

Simon Musial

From: Anne Cusack <[REDACTED]@irealhealthcare.com>
Sent: 23 January 2019 14:44
To: RSES
Cc: Sarah Morgan
Subject: Midlands Regional Enterprise plan to 2020

Dear Sirs,

I am writing to you in my capacity as Chair of the Steering Committee for Midlands Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020. The Committee's membership is comprised of senior representatives from key Government Departments, State Agencies, Local Government, and the enterprise sector.

Having considered the draft RSES document the following is a summary of my observations:

The overriding sentiment of the Implementation Committee is that the Midland Region is not an 'Outer Region', but rather a unique Strategic Planning Area (SPA) given its centrality bordering five of the other SPAs in the State, and the quantity of lands in public ownership. The recognition and maintenance of high level inter-regional connectivity is pivotal for the success of the State, and this must be considered and acknowledged in the final RSES to support economic growth in the Midland Region.

The RSES does not adequately reflect the economic opportunities and sectoral employment opportunities of the region, and respectfully requests that the final RSES outline the Regional Strategic Objectives of the Midland Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020, namely:

Strategic Objective 1: Ensuring the Midlands is well positioned to address the challenges posed by climate change as it moves towards renewable energy.

Strategic Objective 2: Leveraging opportunities in Big Data & Data Analytics from iLOFAR.

Strategic Objective 3: Positioning the Midlands as a Centre of Excellence for Advanced Manufacturing in Ireland.

Strategic Objective 4: Enhancing the collective offering of the Midlands as a place to live, work, and invest in.

Strategic Objective 5: Strengthen the attractiveness of the Midlands as destination to visit

Strategic Objective 6: Harnessing the potential of the food and beverage industry in the Midlands

Furthermore, the RSES does not adequately address the unique challenge faced by the Midland Region with the acceleration of decarbonisation by Bord na Mona. The recently established Bord na Mona Regional Transition Team will strive to alleviate the concerns of affected communities and seek to develop the skills needed to serve emerging sectoral employment opportunities in the region, whilst providing supports in terms of skills development, engagement with other employers in the region and indeed support the Government's entrepreneurship policy and SME development.

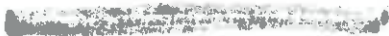
As Chair of the Steering Committee, I respectfully request that you consider the points which I have outlined as you finalise the RSES.

Kind Regards
Anne

Dr Anne Cusack
Chair, Steering Committee

Midland Regional Enterprise Plan to 2020

Dr. Anne Cusack
Managing Director



P: [redacted] | Tel UK: +44 20 3471 1341 | F: [redacted]
E: [redacted] | W: www.criticalhealthcare.com

