



BioConnect

PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



BioConnect Launches Unprecedented Major Consultation Exercise.

BioConnect Innovation Centre is launching a novel and wide ranging consultation to help define the role of its new €7 million, 1,639 square metre research and innovation centre situated along the Armagh Road at Knockaconny in Monaghan.

BioConnect Chief Executive, David Macauley, said, “with construction about to commence it is important that we understand what services our members are looking for. Critically, this will allow us to equip the Innovation Centre with the right tools and recruit the best talent to meet the challenges of a dynamic and changing sector. Get this right, we can unlock tremendous value, creating new business opportunities and high value employment. This is a unique opportunity to shape our future.”

Who do BioConnect want to talk with?

Whether you are a school age entrepreneur, seasoned producer, decision taker, investor or somebody with a great idea, BioConnect wants to hear from you.



BioConnect

PRESS RELEASE

How do I engage with BioConnect?

BioConnect has setup a new communications platform to allow all interested parties, wherever they are located, to engage in a dialogue 24/7/365!

The platform that has been chosen is called **Discord**.

David Macauley added, “as we emerge into a new post COVID reality more and more of our activities – shopping, home working, business meetings or talking with colleagues, friends and family – have moved online. Commentators say COVID has propelled us 10 years into the digital future! Discord is a great example of how we can use our voice to build a strong online knowledge community to better focus on what’s needed. It’s democracy applied to service delivery in a research and development context.”

To join the discussion, go to our website – **bioconnectireland.com** – select the “**Take Action**” button on the top right of the home page and then click “**Get My Link**”. That’s it.

Why Discord?

BioConnect wants to cut through many of the complexities of doing business – getting access to key people, information and knowledge and, of course, knowing who to talk to. BioConnect wants to facilitate a real and meaningful dialogue with everybody that can make change happen.

What are the benefits of joining up?

Conceived as a community of like-minded people who want to see the food, health and agricultural sectors in Ireland grow and diversify, BioConnect’s Discord forum is, first and foremost, a platform for users to enjoy - one that will offer ongoing value and insights.

David added, “BioConnect wants to build a home where users can network, ask questions, seek out support - or just share their experiences - a breeding ground for new ideas, new projects and hopefully one or two new businesses! Above all, this is your forum, a safe place to mould the future of the food, health and agricultural sectors regionally, nationally and attract attention on the global stage. Yes, we are ambitious!”

ENDS

More follows...



Continued

NOTES TO EDITOR:

- BioConnect has today launched its new website at www.bioconnectireland.com. Full details of the Consultation exercise and how to participated are given on the “Consultation” page on the website.
- Discord is accessible via your [browser](#) or as a computer app (Mac and Windows PC) and as an Apple iOS / iPad or Android app from the respective app stores.
- The BioConnect Discord platform has been integrated into the new BioConnect website, **bioconnectireland.com**.
- The BioConnect Project, driven by Monaghan County Council and founding industry partners, Monaghan Mushrooms, Manor Farm, Lakeland Dairies and Bio-Marine, in partnership with major food producers from the region, together with tertiary educational institutions, will provide up to 125 jobs in phase one of the development.
- The BioConnect Project is supported by a grant from Enterprise Ireland under the Regional Enterprise Development Fund 2017 – 2020.