



Digital  
that Delivers

# Website Vendor Selection Guide

27 March 2025

# Table of Contents

1. Introduction	2
2. Essential Criteria	2
3. Vendor Panels	4
3.1 Vendor Panel for Both Website Types – Standard & Bespoke	4
3.2 Additional Vendors for Bespoke Websites	5
4. Selecting the Right Vendor for your Business	6



## 1. Introduction

The Digital that Delivers programme aims to support the development of best-in-class websites that will provide you with a foundation for growing your business online. It is an essential part of your digital transformation, and we want to make sure you get maximum benefit from this workstream.

To deliver on this objective you need to work with a website vendor that has the capability to deliver your website to the highest of industry standards. To help with this, a panel of approved vendors has been established to help you select an agency to deliver your website project. The vendors on this panel have been assessed against the essential criteria listed in section 2.

Applicants who wish to work with a vendor who is not on the approved panel can request that the vendor apply to join the panel by emailing [digital.delivers@failteireland.ie](mailto:digital.delivers@failteireland.ie). The application will be assessed by our agency partners and must meet the essential criteria listed below to be approved to join the vendor panel.

**Important Note:** It is up to you to pick the most suitable vendor to deliver your website project, and you will make the final decision on this. The Digital that Delivers team will support you, but the final decision is with you.

## 2. Essential Criteria

All website vendors featured on the approved panel, undergo assessment by our agency partners. They must meet the below essential criteria to be eligible for selection by businesses in the Digital that Delivers programme.

Essential Criteria	Description
Platforms	Websites must be built on industry standard platforms such as WordPress as they provide standard content management systems that are versatile and easy to tailor to your specific business needs and goals.
Site Ownership	We ensure that all businesses have full ownership of the site after it goes live so they are not tied to an agency.
Website Speed	A fast website delivers higher conversion and a better user experience. We request the vendor outline the speed they typically achieve with websites and review 3 of their previous website builds to verify this using Google PageSpeed Insights tool.



Essential Criteria	Description
<b>Team Available</b>	We assess the skills of the proposed website delivery team and require they offer people with expertise in Project Management, Design, Programming, Technical Accessibility Development, SEO and Analytics.
<b>Turnaround Time</b>	As part of the project, we want to ensure that a website is delivered to a very high standard but also is delivered within a reasonable timeframe. We ask each vendor the typical timeframe they can design and develop a website within.
<b>Type of Websites</b>	Agencies will indicate if they are prepared to build standard websites, bespoke websites or both.
<b>Post Live Support</b>	When a website goes live there can be post-launch issues, so we require that each vendor provide support after the website goes live.
<b>Tourism Experience / Tourism Case Studies</b>	We require vendors provide evidence of experience working with tourism businesses. Vendors are required to supply 3 case studies of tourism websites they have designed and developed. We assess these case studies based on a number of factors including design, UX, user journeys, SEO, accessibility and speed.
<b>SEO Optimisation</b>	We require vendors to provide evidence of their level of SEO knowledge and their SEO approach when developing websites.
<b>Accessibility</b>	As part of the Digital that Deliver programme, vendors must demonstrate their capability of delivering fully accessible websites compliant with WCAG 2.2 AA standards.



## 3. Vendor Panels

The Digital that Delivers programme supports development of websites in two areas:

Website Type	Explanation
<b>Standard</b>	A standard website is when your website is replaced with a website designed specific to your needs. It is mainly for businesses that don't have a complicated offering and require a standard number of sections and pages.
<b>Bespoke</b>	A bespoke website is when your website is replaced with one designed specific to your businesses more complex needs, e.g high volume of web pages, additional integration requirements, more complex functionality, advanced layouts and interactive website components to make navigation through your content less overwhelming and more manageable.

### 3.1 Vendor Panel for Both Website Types – Standard & Bespoke

Below is the list of approved website vendors available to build standard and bespoke websites.

Agency Name	Website
Purple Sheep	<a href="http://purplesheep.eu">purplesheep.eu</a>
Hello Humans	<a href="http://hellohumans.agency/">hellohumans.agency/</a>
Irish Media Agency	<a href="http://irishmediaagency.ie">irishmediaagency.ie</a>
Rob and Paul Design	<a href="http://robandpaul.ie">robandpaul.ie</a>
Marla	<a href="http://marla.ie">marla.ie</a>
Insight	<a href="http://insight.ie">insight.ie</a>
Acton BV	<a href="http://actonbv.com">actonbv.com</a>



Agency Name	Website
Effector	<a href="http://effector.ie">effector.ie</a>
WeAreOpen	<a href="http://weareopen.ie">weareopen.ie</a>
FCDM	<a href="http://fcdm.ie">fcdm.ie</a>
Website NI	<a href="http://websiteni.com">websiteni.com</a>
Granite	<a href="http://granite.ie">granite.ie</a>
Journey Creative	<a href="http://journeycreative.ie">journeycreative.ie</a>
Totem	<a href="http://totem.ie">totem.ie</a>
Egg Design	<a href="http://eggdesign.ie">eggdesign.ie</a>
Little Blue Studio	<a href="http://Littlebluestudio.ie">Littlebluestudio.ie</a>
Splash	<a href="http://splash.ie">splash.ie</a>
ITM Digital	<a href="http://itmdigital.ie">itmdigital.ie</a>
Thin Slice Digital	<a href="http://Thinslicedigital.com">Thinslicedigital.com</a>

### 3.2 Additional Vendors for Bespoke Websites

Below is a list of vendors that will only work on 'Bespoke' websites. If you have been approved for this category, then it will be made clear to you in writing by your Project Coordinator.

Agency Name	Website
Kooba	<a href="http://kooba.ie">kooba.ie</a>
Tribe	<a href="http://tribedigital.com">tribedigital.com</a>
Matrix Internet	<a href="http://matrixinternet">matrixinternet</a>



## 4. Selecting the Right Vendor for your Business

If you are getting a standard or bespoke website, you must select a minimum of 3 vendors from the approved list and request a quote/proposal from them to carry out the work outlined in your website requirements brief. Once all proposals have been received your Lead Consultant will then provide you with an objective review of the facts presented by each vendor in their proposal to help you select the most suitable vendor for your needs.

We would also advise you to have a meeting (online or in person) with each vendor to get a feel for the way in which they work and the team that will be designing and developing your website as it is important that you can work well with your vendor. It is also useful to give them the opportunity to present their proposal to you as what is presented on paper does not always translate as well as it would through an in-person meeting.

Once you have properly considered your options, it is solely your responsibility to choose what agency you wish to select and appoint, but your assigned Technical Diagnostic Expert (TDE) will help answer any questions you may have to fully understand what you are getting from each agency. Furthermore, you are solely responsible for discharging the vendor's fees. Grant payments in respect of the vendor's services/fees will be made in accordance with the scheme guidelines and/or the Letter of Offer, based on eligible expenditure actually incurred and paid by you as grantee.

