

Crowdfunding Consultation  
Financial Services Division  
Department of Finance  
Upper Merrion Street  
Dublin 2, D02 R583

2 June 2017

Dear Sirs

**Re: Consultation on the Regulation of Crowdfunding**

The Irish Stock Exchange (ISE) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the consultation by the Department of Finance on the 'Regulation of Crowdfunding'.

Crowdfunding has developed as an important source of alternative funding for certain types of smaller companies, and this is reflected in the European Commission's Capital Market Union. The ISE considers that it would be appropriate to introduce regulation in a proportionate manner which seeks to balance capital access for smaller growing businesses with appropriate levels of protection for investors.

Regulatory requirements in this area should be considered for:

1. the companies that seek to raise capital, so that they provide investors with sufficient and accurate information about their businesses to make informed investment decisions; and
2. the entities that provide the crowdfunding platforms so that they provide 'safe' platforms for companies and investors.

As a number of European countries have introduced, and others are considering introducing, domestic regulatory regimes for crowdfunding, we consider that it is important for Ireland to meet best international practice and have a regulatory regime in place for crowdfunding.

Should you have any questions on our response, please contact me.

Yours sincerely



**Daryl Byrne**  
Head of Regulation