



# **Membership Booklet**

Drogheda & District Chamber,
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## **Imagine Growing your Business AND your Community**

Drogheda has a history steeped in commercial activity.

Shoes. Linens. Textiles. Clothing. Brewing. Distilling. Import. Export. Fishing. Flax Mills. Edible oils. Animal products.

Industries that have made an impact on the historical community of Drogheda. Industries whose buildings shape the landscape of Drogheda & its surrounding areas. While no longer in existence, the pride of the business people who built them continue. Their legacy lives on today with the new industries of retail, manufacturing, technology, tourism and service companies all making an impact on our living history.

And then there is you and your business. It's already making an impact and the question is:

Would you like to make more of an impact?

For over 125 years, The Drogheda & District Chamber has been at the heart of a town and district growing, enhancing, making things better.

The Chamber is made up of businesses like yours, people like you who not only want to make an impact through your product and service but also improve the community. In recent times, the Chamber has been at the fore front of bringing the Fleadh to Drogheda and creating the M1 Corridor.

Over the next few pages, you will discover what it means to be a member of the Drogheda & District Chamber.

Our members, businesses just like you, are leaving a legacy, growing their business and improving their community.

Be part of something that the future generation will be proud of. Let's advance business together.



The Chamber is both our voice and port of call when dealing with issues that affect our town and hinterland. We find the Chamber to be an invaluable partnership to our firm.

Niall Kierans, Owner, Kierans Deli







## We are HERE for YOU in Business - Regardless of Size or Sector

Whatever your size, whatever your industry, you are invited to become part of our membership. There are sole traders, SMEs, multi-national corporations within our membership, all working together and working for all.

Drogheda & District Chamber is the leading business organisation for the promotion and development of economic and commercial activity in Drogheda and the surrounding areas – from Bettystown, Laytown, Mornington, Donore, Tullyallen, Monasterboice, Collon, Dunleer, Termonfeckin, Clogherhead and everywhere in between!

We are your business voice, here to champion your concerns, celebrate your successes and ultimately drive Drogheda & District as a region excelling in business and ready for future investment. Our slogan is 'Advancing Business Together'. Collectively, we can create a better commercial and economic environment. A rising tide raises all boats.

Our membership community is our motivation and is powered by a successful and dynamic group of business leaders ranging in size and sector.

There is a voluntary Chamber Council and active committees made up of members from all sectors which support the goals and strategic direction of the Chamber.

As a member, you can get as actively involved as your time allows. We understand that every business is on its own journey.

#### **What We Do**

- 1. Networking & Events
- 2. Promotion
- 3. Subsidised Training
- 4. Lobbying, Representation & Public Affairs
- 5. Certs of Origin
- 6. Drogheda Business Excellence Awards











We were involved with the business excellence awards for years and the publicity was great. The Chamber got our brand in the media without us having to do anything which we were delighted with.

Marian Caddell, Community Liaison Officer, Indaver



































#### 1. Promotion

As a business you know how important promotion and marketing is to your business. As a member of Drogheda & District Chamber, there are numerous ways to promote your business. Here are a few ways:

#### 1. Bi-weekly newsletter

Send us your news and we'll include it in the newsletter. This goes directly into the inbox of your fellow members.

#### 2. Social Media Platforms

Your tweets, posts and news are re-shared on all the platforms that we are on – Facebook, Linkedin and Twitter.

#### 3. Sponsorship Opportunities

Our sponsorship opportunities are affordable for all businesses and can be specifically tailored to suit your budget and your needs.

#### 4. Business Directory

Backlinks are important for SEO and as a member, you are listed on our business directory on www.droghedachamber.ie.

#### 5. Member Spotlight

Each month, one member has the spotlight put on them and they are included across all our channels.

#### 2. Networking & Events

A key element of any promotional plan is to attend networking events. As a member of the Drogheda & District Chamber, you can attend our numerous events.

This offers you the opportunity to meet your fellow members, inform them of your business, what you do to help your clients and find out more about them.

Drogheda & District Business community has been built on networking and relationships...and there is only one way to do this – join the Chamber to build your network.

What's that old saying – your network is your networth. Grow your business through networking and referrals by joining the Chamber.



We have been a member of the Chamber for a long time. It is a great way for Flogas to network with local businesses to discuss their energy requirements for LPG, natural gas & electricity.

We met one of our clients through our connections and involvement with the Chamber and they are still a client to this day.

Eoin O'Flynn, Marketing Manager, Flogas

















### **OUR MEMBERS**























## 3. Subsidised Training & Development

M1 Drogheda Chamber Skillnet was established to support companies across the North East Region by offering access to high quality, subsidised training in a local setting.

Our Network Manager is on hand to evaluate your training needs, potential skills shortages and organise training courses that suits your budget and timeframe.

As a Member of Drogheda Chamber you can avail of a 20% discount on training courses provided through M1 Drogheda Chamber Skillnet. Simply contact our M1 Skillnet Network Manager via email m1skillnet@droghedachamber.com

## 4. Lobbying, Representation & Public Affairs

This is where your membership truly helps our community. Whether it's at local or national level, Drogheda Chamber is actively involved in a number of key strategic issues. We work with Government bodies and high profile organisations using our influence, expertise and experience to affect policy and bring about change.

Our agenda is shaped by you, our members and as a Chamber we make sure your voice is heard. If it's important to you and your business, it's important to us.

That's why our current strategic plan focuses on business promotion, economic growth, job creation, investment and tourism.

It's initiatives like the M1 Corridor Project, of which Drogheda & District Chamber was a founding member, which come to pass because of our members determination and focus.

## 5. Certs of Origin

Drogheda Chamber is officially authorised by Chambers Ireland to issue and certify Certs of Origin helping your business satisfy customs or trade requirements.

In 2018 Drogheda & District Chamber processed 429 certs of origin for our member companies.



The lead up to the business awards was brilliant and the post win publicity was a great benefit for the store. Lots of our customers mentioned that they had seen that we were shortlisted and went on to win the award and I suppose it solidifies their belief that we are a good local business to deal with and hopefully will help generate a loyal customer base.

> Fiona O'Donnell, Optometrist Partner, **Specsavers**







## 6. Drogheda Business Excellence Awards

The Drogheda Business Excellence Awards are a set of awards which celebrate excellence in the business community.

First held in 2005, the longevity of the awards is a testament to the success of the Chamber organisation and the recipient's delight, each and every year since. Every November, over 300 people from the business community gather together for our annual gala dinner and awards ceremony to celebrate the best in local business. It really is the highlight of the social and business calendar.

Every business – whether micro, small, medium and large – can apply for an award. There is at least one award category which will appeal to every business in the area.

We continue to revitalise the awards and this year is no exception. Our award categories have expanded to include 8 new award categories along with the coveted People's Choice Award, Fleadh Award and Lifetime Achievement.

With a team of highly experienced independent judges, a host of new categories to choose from, a new easy application process along with personalised feedback to all shortlisted businesses– there's never been a better time to get involved and align your business and brand with the best in our region.

Entering your business for an award is a great way to showcase your business, celebrate your achievements and demonstrate your excellence in a particular category or industry.

Take the first step today and visit droghedachamber.ie/howtoenter to find out more.











Huge credit goes to the
Chamber for delivering a
great awards
event. Every aspect was
excellently run. We were
delighted to be involved and
to continue our support of
the Chamber.

Niall Franklin, Marketing Manager, Hanley Energy







#### **Our Values - In Business for Business**

It would be remiss of us not to share with you our values before we finish this booklet. For over 125 years, Drogheda & District Chamber has been the beating heart of the business community.

Year after year, through recessions and growth spurts, it has been the stalwart of the community, a place for all business people to come, network, discuss, elevate and enhance business matters for the benefit of all. A constant on the Dublin Road, its doors are always open.

Here are our Values which you'll soon experience for yourself when you join:

**Inclusive:** We are an approachable, accessible & supportive community. We welcome all business – from the sole trader to the multi-national corporation.

**Collaborative:** We provide open & accessible expertise, collaborating locally and strategically – within our council and across the region.

**Integrity:** We are honest, supportive, responsible, and hold ourselves accountable. Our approach is professional & we inspire trust.

**Purposeful:** We use a 'one voice' approach - achieving goals for the greater good of our members. We are focused on empowering local business within Drogheda & District.

**Leadership:** We are a credible and professional support service. Agile and dynamic in our approach, we offer consistency and transformation.

The Drogheda & District Chamber has lasted this long because of people like you, people who became involved in growing the business community. Together, they advanced businesses. **Leave a legacy and join today.** 









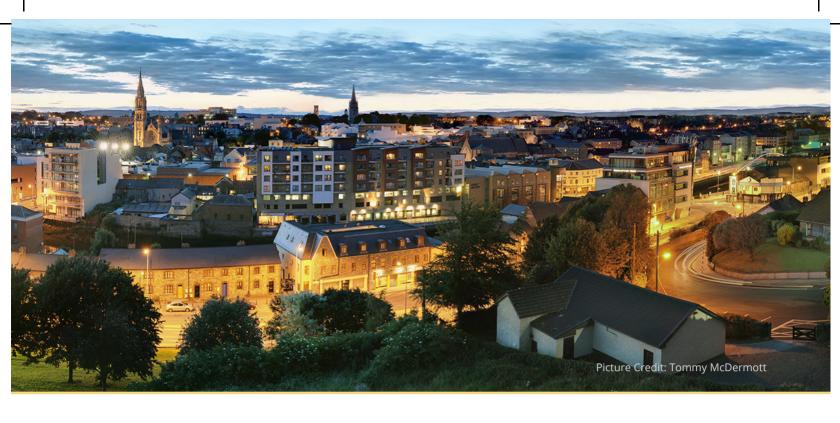


The M1 Corridor project is a truly ground-up initiative that has been developed and supported by local stakeholders across the region. It has enormous potential and offers unrivalled advantages to foreign direct investment, second site and start up companies.

Shona McManus, President, Drogheda & District Chamber







## Your Mission Should you Choose to Accept it...

is to Join the Drogheda & District Chamber.

Grow your Business. Improve your Community. Advance Business Together.

Be part of something that the future generation will be proud of.

Join the Chamber now. It needs you.

Contact any of the team TODAY to discover more or visit www.droghedachamber.ie and download our membership application form.



Irene McKeown, Office Manager E: manager@droghedachamber.com



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