



Our Ref: PQ 40368/23

28 September 2023

Mr. Peadar Tóibín T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Dear Peadar,

I refer to Parliamentary Question 40368/23 answered on 20 September 2023:

To ask the Minister for Enterprise; Trade and Employment to provide a list of all studies, research and reports commissioned by his Department that were outsourced, in each year since the formation of this Government, in tabular form; the names of the companies to which each study, research and report was outsourced; the total cost for each; the number of reports finalised and presented to him that have yet to be released by his Department; the dates on which any such reports yet to be released were first provided to him; and if he will make a statement on the matter.

The response indicated that additional time would be needed to obtain the requested information. This has now been collated and is set out in tabular form overleaf in respect of my Department and its Offices. I also include reports commissioned and published by the Expert Group on Future Skills Needs (EGFSN), which are paid under my Department's budget and are also published on our website.

My Department considers commissioning reports, research and studies from external providers in cases where there is not the necessary expertise to deliver the project in-house, in cases where an external assessment is deemed essential, or in cases where a project must be completed within a short time scale, and although the expertise or experience may be available in-house, performing the task would involve a prohibitive opportunity cost.

Many reports or studies commissioned are intended to be published, however, some are to contribute to internal decision making, to provide insights for policy making, or to deliver data or analysis which contributes to broader reports published by my Department.

My Department complies with the Department of Public Expenditure, NDP Delivery and Reform's guidelines for engagements of consultants by the civil service, having regard to public procurement guidelines.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Simon Coveney', written in a cursive style.

Simon Coveney T.D.
Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment

2020 (commissioned post June)

Title of Report/Research/ Study Commissioned	Company name	Expenditure in 2020 (€)	Report status
EGFSN Building Future Skills*	AECOM	53,949	Published September 2020
Review of organisational structures in the WRC	Institute of Public Administration	23,985	Report for internal advice
Analysis of the collaborative economy in Ireland	Crowe Advisory	91,762	Report for internal advice
Scoping report for a National Design Centre	MCO Projects Ltd	79,150	Report for internal advice
Analysis of industry emissions for Climate Action Plan	Towards Zero Carbon	120,786	Report for internal advice
EGFSN Skills for Zero Carbon*	AECOM	65,074	Published November 2021
Review of Microfinance Ireland	Ernst and Young	28,025	Report for internal advice

*EGFSN reports are commissioned by the Expert Group on Future Skill Needs.

2021

Title of Report/Research/ Study Commissioned	Company name	Expenditure in 2021 (€)	Report status
EGFSN Skills for Zero Carbon	AECOM	93,661	Published November 2021
Review of Remuneration levels for Employment Permits	ESRI	17,427	Report for internal advice
Annual Business Survey of Economic Impact 2019	Insight Consulting	49,444	Published March 2021
Annual Employment Survey 2020	Insight Consulting	19,161	Published March 2021
Development of an Evidence Base to Support the Development of a National Clustering Policy and Framework	Grant Thornton	48,737	Published March 2023
Trends, Opportunities, Challenges, and Drivers of Change, Future of the Irish Retail Sector	KPMG Future Analytics	39,311	Published Oct 2022
Review of Export Supports for SMEs	Melyn Consulting	21,525	Report for internal advice
Review of the Future Growth Loan Scheme	SQW	38,111	Published August 2022
Review of Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund	Grant Thornton	34,120	Report for internal advice
Redrawing of Regional Aid map	University of Strathclyde	5,520	Report for internal advice
Connected Teams Action Plan	Grant Thornton	55,181	Published Nov 2021

2022

Title of Report/Research/ Study Commissioned	Company name	Expenditure in 2022 (€)	Report status
Trends, Opportunities, Challenges, and Drivers of Change, Future of the Irish Retail Sector	KPMG Future Analytics	9,815	Published Oct 2022
Disruptive Technologies Innovation Fund Review	Grant Thornton	8,530	Report for internal advice
Joint DETE-ESRI Research Programme: The Productivity Challenge and Its Interaction with Climate, Digitalisation and Human Capital	ESRI	94,109	Ongoing report (First ESRI Working paper published Jan 23)
Development of an Evidence Base to Support the Development of a National Clustering Policy and Framework	Grant Thornton	48,737	Published March 2023
Annual Employment Survey 2021	Insight Statistical Consulting	14,815	Published March 2022
Annual Business Survey of Economic Impact 2020	Insight Statistical Consulting	49,445	Published March 2022
Review of the Future Growth Loan Scheme	SQW Limited	18,287	Published August 2022
Recent Developments in Entrepreneurship Training: Implications for Inclusive Entrepreneurship in Ireland	OECD	25,000	Published December 2022
Regional Enterprise Plans Research Projects 1. Midlands Ireland Value Proposition 2. Session Planning, Delivery and Report on Outputs 3. Agri-Food sector in the North-East	KPMG Performance Solutions KPMG	7,485 2,500 11,377	Reports for internal advice and for the advice of the Regional Steering Committees
Survey of Public Attitudes to Trade and Inward Investment	Amarach Research	22,632	Report for internal advice
Evaluation of State Supports for Equity Investment in Start ups	SQW Limited	51,009	Ongoing project – not yet published
EGFSN - International Financial Services	Indecon	60,220	Ongoing project – not yet published
EGFSN - Skills Needs in the Biopharma Sector	Cruinn Advisory	47,970	Ongoing project – not yet published
Review of Industrial & Enterprise Policy in Small Advanced Economies and Implications for Irish Enterprise Policy	Landfall Strategy Group	25,000	Published May 2022

Investors in Diversity Certification	Irish Centre for Diversity	10,073	Published November 2022
Shannon Estuary Taskforce - two research reports: 1. Assessment of Opportunities for Decarbonisation of Process Heat 2. Expert assessment for the scaling up of rooftop PV	Tipperary Energy Agency Tyndall National Institute	15,160 29,176	Reports for advice of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce, report of Taskforce published in July 2023
Consultant's report on organisational capacity and agility (Consumer Policy)	Ernst & Young	50,532	Report for internal advice
Review of Redundancy Matter	Stratis Consulting Ltd.	23,370	Report for internal advice, submitted to Minister January 2023
Finance for Scaling Research	Regina Breheny	14,800	Research work for ongoing report

2023 (to date)

Title of Report/Research/ Study Commissioned	Company name	Expenditure in 2023 to date (€)	Report status
ABSEI 2022	Insight Statistical Consulting	36,974	Published March 2024
AES 2022	Insight Statistical Consulting	8,524	Published March 2024
Joint ESRI DETE Productivity Research	ESRI	0	Ongoing report (First ESRI Working paper published Jan 23)
EGFSN: International Financial Services Skills Needs	Indecon	0	Ongoing project – not yet published
EGFSN: Future Skills Needs in the Biopharmachem Sector	Cruinn advisory	48,970	Ongoing project – not yet published
Evaluation of State Supports for Equity Investment in Ireland	SQW Limited	81,759	Ongoing project – not yet published
Shannon Estuary Taskforce report: Decarbonisation of Process Heat	Tipperary Energy Agency	15,160	Report for advice of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce, report of Taskforce published in July 2023
Shannon Estuary Taskforce report: Floating Windfarms	G&D Geo Solutions	29,336	Report for advice of the Shannon Estuary Taskforce, report of Taskforce published in July 2023
Embodied Carbon in The Construction Sector	RPS Consulting Engineers Ltd	26,221	Ongoing project – not yet published
Globalisation of start-ups via incubators and accelerators	OECD	75,000	Ongoing project – not yet published
Regional Enterprise Plan Initiatives 2022 - Midland ICT Cluster Action Plan	SecondEdge Technology Solutions Ltd	17,165	April 2023* published but not by DETE
Regional Enterprise Plan Initiatives 2022 - Economic analysis of the agri-food sector in the North-East region	KPMG	11,378	Reports for internal advice and for the advice of the Regional Steering Committees
Trade and the Digital Transition	Indecon	24,754	Ongoing project – not yet published
Catalogue of Online Intermediary Service Providers in Ireland	VVA	14,985	Ongoing project – not yet published

Protected Disclosures Report	RSM Ireland Business Advisory	11,919	Report for internal advice
Recent Labour Market developments and its Medium-Term Evolution (WRC)	Kemmy Business School, University of Limerick	0	Ongoing project – not yet published