“AN OVERVIEW OF RESEARCH ACTIVITIES IN THE SCHOOL OF FOOD SCIENCE & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, DIT”

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Abstract:

DIT has always been conscious of its role in impacting directly on Irish industry which is reflected in its associations with the sector. Industrial sectors involved in this work include medical instrumentation and diagnostics, pharmaceutical products, environmental products, food processing and product development, analytical method development and process evaluation, and semiconductors.

The Environmental Sustainability and Health Institute (ESHI) is a dedicated national translational research platform, uniquely based on collaboration between Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT), the Health Service Executive (HSE) and Dublin City Council (DCC), building national and regional capacity and capability.

ESHI is an all-island initiative, involving strategic partnerships with the University of Ulster (UU), Dublin City University (DCU), the Institute of Public Health (IPH) and other stakeholders. It is uniquely positioned to facilitate an interdisciplinary and cross-sectoral approach, integrating academic research with the knowledge and expertise of relevant professionals to generate collective responses to public health issues. Building upon existing education and research expertise, in addition to collaborations and strategic partnerships with multi-sector stakeholders, researchers at ESHI develop evidence-based interventions addressing environmental health problems.

The establishment and overall development of ESHI is overseen by a Board of Governors comprising senior representatives from business (IBEC), health agencies (HSE, IPH), academia (DIT, UU) and government agencies (EPA, DCC). Furthermore, the ESHI Scientific Advisory Board will be composed of leading academics in science, engineering and policy, health service representatives and industry experts. They will contribute to the long term strategy and research program by identifying national/ international health threats and potential gaps in policy, regulations, and/or other interventions needed for a healthy population.