The Chairperson of the Liaison Committee to the Construction Industry Annual Report 2022

1. The Committee

The Liaison Committee (LC) is comprised of the following Constituent Bodies:

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

EI and ACEI each nominate two members of the Committee while the other bodies nominate four members, giving a total membership of sixteen. During the year, there were six meetings of the Committee as follows;

- 25th of January 2022 *(12 Present)*
- 29th of March 2022 *(10 Present)*
- 7th of June 2022 *(10 Present)*
- 16th of August 2022 *(9 Present)*
- 11th of October 2022 *(12 Present)*
- 6th of December 2022 *(15 Present)*

The relaxation of Covid Restrictions allowed us to have face-to-face meetings again which were held in the CIF Offices. As is the norm now we had hybrid meetings with some members dialing in remotely. I would like to thank the CIF for the use of their facilities.

2. Committee Membership

The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland held the Chair of the Committee for 2022 and this position was filled by Mr Dermot Durack. The Royal Institute of Architects Ireland will hold the Chair for 2023 and Ms Eilish O'Donnell has been nominated as the incoming Chairperson. During the year Mr Paul Nicholls (CIF) stood down from the Committee was replaced by Mr Oliver Keown (CIF).

3. Code of Practice for Tendering and Contractual Matters

Following a considerable amount of work by a Sub-committee consisting of Danyal Ibrahim, Alison Irving, Pranash Ramanundh and Joe Miller the Code of Practice for Tendering and Contractual Matters was published in Q1 of 2022. Initially due to Covid Restrictions it had a "Soft Launch" and this was followed up by a CPD Event on Insurance in the Construction Industry held in the SCSI on the 24th of October 2022.

Hard Copies of the Code of Practice are available to purchase in the RIAI and CIF Bookshops and it is also available for download on the Liaison Committee Website.

4. Edits to RIAI Contract

Final editing of the New RIAI Form of Contract continued through 2022 with the Edits Sub-committee being Chaired by Mark McGreevy. There were two full meetings for the Sub-committee and numerous bilateral meetings and consultations with legal advisors.

At the time of writing there are only two issues remaining to be closed, Clause 26 relating to Existing Structures and the Second Schedule relating to Contractor Design and then the Lawyers can do a final proof and it can be finalized for printing.

I would like to thank the Contract Drafting Committee of the RIAI, Mark McGreevy for Chairing the Sub-committee and all those members of the Liaison Committee that contributed to the New Contract. The Irish Construction Industry will owe these people

a debt for their voluntary efforts. I hope that the Contract will be published soon and it would be fitting if it is published when the RIAI are holding the Cahir of the Liaison Committee.

5. Availability of Insurance

The Committee continues to monitor the impact of availability of insurance on the Construction Industry but the current view is there seems to have been some stabilization in the market.

6. Brexit

The Brexit Sub-committee has been stood down and the Committee now just maintains a watching brief.

7. Costs in Arbitration

The Committee supported the CIF and CIC in their representations to the Office of Government Procurement about the fact that costs do not follow the event in Arbitration under the Public Works Contracts. A response was received to the effect that it will be dealt with under the current review of the contracts and the Committee will continue to monitor this.

8. Construction Price Inflation

Construction Price Inflation is a key issue for Contractors at the moment and the Committee will continue to watch the issue and compliance with the Inflation Framework under the Public Works Contracts.

9. Specification Writing

The RIAI through Joe Miller kept the Committee up to date on Specification Writing and invited the committee to an information session on this.

10. Secretariat

The CIF provides Administrative Support to the LC and I would like to express my gratitude on behalf of the Committee. I would particularly like to thank Ms Alison Irving and Ms Esther Butler for their tireless efforts in assisting both the LC and the Edits Sub-Committee in preparing and circulating the agenda and minutes for each meeting.

11. Finances

I would like to thank Alison Irving of the CIF for acting as Treasurer. The costs of running the committee can be described as low and are met by a levy on the member bodies when funds run low.

12. Conclusion

I also wish to thank all members of the Committee for their help and support during the year and wish the new Chairperson, Ms Eilish O'Donnell every success in 2023.

Dermot Durack

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Dermot Durack
Chairperson

Outgoing Committee

ACEI / EI	CIF	RIAI	SCSI
Eddie Comerford	John Curtin	Joe Miller	Dermot Durack
Joe Hogan	Alison Irving	Eilis O'Donnell	Mark McGreevy
Gerard Monaghan	Paul Nichols / Oliver Keown	Toal O' Muire	Joe Boyle
Damien Owens	Mel O' Reilly	James O'Donoghue	Claire Cullen Crowley