

**LIDL OPENS NEW STATE OF THE ART STORE IN CASTLEKNOCK**

**WITH THE CREATION OF 35 NEW JOBS**

**Thursday, 13th December 2018:** Today, Lidl is delighted to announce the opening of its latest state of the art store in Castleknock, Dublin. As part of the construction plan, Lidl incorporated works to the surrounding area to ensure the store was fully integrated and built with the community in mind. Along with a new state of the art store, Lidl has built a number of retail units, 8 duplex apartments and a medical centre.

LGFA Dublin Player Sinead Finnegan was on hand to officially open the new store which has created 35 new jobs in the locality. The store opening hours will facilitate all customers in the locality, opening from 9.00am to 9.00pm Monday to Saturday and 10.00am to 9.00pm on Sundays. Customers can also avail of 98 car parking spaces ensuring a hassle free trip.

A *Lidl to Go* coffee machine and a large fresh bakery area will offer customers an extended range of delicious, freshly baked goods.

The new store, built by local Dublin firm J. Manning & Son, incorporates a range of measures to reduce environmental impact. It is powered by green electricity and is certified to ISO50001 energy efficiency standards. The store also offers customers free use of a number of electric vehicle charging points. Lidl Ireland recently announced its commitment to the introduction of electric vehicle charging points to all new stores and across all major store refurbishment projects. This announcement means that Lidl will provide the largest network of electric vehicle chargers in the Irish supermarket sector, enabling customers to charge their electric vehicles free of charge whilst they shop.

Rian Larkin, Store Manager said; *“We are delighted to open Lidl’s 159th store today in such a fantastic location. We wanted to bring a new state of the art store to the area while also building additional facilities to provide for the local community. We, as a team here in Lidl Castleknock, are really excited to get to know the local community. The new store is packed full of fantastic products at market leading prices. On behalf of Lidl Ireland, we would like to thank the local community for their continued support throughout the build. We would also like to thank LGFA Dublin Player Sinead Finnegan for assisting us with the opening today.”*

To celebrate the opening, Lidl also welcomed representatives from BeKind Ireland to collect a donation of €1,000 to go towards the charity and the hard work that they do. BeKind Ireland, founded in 2007, travels to India with a number of students and volunteers to help those in need. Past projects include opening the BeKind Boys’ Home for orphaned and abandoned boys and the creation of the Child In Need Institute(CINI) which helps mothers and children in India break free from the cycle of poverty. Since its foundation, BeKind has raised in excess of €700,000 to help the poor in India.

The opening of the new store brings the total number of stores in the Republic of Ireland to 159, with over 4,200 employees.

The opening of Castleknock marks the final new store opening of Lidl Ireland’s €200 million 2018 expansion programme. The 2018 expansion programme incorporated the opening of 9 new store openings in Fortunestown, Nenagh, Brunswick Street, Sligo, Limerick, Birr, Northwood, Dunshaughlin and Castleknock. In addition to this, Lidl has commenced the construction of a new Distribution Centre in Newbridge, investing €100 million, employing up to 2,000 people throughout the construction of the facility which will be size of three Aviva stadia.

Lidl is committed to working with its growing number of over 200 Irish suppliers to bring the best of fresh, local produce to its network of 159 stores throughout the Republic of Ireland. Lidl Ireland invests €600 million per annum in sourcing Irish goods and services. For further information on Lidl, its products, opening hours and any career opportunities please visit [www.lidl.ie](http://www.lidl.ie)

**-ENDS-**

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