



The Focal Point of British Irish Business

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British Irish Chamber of Commerce



The Chamber derives its strength from the commitment and personal involvement of all its members .

The British Irish Chamber of Commerce is the leading business group serving the interests of businesses in Britain and Ireland.

Every week, over €1 billion of trade is conducted between our two islands. This trade sustains over 400,000 jobs directly and many more indirectly.

The Brexit vote has highlighted the importance of British-Irish trade and the Chamber will do its utmost to ensure your voice is heard in the debate and negotiations ahead. Contact us today to hear how the Chamber can be of real and valuable help to you and your business in this new and volatile economic environment.

John McGrane
Director General

Background of the British Irish Chamber of Commerce



BACKGROUND

The British Irish Chamber of Commerce was launched in May 2011, during the historic visit of HM Queen Elizabeth II to Ireland.

Assisted by the Irish Embassy in London and the British Embassy in Dublin, it was a timely initiative of inspired senior business leaders, who saw opportunity in the enhanced diplomatic environment to inject momentum into the joint economic space within and across these islands.

UNIQUE

This is a bi-lateral Chamber, engaging members from across two islands and five legislative bodies in meaningful dialogue with a common purpose. Excellent networking events help members to find new suppliers and markets. Sector driven policy committees enable competitors to jointly examine opportunities and threats and to think about collaborative growth in Europe and beyond. The Chamber does much of its work away from the public eye where in camera discussions under Chatham House Rule take place within and across these islands.

The Focal Point of British Irish Business



The primary focus of the British Irish Chamber of Commerce is to help businesses in Ireland and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to grow trade. We publicly champion the €66 billion two-way annual trade between England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and the Republic of Ireland. We advocate on behalf of our members to protect a positive trading environment and to enable its growth.

The Chamber plays a vital role in maintaining focus on the value of two-way trade between the United Kingdom and Ireland, for business, for our governments and our communities.

The Chamber enables vital access between our governments, policymakers, industry and employers for the benefit of all. We ensure viewpoints are heard and respectfully discussed and we champion cooperation for the mutual interests of all our stakeholders.

Who We Are and What We Do



Members span all sectors of business throughout the UK and Ireland, large and small, from owner managed to multinational. Acting as a valuable link between industry and public policymakers, we bring together firms in diverse sectors such as Energy, Food & Agribusiness, SME, ICT, Culture & Arts, Finance & Professional Services, Tourism, Life Sciences and Infrastructure to collate sectoral policy objectives for adoption by politicians and state agencies for the benefit of all.

Brexit may threaten the free flow of trade between Ireland, Northern Ireland and Britain. On behalf of our members and continually reflecting their views, we advocate strongly in support of maintaining the status quo of free trade and borderless movement of people, good, services and capital in any settlement between the EU and the UK. We also support the commitment of the EU to become more competitive globally through reducing administration costs, repealing unnecessary regulation and pursuing an active and ambitious policy for trade.

British Irish Chamber Events



Member Benefits

When you join the British Irish Chamber of Commerce you can opt for a range of benefits from a broad menu. Talk to us to create a bespoke package that's perfect for your needs.

Choose from:

- A seat on the Council of the British Irish Chamber of Commerce with rights to attend meetings of both Dublin and London Chapters
- Access to all areas of Chamber activity, including membership of Sectoral Working Groups (currently Energy, Food & Agribusiness, SME, ICT, Finance & Professional Services, Tourism, Brexit/International, Life Sciences, Infrastructure) with full voting rights on policy direction
- Opportunity to Chair or observe sectoral working groups
- Invitations to C Suite and Invitation Only Events including Invited Leaders Series and those with cabinet ministers, business leaders, policy makers and ambassadors
- Invitations to events at Westminster and Dáil Éireann
- Priority booking for fast selling high profile events including President's Gala Dinner, Annual Conference Dinner and British Irish Race Day
- Opportunities to host and/or sponsor events and deliver keynotes
- Availability of Chamber Executives to address your events
- Co-branded events for a diverse audience and strong attendance
- Opportunities to bring clients to events
- A dedicated Customer Relationship Manager; regular personal engagement, bespoke plans
- Complimentary tickets for Annual Conference
- High visibility on the Chambers website
- Introductions to trading partner opportunities
- Opportunities to partake in Trade Missions
- Complimentary membership of British Irish Gateway for Trade- BIG

To join the Chamber please contact: Yve O'Driscoll

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British Irish Chamber Events



British Irish Chamber Policy Formulation



The Chamber draws its membership from across many sectors of the economy and counts both large Corporate and Small Medium Enterprises amongst its diverse membership. It is a representative body with connections to Government which are second to none. Taken with the UK and Ireland aspect, the British Irish Chamber of Commerce can rightly claim to be the meeting point for all Business big and small which has, or aspires to have, presence across both Islands.

The Chamber considers its two core functions to be Networking and Advocacy. The Networking element is unrivalled both in terms of the character of the events and also the level of access available. This is of critical importance. Chamber advocacy is driven by members, managed through the Chamber's Policy Committee and, where appropriate, Chamber sectoral policy sub committees.

To enable high level advocacy the Chamber develops and advocate a number of Key Policy Statements. These Statements are by their nature at a high strategic level and form the backbone of Chamber policy which is promoted by the Board. Key Policy Statements are approved by the Policy Committee. The Policy Committee is the primary vehicle for Policy formulation within the Chamber. Its objective is two fold. Firstly it determines Key Policy Statements for the Chamber, secondly it determines the scope and role of sub-committees and approve any detailed Sectoral Specific Policy Statements emanating from the sub-committees.

The Chamber has established policy sub-committees in Energy, Food & Agriculture, Culture Arts Sports Tourism, Life Sciences, Financial and Professional Services, SMEs and ICT.

Policy Director & Membership Enquiries: Deirdre Ardagh
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Trinity International Growth Programme

Bank of Ireland, in partnership with Trinity Business School and the British Irish Chamber of Commerce, are pleased to continue our support for the Trinity International Growth Programme.

Bank of Ireland is regulated by the Central Bank of Ireland.

Participants:

SME companies that want to expand across borders into new markets and meet the following requirements:

- ▶ Turnover between £500,000-£25m
- ▶ Size 10-150 employees
- ▶ Developing new products and/or planning new market entry

Course Dates and Application Process:

- ▶ The course will comprise c.20 participants from England, Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and Ireland and classes will be held in Trinity College Dublin.
- ▶ The course will include taught modules:
 - ▶ Business Analysis and Strategic Planning
 - ▶ Organisational Design for Export and Scaling
 - ▶ In-market Competitor and Customer Analysis
 - ▶ Scaling and Export Business Modellingand a practical export and scaling project for their business. The project will be overseen by experienced mentors from Trinity Business School and the British Irish Chamber of Commerce.
- ▶ Expressions of interest can be made directly to Trinity or to BICC at this email address: alison.cotter@britishirishchamber.com
- ▶ Applications can be made by visiting www.tcd.ie/business/executive-education/
- ▶ Successful applicants will be informed in January 2017 and the course will start on 23rd March 2017.

Course Cost:

Course fees are £2,000 per participant.





In March 2012 An Taoiseach Enda Kenny and Prime Minister David Cameron issued a joint statement on increasing the co-operation between Ireland and the UK in areas such as trade, innovation, food and energy. As a result, the British Irish Chamber of Commerce was formed with a focus on enabling more trade between the UK and Ireland.

The Chamber created the British Irish Gateway for Trade (BIG) to use the latest technologies available to make connections between business networks in Ireland the UK. BIG helps you, in a cost effective way, to connect with the right person at the right time, at the right location.

Based on your registration details, the information is tagged by software and companies and/or contacts are recommended for you.

E: info@brithisishchamber.com | W: bigconnections.org



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