

Fresh menu Businesses target skills to pay the bills



Skills and innovation were highlighted as the keys to unlocking economic growth in Northern Ireland at the Institute of Directors' annual lunch in Belfast. Guest speaker at the gathering of business leaders was Ian Smith, regional vice president for technology firm Oracle UK. The IoD said his address was timely, coming soon after the first MATRIX report from the Northern Ireland Science Industry Panel, which believes responsibility for leading innovation lies not with government or academia but with businesses. Pictured at the lunch are Paul O'Riordan, Oracle Ireland, Joanne Stuart, chairman of the Institute of Directors and Ian Smith regional senior vice president of Oracle UK.