

Cuireann an Business After Hours seo críoch oifigiúil le himeachtaí sóisialta Cumann Tráchtála na Gaillimhe go dtí an Fómhar arís.

Táimid buíoch dóibh siúd go léir a tháinig chuig an ócáid trathnona agus dóibh síúd a thug tacaíocht i rith na bliana.

Go mór mhór ba mhaith liom buíochas a gabhail do foireann Berwick Matthew Molloy, David Higgins, James Seymour, Grainne McMahon and their team for welcoming us here today.

This is the last Business After Hours event till the Autumn and I'd like to welcome you all here this evening and to thank you for supporting our networking events, this evening and during the year.

It's a pleasure to be in this wonderful building in the heart of Eyre Square and I'd like to wish Berwick Solicitors every success here. You can't get more central than this.

Eyre Square has always been the beating heart of Galway. It's our transport hub and the first sighting many of our visitors have of our city when they arrive.

In the Galway Chamber Economic Development Plan we quote economists who speak of 'the vital future role of dynamic cities in driving innovation and economic activity. The characteristics of dynamic cities include scale of activity, knowledge infrastructure and exchange, sectoral clusters and attractiveness to investment and talent. This is what we want for Galway.

With our partners we are initiating the Galway City Innovation District with the establishment of the PorterShed, just behind us here at the back of CIE.

An Innovation District has been described as the ultimate mash up of entrepreneurs and educational institutions, start-ups and schools, mixed use development and medical innovations, bike sharing and bankable investments, all connected by transit, powered by clean energy, wired for digital technology and fuelled by caffeine!

The interest in the development is huge and it is hoped to have it up and running in the Autumn.

This will be part of a bigger plan which will see the PorterShed building as the first hub which will then expand to a cluster of many more as part of a fully-fledged Galway City Innovation District.

Innovation is crucial to success. If we wish to succeed we must move forward. The team at Berwick know this. Their portfolio is vast and a look at their website shows a very comprehensive list of expertise.

As well as their practice work the team here is very involved outside of the office in the life of Galway including the various societies and charitable organisations to which they belong.

Their roots in Galway are further underlined by their new building. This is a historic building in the heart of the city and is proof of

Berwick Solicitors continuing commitment to Galway. An old building with a new lease of life epitomises innovation and creativity.

I wish Berwick Solicitors every success and would like to sincerely thank them for hosting this Business After Hours this evening.

Go raibh míle maith agaibh.