



Our Ref: PQ 71083/25

26th January 2026

Mr. Ken O'Flynn T.D.
Dáil Éireann
Leinster House
Kildare Street
Dublin 2

Dear Deputy,

I refer to Parliamentary Question 71083/25 for answer on 11 December 2025 where I indicated that additional time would be needed to obtain the requested information, which is set out below.

“To ask the Minister for Enterprise; Tourism and Employment if an independent external evaluation framework has been established to assess the value-for-money and productivity impact of the Built to Innovate programme, including the €6.8 million in approved grants; if not, when such an evaluation will be commissioned; and the indicators that will be used to measure demonstrable productivity gains at sector level rather than firm level.”

Enterprise Ireland (EI) works with 4,500 indigenous companies who have the ambition to grow through exporting. In 2021, with the launch of the Government's *Housing for All*, the agency was tasked with addressing productivity and innovation challenges and opportunities in the domestic residential construction sector to support housing delivery.

This was a new area of operation for EI and saw the agency engage with home-builders and offsite housing manufacturers for the first time.

Following an assessment of needs in the sector, Enterprise Ireland established the ‘Built to Innovate’ package of grant supports. Built to Innovate is a collection of existing EI innovation, productivity and lean grant programmes which have been made available for residential construction clients, and continue to be available to the sector in line with the Government’s new housing plan, *Delivering Homes Building Communities*. Grants approved under the initiative to date currently stands at € 6.8m.

EI has a policy of reviewing/evaluating individual programmes on a 3-to-5-year basis depending on the nature of the scheme. An outline evaluation methodology may involve some of the following elements:

1. Theory of Change
 - Map inputs → activities → outputs → outcomes → impacts.
 - Helps link initiative interventions (e.g., funding, training, technology adoption) to productivity outcomes.
2. Mixed-Methods Evaluation
 - Quantitative: Hard metrics on productivity, cost, time.
 - Qualitative: Interviews, case studies, stakeholder feedback to understand barriers and enablers.
3. Before-and-After Comparison
 - Baseline data vs. post-intervention data for participating firms.
 - Use control cohorts / groups if possible (firms not in the initiative).
4. Benchmarking
 - Compare against industry norms or similar programs internationally.

In the assessment of productivity outcomes in the area of housing delivery, EI employs a range of potential indicators. Currently data is being collected at an individual firm level as part of key performance indicators related to individual grants approved; for example, to measure outcomes arising with the deployment of lean methodologies in the residential construction sector.

Typical key performance indicators include:

Operational Metrics

- Cycle Time Reduction: average time to complete housing units before vs. after intervention.

- Labour Productivity: units produced per worker-hour.
- Cost Efficiency: cost per square meter or per unit delivered.
- Waste Reduction: % reduction in material waste.
- Snagging reduction: time reduced.
- Improved Housebuilder EBITDA – improved margin based on time and cost savings.
- Sentiment Improvement of Subcontractors working on BTI housing schemes.

Technology & Process Adoption

- % of Housebuilders adopting “On-site” Efficiency Processes ie LEAN and Last Planner Techniques.
- % of Housebuilders & factories adopting Modern Methods of Construction (MMC).
- Automation or digital tools implemented (e.g., BIM usage rate).
- Adoption of sustainability techniques – minimisation of the Carbon No. per house, per estate.

Capacity & Throughput

- Increase in annual production capacity (units/year).
- Lead time reduction from design to delivery.

Quality & Compliance

- Defect rates or rework costs.
- Compliance with sustainability standards (e.g., embodied carbon reduction).

Financial Impact

- Return on investment (ROI) for participating firms.
- Margin improvement compared to baseline.
- Draw down on (cheaper) Sustainability Finance.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,



Peter Burke T.D.

Minister for Enterprise, Trade and Employment