

NACEC is the national representative organisation for Community Enterprise Centres in Ireland. NACEC is driven by a National Executive Committee that has representatives from across Ireland and from a range of Centre types. NACEC promotes and develops the interests of community-based not-for-profit enterprise centres. It recognises the values and principles of community-based enterprise centres and works towards the following objectives:

- To promote and develop a strong community-based enterprise centre sector at national level
- To act as a representative body for member centres at a national and EU level on issues concerning their members
- To act as a single voice in representations to agencies and public bodies
- To develop marketing and publicity projects and programmes for the sector
- To act as a medium for the sharing of best practice within the membership and the wider enterprise development sector
- To act as a network for community-based enterprise centres
- To promote high professional standards within the sector
- To act as a forum for the development of policies that impact on the entire sector



Community Enterprise Centres in Ireland

Their Role and Impact in Enterprise Development and Job Creation



The Impacts of Community Owned Enterprise Centres in Ireland

There are 95 vibrant and active Community Owned Enterprise Centres (CECs) across Ireland. Each one operates in an economy which is challenged in terms of Economic Activity and Employment. In addition to providing serviced workspace for clients, CECs perform a valuable business development and support function. This includes providing advice, mentoring and training to start up and existing businesses. They act as a hub of entrepreneurial activity in their area constantly encouraging enterprise development and engaging with the wider local economy to create jobs and economic activity with private sector businesses that are not tenants of the CEC. They also develop partnerships to ensure the provision of various infrastructural developments, training initiatives, mentoring and other activities to assist the Business Development function.

EMPLOYMENT

Enterprise Centres are home to over

1,600 Micro and Small Enterprises



Employing Over 4,600 People

"In some smaller economies, the Enterprise Centre is the only hub of employment in the area."

Over **300 businesses** with over **900 jobs** moved on from Enterprise Centres in the last **3 years** as a result of **expansion**



TRENDS



Over **70%** of Community Enterprise Centres are more than **80% occupied**

The following sectors account for 57% of activity in Community Enterprise Centres



INVESTMENT & DEVELOPMENT NEEDS



- High speed reliable broadband connectivity
- Support for their enterprise and entrepreneurship development function
- Small flexible office units including hot desks
- Specific purpose workspace such as for food production

"Local economies are highly dependent on Enterprise Centres as hubs of entrepreneurship and job creation."

"RIGHT NOW a key issue facing Community Enterprise Centres is having the RIGHT KIND OF SPACE to meet the needs of clients and prospective clients when the client requires it."

HOW THE SECTOR HAS PERFORMED

From 2013 to 2016

602 New Businesses

Employing

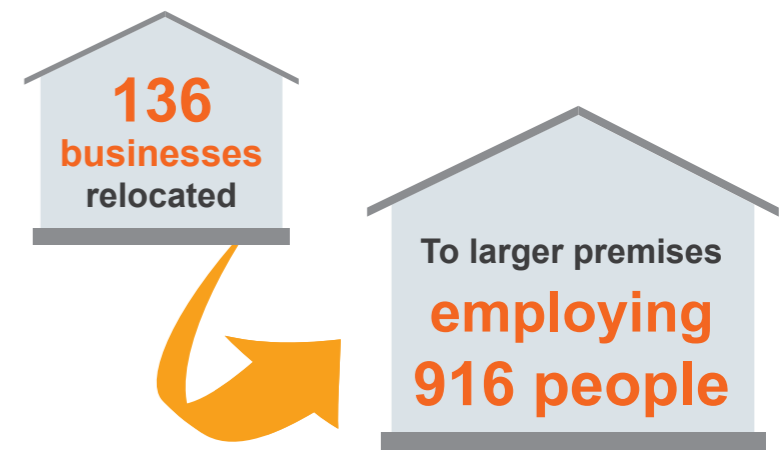
2,000 People

From 2013 to 2016

Occupancy levels in excess of 70% increased by 24%

Business failure rates reduced by 31% since 2013 to 9% per annum

"Enterprise Centres that are at or almost at 100% capacity are reporting of turning away business and not being able to fulfil their incubation function."



60% of businesses who leave Enterprise Centres have continued to grow and employ more people

85% of jobs in Enterprise Centres are in private sector companies