

THE LIAISON COMMITTEE TO THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland
The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland
The Construction Industry Federation
The Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland
Engineers Ireland

CHAIRMAN'S ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2011

The Liaison Committee (LC) met on seven occasions during 2011 with all meetings well attended.

Committee Business:

The following matters were addressed during the year:

1. New Form of Contract:

Concern was expressed in early 2011 by CIF and SCSi representatives on behalf of their members at the perceived lack of progress in the development of a New 'Private' Form of Building Contract. All the member bodies reaffirmed their commitment to the delivery of the new contract and in March the RIAI agreed to take the lead and produce an updated draft contract form that would take into account the expertise and effort invested to date. Work on this is ongoing with a primary objective being to produce a document that will have widespread support within the industry.

2. RIAI Contract Forms:

The revised Yellow Form (2011 Edition) was finalised and it came into effect in March 2011. A revised version of the Blue Form has also been produced and it is due to come into effect in early 2012.

3. Schedule of Dayworks Charges & Percentage Additions to Labour Costs:

A revised Schedule and a revised Percentage Additions document was produced by the SCSi in consultation with the CIF. It is designed for use with the 2011 Edition of the RIAI Yellow Form of Contract and it became effective from 1st January 2012.

4. Employer & Sub-Contractor Collateral Warranty Agreement:

The sub-committee tabled a draft document to the LC in January 2011. The draft agreement was circulated to all member bodies for comment and agreement and it is envisaged that an approved version will be ready for publication by April 2012.

5. Disputes Resolution:

Despite intense efforts by the Disputes Resolution Sub-Committee, unanimous agreement on the complex issue of a draft wording for the Disputes Resolution clause in the New Form of Contract has not yet been reached. Work is ongoing in the knowledge that the passing into law of the proposed Construction Contracts Bill will have major implications for whatever form of wording is agreed.

Committee Membership:

Mr Toal O Muire stepped down in January 2011 and he was replaced by Mr. Niall Meagher. Michael Mulryan and Joe Boyle also subsequently stepped down and they were replaced by Eoin Wilcox and Kevin Murphy respectively. I wish to thank all three 'retirees' for their contributions to the work of the committee.

I thank all members of the committee for their support and advice during the year and I wish the incoming Chairman Martin Lang every success for 2012.

Secretariat:

I would like to thank Alison Irving for her invaluable assistance and for the quality of her records of meeting minutes. The CIF's generosity in providing meeting room facilities is also appreciated by the Committee members.

Conclusion:

The Liaison Committee plays a pivotal role in the development of new forms of contract for private works as well as being an industry-wide forum for the agreement of codes of good practice and I believe that it is essential for the construction industry to have an active and productive Liaison Committee. A key challenge for the committee now is not just to bring about change through improving and innovating but to do so at a much faster pace.

Signed: *Ciarán MacIntyre*
Chairman

Date: *31st January 2012*

Outgoing Committee:

RIAI	SCSI	EI/ACEI	CIF
Joseph Millar	Gerry O'Sullivan	John Egan	William Hourie
Jude O'Loughlin	Liam Boylan	Brian O'Brien	Martin Lang
James O'Donoghue	Eoin Wilcox	Ciarán MacIntyre	John Curtin
Niall Meagher	Kevin Murphy	Ciarán Fahy	Jerry Collins