Invest Northern Ireland

Open Data Guidance

1st April 2014 - 31st March 2019

INTRODUCTION

The information in this file relates to offers of financial assistance to businesses approved by Invest NI between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2019.

Additional information relating to Invest NI's performance can be found on the Invest NI website.

Investni.com

VARIABLES

The fields contained within this file are:

- Business Name;
- Financial Year Offer Made – Invest NI's financial year runs from 1st April to 31st March;
- Total Assistance Offered by Invest NI – the amount of financial support that Invest NI offered towards the project;
- Total Investment – the amount that the business plans to invest in the local economy as result of the supported project (includes Invest NI assistance offered);
- Conditions of Offer – the type of business development activity that Invest NI's assistance is supporting;
- Jobs to be Created (Assisted) – the number of jobs the business expects to create as a result of the project being fully implemented;
- Country of Ownership - country in which the ultimate ownership of the business resides;
- Ownership when the offer was made – refers to locally or externally-owned (at least 50% ownership outside NI). A local firm can be bought over by an international businesses and vice versa; therefore, ownership can be local at the time of offer but the ownership now resides overseas, and vice versa;
- Project Status (New / Existing) – whether Invest NI support is for a new customer or a follow-on project in an existing customer;
- Constituency / Council in which business was located when offer was made – Parliamentary Constituency (PCA) / District Council Area (DCA) in which the business was located when the offer of support was made;
- SIC Code 5 Digit / SIC Sector – the main industrial activity that the business is involved in – based on the UK Standard Industrial Classifications (SIC) codes; and
- Current HQ Address Details– address at which the business HQ is currently located. This may differ from the address to which the original offer was made. For multi-location businesses this reflects the HQ address only. No current address has been detailed for businesses that have since ceased trading.

NOTES

It should be noted that:

- Figures are provisional and may be subject to change;
- Invest NI revises performance data on a regular basis to ensure that it reflects implemented projects; therefore, the data above may differ to previously published information; and
- The data relates to all Invest NI supported projects, some of which are specifically aimed at job creation, whilst others are not. Therefore, any attempt to produce cost per job calculations will result in inaccurate information.

DATA PROTECTION LIMITATIONS

In line with data protection regulations certain information has been redacted, including:

- Personal information, such as individual's names and addresses;
- Projects that Invest NI plans to announce publicly on a future date, as early disclosure may result in detriment to the customer or Invest NI; and
- Commercially sensitive information, including the number of jobs created by individual projects while a project is still live as this would give a competitor insight into a business' performance.

INTERPRETATION

Figures may differ from official published data due to the following:

- Some information has been redacted under data protection regulations as highlighted above;
- In addition to the support offered directly to businesses contained in this dataset, assistance is also offered through External Delivery Organisations and universities towards projects or initiatives that will benefit businesses across the whole of Northern Ireland;
- Invest NI also offers support to businesses through the provision of advice and guidance in the form of workshops, events, trade missions etc. The value of this assistance is not included in the dataset;
- In order to provide a full picture of Invest NI support, data tables that aggregate both the published and non-published data highlighted above have been included on the Open Data portal. The tables have been broken down into several different variables.

CONTEXT

This information should be considered in the following context:

- Invest NI assistance patterns are demand-led by businesses seeking the agency's support to improve their competitiveness and gain a larger share of international markets. In the case of established businesses, reinvestment patterns will usually be determined by the existing location of the business;

- Where a business chooses to locate will be driven by a number of factors including availability of a skilled workforce, infrastructure, size of land required and the location of similar businesses;

- The relatively small size of Northern Ireland means that a project assisted in a particular location has the potential to create benefits across a much wider area. Indeed, evidence from the most recent census indicates that many investments draw their workforce from areas beyond constituency and council area boundaries; and

- A change in European Union state aid regulations governing job creation projects took effect in July 2014. Under these regulations, Northern Ireland is defined as an assisted area, allowing for additional support to businesses compared to those in non-assisted areas such as most of Great Britain. The rule changes greatly restrict Invest NI's ability to assist follow on investment from large inward investors and to support expansion projects from large indigenous companies.

SOURCE

All data sourced from the Invest NI Customer Relationship Management system (CRM).

FREQUENCY OF UPDATE

Annually

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