

Institute of Technology Tralee - Higher Education Institution.

The current regional airports programmes, has in our view, been essential in maintaining the Kerry Regional Airport. Kerry Regional Airport is critical to the economic development of the South West in general and Kerry in particular. In excess of €5.5m in capital funding has been provided to the Airport under the current Regional Airports Programme, which has been central to the continued development of the airport.

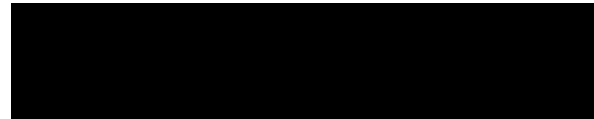
A regional airport in Kerry is a key driver of the local economy. Due to its peripheral location and challenging roads infrastructure, Kerry needs airport connectivity to support the development and growth of the county. IT Tralee in particular delivers its remit within a national and international context and access to Dublin, the UK and mainland Europe is critical for the continued growth of the Institute in its own right and the development of Munster Technological University. IT Tralee has in excess of 400 international students annually and bi-lateral agreements with over 70 European higher education institutions. International exchange is an important feature of modern higher education and the regional airport is key to the continued growth of this activity.

The PSO Scheme which supports the Kerry/Dublin flight is essential. Kerry is poorly served by the national road infrastructure with no motorway access. Rail services are limited and time consuming. IT Tralee is a major contributor to the regional economy and as a public body, governed by central government, access to the state capital is crucial. Ideally, we would like to see the timing of flights to Dublin reviewed to facilitate early morning (9am) meetings in Dublin city centre which would increase the frequency of use of this flight. An earlier flight would also better facilitate the access to on-going flights to the UK and mainland Europe. Consideration should also be given to developing a business case focused on an international PSO to be supported from Kerry Airport.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards,

██████



Institute of Technology Tralee
North Campus
Tralee
Co Kerry
V92 HD4V

Tel:
Fax:



This e-mail is subject to the following disclaimer available at
www.ittralee.ie/EmailDisclaimer.html