaged to provide an easy route to market for public sector organisations to engage with relevant businesses. There are many examples of such agreements in other areas of the economy.
2. Publish a **directory of these framework businesses** to ensure that public sector bodies are fully aware of their skills and areas of work. The Scottish directory is a useful example <http://www.gov.scot/Resource/0044/00441790.pdf>
3. Promote the use of Article 20 in public procurement through:
  - The inclusion of information about reserving contracts and social clauses in **guidelines for contracting authorities**.
  - **The creation of a Buyers' Guide** to support contracting authorities to consider engaging with organisations employing people with disabilities and people who are disadvantaged

for the fulfilment of government-funded contracts. Similar guides exist in countries throughout the EU. The Scottish example is available here: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Government/Procurement/directory/frameworksupportedf/actbus/fsfbbuyersguide>

4. Inclusion of responsibility for promoting the use of Article 20 within the remit of the Office of Government Procurement including the establishment of targets for its use, to complement the actions laid out in the Comprehensive Employment Strategy for People with Disabilities.

Rehab Enterprises would be happy to share their experiences of working with the Scottish Government on the promotion of Article 20, which has led to job development in social enterprises in Scotland.

Since 2011, our Head of Rehab Enterprises, Jamie Lawson, has been a member of the Scottish Government's Advisory Group for Supported Businesses, who meet quarterly in the Scottish Parliament.

### **Policy Objective 3: Achieving Better Policy Alignment**

#### ***Interaction with national and international policies***

Questions for consideration:

- Are these suggested policy measures sufficient to achieve the objective of raising greater awareness of social enterprise?
- Are there other actions the Government could consider to raise awareness of social enterprise and, if so, what are these actions?
- Are there specific areas of Government policy which are causing difficulty for social enterprise, or which could be improved?
- What should the Government's priority be in working towards achieving this objective?

Rehab Group welcomes the objective to develop a better understanding of the interactions between government policy and social enterprise. There has been developments at EU level in relation to social enterprises and the wider social economy and there is an opportunity for social enterprises in Ireland to benefit from various funding schemes and supports available to social enterprises from the EU. Developing linkages with the OECD and other international bodies in relation to social enterprise policy would also be useful.

#### ***Data and Impact***

Questions for consideration:

- Are these suggested policy measures sufficient to achieve the objective of raising greater awareness of social enterprise?
- Are there other actions the Government could consider to raise awareness of social enterprise and, if so, what are these actions?

Measurement of the social impact of the social enterprises in Ireland will be crucial to understand whether or not they are fulfilling their objective to transform communities and lives. We need to get this right from the start, so we can identify where the weaknesses are and design and implement

strategies to rectify the problems arising. Measuring social impact can be a time consuming and expensive exercise and there would need to be a commitment to this.

It will be important that Key Performance Indicators are set up on a 'whole Government' basis to measure social enterprise developments and the relevant sectorial contributions it makes so that the full potential of social enterprise can be maximised as a viable source of employment and an important contributor to improving our communities around the country.

Thank you for the opportunity to make this submission on the National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019-2022.

For more information, please contact: Cathy Moore, Head of Public Affairs and Advocacy at 01 2057339 or at [cathy.moore@rehab.ie](mailto:cathy.moore@rehab.ie)

## **Appendix 1**

### **12.5 Waste and the Circular Economy**

#### **Actions**

The detailed implementation maps for actions, including timelines and responsible organisations, are set out in the accompanying Annex.

#### **Action Number Action**

135 Lead the transformation from waste management to circular economy practice through delivery of a new national policy

136 Revise waste legislation to incorporate new circular economy requirements, including legally binding waste/recycling targets

137 Develop a new National Waste Prevention Programme, and Regional Waste Management Plans that will guide our transition to a circular economy by EPA and Local Authorities

138 Support the development of eco-design and circular economy opportunities for Irish enterprises to reduce waste over the full lifecycle of products

139 Develop and implement a suite of measures to reduce the impact of single-use plastics

140 Maintain Government leadership in taking responsibility for own resource consumption, particularly single use plastics, energy, waste and water

141 Identify opportunities to strengthen the regulatory and enforcement frameworks and structures for the waste collection and management system, to maximise the collection of clean, segregated materials for reuse and/or recycling from all households and businesses, and to incentivise consumers to reduce, reuse and recycle

142 Regulate and incentivise producers of waste, particularly packaging, to ensure the prevention of waste and the use of recycled materials in packaging products

143 We will scope a number of possible environmental levies, including a possible levy on single use plastics, as part of the review of the Environment Fund. Further detailed research would be required prior to the introduction of any new levy

144 We will identify and commence delivery of measures to address the key regulatory

barriers to the development of the bioeconomy, including exploring opportunities to establish “End of Waste” criteria for certain bio-wastes

## Appendix 2

Pobal produce a HP Deprivation Index<sup>12</sup> based on:

1. Demographic Profile
2. Social Class Composition
3. Labour Market Situation

Six out of 9 Rehab Enterprise Sites are located in small areas that are considered disadvantaged or below average in the HP deprivation index reflecting Census 2016 data.

Location		
Naas	5.36	Marginally Above Average
Raheen	-14.56	Disadvantaged
Portlaois	-6.14	Marginally Below Average
Navan	-6.59	Marginally Below Average
Monahan Rd, Cork	7.46	Marginally Above Average
Kylemore Rd, Ballyfermot, Dublin	-4.66	Marginally Below Average
Ballymount Ave	-7.53	Marginally Below Average
Tallaght	-2.87	Marginally Below Average
Ballybrit	7.59	Marginally Above Average

<sup>12</sup> Pobal HP Deprivation index <https://maps.pobal.ie/WebApps/DeprivationIndices/index.html>

## **Appendix 3**

**DIRECTIVE 2014/24/EU OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL**

**of 26 February 2014**

**on public procurement and repealing Directive 2004/18/EC**

*Article 20*

### **Reserved contracts**

1. Member States may reserve the right to participate in public procurement procedures to sheltered workshops and economic operators whose main aim is the social and professional integration of disabled or disadvantaged persons or may provide for such contracts to be performed in the context of sheltered employment programmes, provided that at least 30 % of the employees of those workshops, economic operators or programmes are disabled or disadvantaged workers.
2. The call for competition shall make reference to this Article.



## Appendix 4

### European Union (Award of Contracts by Utility Undertakings) Regulations 2016

#### *Reserved contracts*

37. (1) Contracting entities may—

- (a) reserve the right to participate in a procurement procedure to sheltered workshops and economic operators whose main aim is the social and professional integration of disabled or disadvantaged persons, or
- (b) provide for contracts awarded under such a procurement procedure to be performed in the context of sheltered employment programmes, provided that at least 30% of the employees of those workshops, economic operators or programmes are disabled or disadvantaged workers.

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(2) Where paragraph (1) applies, the call for competition shall make reference to Article 38 of the Utilities Directive.

### European Union (Award of Public Authority Contracts) Regulations 2016

#### *Reserved contracts*

20. (1) A contracting authority may—

- (a) reserve the right to participate in a procurement procedure to sheltered workshops and economic operators whose main aim is the social and professional integration of disabled or disadvantaged persons, or
- (b) provide for contracts awarded under such a procurement procedure to be performed in the context of sheltered employment programmes, where at least 30% of the employees of those workshops, economic operators or programmes are disabled or disadvantaged workers.

(2) In a case referred to in paragraph (1), the call for competition shall make reference to Article 20 of the Public Authorities Contracts Directive.

# RehabGroup

Investing in People, Changing Perspectives