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# Northern Ireland Economic Strategy

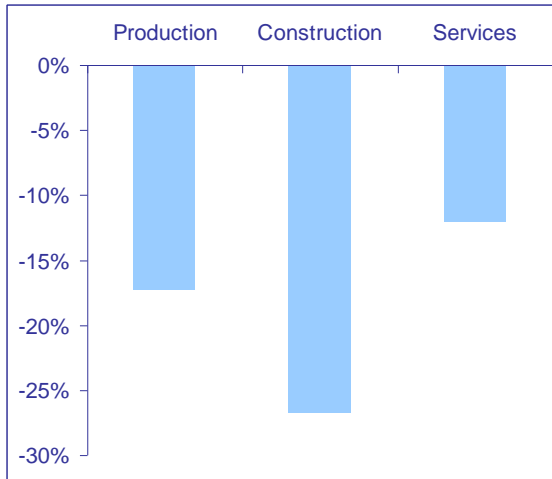
**David Sterling**

**Permanent Secretary**

**Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment**

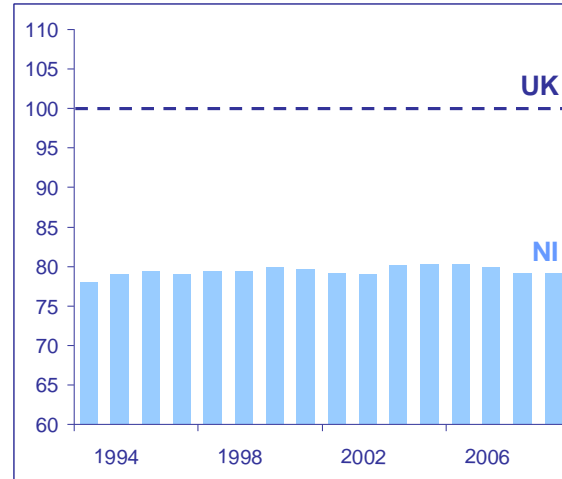
# Northern Ireland Economic Trends

## Recession



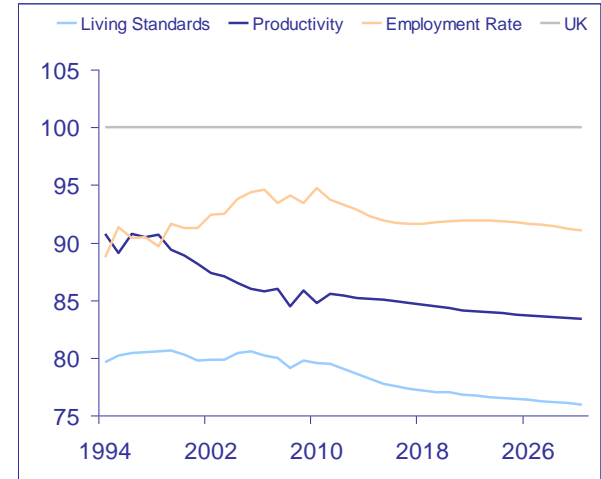
- Large falls across the private sector since 2008
- Services output -12%
- Production output -17%
- Construction output -27%

## Living Standards



- GVA per capita remained around 80% of UK average
- Caused by low employment / high inactivity and too few high value job opportunities to increase wealth

## Forecasts



- No convergence on key economic variables forecast
- Gap with UK average on living standards and labour productivity expected to increase by 2030

Full evidence base available at

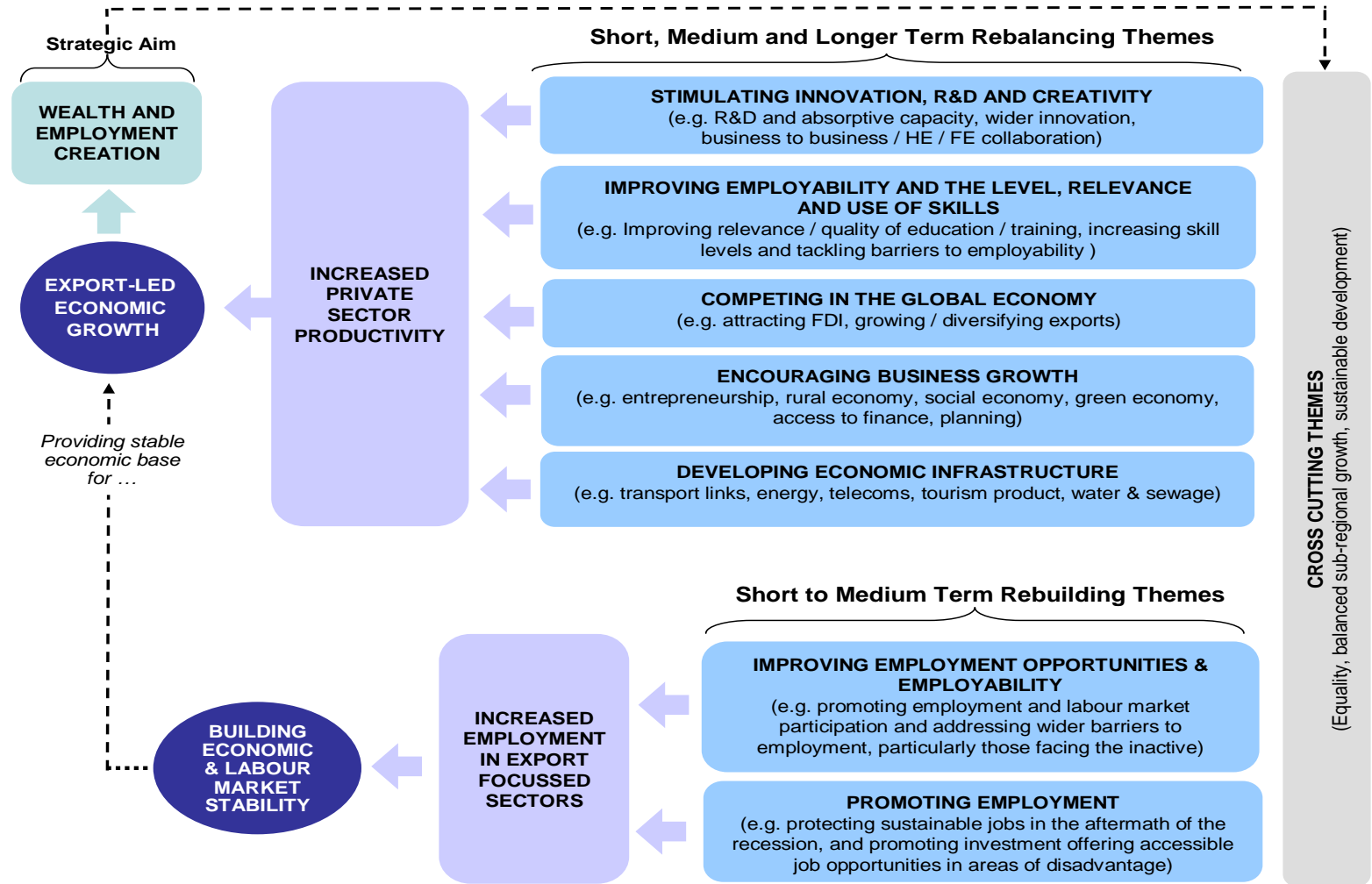
<http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/economic-strategy-evidence-base.pdf>

# The Economic Vision for 2030

a growing private sector, with more firms competing in global markets and growing employment and prosperity for all

- Vision is long term, reflects the reality that it will take some time to **rebalance** our economy and build a stronger private sector
- Executive also recognises the need to **rebuild** the local labour market following the recession

# Seven key themes underpinning vision



# 1. Innovation, R&D and Creativity

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- Private Sector Capacity Building
- Commercialisation of University/Public Sector Research
- Research/Innovation Infrastructure
- Finance to Support R&D/Innovative Start-ups

## 2. Skills & Employability

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- New qualification targets through Further Education, Higher Education, Essential Skills and Training
- Increase skills in subject areas important to the NI economy such as Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM)
- Focus on management and leadership

### 3. Competing Globally

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- Widen the Export Base
- Developing Local Supply Chains
- Diversifying into New Export Markets
- Seeking new Foreign Direct Investment

## 4. Business Growth

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- Entrepreneurship
- Access to Finance
- Green Economy
- Social Economy
- Tourism

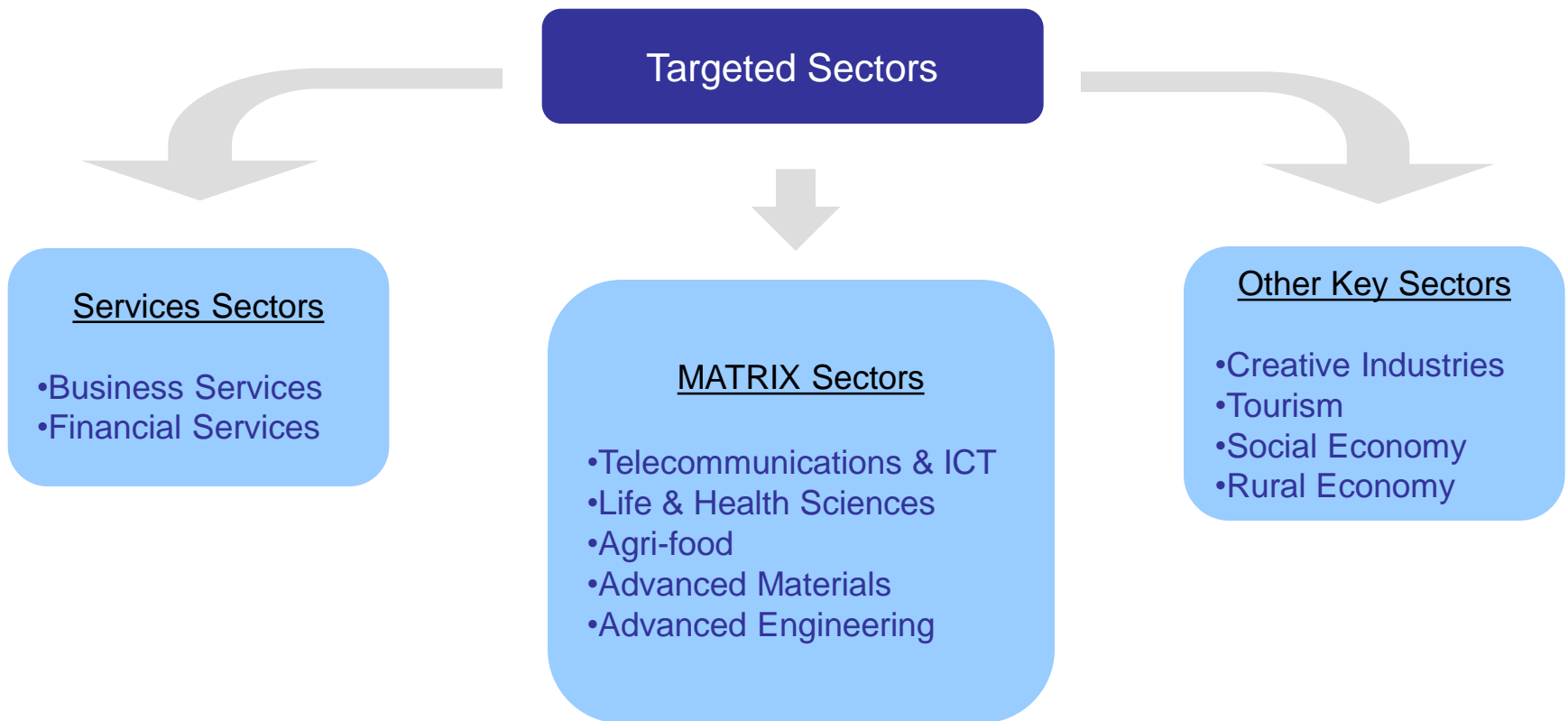


## 5. Economic Infrastructure

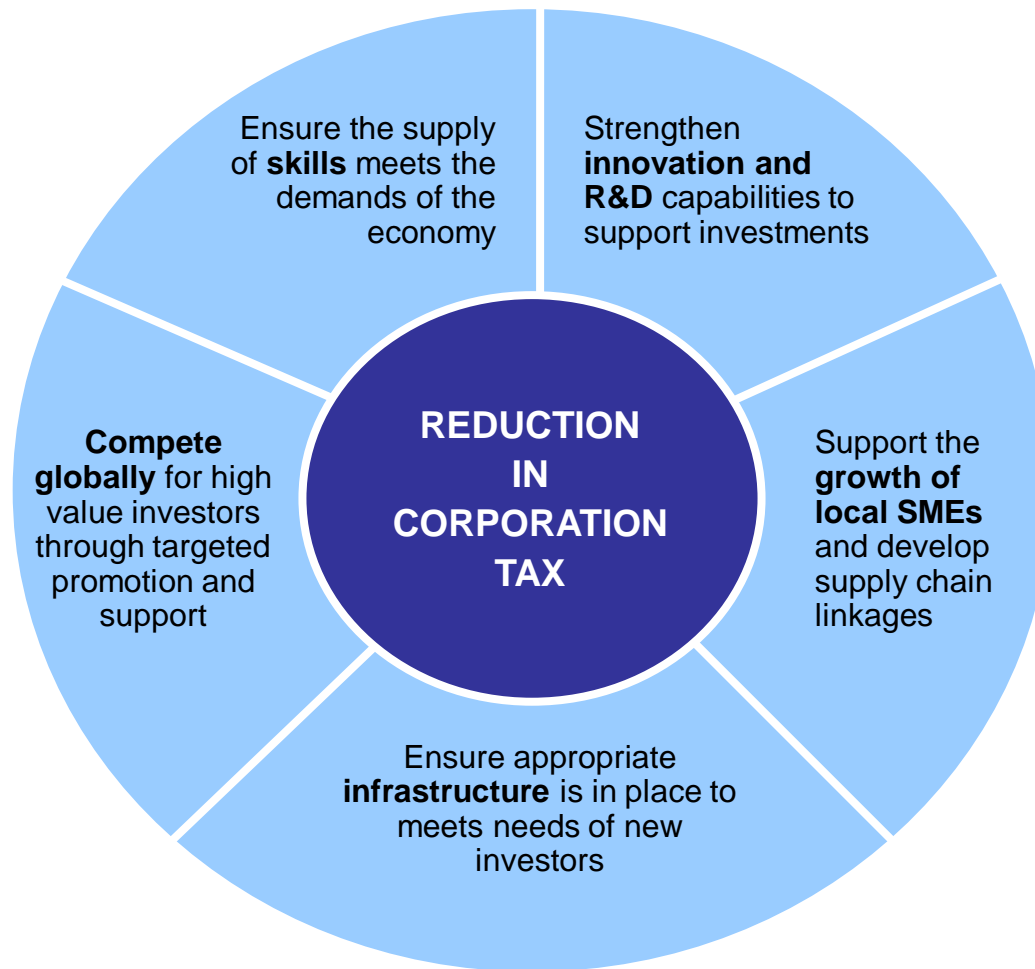
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- Energy Infrastructure
- Renewable Energy
- Transport infrastructure
- Telecoms Infrastructure
- Tourist/Cultural Infrastructure

# Target those areas with greatest potential for growth



# Taking Advantage of Corporation Tax



# Linking Objectives of EU 2020 to Aims of NI Economic Strategy

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## Research & Innovation

- Stimulating Innovation, R&D and Creativity is the key rebalancing theme of the NI Economic Strategy

## Information and Communication Technologies

- Telecoms is an important element of the Economic Infrastructure theme

## Competitiveness of SMEs

- Consistent with the Business Growth & Competing in the Global Economy themes

## Low Carbon Economy

- Key part of Economic infrastructure theme (with links to Business Growth – Green Economy)
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