



NEW FOUNDATIONS SCHEME 2023

in partnership with

Department of Foreign Affairs – Irish Aid;
Department of Foreign Affairs – Irish Aid (Global Development Unit),
Department of Education and the Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth;
Department of Rural and Community Development;
Policing Authority;
Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) of Ireland

CALL DOCUMENT



**An Roinn Leanai, Comhionannais,
Míchumais, Lánpháirtíochta agus Óige**
Department of Children, Equality,
Disability, Integration and Youth



Irish Aid
An Roinn Gnóthaí Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade



**An Roinn Forbartha
Tuaithe agus Pobail**
Department of Rural and
Community Development



An Roinn Oideachais
Department of Education



AN TÚDARÁS PÓILÍNEACHTA
POLICING AUTHORITY



CCPC Comisión um
Comasacht agus
Cosaint Tairbhíocháin **Competition and
Consumer Protection
Commission**

The Irish Research Council reserves the right to amend this call document.

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1. Overview of the scheme

The mission of the Irish Research Council is to support excellence in research talent, knowledge and engagement, including by responding to emerging research and societal challenges and proactively assisting stakeholders to address these complex issues.

Our [Strategic Plan 2020-2024](#) seeks to position us as a partner of choice nationally and internationally by supporting excellent research that addresses the challenges of our time. It also emphasises the importance of facilitating the sharing of research and innovation to the maximum extent possible.

New Foundations is a key driver in progressing these strategic priorities by enabling awardees to pursue research, networking or dissemination activities within and across the diversity of disciplines. The scheme provides support for:

- research actions;
- the development of networks and consortia;
- conference and workshop development; and
- capacity building for interdisciplinary collaboration.

Since 2015, over 250 community, voluntary and charity organisations have engaged across our programmes with 423 funded projects and an associated investment in excess of €8,375,000. This vibrant sector plays an important role in supporting different groups in society, including the more vulnerable or marginalised. Through partnerships with researchers, diverse community organisations can bring new evidence and insights to enhance their services and impact for those that need them.

The New Foundations scheme also includes strands supported by government departments and agencies. In each of the past five years, a dedicated strand of the call has provided opportunities for researchers to work on important areas of policy, including global development, our shared island, crime, creativity and children. The collaboration between researchers and policymakers represented in these awards aligns with the ambitions of [Impact 2030: Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy](#) to strengthen evidence-based policymaking and deliver enhanced outcomes for citizens and society.

New Foundation Awards are governed by the information contained in the call document, the [General Terms and Conditions for Principal Investigator Awards](#), and the Letter of Offer which is sent to successful applicants. Please read this call document carefully before submitting your application.

2. Strand descriptions

This year, the call features an open strand together with five strands run in partnership with government departments and agencies, and the civil society sector. These six strands are summarised below with further detail included in the appendices.

Strand	Title	Funder	Description	Further information	Maximum award amount	Duration
Strand 1a	Enhancing Civic Society	Irish Research Council	Supporting small, discrete collaborative projects between researchers and civic society groups in the community and voluntary sector	Appendix 1	€12,000	9-12 months
Strand 4	'A Better World' New Foundations Awards	Department of Foreign Affairs (Irish Aid)	Networking awards to form consortia for prospective global north-south research partnerships focused on areas of strategic importance to Ireland's Policy for International Development	Appendix 2	€10,000	9 months
Strand 4b	Education for Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development New Foundations Awards	Department of Foreign Affairs (Irish Aid), Department of Education and Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth	Supporting research, networking and collaboration for the purpose of increasing public awareness and understanding of issues such as climate change, hunger, global inequality and injustice.	Appendix 3	€10,000	12 months
Strand 10	Exploring Policing and Community Safety New Foundations Award	Policing Authority	Supporting research seeking to bring the needs or experiences of communities to life in a manner that contributes to	Appendix 4	€15,000	9 months

			enhancing police and community relations.			
Strand 15	Social Enterprise Impact New Foundations Award	Department of Rural and Community Development	Supporting pioneering research on social enterprise in Ireland, towards developing mechanisms to measure the social and economic impact of social enterprises across the full spectrum of social enterprise in line with the current National Social Enterprise Policy and international best practice.	Appendix 5	€20,000	9 months
Strand 16	Competition and the electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Ireland New Foundations Award	Competition and Consumer Protection Commission	Supporting research analysing the structure of the public electric vehicle charging market in Ireland and any barriers to entry or barriers to its effective operation.	Appendix 6	€15,000	9 months

Strands 4, 4b, 10, 15 and 16 are funded by a government department, agency or independent statutory body, and, accordingly, there will be a strong partnership in place for the duration of the research and in the dissemination of the results. New Foundations awards are led by an individual principal investigator (PI) who is named in the application. Applicants are encouraged to integrate intersectoral partnership across the project lifecycle from design stage through to dissemination.

The various strands aim to foster ‘engaged research’. In the Campus Engage report, [Engaged Research: Society & Higher Education Addressing Grand Societal Challenges Together](#), this is described as ‘a wide range of rigorous research approaches and methodologies that share a common interest in collaborative engagement with the community and aim to improve, understand or investigate an issue of public interest or concern, including societal challenges. [Engaged research](#) is advanced *with* community partners rather than for them’.

3. Key dates

Call open	25 April 2023 at 4pm
FAQ deadline	30 May 2023 at 4pm
Applicant deadline	6 June 2023 at 4pm
Endorsement deadline	13 June 2023 at 4pm
Outcome	September 2023
Project Start Date	November 2023

4. Eligibility

- Applicants must be based at an [eligible higher education institution \(HEI\) or research-performing organisation \(RPO\) in Ireland](#).
- Applicants must hold a doctoral degree.
- Applicants must, on the call deadline, hold a contract of sufficient duration with their eligible HEI or RPO to carry out the proposed research from the project start date until the project end date.
- Applicants may only make **one application** to the scheme in a given year.
- Current New Foundations award holders are eligible provided their proposal is clearly distinct from their current New Foundations award.
- While postgraduate scholars are not eligible to apply, their involvement in the proposed projects is encouraged.
- Note there are additional eligibility criteria specific to each strand (see appendices), and the research project must address the required thematic focus of the respective strand.

5. Applying to the scheme

All applications must be submitted and endorsed via the Irish Research Council's [Smart Simple application system](#) on or before the stated deadlines. Please refer to the guide for applicants for assistance with SmartSimple and creating and submitting an application, which is available on the Irish Research Council's [website](#).

For the following strands, applications to New Foundations should have an appropriate project partner(s):

Strand Number	Strand Detail	Letter of support Y/N	Note
Strand 1a	This must be a civic society partner with a CHY number that is registered with the Charities Regulator .	Y	Applicants to strand 1a must include the name and endorsement of the civic society partner as part of the application
Strand 4	This must be a publicly funded or not-for-profit higher education or research institution in an eligible partner country (see Appendix 2 for more information).	Y	Applicants to strand 4 must include the name and endorsement of the partner higher education or research institution as part of the application.
Strand 4b	This must be an organisation that provides a contribution to the proposed activities such as advice, support, networking, or acting in an advisory or facilitating capacity. Partners/relevant network of practitioners may be statutory, non-statutory or voluntary organisations involved in developing, promoting or delivering the project	N	Applicants to strand 4b must include the name of the relevant network of practitioners as part of the application.
Strand 10	This must be an organisation that provides a contribution to the proposed activities such as advice, support, networking, or acting in an advisory or facilitating capacity. Partners may be statutory, non-statutory or voluntary organisations involved in developing,	N	

	promoting or delivering the project.		
Strand 15	No project partner required	N	
Strand 16	No project partner required	N	

The terms of any partnership should be determined early, and relevant written agreements should be in place prior to the onset of the award. Consideration should be given to issues such as relative roles and responsibilities and governance arrangements when establishing partnership agreements.

An application will be deemed ineligible and will not be considered for funding if:

- it has not been submitted via the online system by the stated deadline
- it has not been endorsed by the applicant’s higher education institution by the stated deadline
- it is incomplete or exceeds the word limit
- it is not within the remit of the scheme
- it includes additional materials other than those requested
- it includes materials in a format other than those requested
- it is in a language other than English or Irish¹
- the applicant does not meet the relevant eligibility criteria for the scheme
- the applicant submits more than one application to the scheme
- the research project as proposed in the application does not meet the relevant eligibility criteria and thematic focus of the specific strand to which it has been submitted
- any section of it has been plagiarised
- any information supplied is false, misleading or unverifiable with appropriate documentation
- the research project as proposed in the application has previously been funded in full, or in part, by the Irish Research Council
- canvassing on behalf of applicants occurs

For reasons of transparency and fairness to all applicants, the Irish Research Council will not enter into written or telephone correspondence with any individual about the assessment process or their eligibility to apply.

If you do not find the answer to your query in the call documentation, you should contact the research office in your proposed institution, which will provide information and clarification on the call. Research offices can send any queries they are unable to clarify to newfoundations@research.ie. Frequently asked questions (FAQs) and answers will be posted on the Irish Research Council’s website and updated once the call opens until 30 May 2023.

¹ Applicants submitting Irish language applications are invited to submit an English language translation to newfoundations@research.ie. Should an English translation not be provided by the applicant, the Irish Research Council may provide a translation to the assessors.

6. Eligible expenditure

Awards are not intended to substitute or augment funds available under national and international programmatic research actions.

Only eligible costs as set out in the table below will be considered. All costs sought must be sufficiently detailed and justified in the proposed budget. Value for money is a criterion in the assessment process. All expenses must be incurred within the lifetime of the project. Where fully justified, costs for partner involvement can be included on the award in accordance with HEI/RPO institutional rules and with relevant local employment practices. Costs should be appropriate to the career stage of the partner and should be included in 'Staff costs' category in the budget.

Travel	Requests for travel and accommodation should provide details of the number and duration of trips proposed. Travel, accommodation and subsistence, where required, will only be permitted on a vouched basis. Requests for travel, accommodation and subsistence should be in line with institutional norms. Every effort must be made to ensure that air travel, where used, is economical. Business class travel is not an eligible cost.
Research consumables (maximum of €1,000)	An outline of all consumables that will be used during the course of the research should be provided alongside a detailed justification for all costs, e.g: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• books and journals• archival research costs• software• pay-as-you-go access to national research infrastructure <p>Please note that equipment is not an eligible research expense under this scheme.</p>
Training	Expenditure to be incurred as a result of general and/or specialist disciplinary skill training can be included.
Dissemination	Research dissemination is a vital component of the New Foundations scheme. Accordingly, it is expected that the budget will reflect costs associated with the dissemination of research e.g. conference attendance (provide details of name and location where possible), leaflets, reports, websites and other knowledge exchange activities. The Irish Research Council fully endorses the principle of open access , noting its important role in promoting the exchange of knowledge and the dissemination of research findings.

Staff	All staff costs must be specified and fully justified. Institutional rates should be used for all staff costs sought. The recruitment of staff must be done openly, through public advertisement. Teaching buyout/academic replacement costs are an eligible cost and may be pro rata. PhD stipends are not an eligible cost.
Other	Where not covered by the categories above, and relevant to the viability of the research, other costs can be considered. All costs must be specified and fully justified.

7. Sex/gender dimension

The Irish Research Council supports gender equality in the research and innovation system. All applicants are required to give careful consideration to whether there is a potential sex or gender dimension that may arise in the course of their research. While there are research projects in which biological sex and/or gender may not be relevant in terms of the research content, it is well established that, where relevant, not integrating sex and gender analysis into the design, implementation, evaluation and dissemination of the research can lead to poor results and missed opportunities. The [Gender Toolkit in EU-funded research](#), aims to give the research community practical tools to integrate gender aspects into their research, including gender equality (equal outcomes for women and men) and integration of sex/gender analysis in research content.

Where the applicant is involved in the organisation of conferences, networking or dissemination activities connected with their research project, due regard should be given to gender balance within panel(s).

8. Evaluation process

The Irish Research Council is committed to rigorous peer review of its funding programmes in line with international best practice. As such, all eligible applications will be internationally peer reviewed. The assessors will evaluate applications on the basis of the materials supplied, arrive at an overall judgement of standard and make final recommendations to the Irish Research Council. All awards will be made on the basis of excellence.

Qualitative feedback will not be provided to applicants under this scheme. Quantitative feedback will be provided upon request.

All applications will be evaluated under four criteria as outlined in the below table:

Criteria	Description	Maximum score
Quality of proposal and applicant	<p>This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To what extent is the proposal original, innovative and significant in the context of relevant research? • To what extent does the applicant's research track record, outputs to date and relevant skills match the proposal? • To what extent is the proposal relevant to the strand topic? • Have the relevant ethical and sex/gender dimension issues been considered? 	40
Impact and outcomes	<p>What is the value of the planned outputs, outcomes and deliverables, e.g.:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the development of conferences, workshops or networking and collaboration activities • the quality, engagement and merits of the proposed partnerships or networks • the contribution of the proposal towards future research funding applications or opportunities • the clarity, quality and innovativeness of plans for public dissemination of research outputs and/or promotion of academic research within and across the diversity of disciplines <p>The impact of the proposal should be demonstrated by applicants. A range of impact categories for consideration are listed in the Campus Engage report, https://www.campusengage.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Updated-Final-PBS10581-IUA-Engaged-Research-Planning-for-Impact-Framework-2022-Update_V5.pdf</p>	40
Project management and implementation	Is the proposal feasible and credible, i.e. are the practical arrangements implementable, coordinated and manageable?	10
Value for money	Is the funding sought justified and good value for money?	10

Appendix 1
Strand 1a: Enhancing Civic Society
Funded by the Irish Research Council
These awards will be 12 months in duration

Background

Ireland faces key social, environmental and economic challenges, the complexity and scale of which have been heightened by the COVID-19 pandemic, the energy crisis and geopolitical conflict. A number of challenges are specific to Ireland, whilst others are shared with other nations in Europe and globally. The [various challenges](#) we share as nations are well-articulated, particularly in the form of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Horizon Europe has integrated societal challenges as a key pillar of the framework, in continuation of the Horizon 2020 approach.

Ireland has a cross-governmental challenge-based approach through the [National Planning Framework \(Ireland 2040\)](#) and the associated [National Development Plan](#). The framework sets out ten national strategic outcomes, the achievements of which are necessary to ensure prosperity, equality, a sustainable future, and protection of our natural environment. As stated in the framework, there is strong alignment between the national strategic outcomes and the Sustainable Development Goals; there is also a strong relationship between the national strategic outcomes and [Horizon Europe](#) societal challenges.

The achievement of national goals will be challenging in themselves and will require an unprecedented level of collaboration and coordination both within the State and on an interjurisdictional basis. Given the myriad agencies that will be at the 'coal-face' in implementation of the National Development Plan, major opportunities for researchers to form new connections and links will emerge, regionally and locally, and in doing so will further demonstrate the value of the Irish research system as a national resource.

Excellent research across all disciplines has a major role to play in developing new knowledge and evidence, which policy and decision-makers and practitioners can utilise to guide action and interventions on the path to successfully achieving national societal challenges. [Impact 2030: Ireland's Research and Innovation Strategy](#) highlights the importance of strengthening evidence-based policymaking and aims to make the public research and innovation system more accessible to policy makers. Maximising the contribution of the research system in this regard requires a strong emphasis on building robust mechanisms to ensure the exchange of knowledge between policy and practice environments, including building the necessary relationships with the public sector, civil society, or elsewhere, to support this process.

Strand description

This strand will support small, discrete collaborative projects within a national context between researchers and civic society partners. The civic society partner must be a charity with a CHY number and registered with the [Charities Regulator](#).

Civic society partners are not required to financially contribute to the project. This may however be a feature of some proposals, where appropriate. The charity and researcher will work out an agreement between them where both parties are satisfied. This is additional funding to the award provided by the IRC and would not be governed by our terms and conditions, rather it is at the discretion of the civic society partner.

A civic society partner can support more than one application to the New Foundations strand 1a provided the research projects proposed are clearly distinct. Please note that, in the event that more than two proposals per civic society partner under Strand 1a are deemed fundable, the Irish Research Council will only be in a position to fund the two top-ranked proposals per civic society partner under this strand.

The objectives of this strand are to:

- Develop networks between academia and civic society partners in the community and voluntary sector
- Encourage knowledge exchange between these groups
- Develop expertise to support the engagement of civic society partners
- Develop networks between academia and civic society partners
- Develop expertise to support the work of these organisations within the higher education community

Civic society partners interested in participating in this strand must collaborate with an eligible researcher. Those seeking to participate in the scheme can send a description of their organisation and potential area for collaboration along with contact details to newfoundations@research.ie. They will then be added to an updated spreadsheet and posted on the Irish Research Council's [website](#). These details should be submitted as soon as possible to allow sufficient time for a partnering researcher to submit a proposal.

Applications to this strand should develop a research idea or project, test a concept or theory, and/or develop partnerships through activities. Applications should clearly indicate why the project is important and how it speaks to the issues and concerns of the civic society partner with a focus on national collaboration.

It is a condition of acceptance of strand 1a awards that the awardee will contribute details of project outputs for dissemination activities and/or publications undertaken jointly by the Irish Research Council.

Outputs

- Awardees will be required to submit a final report on completion of the project. IRC will provide a final report template in advance of the project end date.

Appendix 2
Strand 4: 'A Better World' New Foundations Awards
Funded by Department of Foreign Affairs (Irish Aid)
Up to 4 awards will be made under this strand
These awards will be 9 months in duration

This strand will provide researchers with an opportunity to carry out networking activities or to form consortia for prospective global north-south research partnerships. Successful proposals will be funded by the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) and will be in areas of strategic importance to Ireland's development cooperation programme.

This strand is designed to build a pipeline of research collaborations for the IRC COALESCE call, focusing on innovative responses to global challenges within the framework of the [Sustainable Development Goals \(Agenda 2030\)](#). It is envisaged that up to four such networking grants will be awarded, of up to a maximum of €10,000 each, to support collaboration between Irish and partner research institutions, with a view to making a submission under COALESCE in future calls. Proposals may be bilateral or multilateral in nature. The lead applicant must be based in an eligible HEI or RPO in Ireland. The RPO in the eligible partner country must be a publicly funded or not-for-profit higher education/research institution. In exceptional circumstances, other RPOs will be considered.

Eligible partner countries: any Official Development Assistance (ODA)-eligible country on the African continent; any ODA-eligible Small Island Developing State (SIDS); Vietnam; Palestine; Laos; Cambodia; Myanmar.

It is anticipated that successful 2023 awardees of New Foundations strand 4 may apply to COALESCE strand 2B at the next available cycle. Successful awardees of strand 4 of New Foundations must be at least 3 years post-PhD at the time of applying to COALESCE and cannot already hold a COALESCE award at the time of application.

The DFA strand of COALESCE seeks to cultivate and to grow high-quality development research capacity both in Ireland and eligible partner countries in response to the key societal challenges and policy priorities outlined in [A Better World, Ireland's Policy for International Development](#). It is designed to encourage interdisciplinary approaches for knowledge generation that will produce rigorous and influential evidence and learning, with a view to impacting at a societal level in partner countries, as part of the implementation of *A Better World*.

Applicants may wish to consult the [2021 COALESCE Call Document, specifically the Better World Strand](#) for further information on the DFA research activities.

Outputs

- Awardees will be required to submit to the IRC a final report on completion of the project. IRC will provide templates for this report.
- Awardees will be required to submit a short report (15-20 pages) and a presentation on the outcomes of the project to DFA (Irish Aid).

Appendix 3

**Strand 4b: Education for Global Citizenship and Sustainable Development
Funded by Department of Foreign Affairs (Irish Aid), Department of Education and
Department of Education and Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and
Youth**

Up to 7 awards will be made under this strand

These awards will be 12 months in duration

This strand will support implementation of both the [Irish Aid Global Citizenship Education Strategy \(2022-2025\)](#) and the Second National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development.

Irish Aid defines Global Citizenship Education as a life-long educational process, which aims to increase public awareness and understanding of the rapidly changing, inter-dependent and unequal world in which we live. By challenging stereotypes and encouraging independent thinking, GCE helps people to critically explore how global justice issues interlink with their everyday lives and how they can act to build a better world. This is particularly important in an increasingly globalized world faced with immense challenges, such as the effects of climate change, the COVID 19 pandemic, conflict in Ukraine, Syria, Yemen and other locations across the globe, entrenched poverty and growing inequality, as well as misinformation-fuelled radicalization.

The [Global Citizenship Education strategy](#) is underpinned by the Code of Good Practice for Development Education (IDEA 2019) and covers a wide range of global themes including global poverty and hunger, migration, conflict, climate change, human rights and inequality.

The strand will also support implementation of the [Second National Strategy on Education for Sustainable Development](#) to 2030. ESD to 2030 will aim to ensure that, *“all learners acquire knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including among others through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship, and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture’s contribution to sustainable development.”* (SDG 4.7).

Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education are closely linked, sharing a focus on global justice, solidarity and interconnectedness as well as focusing on both the local and global dimensions of issues affecting the people and planet.

The objectives of this strand are to support research actions; develop networks and consortia; support conference and workshop development; and build capacity for interdisciplinary collaboration. DFA, DoE and DCEDIY are particularly interested in funding partnerships

between researchers and practitioners in both formal, non-formal and informal education as well as partnerships between academia and other sectors, including private sector actors. Applicants will need to demonstrate they have co-ordinated with the relevant networks of practitioners, such as the Irish Development Education Association where appropriate, in planning the research in order to ensure co-ordination across the sector, to encourage dialogue and to support linkages and synergies.

Research projects should focus on GCE/ ESD in both formal and non-formal education from early years to adult education on one or more of the following themes:

- Building capacity of teachers, educators and other practitioners at all levels of education, including youth workers and people working in the further education and training / adult and community education sectors.
- Supporting whole provider/ whole school/whole of institution approaches.
- Innovative solutions including use of new technologies to support teaching and learning.
- Engaging with new learners and audiences of all ages including empowering and mobilising youth, engaging with marginalised communities, and building links with diverse sectors including the private sector.
- The learning outcomes of GCE/ESD related interventions in both formal, non-formal and informal education with a focus on GCE/ESD approaches that bring about social and behavioural change for transformative action.

At least one grant will be awarded for projects focused on GCE/ ESD in the Early Learning and Care sector.

Proposals must be directly related to one or more of the themes outlined above.

Outputs

- Awardees will be required to submit to the IRC a progress report 6 months after the award commences and a final report on completion of the project. IRC will provide templates for these two reports.
- Awardees will be required to submit a short report (15-20 pages) and a presentation on the outcomes of the project to DFA (Irish Aid), DoE and DCEDIY on completion of the project.

Appendix 4

Strand 10: Exploring Policing and Community Safety New Foundations Award

Funded by the Policing Authority

1 award will be made under this strand

This award will be 9 months in duration

Background

“The concept of community safety is about people being safe and feeling safe in their own community. At the heart of this policy is the principle that every community has the right to be and feel safe in order to thrive and flourish.”² It is by its nature, a broad concept, potentially encompassing any policies, initiatives and programmes that might impact on a given community’s sense of safety or actual safety.³

The concept of a community safety model for policing has come to the fore in Ireland following recommendations made by the Commission on the Future of Policing in Ireland (CoFPI). The Report of the Commission stressed that while crime is a top priority for police, in practice the majority of police time is spent on harm prevention – providing service to people with mental health and addiction conditions, homeless people, children, elderly and others at risk. It recommended that this broader concept of community safety needs be embedded in legislation, and this is coming to fruition through the [Policing, Security and Community Safety Bill 2023](#) (PSCS)

The PSCS Bill provides for a community safety-oriented approach in a number of respects:

- The prevention of harm will be a specific statutory objective of the Garda Síochána;
- The establishment of a new framework at national and local level to improve community safety including the establishment of Local Community Safety Partnerships, replacing the existing Joint Policing Committees. [Local Community Safety Partnerships](#) (LCSP) are being piloted in three areas around the country, in Dublin’s North Inner City, Waterford and Longford;
- The establishment of a National Office for Community Safety;
- A focus on the need for collaboration and coordination between various State agencies and other public service bodies in relation to improving community safety;
- The establishment of a Policing and Community Safety Authority (PCSA) with a role in providing oversight of the Garda Síochána’s performance in relation to policing and community safety, including its activities aimed at preventing crime and preventing harm to people at risk;

² Department of Justice (October 2022) *Community Safety Policy Paper*

³ Ibid.

Strand description

In light of the relevance of community safety to the current work of the Authority and its future transition to the Policing and Community Safety Authority, the Policing Authority wishes to support a collaborative project between researchers and community organisations to inform evidence-based policy and strategies in relation to policing and community safety. The objectives of this strand are to support research actions; develop networks and consortia; and build capacity for community and academic collaboration at community level.

The project can focus on any theme relevant to policing and community safety, which could include any of the following:

- Community collaborations with artists and creative practitioners to develop creative approaches to enhancing community voices, particularly amongst seldom heard communities;
- The use of existing data sets or the development of survey methodologies to assist in developing data informed approaches to community safety;
- Development of researcher and community collaborations or networks, in order to develop co-designed solutions to key policing or community safety challenges;
- Evidence based initiatives for reducing fear of crime, improving feelings of safety, or building confidence and trust in police at community level;
- Innovative approaches to enhancing community input into determining policing priorities, either locally or nationally;
- Engaging people with lived experience of addiction, mental health problems or homelessness in the community safety policy process.

While the Authority is open to a wide range of thematic and methodological approaches, applications need to clearly demonstrate how the project speaks to issues and concerns around policing and community safety in the context of the national and local policy landscape.

Outputs

- Awardees will be required to submit to the IRC a progress report 6 months after the award commences and a final report on completion of the project. IRC will provide templates for these two reports.
- Awardees will be required to submit a short final report (15-20 pages) on completion of the project. In the case of an arts-based project, specific alternative deliverables may be agreed with successful applicants.

Appendix 5
Strand 15: Social Enterprise Impact New Foundations Award
Funded by the Department of Rural and Community Development
These awards will be 9 months in duration

Introduction

The Department of Rural and Community Development (DRCD) was established in July 2017 to provide a renewed and consolidated focus on rural and community development in Ireland. The Department's mission is "to promote rural and community development and to support vibrant, inclusive and sustainable communities throughout Ireland". In line with this mission, a key objective of the Department is to develop a strong policy framework and provide a full range of appropriate supports to improve the capability of organisations that deliver services to individuals and communities, tackle social issues, and contribute to a fairer and more inclusive society. Social enterprise comes within the policy remit of DRCD.

Objectives of DRCD:

The [*National Social Enterprise Policy for Ireland 2019 - 2022*](#), launched on 18 July 2019. It is the first such policy for Ireland and it fulfils a commitment contained in the [*Action Plan for Rural Development*](#). Social enterprises are businesses whose core objective is to achieve a social, societal and environmental impact. However, any surpluses generated by social enterprises are re-invested into achieving a social impact, rather than maximising profit for the owners.

The National Social Enterprise Policy is focused on three key objectives:

1. Building Awareness of Social Enterprise,
2. Growing and Strengthening Social Enterprise,
3. Achieving Better Policy Alignment.

The policy sets out a series of 26 commitments on the part of Government across these objectives, for the development of social enterprise over the period 2019 to 2022. These include commitments to improve our understanding of the scale of social enterprise in Ireland and to measure their impact.

A successor social enterprise policy is currently being developed.

In partnership with the Department of Rural and Community Development, this strand seeks to fund one project that would support the following policy commitment:

- Policy Measure 24: Develop mechanisms to measure the social and economic impact of social enterprises across the full spectrum of social enterprise.

The project will be 9 months in duration, with the project covering measure 24 from the National Social Enterprise Policy 2019 -2022 having a maximum value of €20,000.

There is limited empirical evidence and data about the scope, prevalence and contribution of social enterprises in Ireland. A 2013 Forfás report noted that social enterprise is a small but growing part of the enterprise base that has the potential to bring further job gains and deliver economic returns. A key theme which emerged during the development of the current policy, was the need to establish a reliable evidence-base on social enterprise and to develop a robust framework to understand its social, environmental and economic impact. This is recognised internationally as a common concern across the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) area. Establishing the size, reach and impact of social enterprise in Ireland is essential to inform policy development in the years ahead.

The main purpose of the Department's New Foundations award is to support pioneering research on social enterprise in Ireland. Research is encouraged towards developing mechanisms to measure the social and economic impact of social enterprises across the full spectrum of social enterprise in line with the current National Social Enterprise Policy and international best practice.

Objective: Develop mechanisms to measure the social and economic impact of social enterprises in Ireland. (In line with policy measure No.24).

Outputs

- Awardees will be required to submit to the IRC a progress report 6 months after the award commences and a final report on completion of the project. IRC will provide templates for these two reports.
- Awardees will be required to submit a short final report (15-20 pages) to DRCD on completion of the project.
- Awardees will also be required to make a mid-way presentation on the progress of the project to the Social Enterprise Implementation Group.

Appendix 6
Strand 16: Competition and the electric vehicle charging infrastructure in Ireland.
New Foundations Award
Funded by the Competition and Consumer Protection Commission.
Up to 2 awards will be made
These awards will be 9 months in duration

Introduction

The Competition and Consumer Protection Commission (CCPC) is the statutory body responsible for promoting compliance with and enforcing competition and consumer protection law in Ireland. We strive to improve consumer welfare across the economy by enforcing over 40 legislative instruments, including product safety legislation.

Our aim is to make markets work better for consumers. Part of how we achieve this is by working to influence public debate and policy development, grow public understanding of the importance of open and competitive markets, promote competition and highlight the interests of consumers.

Objectives of CCPC research:

- One of the goals in our [2021-2023 Strategy Statement](#) is to be a leading voice in representing the interests of consumers and promoting competition.
- We use research and market studies to promote changes that make markets work better for consumers. Where appropriate, we make evidence-based proposals on how legislation can be improved to address identified issues.
- We analyse emerging markets in order to identify issues and recommendations for potential solutions at an early stage.

The objectives of this Strand are to:

- Identify key market characteristics and key players in the market
- Identify any risks to competition and potential or actual harms to consumers as a result of these risks
- Make recommendations on proposals to address identified issues that the CCPC can use as a basis for further research, advocacy with policy makers and/or enforcement activity

In partnership with the CCPC, this strand seeks to fund up to two projects analysing the structure of the public electric vehicle charging market in Ireland and any barriers to entry or barriers to its effective operation. Areas of interest for the CCPC include, *inter alia*:

- Public electric vehicle charging market (on-street, en-route etc.) at national and local level
- Electric vehicle charging market (home, workplace etc.) at national and local level
- Effectiveness of current electric vehicle charging policy in terms of facilitating the development of a competitive market
- Patterns of consumer behaviour
- Targeted interventions to promote investment and market entry
- Transparency of operational costs and end-point pricing
- Ongoing developments in technology and legislation (such as interoperability rules) that could impact how the market develops

The research project can select to address part or all of the areas of interest. A research project can be funded up to a maximum of €15,000, with a maximum of two projects eligible to be chosen.

This market is at an early stage in its development and the findings from any potential project in this area could have significant impacts on market developments up to 2030. Quantitative data in the Irish context is not yet publicly available. In addition, qualitative research will be required to understand challenges facing consumers and suppliers in the market.

Applications for funding will need to demonstrate that the project can:

- Engage with research best practice in conducting reviews of literature, evidence, policy and practice on the topic
- Conduct high quality desk-based and field-based study
- Conduct comparative international literature review to inform and contextualise the work by learning from similar strategies in other comparable economies
- Assess the quality of data currently available to provide quantitative and qualitative impacts
- Engage with relevant external stakeholders
- Work within the CCPC's oversight structure for the duration of the project
- Provide a comprehensive report with findings and recommendations
- Prepare materials for publication of the report and the communication of the research to a range of audiences, including presentations to the CCPC, Departmental and other public stakeholders, networking, conference contributions and other opportunities

Outputs

- Awardees will be required to submit to the IRC a progress report 6 months after the award commences and a final report on completion of the project. IRC will provide templates for these two reports.
- Awardees will be required to submit a final report (30-50 pages) to CCPC on completion of the project.
- Awardees will also be required to make a mid-way presentation on the progress of the project to the CCPC.

Sources

[Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Strategy](#)

[Climate Action Plan 2023](#)

[National Development Plan 2021-2030](#)

[CCPC Research](#) and [CCPC Market Studies](#)