

Ireland at the forefront of Europe is good for business, growth and prosperity.

## **Why staying connected to Europe is important?**

- As a small nation we have demonstrated fantastic negotiating skills, fantastic influencing skills, and demonstrated our ability to partner with large nations both in Europe and across the globe.
- Our involvement in Europe plays to all of these strengths and I believe that we can add to our influence, both on the European stage and on the broader stage, if we stay connected to and at the heart of Europe.
- We are a small open economy, almost 50% of our exports are to the EU and we need to stay connected to that vast market in order to avail of almost endless opportunities.

