

## BUDGET 2025

# Business district home to Microsoft and Google calls for more transport and housing spend in budget

Ger Corbett of Sandyford Business District said Ireland is at risk of jeopardising its strong FDI record

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**Ger Corbett is the chief executive of Sandyford Business District, home to more than 1,000 businesses. Picture: Gareth Chaney**

Sandyford Business District (SBD) has called on the government to invest the €13 billion [windfall tax from Apple](#) in critical infrastructure such as transport and housing in a bid to make Ireland a better place to do business.

In its pre-budget submission today, SBD – home to Microsoft, Facebook and Google – said that the government needs to prioritise alleviating business costs, boosting long-term competitiveness through upskilling and innovation, and addressing inflationary pressures on businesses.

The company said that its calls come in the context of evolving geopolitical and economic challenges such as rising inflation, labour shortages, Ireland's changing corporate tax environment, and the ongoing need to reduce carbon emissions.

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It argues that sustainable transport systems (including an extension of MetroLink to Sandyford) and the creation of affordable residential units are key to supporting Ireland's economic growth and maintaining its appeal to FDI.

## Critical opportunity

SBD is home to some of the biggest businesses with operations in Ireland, including Mastercard, Vodafone, Bank of America Merrill Lynch, BNP Paribas and AIB. Overall, more than 1,000 businesses are based in the district.

Ger Corbett, chief executive of SBD, said that Ireland risks jeopardising its strong FDI record without the necessary investment in state infrastructure.

“Budget 2025 is a critical opportunity to invest in Ireland's long-term competitiveness. We believe that using the Apple windfall to address critical infrastructure gaps will enable the government to safeguard Ireland's long-term economic prosperity and ease current inflationary pressures.

“This will allow businesses to thrive, attract top talent, and remain competitive on the global stage. By extension, Sandyford Business District, and Ireland, will maintain their reputation as a world-class destination to live, work and conduct business in.”

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