



An Roinn Fiontar,  
Trádála agus Fostaíochta  
Department of Enterprise,  
Trade and Employment

# Call for Expressions of Interest - Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council

The Minister for Trade Promotion, Digital and Company Regulation is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified individuals to serve as voluntary members of an Artificial Intelligence (AI) Advisory Council.

Expressions are sought from individuals with relevant skills and experience from academia, business, law, security, social sciences, economics, and civil society by Monday 4 September 2023.

The Council's role will be to provide independent expert advice to Government on artificial intelligence policy, with a specific focus on building public trust and promoting the development of trustworthy, person-centred AI.

## Detail

The Council is being established under Strand 1 of the [National AI Strategy – Here for Good](#), the objective of which is strong public trust in AI as a force for societal good in Ireland. The Strategy was agreed by Government in June 2021 and an implementation report that was noted by Government in July 2023 signposted the creation of the Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council.

The Advisory Council will build on the mandate of the AI Ambassador and function as an agile sounding board for Government on ongoing and emerging artificial intelligence related developments.

The Council will supplement and not replace the regular policy development process, which includes existing fora for engaging with enterprise, industry and expert stakeholders on the issues presented for Irish society and economy by artificial intelligence such as the Enterprise Digital Advisory Forum, the Trade and Investment Council, the National Competitiveness and Productivity Council and the National Economic and Social Council, as well as the ongoing engagement by government and senior officials with employers, representative bodies and advocacy bodies as governed by the Regulation of Lobbying Act 2015.

Given the scale of the likely disruption that AI will drive in the next 3 to 5 years, this Advisory Council mechanism will complement the regular policy development process and provide the Government with an additional independent resource which can respond rapidly to emerging issues.

## Work of the AI Advisory Council

The Artificial Intelligence Advisory Council will be tasked with the following functions, inter alia:

1. Providing expert guidance, insights, and recommendations in response to specific requests from government on emerging issues in artificial intelligence.
2. Developing and delivering its own workplan of advice to government on issues in artificial intelligence policy which it deems of particular priority in the current and future AI landscape, providing insights on trends, opportunities, and challenges.
3. Engaging in public communications aimed at demystifying and promoting trustworthy, ethical and person-centred AI. This may include media interviews, participation in public and sectoral events, or other communications activity.

This Council's self-directed work will have due regard to and avoid duplicating existing government policies which are in the process of implementation, including in particular the National AI Strategy and the National Digital Strategy, as well as the White Paper on Enterprise, and Connecting Government 2030.

## Membership of the AI Advisory Council

- The Council will be chaired by Ireland's AI Ambassador, as part of her mandate under the National AI Strategy.
- It is anticipated that the Council will comprise between 7 and 9 Members including the Chair, and will be appointed by the Minister for Trade Promotion, Digital and Company Regulation, in his role as the Minister responsible for digital issues, for an initial period of two years.
- The Minister will appoint the members of the Council having due regard to achieving a spectrum of experience and expertise as well as gender balance in its overall membership.
- Members will participate in the Council and its work in their own right as private individuals with relevant experience and expertise and not as formal representatives of their employers or organisations of which they may be members.

- The Minister may decide to appoint additional Council members following the initial appointments, having due regard to the previous point. Should any member seek to conclude their participation before the end of their term, further appointment(s) to the Council will be at the discretion of the Minister.
- While membership is not limited to Irish citizens or those resident in Ireland, in order to be considered for membership, candidates will demonstrate experience working in Ireland's specific policy context.
- The future role and term of the Council will be considered and clarified before the expiry of its initial two-year mandate.

## Working Methods

- While Secretariat and administrative support will be provided by the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment, the onus will be on the Council to develop its own expert papers and advice.
- The AI Advisory Council will formally meet a minimum of three times a year.
- Under the guidance of the Chair, the Council may establish sub-groups comprising two or more members to prepare or commission with others expert papers on particular issues for consideration by the Council.
- It is expected that the time commitment for members' participation will be between 5-15 days per annum. Participation in the Council will not be remunerated. Travel and subsistence expenses (from within Europe) will be refunded in line with Department of Public, Expenditure, National Development Plan Delivery and Reform guidelines.

## How to Express Your Interest

Expressions of interest are sought by Monday 4 September at the latest, in the form of a short CV (1 page) and a covering letter of no more than 600 words setting out relevant experience and expertise (in one or more of the specified focus areas of: academia, business, law, security, social sciences, economics, and civil society), and how this would contribute to the work of the Council to [digitaleconomy@enterprise.gov.ie](mailto:digitaleconomy@enterprise.gov.ie). Any queries or requests for clarification in advance of the deadline can be directed to the National AI Strategy Implementation team in the Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment at that address.