

Shannon Chamber Pre-Budget Submission	Budget 2016
Ensure equity in the USC treatment of owner-directors and self-employed	Not addressed.
Reform the tax system for owner-directors and the self-employed by introducing a similar tax credit to PAYE workers	✓ A €550 tax credit on earned income introduced in 2016 with a view to increase this to €1650 as resources allow.
Introduce social protection for owner-directors and self-employed people	Not addressed.
Reduce the marginal tax rate to below 50%	✓ Marginal tax was reduced to 49.5% for workers earning less than €70,044
Merge income tax and USC into a single income tax	Not addressed but Government indicated that it would abolish USC in time.
Align employee remuneration with company performance by incentivising employee share schemes	Not addressed.
Allow investors who use the Employment and Investment Incentive to claim full relief up front	✓ While up-front relief was not granted, the limit for raising finance was doubled to €10 million.
Reduce Capital Gains Tax to 20% for non-passive investments	✓ Entrepreneurs who sell businesses and stakes up to a limit of €1 million will benefit from a 20% CGT.
Remove restrictions on the CGT entrepreneurial relief and align it more closely with UK model	Not addressed.
Incentivise Local Authorities to ring fence a portion of commercial rates for local economic development with matching funding from the Exchequer	Not addressed.
Develop state supported crowd-funding programmes to fund social investments	Not addressed.
Make childcare affordable by introducing direct public subvention and reforming the ECCE scheme	✓ The ECCE scheme will be extended to cover a second year and funding has been allocated for after-school care services.
Refocus the National Training Fund to up-skill those currently in employment	Not addressed.
Ensure affordability of health insurances by calculating the Risk Equalisation Scheme Levy as a percentage of the value of the plan rather than a flat fee	Not addressed.
Temporarily reduce VAT on the construction of residential properties from 13.5% to 9% and suspend development levies for a period of two years in strategic areas	Partly addressed – instead of VAT reductions NAMA will be tasked with building 20,000 residential units by 2020.
Prioritise investment in infrastructure to ensure we can support our future economic growth	✓ The Building on Recovery €27bn investment plan was published on 29 September.
Continue the reform of the public sector and examine the potential benefits of appropriate outsourcing to the private sector	Not addressed.

