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## Central Bank of Ireland Innovation Hub 29 January 2020

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### Central Bank - Approach to innovation

Innovation Steering Group • Smaller leadership group

- Provides strategic direction on Fintech and innovation initiatives
- Oversees initiatives (at strategic level)

Fintech Network

Innovation Hub

o 22 Divisions

• Liaise between Innovation Hub and Divisions (Hub & Spoke Model)

• Subject matter expertise

• Direct point of contact

- Open to firms inside and outside the regulatory perimeter
- On issues, products, services that are innovative

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## Why has the Central Bank set up the Innovation Hub



 To better understand activity happening outside the regulatory perimeter

 A specifically defined access point to the Central Bank

• Dedicated contact point for firms innovating in financial services

## How we went about it

• Established internal specialist working group to gather intelligence, to produce a report on Fintech activity

Spoke with firms, representative bodies, other regulators

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• Used network of EU regulators to research different engagement models

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#### What does the Central Bank's Innovation Hub do

Allows firms innovating in financial services to engage with the regulator

Firms can ask questions on the regulatory framework Firms can demonstrate their product to the Central Bank

Open to any firm developing or implementing innovations in financial services based on new technologies

Assessment criteria 1: <u>Innovative</u>: meaning new to the market and/or based on new technology Assessment criteria 2: <u>Mature</u>: meaning at an acceptable stage for meaningful discussion



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The Central Bank's Innovation Hub can provide firms with information on:

Relevant parts of the regulatory regime
Specific supervision rules and policies
Navigating the Irish supervisory and regulatory landscape

The Central Bank's Innovation Hub does not provide firms with:

- Guidance on business models or consulting services
- Endorsements of specific firms or technologies
- A testing framework (i.e. sandbox facility)
- Assistance with commercial developmentLegal advice or statutory interpretations



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#### How the Central Bank Innovation Hub works



Examples of how firms engage

# Product demonstrations

## Questions on regulatory perimeter

## Questions on the authorisation process



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Contact the Innovation Hub at: <u>fintech@centralbank.ie</u>

