

# LEO Updates 2026

February 2026

Presented by  
Peter Connolly

# LEO JOBS ANNOUNCEMENT

- 281 new jobs created in 2025
- 91 net jobs in 2025
- 9th year of YoY jobs growth
- 275 total small businesses employing 1,228 people supported by LEO South Dublin
- This was up 7% nationally on 2024

\*only relates to businesses that have received financial support packages



# MAYOR OF WAUWATOSA

We were delighted to meet Dennis McBride, Mayor of Wauwatosa, Wisconsin, during his visit to South Dublin as part of TradFest 2026

As a small token of South Dublin's creativity and enterprise, the Mayor was presented with a selection of products from fantastic local businesses including:

One Sonic  
Niks Tea  
Thomp2  
Chimac  
Tae Tea  
Absolute Nutrition  
Teegans Treats  
Garnacha



# NEWS - WOMEN'S NETWORK



## January Event

### Crystal Clear Goal Setting Workshop

Designed to empower women in business to create a personalised roadmap to success for 2026. Through a combination of interactive discussions, practical exercises, and tangible workbook assets, each participant focused on both their personal and professional goals.



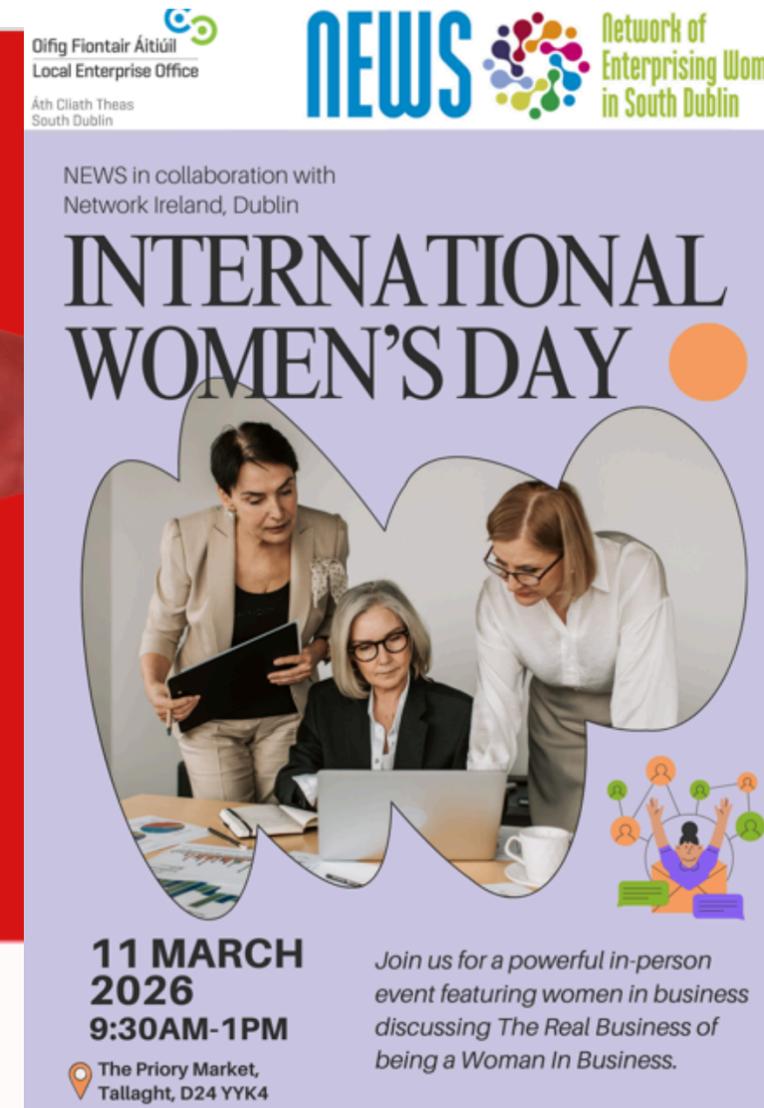
# NEWS - WOMEN'S NETWORK



## Upcoming Events:

Galentines Showcase with ACE Enterprise  
11<sup>th</sup> February

International Women's Day with Network  
Dublin  
11<sup>th</sup> March

A red poster for the Galentine's Showcase event. The background is a solid red color. In the center, there is a large, light pink heart shape. Overlaid on the heart is the text "GALENTINE'S SHOWCASE" in white, bold, sans-serif capital letters. Below the heart, there is a QR code with the text "BOOK NOW:" above it. At the bottom of the poster, there are three logos: the Local Enterprise Office logo, the ACE Enterprise Park logo, and the NEWS Network of Enterprising Women in South Dublin logo.A purple poster for the International Women's Day event. The background is a solid purple color. At the top, there is the NEWS Network of Enterprising Women in South Dublin logo. Below the logo, the text "NEWS in collaboration with Network Ireland, Dublin" is written in a small, white, sans-serif font. The main title "INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY" is written in large, white, sans-serif capital letters. Below the title, there is a large, light purple heart shape. Inside the heart, there is a photograph of three women in business attire looking at a laptop. To the right of the heart, there is a small icon of a person with arms raised. At the bottom of the poster, there is the date and time "11 MARCH 2026 9:30AM-1PM" and the location "The Priory Market, Tallaght, D24 YYK4". A short description of the event is written in a small, white, sans-serif font: "Join us for a powerful in-person event featuring women in business discussing The Real Business of being a Woman In Business." The Local Enterprise Office logo is also present in the bottom left corner.

# DUBLIN FOOD CHAIN - SHOWCASE

45 speciality producers from across the Dublin region

## South Dublin clients:

Happy Hour Foods  
RAW Juice  
Niks Tea  
Garnacha  
Thanks Plants  
Clever Foods  
Safco Fine Foods

Raizes Chocolate Makers  
Dublin Hill Gots Cheese  
Chimac  
Olly's Farm  
Cookie Do  
Absolute Nutrition

Buyers from Tesco, Sysco, Donnybrook Fair, Avoca, Good Food Market, Holland & Barrett and many more



# LEW - LAUNCH

Officially launched in Work IQ, Innovation Quarter Tallaght

- Taking place 2nd –6th March 2026
- Hosted by Local Enterprise Office South Dublin
- Programme of events highlighting supports for:

Start-ups

Self-employed individuals

Small businesses



# LOCAL ENTERPRISE WEEK 2026

Momentum: Moving Your Business Forward with South Dublin County Partnership

Student Enterprise Talks: "Young minds, big ideas and great futures" - Kishoge, Firhouse and St Josephs Lucan

Essential Financial Insights for Start- Ups, SMEs and scaling businesses with Paul Merriman

Mentor Clinics

Start Your Own Business Workshop

Export & Tarrifs

Digital/ AI

Creative Networks Collaboration Event & Intercultural Group

Local Enterprise Awards

Student Enterprise Final

**Local Enterprise Week 2026**  
Making it Happen  
localenterprise.ie/southdublin

Oifig Fiontair Áitiúil  
Local Enterprise Office  
Áth Cliath Theas  
South Dublin

SCAN HERE for Schedule

Difig Fiontair Áitiúil Baile Átha Cliath Theas

Local Enterprise Office South Dublin

SDCC  
Riadas na hÉireann  
Government of Ireland  
In partnership with  
Enterprise Ireland  
Rialtas Áitiúil Éireann  
Local Government Ireland

# OUR TEAM



**Peter Connolly**  
A/ Head of Enterprise



**Sandra Hickey**  
Administrative Officer



**Elizabeth Dunne**  
A/ Senior Enterprise Dev Officer



**Denise Turner**  
A/ Business Advisor



**Anne Woods**  
Business Advisor



**Stephen Hartin**  
Senior Staff Officer



**Anna Zieminska**  
Staff Officer



**Patrick Wilson**  
Business Support



**Nino Valentino**  
Business Support



**Adam Nugent**  
Business Support



**Brooke Wilson**  
TUD Graduate

**Export Advisor**  
TBC

**WAM Graduate**  
TBC



Comhairle Contae  
Átha Cliath Theas

South Dublin  
County Council



# Thank you