



## Management Information Scheme

Improving the quality of management information through the use of information and communications technology

November 2007

### Introduction

Investment in ICT is essential to increasing the competitiveness and sustainability of most businesses.

Through our Management Information Scheme we can help your business to take advantage of ICT.

The scheme aims to improve the quality of management information through the use of ICT and help to ensure that Northern Ireland businesses remain competitive.

### How will it help me?

The Management Information Scheme can assist with:

- software purchase
- software implementation
- user training in software

The available support will give you the opportunity to:

- make the investment in new technology sooner
- grow your business with the confidence of robust ICT systems
- handle the extra workload that comes with increased sales and new market development opportunities

### How does it work?

The scheme is delivered through one-to-one consultations and specialist advice. Financial assistance is also available.

Following a referral from your Client Executive, an Invest NI ICT Advisor will visit your business to

provide free and impartial advice on your ICT issues.

After this initial visit the ICT Advisor will compile a report outlining existing ICT infrastructure and capability, along with recommendations in the form of an ICT strategy moving forward.

The associated costs of the project along with recommendations to its viability will also be outlined in the report.

Your Client Executive and ICT Advisor will then liaise with you to determine whether the project is suitable for funding.

### How much does it cost?

There is no charge for the advisory element of the scheme.

Financial support is at the discretion of Invest NI and is dependent on the recommendation and verification of the ICT Advisor. The amount of financial assistance is dependent on:

- the scale of the project
- the nature of the proposed project
- the potential of the project to add value to the business and the economy
- Invest NI's current support levels at the time of contract

