

BREXIT AND THE EVOLVE STRATEGIC PLANNING GRANT

Background

The Evolve Strategic Planning Grant has been developed to support businesses to prepare a strategic response to overcome issues arising from the new trading relationship with the UK.

The grant provides up to €5,000 in support to eligible businesses, and :

- to help cover expenses associated with a short project assignment
- to determine how the company might respond to the threats or opportunities
- as a result of changes to the trading environment in the UK since January 1st 2021

These project assignments may involve the following:

- 1. Researching opportunities as the market evolves and changes
- 2. Exploring the product and service innovation elements of the business
- 3. Reviewing commercial aspects of the business, including costs, pricing and logistical arrangements
- 4. Exploring approaches to optimise supply chains
- 5. Strengthening financial and currency management
- 6. Scenario planning for markets over the next 2-3 years
- 7. Understanding and preparing for changes in certification and regulatory requirements

Eligibility Requirements

The Evolve Strategic Planning grant is open to businesses that meet the following criteria:

- 1. existing clients of **Enterprise Ireland**
- 2. SME or large company
- 3. actively trading
- 4. engaged in eligible activities, and
- 5. have been negatively impacted by BREXIT

In terms of eligible costs for the grant, this includes the following:

- Fees of external consultants to cover the following areas: Strategy, market development, innovation, operations, people and finance.
- Employee international travel and travel expenses related to the research project.

However **ineligible costs**, that are **NOT** eligible for assistance under the grant includes:

- expenditure prior to the date of application
- consultant expenses
- sales and marketing related expenses
- salaries costs, and/or
- overhead costs.



Other Key Issues

Applications under the scheme **MUST** be made through **Enterprise Ireland** and via an **online application process**.

The **maximum grant available is €5,000**, and is based upon 50% of eligible expenditure incurred by the successful applicant.

If you need more information on what is involved in the process, then contact us at <u>accounts@sakurabusiness.ie</u> for more information !