

Catalyst

Breakout Room 5

What are your thoughts on the focus on clusters in the five areas identified? Do you think this will help NI become one of the most competitive small, advanced economies?

Clusters are not very focussed and need to be split out more. Feeling that there is a one-dimensional approach to the clusters, and they need more depth/context.

Software is not a cluster or sector but underpins most of the 5 clusters.

Need to understand what was left off the table in the arrival of these clusters.

'The ecosystem itself creates the strength, not the cluster'

A lot of fintech is from FDI, what is our strength from a native perspective? Outlined that we are very strong in cyber security.

How do we make something sticky? Currently FDI and economic advantage is the only leverage. When that disappears, how do we drive a mission-based workforce who are driven by more than economic advantage? Cost is never a lasting factor.

Should we be looking at virtual production (film, tv, gaming, CGI, post-production) and building that as a cluster?

Clusters are based on the knowledge-based economy. What is the link between 10X and the skills strategy to supply the demand and fuel this ambition?

Green tech is a non-negotiable for all countries now. Should be factored in.

How do we ween off FDI?

