



Town and Village Renewal Scheme



Town and Village Renewal

2022 Scheme Outline

All queries should be emailed to: townandvillage@drcd.gov.ie

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Introduction

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme was introduced in 2016 and is one of a number of measures designed to rejuvenate rural towns and villages throughout Ireland.

The programme is funded under Project Ireland 2040 as part of “*Our Rural Future – Ireland’s Rural Development Policy 2021-2025.*”

Our Rural Future will see increased investment out to 2025 in remote working infrastructure to provide an opportunity for people to continue to live in rural communities while following their career ambitions. It will also see continued investment to support town centre living. It will ensure cross government investment to support rural towns and villages as hubs of economic and social activity.

The Government recently published Town Centre First - A Policy Approach for Irish Towns. This represents a whole of Government policy and aims to tackle vacancy, combat dereliction and breathe new life into our town centres. The Policy is underpinned by significant levels of public investment spread across major Government schemes, of which Town and Village Renewal is one such scheme.

Since the launch of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme in 2016, over €113 million has been allocated to more than 1,400 projects across Ireland. The Scheme has supported towns and villages the length and breadth of the country.

The 2022 Scheme will place particular emphasis on projects supporting bringing vacant and derelict buildings and sites back into use as multi-purpose spaces. The maximum grant available in 2022 will remain at the increased level of €500,000 to permit projects of additional scale to be funded.

1 2022 Town and Village Renewal Scheme

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) supports small to medium capital projects which enhance the environment of town or village centres. Grant funding for projects will range from €20,000 to €500,000.

The 2022 Scheme will place particular emphasis on projects that bring vacant and derelict buildings and sites back into use as multi-purpose spaces in line with the objectives of “***Our Rural Future – Ireland’s Rural Development Policy 2021-2025***” The Town and Village Scheme will support these objectives and will encourage more people to return confidently to town and village centres to work, shop and socialise.

Grant Levels

For the 2022 Scheme, the minimum grant which is available is €20,000. The maximum level of grant funding available is €500,000 in respect of one application from each Local Authority. A maximum of €250,000 will apply in respect of 5 applications.

The maximum level available was raised to €500,000 in the 2021 scheme and is retained for 2022 in order to align the scheme with the type of projects and level of ambition identified in “Our Rural Future”. A limited number of these larger scale projects will be supported in 2022. It is envisaged such projects will generate significant positive impacts. It is expected that the number of larger scale projects which will be supported will increase out to 2025.

Building Acquisition Measure

In recognition of the urgent need to transform and regenerate town centres a new measure to immediately acquire derelict or vacant buildings, with the intention of using these projects for town regeneration purposes in line with the aims of TVRS, is being introduced this year. The Building Acquisition Measure will form part of the overarching Town and Village Renewal Scheme structure.

Buildings purchased under this Measure must be for use as multi-purpose community spaces. This Measure is strictly only available for application and drawdown in 2022. No commitments will be carried forward in to 2023. The local authority must also commit that:

- The building will form the basis of an application under the 2023 or 2024 TVRS **or**
- The building will be in the process of being developed for town regeneration purposes via the local authorities own resources or another relevant public funding stream by the end of 2024.

Failure to satisfy this requirement will result in the return of all funding to the DRCD.

Local authorities may purchase up to 2 vacant or derelict buildings **where the drawdown of funds can be completed in 2022**. The total fund available per LA under this measure is €400,000.

Funding can be drawn down by the LA once evidence can be provided that the building has ‘gone sale agreed’ and that full funds have been transferred from the LA for the purchase. If the sale agreed subsequently does not progress to full closure, all monies must be returned to DRCD.

Only the purchase price of the building is eligible for funding. Other transactional costs involved in the purchase are not eligible. In light of the costs involved in the purchase being borne by the local authority 100% of the purchase cost will be funded up to the maximum limit per local authority of €400,000.

To draw down funds, local authorities will need to have:

- (i) An independent assessors' report confirming the value of the building
- (ii) Building Inspection Report/ Building Survey
- (iii) Proof that the sale has been legally agreed
- (iv) Proof of transfer of the monies from the LA

The above must be submitted to the Department by **11th November 2022**. Where this cannot be submitted, the funding will be decommitted.

Applications for the Building Acquisition Measure should be made on the separate Building Acquisition Measure application form.

Funding of up to €400,000 at a 100% rate of aid is available under this measure.

Project Development Measure

The Project Development Measure (up to €50,000) is being included again this year, with Local Authorities now able to submit 2 applications under the measure.

The Project Development Measure is similar in nature to Category 2 projects under the Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF). The purpose of this Measure is to assist Local Authorities to contribute to a pipeline of significant, well developed projects which might be subsequently progressed to construction stage, subject to the availability of further funding. It is proposed that applications would involve:

- Development costs for one strategic large scale project, per application, that may be subsequently progressed with funding from the TVRS e.g. detailed design, preparation for the planning and/or procurement, appropriate assessment etc.
- Funding of up to €50,000 at a 90% rate of aid
- Maximum of two proposals to be submitted by any Local Authority (increased from 1 last year)

The approval of funding under this category does not automatically guarantee future support under the TVRS for delivery of the emerging project – the resulting projects will need to be submitted as normal under the competitive TVRS process.

Funding of up to €50,000 at a 90% rate of aid is available under this measure.

Marketing Scheme Measure

A new Marketing Scheme Measure (up to €50,000) is being introduced, on a trial basis, to fund marketing campaigns targeted at attracting remote workers and mobile talent to individual counties, in line with the commitments under Our Rural Future.

Each local authority will be permitted to submit 1 application for funding of up to €50,000. Grant allocations will be made based on the quality of the applications received.

Applications under this measure must be submitted on the Marketing Scheme Measure application form detailing:

- Remote working facilities available across the county
- How the Campaign will be implemented
- Objectives and key message of the proposed campaign

Funding of up to €50,000 at a 90% rate of aid is available under this measure.

2 Categories of Towns

The 2022 scheme will be targeted at two categories of Towns/Villages as follows:

Category 1: Towns and villages with a population of up to 5,000 people.

Category 2: Towns with a population of 5,001 to 10,000 people.

Larger towns with a population of up to 15,000 people may be eligible where the application is of a high quality and outlines a strong need for the investment, good value for money and positive outcomes that will have a substantial impact on the town.

The primary focus of the scheme will be on villages and towns with a population of up to 5,000 (Category 1). These towns/villages will receive at least 60% of funding available.

3 Application, Assessment and Approval Process

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme is funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development and administered through the Local Authorities.

The selection of projects under the Scheme for 2022 will be by means of a competitive process. When selecting the successful projects, **the Department will give consideration to the past performance of the Local Authority in delivering previous projects under the scheme.** Excessive delays in project delivery, may lead to a reduction in the number of projects approved in a county under the 2022 Scheme.

Building Acquisition Measure

Two applications with a combined maximum value of €400,000 is permitted under the Building Acquisition Measure. Final project selection will be made by the Department on the basis of applications submitted by the Local Authorities.

Local Authorities will be required to submit:

- An individual application form for each building.
- An independent assessors' report confirming the value of the building.

Applications must be submitted by close of business on 24th June 2022.

Main TVRS Measure

Final project selection will be made by the Department on the basis of proposals submitted by the Local Authorities.

Local Authorities will be required to submit:

- An Individual Application form for each project.
- An Application Overview sheet.
- An Expression of Interest Overview sheet.
- Additional information on remote working hubs
- Additional information on new build community centres

Applications must be submitted by close of business on 22nd July 2022.

The following guidelines apply to the Main Scheme, Project Development Measure and Marketing Measure application process:

- Local Authorities will be required to advertise for expressions of interest from towns/villages in their area and to select up to 9 proposals for development into detailed applications to be submitted to the Department.
- The development of these proposals must be undertaken in consultation with local town/village community and business interests. Full involvement by community interests and/or business interests will be an essential feature of successful projects. Ideally, projects will have been identified as part of a masterplan, or similar, produced for the town or village.
- Only one application can be submitted in respect of any individual town/village, including towns that may be under the remit of more than one Local Authority. However, an individual application may include several linked components to support the rejuvenation of the town/village.
- Where a project application in respect of a town/village is submitted for funding under this Scheme and is also the subject of a Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF) application, the Local Authority is required to explain the rationale for submitting the application to the Town and Village Renewal Scheme and how this links with the RRDF application.
- The assessment and approval of all projects will have regard to a number of factors including: alignment with “**Our Rural Future**”, Department priorities; available funding; the range, mix, quality and impact of proposed projects; past project delivery performance of local authorities; previous funding provided; and other relevant considerations.

4 Project Guidelines and Types of Activities Supported

The Town and Village Renewal Scheme (TVRS) is funded under Project Ireland 2040 as part of Ireland's Rural Development Policy 2021-2025 - *Our Rural Future*. This Policy will see increased investment out to 2025 in remote working, providing opportunities for people to continue to live in rural communities while following their career ambitions. In line with the *Town Centre First* Policy it will also see continued investment to support town centre living, address vacancy and dereliction, and promote cross government investment supporting rural towns and villages as hubs of economic and social activity. Following the launch of *Our Rural Future*, and subsequently the *Town Centre First* (TCF) Policy, TVRS objectives have been refocused to align with commitments within these Policies. Specifically, the 2022 Scheme will once again prioritise tackling vacancy in towns and villages, remote working and supporting town centre living.

Regeneration projects that assist in revitalising our rural towns and villages, in line with the Town Centre First policy, through planned and sustainable regeneration and development which will drive greater economic activity and footfall, address vacancy and dereliction and ensure the re-use of heritage and other existing buildings; these projects should be identified in town and village masterplans (or similar) developed in collaboration with the local community, businesses and the other relevant stakeholders in the town or village will be prioritised.

Other interventions referenced in *Our Rural Future* such as green spaces and parks, and promoting areas as destinations for remote workers will also be supported.

The increase in the scale of projects to be funded will remain again this year, with applications seeking up to €500,000 permitted.

Under the 2022 Scheme, a **minimum of one application** must be submitted from Towns/Villages that have not previously been approved for funding under the Scheme in the last 3 years. Proposals in respect of towns or villages that have not previously applied, or have not been successful under the scheme, will also be prioritised by the Department where possible, subject to the overall quality of the project.

Projects must demonstrate close collaboration between communities and business interests in the design and delivery of proposed projects, and must have the support of the Local Authority. Proposals identified in town/village plans and developed in collaboration with local stakeholders will be prioritised. Proposals must also be consistent with the County Development Plan, Local Economic and Community Plan (LECP), town health checks, and other relevant local development plans.

It is advisable that appropriate assessments, feasibility studies and planning permissions (if required) are in place or substantially progressed prior to the submission of a project application. Should they not have commenced, it is recommended that the application is retained for future years or may be submitted under the Project Development Measure.

Only proposals that are capable of being delivered within an 18 month timeframe should be submitted.

Building Acquisition Measure

Two applications with a combined maximum value of €400,000 is permitted under the Building Acquisition Measure for the purchase of vacant and derelict buildings for future development as community assets. All such transactions must be completed for draw down of funding in 2022.

The following indicative list of activities (not exhaustive) will be funded under the Main 2022 Scheme.

Priority A1 Projects

- Projects that bring vacant and derelict buildings and sites back into use as multi-purpose spaces. This includes former state owned property that is no longer being used and is made available to the community. Multi-purpose use includes enterprise spaces, arts, tourism, youth hubs and other community uses.
- Projects that bring vacant properties in Town Centres back into use as Remote Working Hubs. This also includes funding for the repurposing of existing community or publicly owned buildings in town or village centres to facilitate remote working. Successful applicants who receive funding for remote working facilities will be required to commit to a three year membership of the National Hub Network.

N.B. If you intend to apply for funding to establish a hub (see Appendix 1 for hub classification guide) you will be required to answer additional hub-specific questions. These questions are designed to ensure that there is a sound business case for a new hub. For example, that there is unmet demand for a new hub, that the hub will be sustainable, that the proposed works are feasible and within the capacity of the applicants to deliver both on time and within budget and that the proposed hub is appropriate to local needs.

Priority A2 Projects

- Regeneration projects that assist in revitalising our rural towns and villages, in line with the Town Centre First Policy, through planned and sustainable regeneration and development projects that will drive greater economic activity and footfall, address vacancy and dereliction and ensure the re-use of heritage and other existing buildings; these projects should be identified in town and village masterplans (or similar) developed in collaboration with the local community, businesses and the other relevant stakeholders in the town or village.

(Footpath development/improvement projects or similar will not be supported as these can be financed by Local Authorities directly or through the Active Travel Investment Programme.)

- New build community centres (where there is a clearly identified and defined need in a town or village that cannot be met with an existing premises).

(Refurbishment / Renovation works to existing community centres should be applied for under the DRCD Community Centre Investment Fund)

- Projects to develop parks, plazas, public outdoor dining spaces, green spaces (including allotments and community gardens) and recreational spaces/amenities (to include outdoor sports facilities such as skate parks, basketball courts, tennis courts, etc.) in town centres to make them vibrant hubs for community enjoyment, and to increase footfall for local businesses. Only applications for funding for public or community owned or leased properties and/or lands will be considered. Projects must be located in the town or village centre.

(Please note, leases for all projects must be in place for a minimum of 15 years – see Funding Conditions below)

- Marketing campaigns targeted at attracting remote workers and mobile talent to their county/region; and promotion of specific town/villages to attract new customers and/or business investment.

Priority B Projects

Other Projects that may be supported but of a lower priority under the 2022 scheme:

- Projects to support the upgrade and enhancement of shopfronts and street facades (including murals) in towns and villages. Local authorities are encouraged to engage with local business and property owners to examine how group projects can add colour and vibrancy to main streets, and build upon the development of plazas and public outdoor dining and recreation spaces as provided for under Priority A2.
- Projects that support and enhance the night-time economy in line with emerging recommendations from the Night-Time Economy Taskforce.
- Enhancement of heritage assets (e.g. local museums/tourism attractions focused on historical aspects of the area, heritage sites/buildings, etc.) located in towns and villages, including energy efficiency measures.

5 Types of activities which will not be supported

The following activities and project applications will not be supported.

Indicative list of ineligible projects (not exhaustive)

- Where the Local Authority is aware of difficulties in obtaining the appropriate planning permission or other permissions/leases necessary for the successful delivery of the project. A proposal should not be submitted if the Local Authority anticipates that there will be delays in securing the relevant permissions/ lease / planning.
- Footpaths and cycle routes in towns and villages should be funded under the Active Travel Investment Programme from the National Transport Authority and are not eligible under the 2022 Town and Village Renewal Scheme
- Projects that are not located within the immediate vicinity of a rural town or village.
- Support for a single private enterprise – projects that collectively assist private enterprises within a town or village are acceptable.
- Incomplete projects - phases of projects are acceptable, however a project must be stand-alone and operable in its own right to be deemed eligible as a 'phase' of another project.
- Ongoing operational costs.
- Renovation and other works at community centres and sports clubs, except where the primary aim is to repurpose facilities located in town or village centres for remote working.
(Refurbishment / Renovation works to existing community centres should be applied for under the DRCD Community Centre Investment Fund)
- Projects to develop existing remote working hubs and Broadband Connection Points as part of the National Hub Network.
- Projects that cannot demonstrate that a consultative process has been undertaken to ascertain the views of local community and businesses.
- Projects that are more appropriate for funding under CLÁR, the Local Improvement Scheme (LIS), the Outdoor Rural Infrastructure Scheme (ORIS) or Rural Regeneration and Development Fund (RRDF.)
- Funding for development of Town Centre First Plans. Funding for such plans will be separately available under the *Town Centre First* Policy.

6 Grant Level and Payment Schedule

The indicative budget for the main Measures of the Town and Village Renewal Scheme is €17 million. The maximum grant level for the main scheme has been set at 90% of the total cost of a project under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme. The remaining 10% match funding must be contributed by the Local Authority and/or the community and/or Philanthropic contributions - this can take the form of 5% cash contribution (minimum level) and 5% in-kind contribution (maximum level).

For the Building Acquisition Measure 100% of the purchase cost will be funded up to the maximum limit per local authority of €400,000.

Number of Applications

Local Authorities are invited to submit up to **11 applications** (up to €2.1 million per authority) under the 2022 Scheme as follows:

- | | | |
|------|----------------|--|
| i. | 5 applications | funding €20,000 to €250,000 |
| ii. | 1 application | funding €20,000 to €500,000 |
| iii. | 2 applications | funding up to €50,000 (Project Development Measure) |
| iv. | 1 application | funding up to €50,000 (New Marketing Scheme Measure) |
| iv. | 2 applications | combined funding up to €400,000 (New Building Acquisition Measure) |

1 application must be in respect of Towns/Villages that have not received funding under the previous 3 years of the Standard Town & Village Renewal Scheme (Funding received under the 2020 Accelerated Measure will not be considered for these purposes).

All projects funded under the main Measure must be in a position to commence as soon as approval is granted and must be capable of being delivered in a realistic timeframe i.e. within a 12 to 18 month period. For the Building Acquisition Measure all funding must be drawn down by 11th November 2022.

7 Local Authority Costs

The default position is that works undertaken will be subject to a separate competitive tender process or involve drawdown of a contract under an existing framework agreement. The procurement process should be in line with EU Public Procurements Requirements (EU Directive 2014/24) and National Procurement Guidelines published by the Office of Government Procurement.

Where services or works are proposed to be undertaken in-house by the Local Authority, a breakdown of these costs must be included in the application form and a rationale provided for same. Where Local Authority staff costs are included, they must be proportionate to the overall cost of the project and identified at application stage. Only salary costs in respect of time spent directly on the project shall be deemed eligible. The proposed level of Local Authority costs will be assessed at application stage and the LA may be requested to reduce such costs if deemed to be excessive.

In addition, the reasonableness of the cost must be verified by the Local Authority i.e. the Local Authority must have evidence on the project file that the cost charged is in line with, or less than, the cost of engaging an external contractor. This evidence will be reviewed at project inspection stage. Failure to have this on file could deem the amount charged ineligible.

8 Funding Conditions

Non-Compliance with the conditions as outlined or non-compliance with any additional stipulations agreed during contract negotiations may result in the requirement to refund part or all of the grant aid awarded.

All expenditure under the Town and Village Renewal Scheme is subject to the terms of the Public Spending Code <http://publicspendingcode.per.gov.ie/>. The following requirements are also applicable;

Requirements

- 1 Projects will be expected to commence and be completed in line with the timelines set out in the relevant Scheme Outline.

The Department may de-commit funding allocated to projects under the Scheme where the project is not completed within the time specified, and where the express agreement of the Department to extend the funding arrangement has not been agreed in advance.

The grant funding for the approved project will be provided from the Department's capital budget. Administration and/or professional costs associated with the proposed project, where allowed for in the Scheme Outline, should be kept to a minimum.

- 2 A match funding contribution as set out in the relevant Scheme Outline is required. A minimum cash contribution of 5% is required. The grantee will be required to provide confirmation that the cash contribution is in place and retain a record of the source of the cash contribution.
- 3 Contributions in Kind, up to a maximum of 5% of project cost, can be provided by the community in various forms including the provision of plant and equipment and/or voluntary labour etc.
- 4 Voluntary Labour: If Contribution in Kind is in the form of Voluntary labour (i.e. unpaid work), time spent on the project must be verified.
 - The rate applied should be for remuneration of equivalent work, up to a maximum rate of €14 per hour. The grantee must ensure that the rate per hour applied is properly justified according to the work undertaken.
 - Where Voluntary Labour forms part of a project, the grantee is advised that the requirements of all relevant Health and Safety legislation apply.
 - Project administration e.g. attendance at meetings, preparation of grant application form, funding drawdown claims and management costs are not eligible as voluntary labour.
 - Labour provided by a participant on an RSS/ TÚS /other exchequer funded scheme is not eligible.

- Voluntary labour must be completed prior to submitting the final drawdown claim to the Department. It may be included in phased payments, provided the work has been completed at the time the claim is submitted.
 - Details of all voluntary labour claimed must be maintained on a timesheet (1 timesheet per person) which has been provided by the Department. The time sheet will capture the following details;
 - The name of the person undertaking the work
 - The nature, time, dates of the works, quantity, hours worked and rate per hour,
 - The signature of the person who provided the in-kind work,
 - The timesheet must be signed off by the appointed project co-ordinator over the project.
- 5 Phased Payments: Funding may be drawn down in up to 3 phases. The minimum amount that can be drawn down at any time is 20% of project costs. Funding drawdown requests (Annex 4 Drawdown Request Form) must be signed by the Director of Services (DOS) or an authorised official who should copy the DOS when submitting a claim.
 - 6 Projects must be completed in full in order to drawdown the full grant amount. Where it is established that a project has not been completed, the Department may request the grantee to repay any funding received on the project. It is essential that any changes to the project elements must be advised and agreed with the Department in advance of the change being implemented; the Department will not retrospectively approve changes to projects.
 - 7 Where changes have been applied to an approved project without Departmental approval, the grant funding may be reduced to reflect the amended project.
 - 8 If the project involves works on buildings or lands that are not in the ownership of the grantee, a minimum 15 year lease must be in place from date of project completion.
 - 9 In the case of funding allocated to enterprises or facilities (i.e. community centre, hubs), it is a requirement that they must operate as funded for a minimum of 5 years following release of the final stage of funding, otherwise funding may have to be repaid. Where they do not operate as funded this must be advised and agreed with the Department in advance.
 - 10 All appropriate financial, Public Procurement and accounting rules and regulations must be complied with and each grantee will fully account for the funding received in a timely manner.
 - 11 Full and accurate documentation to support all expenditure should be maintained in the project file and accessible by Department officials for audit purposes at all times, for a period of six years from the date of completion of the project.
 - 12 Grantees will acknowledge the support of Project 2040 / Department of Rural and Community Development / Government of Ireland, and any other applicable sources of funding (as identified in the relevant Funding Agreement) in all public announcements, advertising and signage, as

appropriate, relating to the project. In addition, the Department may seek to use the project in the broader promotion of its policies.

- 13 Grantees will provide any reports and information relating to the project as may reasonably be requested by the Department from time to time.
- 14 On-going monitoring and evaluation of the project outputs and outcomes should take place in the context of assessing the impact of the project. Grantees will be expected to collect appropriate data to facilitate this learning on an on-going basis. On request, a brief report (1-2 pages) on the outputs and outcomes of the project funded should be completed and made available to the Department.
- 15 Grantees will provide a contact point/points to the Department to facilitate payment and information requests. The Department should be updated on any changes to contact personnel in a timely manner.
- 16 A checklist confirming compliance with funding conditions relating to the grant aid will be required upon project completion.

9 Scoring Framework

Note: All project proposals must be supported by a fully completed Application Form. Only applications submitted by the Local Authority will be considered.

The scoring framework below will be applied to all applications in order to ensure that successful projects are of a high quality.

Closing date for receipt of main scheme applications to townandvillage@drccd.gov.ie is by close of business on **22nd July 2022**.

Selection Criteria	Explanation
Meeting the Scheme Objectives and Requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the proposal in line with the objectives of the Scheme? • Will the proposal have a positive impact on the town/village? • To what extent will the proposal support priorities outlined in the Scheme Outline? • Will the proposal have a positive impact in terms of place making and town centre regeneration? • Will the project encourage town centre living? • Does the project address the issue of vacant/derelict buildings in towns and villages? • Does the proposal create remote working opportunities? • Does the proposal support active and vibrant town and village centres?
Demonstration of Need	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Does the applicant identify a clear need and rationale for the proposal? • Does the proposal outlined address this need and to what extent? • Does the proposal include details on the public consultation to identify the need and support the rationale for the proposal? • Does the applicant explain why the funding is needed under this Scheme i.e. demonstrate that there are no other suitable sources of funding for this proposal.
Value for Money	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Are the costings for the proposal clear and realistic? • Are the costings clearly explained and justified? • Has the applicant clearly justified the level of investment requested?

Selection Criteria	Explanation
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is this project sustainable i.e. will this proposal continue to have an impact beyond the funding period in the town and village? • Overall does the proposal represent value for money?
Quality and Achievability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Is the proposal coherent and clearly set out in the application form? • Is the proposal realistic and achievable within the timeframes of the Scheme? • Has the project clear defined outputs and outcomes? • Are the outputs and outcomes clearly measurable?

Appendix 1 – Hub Classification Guide

Enterprise Hub

Local enterprise driver providing space, facilities and services for start-up, HPSU's, remote workers. Hosting events and acting as a connector for entrepreneur networks.

Scaling Hub

A step up from a general enterprise hub with strong focus on post start-up clients being supported through scaling and investment stages. High level services for acceleration and export development. Global entrepreneurship events and programmes.

R&D Hub

Specialist Hub usually attached to HEI with focus on clients in early stages of R&D of new products and services. Provides office or desk space and access to meeting rooms, laboratories etc. A full time manager and other staff are employed to support business development through incubation and acceleration.

Co-working Hub

Provides clients with private offices or desks with access to meeting rooms and event space. Offers clients plug & play facilities but not business support. Often co-located with other facilities and shared management.

Community & Enterprise Hub

A centre whose primary focus is to provide community services and has office space, dedicated and/or hot-desks as well as meeting rooms available to clients. The business facilities will complement the community services and provide an income for the community. These hubs are generally run by volunteers with or without the support of Community Employment staff.