

The Chairman of the Liaison Committee to The Construction Industry Annual Report for 2016

1. The Committee

The Committee is comprised of the following Constituent Bodies:

- The Association of Consulting Engineers of Ireland (ACEI)
- The Construction Industry Federation (CIF)
- Engineers Ireland
- The Royal Institute of the Architects of Ireland (RIAI)
- The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland (SCSI)

Engineers Ireland and ACEI each nominate two members of the Committee while the other bodies nominate four members each giving a total membership of sixteen. During the year there were eight meetings of the Committee with an average attendance at those meetings of 10.

2. Committee Membership

Ciaran Fahy was chosen as Chairman at the first meeting of the year on 26 January 2016. John Kelly was subsequently nominated by the CIF as Vice Chairman. During the year Ciarán MacIntyre stood down and was replaced by Terry Sheehan nominated by ACEI. Michael O'Reardon also stood down during the year and was replaced by Mark McGreevy nominated by SCSI.

3. LC Constitution/Terms of Reference

Discussion has now been ongoing on this matter for some years. A draft Terms of Reference was circulated by the Chairman to the Constituent Bodies in February asking for a response. All of the bodies submitted a response and the Chairman subsequently prepared a commentary and the Liaison Committee agreed at its meeting on 6 September 2016 to set up a subcommittee to finalise the matter. That subcommittee has never met.

4. Edits to Current RIAI Forms

This topic has dominated the year with a number of edits, mostly proposed by RIAI, being considered. During the year a subcommittee under the chairmanship of Liam Boylan was set up to deal with matters and bring a recommendation to the Liaison Committee. Unfortunately, despite trojan work by Liam Boylan who managed to get agreement on some aspects, the question of these edits has still not been resolved.

5. Alternative Form of Contract

A proposed Alternative Form of Contract was circulated to the Constituent Bodies in February again asking for their comments. A response was received from Engineers Ireland, ACEI and RIAI but a response is still awaited from CIF and SCSI.

6. Review/Revision of current RIAI Forms

There is no progress to report under this heading. Again this is something that has been ongoing for several years.

7. Other Areas

Some work was done on the Code of Practice, Collateral Warranties and a proposed guidance note on the Construction Contracts Act 2013. However there is nothing concrete to report in relation to any of these matters.

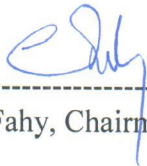
8. Secretariat

The administration of the Liaison Committee was facilitated by the CIF and I would like to express my gratitude on behalf of the Committee. I would particularly like to thank Denise Tuffy, and previously Orla Brady, who did great work for the Committee during the year.

9. Conclusion

I have now been a member for this Committee for seven years and unfortunately I have to say that I see no real justification for the continued existence of the Committee as it is currently constituted. I strongly urge the Constituent Bodies to undertake a fundamental review of the role and structure of the committee in an effort to give it some relevance.

Finally I would like to wish my successor, John Kelly, well as Chairman for 2017.



Ciaran Fahy, Chairman

Outgoing Committee

ACEI

Joe Hogan
Terry Sheehan
Engineers Ireland
Ciaran Fahy
Harry Meighan

CIF

Paul Carmody
John Curtin
Alison Irving
John Kelly

RIAI

Niall Meagher
Joe Millar
James O'Donoghue
Jude O'Loughlin

SCSI

Liam Boylan
Anne Costello
Mark McGreevy
Gerry O'Sullivan