



# Open Data Guidance

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1st April 2018 - 31st March 2023

## INTRODUCTION

The information in this file relates to offers of financial assistance to businesses approved by Invest NI between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2023.

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

[Investni.com](http://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 – the number of jobs the business expects to create as a result of the project being fully implemented;
- Country of Ownership (when the offer was made) - 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;
- Business Size - indicates the size of a business i.e. whether it is a small-to-medium enterprise (SME) or a large business with 250 or more employees (Non SME).
- Project Status – whether Invest NI support is for a new externally owned customer or a follow-on project in an existing externally owned customer or local company;
- 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 / SIC Sector / SIC Description – 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 publishes provisional performance results on an annual basis. New information may become available following publication; however, results are frozen at the time of release and only revised when subsequent year's results are published. This ensures that multiple versions are not available simultaneously and avoids confusion among stakeholders. In-year revisions will only be made if new information is deemed substantial; a decision on whether to make a revision will be made on a case by case basis; and
- The data relates to all Invest NI financially supported projects, some of which are specifically aimed at job creation, whilst others are not. Therefore, any attempt to produce cost per job calculations, on an aggregate basis, 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

## 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 makes an offer of support following an assessment of a business case submitted by a company seeking support. Monies are only released when project milestones are reached and evidenced. A company may receive only part, or in some cases none, of the assistance offered;
- Where a new business chooses to locate is driven by many factors including availability of a skilled workforce, infrastructure, size of land required and the location of similar businesses. In the case of established businesses, reinvestment patterns will usually be determined by the existing location of the business;
- 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, census data indicates that many people in Northern Ireland travel across constituency and council area boundaries to go to work.

## SOURCE

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

## FREQUENCY OF UPDATE

Annually

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