

Connected Hubs Network is Ireland's first national network of remote working hubs that will see over 100 hubs connected by the end of 2021. Already, 66 hubs across the country, including the Ace Enterprise Park, are on board and are accessible to remote workers via an online map. This number will rise to over 100 by the end 2021 with the overall target of 400 set to be exceeded. Announcing the launch of the network in Swinford, Co Mayo, Minister Humphreys said:

"Remote Working is a key commitment of 'Our Rural Future', the most ambitious policy for Rural Ireland in decades. Today, we are demonstrating the action behind that policy through the launch of Connected Hubs. Hub working can support the development of employment opportunities and career paths in rural areas. This will help to give young people the choice to stay closer to home while pursuing their careers and also to encourage people living in cities to consider moving to a more rural location. Throughout this pandemic, so many of us have experienced the benefits of remote working – reduced commutes, more time spent with your family, increased footfall in towns, a lower carbon footprint. As we look to the reopening of our country, I am determined that we make remote working a permanent and viable reality for thousands of people. The Connected Hubs Network provides the perfect opportunity for workers and employers to embrace a 'blended working' model, and to find the balance of hub, home and office working that works best for them."

The National Hub Network Working Group led by the Department of Rural and Community Development has identified and mapped close to 400 remote working hubs across the country. These hubs will be invited to join the Connected Hubs Network to create shared infrastructure that will deliver real benefits across the country. A National Hub survey is currently underway to gather further information with regard to services offered by these hubs.

> You can view the Ace Enterprise clip that was produced by local man Mark O' Connor from Media Mill by clicking the link below -







