

Connected Hubs: Ireland's National Hub Network

[Visit ConnectedHubs.ie](https://www.connectedhubs.ie)

Interreg Europe: Fostering entrepreneurship through coworking spaces June 2024

Interreg
Europe



Co-funded by
the European Union

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Rialtas
na hÉireann
Government
of Ireland

Ár dTodhchaí
Tuaithe
Our Rural
Future





Who are Connected Hubs?

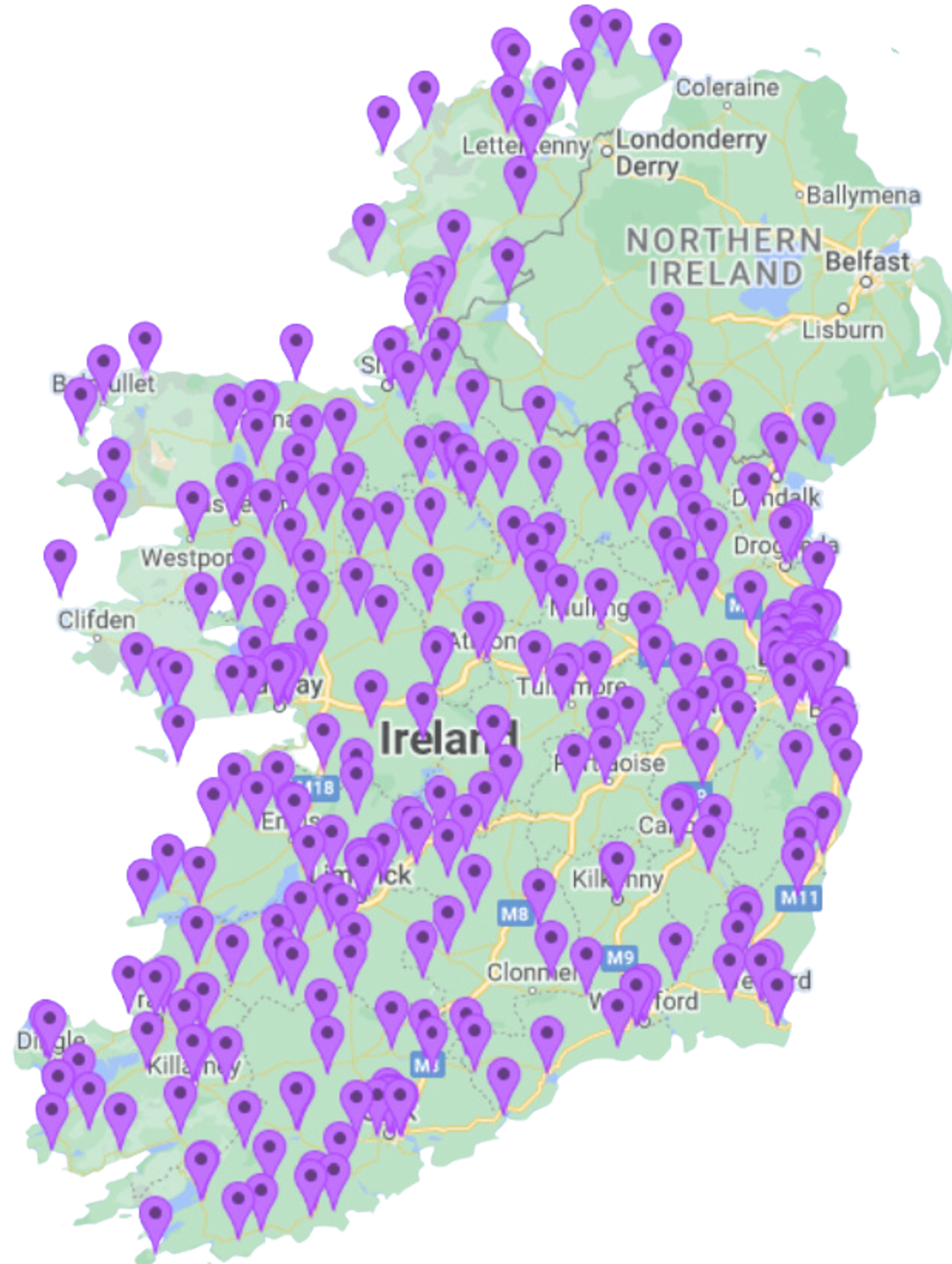
Connected Hubs is part of Our Rural Future – the Government of Ireland’s national policy for rural Ireland, and is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development.

The Connected Hubs programme connects 360+ independent hubs in Ireland. It helps hubs to support each other, market and promote their services, and provides the Air BnB-style booking platform www.connectedhubs.ie.

Connected Hubs brings new audiences to the hub network, raising it’s profile nationally and internationally and developing ways in which it can support government policy in areas such as enterprise, community and climate action.

Connected Hubs does not own or operate any hubs and the service we provide is free of charge to hubs and users.

The Connected Hubs Network



360+ Hubs

600+ Meeting Rooms

15,000+ Registered Users

22,000+ Desk Capacity

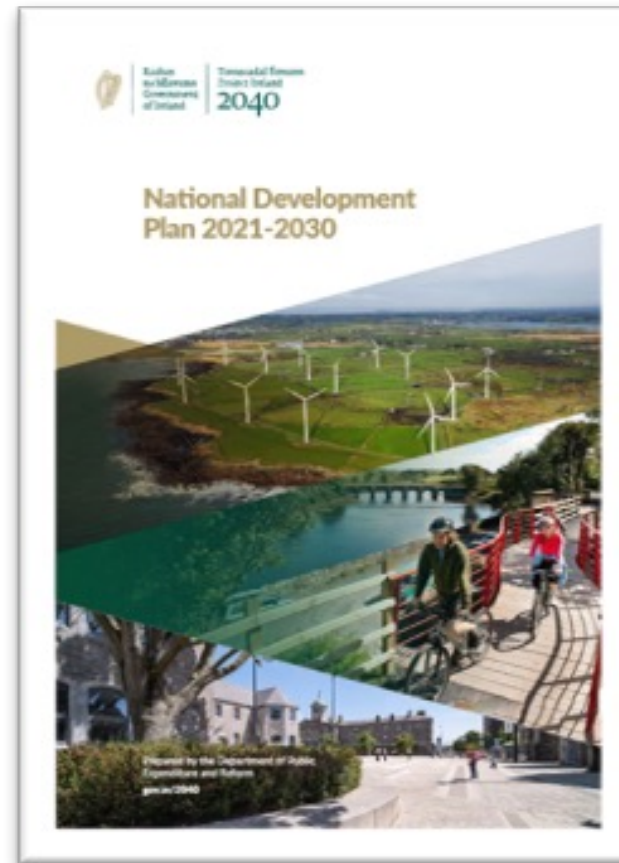
National Hub Network Policy Framework



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development



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



National Hub Strategy Interdepartmental Group



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development



**An Roinn Comhshaoil,
Aeráide agus Cumarsáide**
Department of the Environment,
Climate and Communications



**An Roinn Turasóireachta, Cultúir,
Ealaíon, Gaeltachta, Spóirt agus Meán**
Department of Tourism, Culture,
Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media



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



**Údarás na
Gaeltachta**



What do we do? Support and promote the Irish Hub Network



Provide the online booking & marketing platform for Irish Hubs
www.connectedhubs.ie



Develop strategic partnerships on behalf of hubs and the hub network



Influence policy and strategy development for the hub sector. Provide innovative mapping, research & insights



Develop and run programmes to benefit the hubs, the communities they are based in, and the businesses they support



Run national marketing & PR campaigns to highlight hubs and their services



Build the hub community in Ireland & facilitate international hub connections

What is a hub?

A Hub is a facility that provides a suite of services to support individuals, businesses and local communities. These services include physical space such as coworking, private office space, meeting and training rooms. Hubs also provide access to specialist facilities like podcast suites, shared kitchens.

Many hubs also act as a locus and stimulator for entrepreneurial activity by running events, providing mentoring and guidance, and running programmes such as start-up accelerators. Some large specialist hubs may be sector specific such as Bia Innovator for the food sector, or CREW Innovation Hub for the Createch sector.

For SMEs and large organisations hubs act as a gateway to new talent and a facilitator of remote / hybrid working strategies.

Almost all of the hubs in the Network are independent businesses, who provide different services according to who their target audience is. Some hubs are privately owned, but the majority are owned and run by local authorities, social enterprises or community groups.

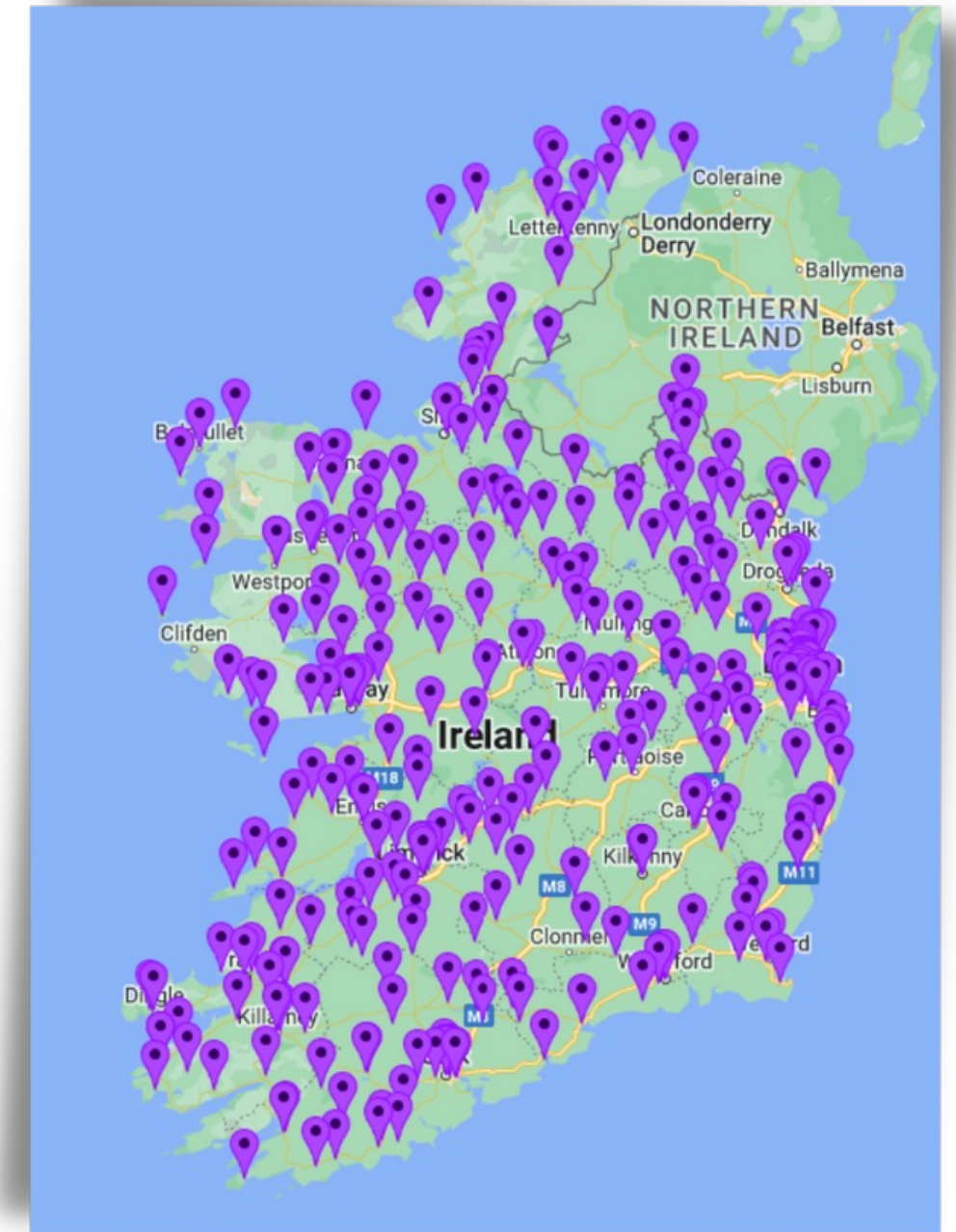


Where are the hubs?

As of May 2024 there are 360+ hubs in the Connected Hubs network, distributed across the whole country. More hubs are joining every week.

A [CSO survey](#) in 2022 found that on average a residential dwelling in the State is just 5.6km from a remote work hub, although distances in rural areas may be a bit further.

[View the map of Connected Hubs](#)



Hub Spaces



CoWorking

Coworking offers quick and flexible desk access. Bookings can be ad hoc and 'on the go' or desks can be reserved on a regular, long-term basis



Meeting Rooms

Whether its a small office for a one-to-one meeting, or spaces for team days we've got you covered.



Private Office Spaces

The benefits of a shared building, combined with your own secure office door.



Specialist Spaces

Hubs offer the benefit of shared specialist spaces such as podcast studios and shared start-up kitchens, etc

Hub Services



Business Supports

Many hubs offer business specific supports and mentoring and work closely with the Local Enterprise Offices and Enterprise Ireland. They run and support start-up and accelerator programmes



Business Events

Hubs run an expansive range of in-person, hybrid and online events covering all aspects of business, and business sectors



Education

Many hubs are channels for delivering educational programmes and courses in collaboration with local providers, or as part of the national Learning in the Hubs programme.



Community Programmes

Hubs work closely with their local communities and run and participate in events to stimulate community engagement and economic regeneration.

Benefits of working from a hub vs home



Social engagement

Compared to working from home, hubs offer an improved social environment which is better for long term health and wellbeing. Hub members are more in touch with community events and news and have increased opportunities to get involved.



Reduce the commute

Save on travel costs, time commitments and environmental impact. Using a hub close to home means less time commuting, more time for work and non-work activities, reduced carbon emissions by shortening commute journeys and using shared building resources.



Work-life separation

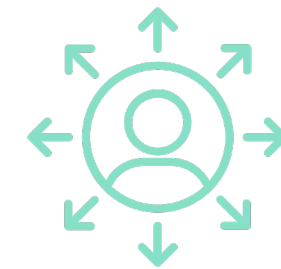
Working in a professional office space like a hub means helps keep your home life and work life separate, creating a better balance for employees, and business owners.

Why businesses choose Connected Hubs

The Connected Hubs team works with businesses to help develop and implement their remote and hybrid working strategies.

The hub model offers significant benefits to businesses of every size and remote work policy.

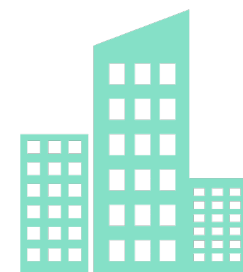
Our extensive knowledge of the hub network, individual hubs and their services, allows us work alongside businesses to help quickly identify and implement the right solution for their organisation.



Fully Remote organisations: Use hubs for team meet ups, project sprints and meeting with clients and suppliers.



Hybrid organisations: Use hubs to provide a local base for employees close to their home. Some hybrid organisations choose to establish smaller regional bases in hubs where employees can get together - a 'hub in a hub'. Hubs are used for team meetings, one-to-ones.



Traditional organisations: Use hubs to open regional basis to access new talent and client markets. Employees who travel frequently may use hubs as a space to work from, or meet with clients on an ad hoc basis.