

An Roinn Fiontar, Trádála agus Fostaíochta Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment

Housing for All Modern Methods of Construction Leadership and Integration Group

Tuesday, 28 February 2023 at 2.30pm DETE Offices, Kildare St

Meeting Minutes

Item	Update/Action	Owner
1. Introductions & DHLGH updates	The minutes of the last meeting were duly adopted.	All
& DHLGH updates	 DHLGH advised that public housing procurement using MMC is progressing, with a tender process expecting in Q2 2023. MMC guidance documents are substantially advanced. Action: DFHERIS to put colleagues in Department of Education who have experience of bundling in touch with DHLGH. Action: DETE to present overview of public procurement roadmap to DHLGH Steering Group on Public Procurement in coming weeks. DHLGH advised that Wicklow Local Authority is organising a workshop with other Local Authorities to share experience of procuring MMC. DHLGH noted that a joint DHLGH-DFAM-DETE paper on CLT is being prepared for the next Industry Capability Group meeting on 8 March 2023. 	DHLGH DFHERIS DETE DHLGH
2. Roadmap for MMC in Public Procurement of Residential Construction	DETE provided an overview of identified steps on the incremental roadmap for MMC adoption in publicly procured residential construction and invited feedback from the Group.	DHLGH/ DETE
	It was agreed that DETE would present an updated draft roadmap to the Group at the next meeting.	DETE

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3. MMC Skills Forecasting	DETE circulated the terms of reference for the skills study to the Group in advance of the meeting and asked for written comments by the end of the week (3 March).	DETE
4. Updates	The Chair invited updates on the various initiatives via a tour de table.	
	(i) Demonstration Park & Skills/Training Update: DFHERIS advised:	DFHERIS
	 a final decision on the cost and design of the Demonstration Park is expected to be taken at the next meeting of the Project Management Committee on Thursday, 2 March; Skillnet has a new MMC course offering; DFHERIS is due to meet with CIF in March to discuss awareness and uptake of MMC courses. SOLAS advised: 	
	 Uptake of craft courses are up 31% y-o-y; Online renewals of Safe Pass operational, with over 2,000 applications already registered; Number of SafePass cards issued so far this year suggests similar or greater levels expected compared to last year. 	SOLAS
	 (ii) Construct Innovate (Tech Centre)/ Built to Innovate Update: Enterprise Ireland provided a brief summary of recent developments in respect of Construct Innovate, including: Research projects have commenced. DHLGH has inputted priority research challenges for consideration for the Construct Innovate work programme. An open competition for the Chair of the Centre Steering Board has been undertaken and applicants are currently being evaluated. A centre manager has been chosen and is due to take up the role on 12 April. Construct Innovate continues to grow its industry membership, with 29 company 	Enterprise Ireland
	members already signed up at present and active membership discussions ongoing with a further 23. The focus is now shifting to the next 500 companies (Tier 2).	

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	- Technology University Dublin has joined the Construct Innovate consortium, brings to six the partner entities, including: University of Galway, Irish Green Building Council, Trinity College Dublin, University College Cork, and University College Dublin.	
	In respect of Built to Innovate , Enterprise Ireland advised grant aid applications from a number of general contractors are at an advanced stage. The Built to Innovate team will participate in construction-related roadshows and conferences in the coming months to raise awareness of the suite of innovation and productivity supports available.	
	(iii) Build Digital Update: DPER advised that the Build Digital project is coming to the end of its first year. Approximately 30 research papers have been produced, which provides a good benchmark. Looking ahead, the project will be refocused on applying this research to ensure actionable deliverables for Y2-Y4 to support implementation of BIM mandate.	DPER
	Action: DFHERIS/SOLAS to check all courses that include BIM and circulate to the Group.	DFHERIS/ SOLAS
5. Reflections on MMC Stakeholder Event (22 nd Feb)	The Group exchanged reflections on the stakeholder event Collaborate to Innovate organised by DETE on 22 February 2023.	Chair/ Discussion
	Three main takeaways from the event were:	
	 Careers: the attractiveness of construction careers due to increased levels of off-site manufacturing, greater on-site conditions, gender diversity. Pipeline: certainty required to support investments/capacity. Communications: coherency of messaging about state actions to support accelerated adoption. 	
	Action: The Chair to ask the MMC-relevant entities to ensure aligned messaging for specific target groups such as SMEs.	DETE

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6. AOB	DETE advised that it will circulate the draft ToR for the dashboard of MMC-related metrics to the Group.	DETE
	DHLGH proposed, and it was agreed, that the head of the Strategic Delivery & Urban Advisory Unit, DHLGH, present at the next meeting of the Group on research on Design Innovation and Offsite Construction being developed with The Housing Agency.	DHLGH
Next Meeting	The next meeting was proposed in the agenda for Thursday, 23 March 2023 at 2.30pm.	All

Attendance

Declan Hughes (Chair), D/ETE Seán Armstrong, D/HLGH Éadaoin Ní Fhearghail, D/HLGH Sarah Miley, D/FHERIS Kevin Meaney, D/PER Manus O'Donnell, D/ ETE Veronica Miller, D/ETE Veronica Miller, D/ETE Neil Kerrigan, Enterprise Ireland Ross O'Colmain, Enterprise Ireland Andrew Brownlee, SOLAS David Smith, SOLAS [online] PJ Rudden, Construction Sector Group

Apologies

Feargal Ó Coighligh, D/HLGH William Beausang, D/FHERIS John Conlon, D/PER Philip Nugent, D/ECC Leslie Carberry, D/ECC Céline McHugh, D/ETE

DETE, 6 March 2023