

Memorandum of Understanding

between

Royal Academy of Engineering

and

Irish Academy of Engineering

17 MAY 2022

THE ROYAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING (Charity Registration Number 293074) of Prince Philip House, 3 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5DG (RAEng), and

THE IRISH ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING (Registered in Ireland: CRO 439234, CHY 18046), of 22 Clyde Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4 (IAE)

Background

The Royal Academy of Engineering

The Royal Academy of Engineering is a charity and the UK's National Academy of engineering and technology. Our overarching ambition is to harness the power of engineering to build a sustainable society and an inclusive economy that works for everyone.

Working together with our Fellows and partners to tackle the greatest challenges of our age, the Royal Academy of Engineering is growing talent and developing skills for the future, driving innovation and building global partnerships, and influencing policy and engaging the public.

Irish Academy of Engineering

The Irish Academy was founded in 1997 as a non-profit company limited by guarantee. It is a registered charity.

The stated aim of the Irish Academy of Engineering is "to advance the wellbeing of the country by marshalling the expertise and insights of eminent engineers to provide

independent advice to policy makers on matters involving engineering and technology" on a pro bono basis.

The Academy provides thought leadership on key challenges by stimulating debate on the issues and exploring possible solutions to the problems. The Academy is concerned with strategic, national and island-wide issues where the engineering profession can make a unique contribution to economic, social and technological development.

Partnership

The Irish Academy of Engineering and the Royal Academy of Engineering have an aspiration to build better links and to better align relevant areas of their work to ensure they have a positive and meaningful influence on the economic development and public wellbeing of these islands.

This aspiration will be achieved through a collaborative partnership to deliver activities that will contribute to shared objectives of sustainable and inclusive economic growth. This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) represents our commitment to partner with clear, aligned goals and values.

This MoU outlines the scope of an initial work programme with an openness on both parties to extend and/or expand both the terms and the nature of the MoU on a needs/opportunity identified basis.

Article 1

The forms of future cooperation and contacts between both sides may include but are not restricted to:

1) Exploratory Missions

Both sides may assist in promoting exploratory missions of scientists, engineers, officials, and entrepreneurs to facilitate joint ventures and collaboration in engineering and technological sciences.

2) Joint Seminars/Workshops

Both sides may facilitate the holding of seminars/workshops in areas where the exchange of information promises to improve the level of cooperation between scientists, engineers and entrepreneurs of both sides.

3) Exchange Information

Both sides may cooperate in the exchange of information and publications for mutual benefit.

4) Others

Both sides may conduct other activities in fields of mutual interest, either bilaterally or in conjunction with sister academies of other countries.

Article 2

With the aim of building on discussions held during the joint visit to Belfast and Dublin of the Royal Academy of Engineering and Irish Academy of Engineering Presidents in October 2021. The Academies shall work together to identify practical opportunities to link existing workstreams and to explore ambitious stretch projects across areas of shared interest. Specifically:

- 2.1 Engineering policy:** Explore opportunities to share the work of the Irish Academy committees and the National Engineering Policy Centre, on issues of innovation, energy and climate change which are at the top of each of both Academies' policy agendas.
- 2.2 Innovation and entrepreneurship:** Build links between the enterprise focus of the Royal Academy of Engineering's Enterprise Hub, specifically its regional base in Northern Ireland (Belfast) and the innovation policy focus of the Irish Academy of Engineering's Innovation Committee. This might include opportunities to share emerging policy/Academy perspective pieces, to identify opportunities to include all-island data and case studies, where appropriate and to identify areas for all-island programme collaboration.
- 2.3 Policy and influence:** Explore Irish Academy of Engineering engagement with Royal Academy of Engineering Policy Fellowships programme. Review opportunities to scope a joint Academy policy report, from an all-island innovation /economic development perspective. In addition, share approaches to innovation strategy and effective communication and influence.
- 2.4 Skills and Talent, Diversity and Inclusion:** Enterprise Hub in Northern Ireland to share regular updates of the Royal Academy of Engineering's active work programme in the region, with a view to identifying areas for collaboration across all levels of skills and education. Likewise to provide insight to the Royal Academy of Engineering's Education work programme. Both academies to share skills pipeline and diversity and inclusion policy papers.

Article 3

Both sides will, within their resources, maintain friendly contacts and encourage mutual cooperation between scientists and engineers.

Article 4

With regard to funding for mutually agreed-upon activities that require travel to either country, the sending side will pay the travel fares, and the receiving side will pay in-country costs. In other cases, funding will be agreed on a case-by-case basis.

Article 5

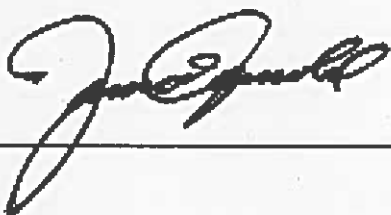
This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force for a period of three years from the date of signing and after endorsement by the respective governing bodies and can be extended for a period of three years by mutual agreement.

Status

This MoU is not intended to be legally binding, and no legal obligations or legal rights shall arise from this MoU. The parties enter into the MoU intending to honour all their obligations.

Nothing in this MoU is intended to establish any joint venture between the parties, constitute either party as the agent of the other party, nor authorise either of the parties to make or enter into any commitments for or on behalf of the other party.


The intent of this MOU is to provide a framework under which both parties can work together to develop and implement an action-focused work programme.

Signed: 

Name: Professor Sir Jim McDonald FREng,
FRSE

Title: President
Organisation: Royal Academy of
Engineering

Date: 17 May 2022

Signed: 

Name: Mr Tom Leahy FIEI, FIAE

Title: President
Organisation: Irish Academy of
Engineering

Date: 17 May 2022