Preparing for Brexit

€300m Brexit Loan Scheme
In March 2018, the Government launched the Brexit Loan Scheme for eligible businesses with up to 499 employees. Loan amounts range from €25,000 to €1.5m, unsecured loans up to €500,000, for terms of up to three years and a maximum interest rate of 4%.

www.sbcie.gov.ie

Fáilte Ireland: Tourism and Hospitality
Fáilte Ireland offers a suite of supports for hospitality and tourism businesses, including an online Brexit Readiness Check, to assess Brexit risks and to respond to current challenges.

www.failteireland.ie/Supports/Get-Brexit-Ready.aspx

Bord Bia’s Brexit Barometer
Bord Bia’s Brexit Barometer is designed to help food and drinks manufacturers assess their readiness for Brexit. Bord Bia’s Recommendations Report provides a Brexit Plan Template and measures to manage supply chain, currency, customs and international market diversification. Bord Bia is also working to upskill the industry through a series of training programmes and workshops, is addressing cost challenges through its LEAN programme and is providing consumer and market insight through The Thinking House.

www.bordbia.ie/brexit

Revenue: Preparing for New Customs Arrangements
In addition to the advice about changes in customs arrangements which is offered through Bord Bia, InterTrade Ireland, Enterprise Ireland and the Local Enterprise Offices, information relating to Customs formalities is available on the Revenue website.


DFAT: Keeping Informed on Brexit
Given its lead role in coordinating the Government’s response to Brexit, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) provides a one-stop-shop overview of key Government and EU official documents on the Brexit negotiations and Ireland’s Brexit preparedness measures and supports. For more information, visit

www.dfa.ie/brexit

The European Commission has published notices setting out the consequences in a range of policy areas of the UK withdrawal from the EU on 30 March 2019, from when it will become a third country, so as to prepare citizens and stakeholders.

www.ec.europa.eu/info/brexit_en

For the full range of supports for business see:

www.dbei.gov.ie

Getting Business Brexit Ready

Brexit

The Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation is working to ensure we get the best outcome possible for business from the Brexit negotiations. Our strategy is to minimise risks and maximise opportunities by helping firms to compete, enabling firms to innovate and supporting firms to trade. The Department’s actions are set out in more detail in the publication Building Stronger Business: Responding to Brexit by competing, innovating and trading.

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www.ec.europa.eu/info/brexit_en

For the full range of supports for business see:

www.dbei.gov.ie
Preparing for Brexit

The Government is committed to ensuring that the range of advisory supports, tool-kits and financial supports available to help business to prepare and navigate their way through Brexit continue to evolve as the potential impacts emerge.

With six months to go, the continued increase in business preparedness is welcome, with many businesses taking the first important steps of gathering information and developing Brexit contingency plans. Many others are already taking actions with their suppliers and customers to build resilience, whatever the outcome of Brexit negotiations.

We know the UK’s decision to leave the EU from March 2019 will entail changes to our trading arrangements and may entail new regulatory and other compliance requirements for importers and exporters in particular.

Government Departments, enterprise agencies and regulatory bodies all have dedicated resources available to help you in identifying the key risk areas for your business and on the practical preparatory actions that can be taken over the coming months.

This leaflet provides a summary of supports and resources available to you.

Heather Humphreys TD
Minister for Business, Enterprise and Innovation

Pat Breen TD
Minister of State for Trade, Employment, Business, EU Digital Single Market and Data Protection

John Halligan TD
Minister of State for Training, Skills, Innovation, Research and Development

Enterprise Ireland (EI) Supports

SME Scorecard online tool
Any business can quickly self-diagnose whether they are ready for Brexit. This Enterprise Ireland (EI) scorecard is a first step in developing a robust Brexit plan. It will help to stimulate thinking about the key areas that may be impacted in your business and to self-assess your level of preparedness.

- [www.prepareforbrexit.ie](http://www.prepareforbrexit.ie)
- [www.localenterprise.ie](http://www.localenterprise.ie)

Brexit: Act On Initiative
Get tailored advice from a consultant on the Brexit challenges specific to your business and develop an action plan to mitigate risk.

- [www.prepareforbrexit.com/brexit-act-on-initiative](http://www.prepareforbrexit.com/brexit-act-on-initiative)

Awareness Sessions & Advisory Clinics
There are a range of awareness sessions and advisory clinics being convened by EI, InterTrade Ireland (ITI) and the LEOs to provide information and support to companies all around the country on actions to address exposure to Brexit. The key focus of advisory clinics are financial and currency management, strategic sourcing and customs, transport and logistics.

- [www.prepareforbrexit.ie/events](http://www.prepareforbrexit.ie/events)
- [www.localenterprise.ie](http://www.localenterprise.ie)

Operational Excellence Offer
Through a single, integrated application process the offer allows eligible companies to access financial support for business or operational change projects as well as the capability building and capital investment associated with innovation.

- [www.globalambition.ie/operationalexcellence](http://www.globalambition.ie/operationalexcellence)

The Agile Innovation Fund
This Fund gives companies rapid fast-track access to innovation funding, and up to 50% in support for product, process or service development projects with a total cost of up to €300,000.


Be Prepared Grant
For businesses that need external support in planning for Brexit, Enterprise Ireland offers up to €5,000 to assist client companies develop a plan.

- [www.prepareforbrexit.ie](http://www.prepareforbrexit.ie)

EI Market Discovery Fund
Diversifying to new markets is one option for many businesses in preparing for Brexit. EI supports businesses to research viable and sustainable new market entry strategies.

- [www.enterprise-ireland.com](http://www.enterprise-ireland.com)

InterTrade Ireland (ITI) Supports

The Agile Innovation Fund
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Health and Safety Authority (HSA) Chemicals Helpdesk
The HSA’s Chemicals Helpdesk provides a support service for Irish chemical companies and SMEs on meeting legislative duties and ensuring they can source chemicals and sell in the EU.

- [www.hsa.ie](http://www.hsa.ie)

Local Enterprise Offices (LEOs) Supports

Brexit supports from LEOs in every county include:

- **LEO Brexit Mentor Programme**: supporting businesses identify key Brexit exposures and develop robust strategies to address issues and maximise potential opportunities.

- **Technical Assistance for Micro-Exporters (TAME)**: financial assistance to support market diversification in qualifying businesses to develop new and export market opportunities.

- **Lean for Micro**: helping businesses adopt LEAN business practices to increase competitiveness.

- **LEO Innovation and Investment Fund (LIIF)**: support for innovative developments in microenterprises by getting them investor ready.

- [www.localenterprise.ie](http://www.localenterprise.ie)

FDI Brexit Supports
IDA Ireland (IDA) offers support to client companies as they grow and diversify their Irish footprint. The IDA offers practical assistance, such as information and advice on Brexit risks and opportunities, and financial assistance across R&D, training, employment and capital investment.

- [www.idaireland.ie](http://www.idaireland.ie)

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