

Public Consultation on the development of Enterprise 2035 - Ireland's enterprise strategy

Recognising the rapidly evolving global environment, the Programme for Government sets out a commitment to develop and publish a new enterprise strategy, Enterprise 2035, 'as a long-term ambition for enterprise growth and job creation over the coming decade'. Enterprise 2035 will build on the White Paper on Enterprise, maintaining a focus on building on Ireland's strengths as an open economy with strong trade and foreign direct investment, a vibrant innovation ecosystem and a resilient labour market, while also adapting to new challenges in an increasingly uncertain world.

The development of a new strategy provides an opportunity to build on Ireland's established strengths while addressing longer-term structural challenges. Through this consultation, stakeholders are invited to help shape a shared vision for a competitive, innovative and sustainable enterprise economy that can deliver prosperity and quality employment across all regions of Ireland in the years ahead.

Below are three specific questions you are invited to respond to in addition to an open field to allow broader submissions to the development of the strategy. The closing date for submissions has been extended to **5pm on Friday 2nd October**.

When you submit this form, it will not automatically collect your details like name and email address unless you provide it yourself.

1. Please provide name/affiliation

Irish Tax Institute

2. [Optional] Please provide an email address

agunnell@taxinstitute.ie

3. What should Ireland's enterprise economy look like in 2035?

In 2035 Ireland should have a more balanced economy. One where Ireland continues to attract and retain Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) and where the domestic sector has grown and become more robust. This would reduce the country's reliance on the heavily concentrated corporation tax take of a small number of multi-nationals and increase the resilience of the SME sector which is in line with Programme for Government commitments and the recommendations arising from the Cost of Business Advisory Forum.

In our letter to Minister Burke the Irish Tax Institute has set out how we believe tax levers can be used to meet this objective. This includes:

- Enhancing the R&D Tax Credit
- Addressing the challenges SMEs face with Share-Based Remuneration. Specifically, introducing a safe harbour approach to share valuation under the Key Employee Engagement Programme (KEEP)
- Reducing the CGT rate to 25%
- Reducing the marginal tax rate to 50% and adjusting bands and credits annually in line with inflation
- Easing the burden of Enhance Reporting Requirements (ERR) and associated disproportionate penalties
- Progressing eWithholding Taxes (eWHT) in a carefully calibrated manner
- Simplifying the corporation tax code

4. How can Ireland strengthen innovation and the commercialisation of new technologies across enterprises of all sizes?

The R&D Tax Credit is a cornerstone of Ireland's economy, rewarding companies for the efforts they take to develop new products, processes and technologies. As recognised in the R&D Tax Credit and Innovation Compass, if Ireland wants to remain competitive as an R&D hub, a number of enhancements to the credit, beyond its headline rate, must be made. These include:

- Broadening the outsourcing rules, and permitting subcontracting of R&D to a related party in certain circumstances
- Removing the restriction on qualifying R&D expenditure subcontracted to universities /institutes of higher education
- Introducing an innovation incentive, which could focus specifically on decarbonisation and digitalisation

5. How should enterprise policy respond to changing global trade and investment patterns?

Ireland is a small and highly globalised economy which has greatly benefited from significant inward investment. The 12.5% corporation tax rate has been a key component in Ireland's success in attracting FDI but in a post-Pillar Two world of global minimum taxation, the Government must find other ways to improve the competitiveness of the Irish tax system. We are aware of other jurisdictions enhancing their offerings in efforts to entice investment and Ireland must do likewise. While improving competitiveness, simplification must be at the heart of all policy decisions. The highly complex patchwork of rules upon which businesses operate are hampering growth.

In our response to Minister Burke, we detailed the measures the Institute believes would help Ireland to maintain a competitive edge. These include:

- Implementation of the R&D Tax Credit and Innovation Compass without delay
- Enticing highly skilled internationally mobile workers through a reduction in the marginal rate of tax and reform of share-based remuneration
- Supporting innovation and productivity through a reduction in CGT
- Improving certainty for businesses through simplification of Ireland's taxation regime for interest which is currently posing a reputational risk

6. You are invited to submit your views on the future of Irish enterprise policy below. Should you wish to make a longer submission please contact enterprise2035@enterprise.gov.ie.

The Irish Tax Institute has made a more detailed submission by way of letter to Minister Burke which was emailed to the above email address on 24 September 2026.

You can print a copy of your answer after you submit

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