

FUTURE OF CO KILDARE'S ECONOMY LOOKS BRIGHT

THE future of Kildare's economy looks bright, more than 100 people heard at an economic gathering on Wednesday.

Four major agencies, Kildare Co Council, the Local Enterprise Office, County Kildare Chamber and the Bank of Ireland, all rallied together to hold a discussion on how Kildare is poised for 2018, locally, nationally and globally.



Guest speaker, Brian Murphy of the Irish Exporters Association, Head of Enterprise Jacqui McNabb, and Maureen Bergin, Kildare Village, and President of Kildare Co. Chamber, and guest speaker, Dr. Loretta O'Sullivan Chief Economist with Bank of Ireland, pictured at the 2018 Kildare Economic Outlook Business Briefing, in the Osprey Hotel, Naas, Wednesday, 24th January, with Kildare Enterprise Office, Kildare County Chamber, and Bank of Ireland.

The talk was led by CEO of the council Peter Carey. Kildare has the second fastest growing population in the county at 222,500 and it boasts significant assets, tourism opportunities and major industries.

Chief economist Bank of Ireland Dr Loretta O Sullivan, spoke about her research and the monthly statistics gathered by Bank of Ireland used to forecast their economic projections.

Attendees and businesses alike were enthused with her positive projections.

“The economy is doing well and the outlook is positive, with Ireland set to be at the top end of the euro area league table for a fifth year running in 2018.”

Brian Murphy of the Irish Exporters Association suggested that a Brexit Ready Plan was vital for all Irish exporters, and this plan should be practical, maximise existing resources and use scenario planning to mitigate operational risks. He suggested that businesses should begin planning now, up skilling and building knowledge on import/export declarations, the Union Customs Code (UCC) which is the main legal provision for export of goods from EU, and tariff classifications for all export products.

Finally, Head of Enterprise in LEO Kildare, Jacqui McNabb, informed all attendees of the extensive supports available to business in Kildare, including those specifically designed as Brexit-ready supports.