In order to maintain and grow the tech sector in Ireland, we have prioritised these four key pillars to shape the future:

Education and Skills

* Support the priority areas identified in 3rd ICT Skills Action Plan to increase the number of places available in higher education and to provide alternative pathways into the tech sector.
* Implement the STEM Education Review Policy Statement in full to promote STEM subjects and to ensure a better gender balance.

Competitiveness and Constraints

* Ireland’s visa and work permit application processes should be streamlined and resourced to match best in class international standards.
* Implement the second phase of Tech/Life Ireland to attract and retain international talent.
* Ensure capacity in electrical and water infrastructure meets future needs.
* Streamline planning processes to secure faster decisions on national infrastructure projects and large-scale developments.

Supporting Digitalisation across Ireland and Managing and Protecting Data

* Appoint a Minister of State dedicated solely to Digital Affairs in the Department of An Taoiseach, with responsibility for coordinating relevant Government policies and programmes across Departments.
* Ensure full implementation of the National Cyber Security Strategy (NCSS).
* Avoid interruption to data flow and storage capacity in the event of a no-deal Brexit.
* Work with the European Commission to support practical and evidence-based legislation in all areas regarding data and AI.

Taxation Policy and Investment Support

* Support indigenous business through reform of CGT and EIIS to encourage and reward investment and increase attractiveness of share-based remuneration.
* Attract and retain FDI tech companies by re-committing to an FDI driven growth model, the 12.5% corporate tax rate and the importance of the R&D tax credit. Also ensure digital tax proposals continue to be progressed through the multilateral OECD framework and a firm stance is taken against the unilateral EU proposals.
* Ensure that R&D supports in digital innovation are adequately resourced and easily accessible to all companies. Technology Ireland policy priorities 2020