

The West reopens: €300k Atlantic Economic Corridor fund

Many enterprise hubs face challenges reopening and adhering to public health guidelines.

The [Atlantic Economic Corridor](#) is to invest €300,000 in enterprise hubs to help them to reopen and be in compliance with Covid-19 health guidelines as the economy recovers.

The investment will be made by the Department of Rural and Community Development through the Western Development Commission as part of the Atlantic Economic Corridor Enterprise Hub Network project. Funding of up to €5,000 will be provided in grant aid to successful applicants.

“This support will allow the hubs to reopen and provide facilities for workers to work remotely in fully equipped office settings,” CEO of The Western Development Commission, Tomás Ó Síocháin, said.

The Atlantic Economic Corridor (AEC) is an initiative which acts as an enabler for regional growth along the Western seaboard, from Donegal to Kerry, by combining the assets of the region to attract investment, support job creation and improve the quality of life for the people in the region. The counties covered by the AEC are: Donegal, Leitrim, Sligo, Roscommon, Mayo, Galway, Clare, Limerick, and Kerry.

Reopening the regions

“WDC research, carried out in conjunction with NUIG, has identified immediate challenges to working from home, and the AEC enterprise hubs can help address those challenges. The hubs can play a critical role in rural and regional areas, allowing skilled workers to work close to where they live, driving sustainable economic activity and building communities.”

Hub managers along the AEC region will be invited to join a webinar tomorrow (Tuesday 30 June) entitled '[A Practical Guide to Reopening your Hub.](#)'

Attendees will learn how to prepare to re-open their hubs and plan to operate safely internally with staff and hub users. The webinar will also look at potential funding supports available, including through the Atlantic Economic Corridor Hub Outreach scheme, Enterprise Ireland supports and others.

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