



THE IRISH ACADEMY OF  
**ENGINEERING**  
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE

# 27th Annual Report

APRIL 2024 – MARCH 2025  
INCLUDING  
THE OFFICIAL LIST OF FELLOWS  
AT  
31 MARCH 2025

*Joseph F. Harford*  
*Hon. Secretary*



President  
**Seamus  
McKeague**  
BSc FIAE

# Contents

---

## INTRODUCTION

REVIEW OF THE YEAR

Seamus McKeague  
President

SPECIAL ADVISOR REPORT

Tom Leahy  
Special Advisor & Past President

STANDING COMMITTEES and  
REGIONAL BRANCHES

Committee Chairs

GOVERNANCE AND MEMBERSHIP  
OF THE ACADEMY  
HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

Mr. Joseph Harford  
Honorary Secretary

OBITUARIES

John Duffy  
William (Bill) Morrison

OFFICIAL LIST OF FELLOWS

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT  
HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Mr. Tim Corcoran  
Honorary Treasurer

## *Introduction*

---

This Annual Report reviews the activities of the Irish Academy of Engineering in its twenty sixth year as the Academy and its seventeenth year as a Company Limited by Guarantee and one which is recognised for Charitable Status.

The report covers the year from April 1st, 2024 to March 31st, 2025.

The financial year remains unchanged as the calendar year ending December 31st 2024.

“Many academic, corporate, government and other outside entities hold the academy in high regard.”

---



Seamus McKeague  
President



## President's Review of 2024-2025

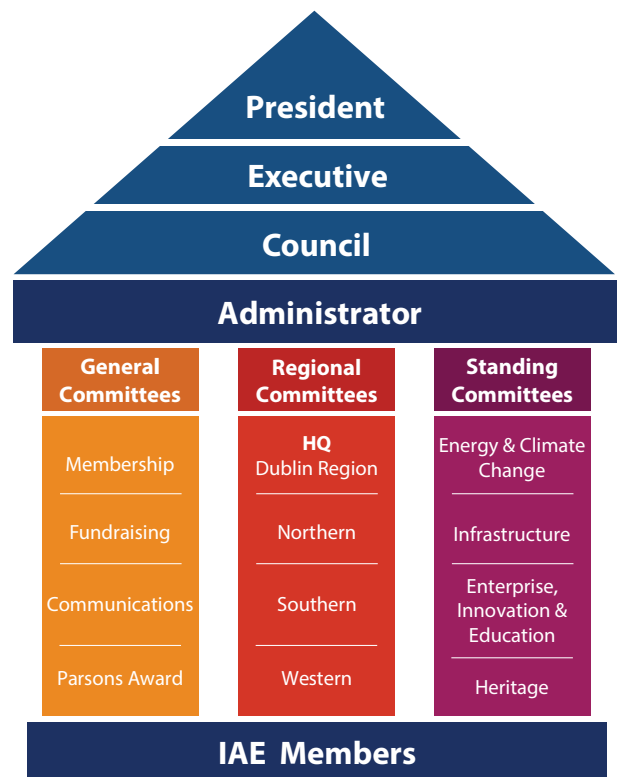
As I approach the end of my term, I feel privileged being your president for the past 2 years. I have learnt so much, met many wonderful people, travelled to conferences and meetings on behalf of the academy across Ireland and overseas. The academy is held in high esteem by so many academic, corporate, government and other outside organisations due to the professionalism and dedication of our fellows and the quality of the reports we publish.

I owe a deep gratitude to Fiona, IAE Executive, Tom Leahy our past president and special advisor and to the Executive for their support, friendship and encouragement over the past 2 years. I believe the academy is in good shape with the overall strategic direction in terms of our alliances with RAE, CAETS, Euro-case and with our patrons and other benefactors.

Our finances are in good order, the voluntary work, dedication and engagement from key fellows is truly commendable ensuring our sustainability while fulfilling our mantra 'Thought Leadership In A Time Of Great Change'. I look forward to handing on the office of President IAE to Sean Finlay at our AGM. I have enjoyed my 2-year term and will remain on the Executive for another 2 years as Past President. We have 9 new fellows joining the academy this year and I will encourage them to get engaged with the work of the academy. I look forward to continuing my association with IAE and to supporting & partnering Sean as President .

Seamus McKeague

President



# Current Organizational Structure

## **Council/Directors(D):**

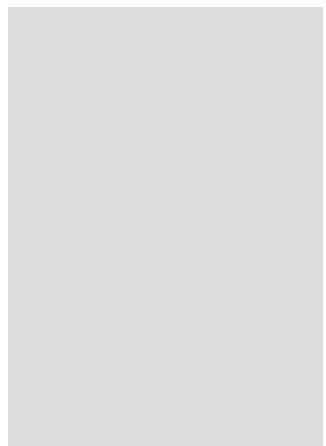
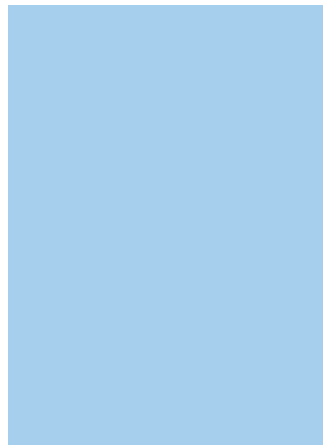
- Seamus McKeague, President (D)
- Sean Finlay, President Elect (D)
- Patrick Lynch, Honorary Treasurer (D)
- Joe Harford, Honorary Secretary (D)
- Tom Leahy, Special Advisor & Past President (D)
- Jim Browne
- Mark Gantly
- Eileen Harkin-Jones
- Mary Kelly
- Brendan Murphy

## **Committees:**

- Infrastructure Standing committee-Tim Corcoran (Chair)
- Energy and Climate Change Standing committee – Eamonn O'Reilly (Chair)
- Enterprise, Innovation and Education Standing committee Mark Gantly (Chair)
- Heritage Committee: Dr. Ron Cox (Chair)
- Membership Committee: Sean Finlay (Chair)
- Philanthropy/Fundraising: Tom Leahy (Chair)

## **Regional Committees:**

- Northern Region Branch: Jonathan Hegan (Chair)
- Western Region Branch: Padraic O'Donoghue (Chair)
- Southern Region Branch: Brendan Murphy (Chair)
- Parsons Award Committee: John McCanny (Chair)



# Publications

The year 2024/25 witnessed significant publication milestones, including the release of the following major publication:

- 1** **June 2024 - Small Modular Reactors**  
Ireland needs to consider SMRs to achieve a zero-carbon energy sector by 2050.
  
- 2** **July 2024 - Delivery of Renewable Energy**  
Recommendations on Planning and Consent Processes: Meeting the 2030 targets on renewables in Ireland
  
- 3** **July 2024**  
Submission by The Irish Academy of Engineering - Review of the Uisce Éireann Draft Water Services Strategic Plan 2050
  
- 4** **November 2024**  
Publication on Strategic Infrastructure – Major project delivery
  
- 5** **March 2025**  
Publication on Infrastructure 2025-2040



# Events

- 
- AGM May 2024
  - Euro-CASE Board meeting Paris – June 2024
  - CAETS Conference Helsinki – July 2024
  - RAEng Awards Dinner London – July 2024
  - Euro-CASE Annual Conference Budapest – September 2024
  - Parsons Award Ceremony Birr Castle – October 2024
  - Annual Sir Bernard Crossland Lecture – February 2025
  - ACEI awards dinner – March 2025
  - AGM and Fellows Lunch – May 2025



# Academy Executive Committee



*Pictured Left to right*

Tim Corcoran  
Honorary  
Treasurer

Tom Leahy  
President  
2021-2023

Seamus McKeague  
President  
2023-2025

Fiona McCarron  
Administrator

Joe Harford  
Honorary  
Secretary

Sean Finlay  
President  
Elect 2025

# Special Advisor Report 2024 / 2025

## Appointment of special advisor

AGM 2024 held on 9th May 2025 unanimously approved the appointment of Tom Leahy as Special Advisor (Proposed by Seamus McKeague and seconded by Pat Lynch) . The previous holder of this post was Michael Hayden RIP. The best way to describe this role is that it links together the past, the present and the future of the Academy.

- **The past** includes the history and evolution of the Academy since it was founded in 1997 and preserves the dynamic culture, traditions and ethos of the Academy.
- **The present** includes all the many activities of the Academy as set out in this report and the AGM pack and posted on our website.
- **The future** includes a five- year plan and annual programmes of activity and the international outreach of the Academy through a joint MoU with the RAE and membership of both Euro-CASE and CAETS.

As set out in AGM 2024 report the with effect from May 2024 the Communications and Publications (CAP) Committee, chaired by Tom Leahy, was abolished and replaced with a VC meeting on the first and last Tuesday of each month comprising:

Monthly meetings of the Executive and Chairs of the 3 main Standing Committees- 8 meetings chaired by the Special Advisor:

- 30th April 2024
- 28th May 2024
- 25th June 2024
- 26th September 2024
- 29th October 2024
- 26th November 2024
- 26th February 2025
- 29th July 2025

Monthly meetings of the Executive and the Chairs of the 3 Regional Committees & Membership Committee—8 meetings chaired by the Special Advisor:

- 7th May 2024
- 5th June 2024
- 4th September 2024
- 2nd October 2024
- 5th November 2024
- 3rd December 2024
- 5th February 2025
- 2nd July 2025

While this involved a very significant personal time commitment it achieved its objective of strengthening the communications within the Academy and improved the two- way flow of information between the existing very active committees and the Executive. My Thanks to our Administrator Fiona McCarron for hosting these VC meetings.

For 2025 the number of these meetings has reduced from monthly to just two meetings each. With a proposal before AGM 2025 that the chairs of the 3 Regions be members of Council and their deputies can attend as a substitute if required, these meetings will no longer be required after July 2025.

### ACTIVITIES

This has been a busy year and the following are some of the key highlights.

### PUBLICATIONS

2024/25 has been a productive year with 5 major publications:

- **June 2024** -Small Modular Reactors - Ireland needs to consider SMRs to achieve a zero-carbon energy sector by 2050

## cont.

- **July 2024** - Delivery of Renewable Energy - Recommendations on Planning and Consent Processes: Meeting the 2030 targets on renewables in Ireland
- **July 2024** - Submission to Review of the Uisce Éireann Draft Water Services Strategic Plan 2050
- **November 2024** - Publication on Strategic Infrastructure – Major project delivery
- **March 2025** – Publication on Infrastructure 2025-2040.

### NEWS BULLETINS

In order to provide improved communication, the special advisor created new style **News Bulletins** starting in June 2024 to ensure Academy members and Patrons received regular communication of the work of the Academy.

19 News bulletins were prepared by Tom Leahy – Past President & Special Advisor:

- 13th June 2024 - **Nine new Fellows welcomed at a conferring ceremony in Clyde Road**
- 2-3 July 2024 – **CAETS conference 2024 held in Helsinki**
- 22nd July 2024 – **New Chair of Academy West Region appointed**
- 29th July 2024 – **IAE/RAE MoU - Transform your innovation into a successful startup with Enterprise Fellowships**
- 14th August 2024 – **IAE/RAE MoU update – Engineering Economy and Place (EEP) Ireland Project**
- 3rd September 2024 – **Academy Southern Region visit to University of Limerick Bernal Institute.**
- 23rd September 2024 – **Euro CASE conference 2024 held in Budapest**
- 27th September 2024 – **Academy West**

**region holds first meeting under new chair in University of Galway**

- 3rd October 2024 - **The autumn meeting of the IAE Northern region was held in Belfast.**
- 15th October 2024 - **Royal Academy of Engineering (RAE) held its Strategy 2025-30 consultation in Belfast**
- 19th October 2024 - **Dr. Ann B. Kelleher is the recipient of the IAE 2024 Parsons Medal in Birr Castle**
- 26 October 2024 - **Academy Southern region holds meeting and annual lunch in Cork**
- 21 November 2024 – **ICON lifetime achievement award to Mr. Joe Harford**
- 9th December 2024 – **CAETS communications prize 2025**
- 9th December 2024 – **Executive meeting on 5th December 2024 – review of key achievements**
- 16th January 2025 – **Executive meeting reviewing progress in 2024 and planned activity 2025**
- 25th February 2025 – **Joint Southern and Western region meeting and site visit to Ei Electronics in Shannon**
- 28th February 2025 – **Academy Northern region meeting February 2025**
- 5th March 2025 – **Engineering and Medicine**

My thanks to our Administrator Fiona McCarron for issuing to all our Fellows and Patrons and publishing on our website also. This documents the activity of a very vibrant Academy.

### INTERNATIONAL OUTREACH

Key activities include:

RAE/IAE joint

Following the very successful visit to Belfast and Dublin in October 2021 RAE President Sir Jim McDonald and IAE President Tom Leahy discussed how the visit, which included an audience with President Michael D. Higgins in

cont.

Aras an Uachtaráin, could provide a lasting legacy. In May 2022 both Academies agreed a six -year memorandum of understanding (MoU) to work together on matters of shared interest. Key activities since then include:

- Applicants from ROI were eligible to compete for **Enterprise Fellowships** ( £70,000 bursary and full mentoring support for university spin offs)
- The 2022 RAE People and place study identified the contribution of Engineering to the UK Economy. An EEP Ireland study was agreed to use a similar methodology for ROI to the UK study. This project , supported by funding from InterTrade Ireland, is well advanced and the report on the contribution of Engineering to the ROI economy and on- line dashboard will be published in 2025.
- **Euro-Case conference 2026** will take place from Wednesday 18th to Friday 20th November 2026 in Belfast Waterfront conference centre as a joint RAE/IAE event to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the RAE

**Euro-CASE**

The European Council of Academies of Applied Sciences, Technologies and Engineering (**Euro-CASE**) is an independent non-profit organisation of national academies of Engineering, Applied Sciences and Technologies from 23 European countries. The IAE have been a long- term member of this European council of Academies.

- The IAE Special Advisor Tom Leahy is a member of the three- person Finance committee.
- Academy President Seamus McKeague and past President & Special advisor Tom Leahy attended the Euro CASE conference 2024 held in Budapest( Details in new bulletin)

**CAETS**

CAETS is an independent nonpolitical, non-governmental, international organization of engineering and technological sciences academies,

one member academy per country.

- Academy President Seamus McKeague and past President & Special advisor Tom Leahy attended the CAETS conference 2024 held in Helsinki (Details in new bulletin)
- All our IAE publications are on the CAETS website
- The CAETS international energy community published a detailed 200- page report in 2022 on energy transition
- A new CAETS working group was set up to publish a **Sequel project report on energy transition to 2024**. IAE Special advisor chairs one of the chapters on **Buildings and Smart Cities** which included the following members

Tom Leahy- Chair	Ireland
Christy Adelowo	Nigeria
Yves Bamberger	France
Seung Lee	Korea, ROK
Vishaal Lutchman	South Africa
Rasmus Pedersen	Denmark

It is expected that the report will be published before the CAETS 2025 conference in Brisbane Australia in September 2025.

- A new **CAETS AI working group** was set up in 2024 and is chaired by Barry O’Sullivan FIAE from UCC. Over 40 contributors are working on this project and IAE Special advisor Tom Leahy is a member of this committee, which meets monthly via VC.

## WEBSITE UPDATES



Following the new designed and launch in September 2017 with greatly improved look and functionality a new website masthead was designed and implemented incorporating “Engineering and Technology” and in 2019 the new tag line “Thought Leadership in a time of great change”. This is now used on all IAE branding including letterheads, business cards and reports. Thanks go to our service provider One Productions and IAE administrator Fiona. The ability to make rapid changes while retaining the overall design at very low cost speaks to the durability of the 2017 revamp. Immediate Past President & Special Advisor Tom Leahy provided regular updates on events and publications on the website.

## NEW LAPEL PINS

New lapel pins were designed, fabricated and issued to all Fellows. This project was delivered by the special advisor Tom Leahy and Academy Administrator Fiona McCarron. New pins will be presented to new Fellows at a special ceremony planned for 13th June 2025.



## COMMUNICATIONS RELATED ACTIVITIES

5-year Academy strategy – President Tom Leahy proposed in 2021 a new 5-year strategy based on the balanced scorecard business tool to integrate the work of the academy into a forward-looking strategy. This was unanimously endorsed and approved by Council. In addition to an annual review of progress there was a mid-term assessment in December 2023 of this strategy. A key outcome was a move to a more sustainable and volunteer lead Academy and a new 2024 Strategy.

**Philanthropy fundraising** –It is a challenging task to secure funding for the work of the Academy. Thanks go to the members of the Executive who have secured funding from two new patrons for 2025.

**New Guidance on Publications** –A revised communications guidance note was prepared by the Special Advisor and published in May 2024. It provides detailed guidance both on publications

and on support material required to accompany reports.

The Special Advisor travelled to attend in person all the Regional meetings and site visits to ensure up to date information on the work of the Executive and to facilitate active engagement and discussion. The Special Advisor also attended in person at the Parsons medal award ceremony in Birr Castle ( see news letter and report by Hon. Sec. in this AGM pack).

My thanks go to my fellow Directors Seamus McKeague, Joe Harford Hon. Sec. and Tim Corcoran Hon. Treasurer and President Elect Sean Finlay for their active support. My thanks also go to our Administrator Fiona McCarron for her exceptional work on behalf of the Academy.

**Tom Leahy**  
**Immediate Past President & Special Advisor**

# Summary of Activities for 2024-25

Committee	Activity Description
Council	AGM - 9/5/2024 4 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25/7/2024</li> <li>• 24/10/2024</li> <li>• 13/2/2025</li> <li>• 17/4/2025</li> </ul>
Executive	6 meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25/6/2024</li> <li>• 19/9/2024</li> <li>• 5/12/2024</li> <li>• 16/1/2025</li> <li>• 13/3/2025</li> <li>• 1/5/2025</li> </ul>
Monthly meetings of the Executive and Chairs of the 3 main Standing Committees- 8 meetings chaired by the Special Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30th April 2024</li> <li>• 28th May 2024</li> <li>• 25th June 2024</li> <li>• 26th September 2024</li> <li>• 29th October 2024</li> <li>• 26th November 2024</li> <li>• 26th February 2025</li> <li>• 29th July 2025</li> </ul>
Monthly meetings of the Executive and the Chairs of the 3 Regional Committees & Membership Committee—8 meetings chaired by the Special Advisor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 7th May 2024</li> <li>• 5th June 2024</li> <li>• 4th September 2024</li> <li>• 2nd October 2024</li> <li>• 5th November 2024</li> <li>• 3rd December 2024</li> <li>• 5th February 2025</li> <li>• 2nd July 2025</li> </ul>
Northern Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30/5/2024 - Northern Region Meeting</li> <li>• 3/10/2024 – Northern Region meeting</li> <li>• 27/2/2025 - Northern Region meeting</li> <li>• 11/6/2025 - Northern Region meeting and site visit to Moyle Interconnector</li> <li>• 2/10/2025 - Northern Region meeting</li> </ul>

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE

Committee	Activity Description
Southern Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30/4/2024 - - Southern region meeting</li> <li>• 3/9/2024 - Southern region meeting and site visit to UL Bernal Institute</li> <li>• 26/11/2024 - IAE Southern Region Meeting &amp; Lunch(Cork)</li> <li>• 25/2/2025 - Joint meeting Southern &amp; Western Region and site visit to Ei Electronics (Shannon)</li> <li>• 29/4/2025 - Southern Region Meeting</li> <li>• 2/9/2025 - Southern Region Meeting</li> <li>• 25/11/2025 - IAE Southern Region Meeting &amp; Lunch(Cork)</li> </ul>
Western Region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 3/9/2024 - Western region meeting and site visit to UL Bernal Institute</li> <li>• 27/9/2024 - Western Region meeting (University of Galway)</li> <li>• 11/12/2024 - Western Region meeting and site visit Boston Scientific (Ballybrit)</li> <li>• 25/2/2025 - Joint meeting Western &amp; Southern Region and site visit to Ei Electronics (Shannon)</li> <li>• May 2025 (TBC) - Western Region meeting with EI Western Region</li> <li>• 11/9/2025 - Western Region meeting</li> <li>• 20/11/2025 - Western Region meeting</li> </ul>
Key Events and activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 30/5/2024 - Site visit - Creagh Open Day</li> <li>• 30/5/2-24 - CAETS The Sequel Project: Building &amp; Smart Cities</li> <li>• 6/6/2024 - Euro- CASE Board meeting (Paris)</li> <li>• 11/6/2024 - CAETS communications committee.</li> <li>• 13/6/2024 - New Fellows conferring lunch</li> <li>• 1-4/7/2024 - CAETS Annual conference &amp; Board meeting (Helsinki)</li> <li>• 9/7/2024 - RAE annual awards ceremony (London)</li> <li>• 16/7/2024 - CAETS AI working group</li> <li>• 19/8/2024 - IAE, RAE + Metro Dynamics Workshop(EEP Ireland project- Dublin)</li> <li>• 22-24/9/2024 Euro - CASE annual conference &amp; Board meeting (Budapest)</li> <li>• 15/10/2024 - RAE future strategy workshop (Belfast)</li> <li>• 15/10/2024 - CAETS AI Working Group</li> <li>• 15/10/2024 - Projects Steering Comm. (IAE/RAE)</li> <li>• 19/10/2024 - Parsons Award Ceremony Birr Engineering Festival</li> <li>• 6/12/2024 - CAETS Communication Comm. Quarterly Meeting</li> <li>• 23/1/2025 - Engineering Economy and Place Ireland - Steering Group Workshop (Dublin)</li> <li>• 18/2/2025 - Sir Bernard Crossland Lecture(QUB)</li> <li>• 13/3/2025 - CAETS Communications Comm. Quarterly Mtg.</li> <li>• 18/3/2025 - CAETS AI Working Group</li> <li>• 28/3/2025 - ACEI awards dinner</li> </ul>
Infrastructure Standing Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5/11/2024 - Infrastructure SC Meeting - Hybrid</li> <li>• Multiple meetings of working groups</li> </ul>
Energy & Climate action Standing committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1/10/2024 - Energy &amp; Climate Action Meeting</li> <li>• Multiple meetings of working groups</li> </ul>
Enterprise, Innovation & Education Standing committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 12/12/2024 - Meeting of Enterprise, Innovation &amp; Education Standing committee</li> <li>• Multiple meetings of working groups</li> </ul>

# REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE STANDING & REGIONAL BRANCH COMMITTEES

## 1. ENERGY & CLIMATE ACTION COMMITTEE

Chair:

Eamonn O'Reilly

MEMBERSHIP	Leo Clancy	Barry J O'Sullivan	Dick Meaney	Kevin Lunney
	Gerry Duggan	David Timoney	Jerry Murphy	Seamus McKeague
	Gerard Hurley	Des Murphy(E)	Neill O' Carroll	Mary Moloney
	Ria Lyden	Anne Marie Conibear	Paddy Power	Terry Nolan
	Tim McGloughlin	David Dumigan	Luuk van der Wielen	Brian O'Gallachoir
	Don Moore	Paddy Larkin	Andy Cronin	Brian Sweeney
	Jim O'Brien	Patrick Lynch	Padraic Fogarty	Ed Walsh

### ACTIVITES

The Committee prepared two reports during the year:

- SMALL MODULAR REACTORS – Ireland needs to consider SMRs to achieve a zero-carbon energy sector by 2050
- THE ENERGY TRANSITION BY 2050 – WHAT IS THE PLAN? - Accusing the previous Government of wishful thinking as opposed to proper foresight planning might not be the best way to start a discussion with a new Government who took up office on 23/1/2025!

### SMALL MODULAR REACTORS

Following the energy crisis in 2022, the Committee focussed on how national energy policy might respond in specific technology areas, notably hydrogen and nuclear. In August 2023, this led to publication of A Commentary on the Medium Term Prospects for Ireland's Hydrogen Economy to be followed in June 2024 by publication of SMALL MODULAR REACTORS – Ireland needs to consider SMRs to achieve a zero-carbon energy sector by 2050.

The SMR report took a long-term view to 2050 and suggested that, in a net-zero energy sector, electricity demand in Ireland could increase from 31 TWh in 2022 to 80 TWh by 2050.

To date, the direction of energy policy has been away from an electricity system comprising fossil-fuelled baseload and load-following generation plant towards a fully renewable system where the intermittency of renewables is compensated for by zero-carbon backup generators.

Natural gas is currently the primary fuel for power generation and, importantly, compensates for the hours, days or even weeks when the output from renewables falls, at times, to very low levels.

As the capacity of renewables increases, a dependable net-zero source of backup power will continue to be needed. Ireland will not be able to depend on interconnection with other countries to meet this requirement and battery storage will not be viable at the scale required. The only option being considered in national energy policy envisages green hydrogen being stored in geological formations until it is needed to fuel backup generation plant.

Against a background where SMRs are being considered in many other countries to provide an additional zero-carbon power generation option alongside renewables - and given the considerable uncertainties as to whether hydrogen can provide a secure source of fuel for back-up generation - the SMR report argued that Ireland needs to keep an open mind about the possibility of including SMRs in the country's future energy mix.

The report contrasted gigawatt scale nuclear reactors (such as the 3,260 MW Hinkley Point C) with the smaller SMRs (in the order of 300 MW) now being developed and described the potential of advanced SMR technologies such as sodium fast reactors with molten salt energy storage systems.

Ireland considered and rejected nuclear power as an option in the 1970s partly because of the

large scale (500 MW) of nuclear power plants by comparison with maximum demand in Ireland at the time (2,000 MW). Where a single nuclear reactor in the 1980s would have had a capacity equivalent to 25% of maximum demand, the equivalent figure for an SMR in 2050 would be 3%.

The report recommended that the required institutional capacity and expertise be developed in State bodies - including CRU, EirGrid, EPA and ESB - to prepare for a possible deployment of SMRs if this proves necessary to achieve the goal of a net-zero energy sector by 2050. The approach suggested is similar to that taken in the 1970s in response to the second oil crisis and would be consistent with the milestone approach of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) for countries to develop a nuclear power programme. The IAEA's first milestone is to reach the point where a country is ready to make a knowledgeable commitment to a nuclear power programme. The above recommendations are intended to reach this point.

The report noted that it is only if these steps are taken that there can be an informed national discussion on the possible introduction of SMRs and important issues - including safety and nuclear waste - can be meaningfully addressed.

## THE ENERGY TRANSITION BY 2050 – WHAT IS THE PLAN?

Having considered the contributions that hydrogen and nuclear could make to the energy transition, the second report prepared during the year looked at the challenge of the energy transition from a project delivery perspective.

Whether the objective of a climate neutral energy sector can actually be achieved by 2050 depends on:

- The availability of proven technologies which can decarbonise the electricity sector
- Implementation of a programme of large energy infrastructure projects on the supply side
- Electrification of energy services on the demand side (by individuals, households, and industry)

This report focused on the supply side challenges of technology and project delivery. It also considered the other two legs of the energy trilemma beyond sustainability, namely energy security and cost. In doing this, the report examined the challenge of the intermittency of renewables.

Whereas the annual National Risk Assessment has, since 2014, correctly identified the country's vulnerability

to energy supply disruptions - notably natural gas - Government policy has, to date, actively prevented this risk being mitigated.

The report argued that the exposure to a natural gas supply risk is particularly egregious because of the inescapable reliance the country will have on natural gas as the energy source of last resort until at least 2050 and, likely, beyond. The fundamental challenge arising from the intermittency of renewables has not been adequately addressed to date and energy policy needs to recognise that there is no currently available or prospective alternative to natural gas to meet this essential need.

If there is to be a wholesale transition away from fossil fuels for transport and heating, Ireland's electricity system will – in a short period of just 25 years – have to expand to cater for an electricity requirement of 80 TWh in 2050 (compared to 33 TWh in 2024) at a power demand level of up to 12,000 MW (compared to 6,000 MW today). This long-term perspective mirrored the view previously taken in the SMR report.

This transformation and expansion of the country's electricity system will require the completion of over 350 large energy infrastructure projects

all of which will require environmental impact assessment and planning consent. These projects will include many hundreds of kilometres of new overhead transmission lines and over 200 large onshore wind and solar projects. Such projects will, inevitably, face considerable local opposition and, if they are to proceed, unequivocal policy clarity and support is essential to ensure that planning authorities have no policy grounds on which to refuse planning permissions.

Government has set a target to achieve a climate neutral electricity system by 2050 - and accepted the imposition of enormous financial penalties by the EU if this objective is not achieved - without first understanding and demonstrating how it is feasible.

Moreover, this has been done without estimating how much the endeavour will cost and what impact it will have on the price consumers pay for their electricity.

The report concluded by saying that Ireland needs an energy policy which goes beyond wishful thinking to recognise engineering, financial and project delivery realities, even if the consequences of this could mean having to revise the legal and policy objective of climate neutrality by 2050.

## PROGRAMME OF WORK FOR 2025

The latest report prepared by the Committee - The Energy Transition by 2050 - What is the Plan? - is intended to provide a long-term perspective (25 years to 2050) for the future preparation of a series of reports focussed on a range of topics discussed in that report. In preparing these future reports, it is planned to establish specific working groups based on the particular experience and expertise of individual Committee members in the topic to be addressed.

The topics to be considered include:

- National strategic gas storage capacity requirement
- Transmission infrastructure requirement
- Sizing the aggregate capacity of renewables that will be needed
- Requirement for a growing fleet of firm, dispatchable back-up generators as the power source of last resort
- The future of the gas network
- Assessment of the potential of eFuels in the context of a continuing dependence on liquid fuels
- Future battery storage needs and options
- Suitability of the institutional arrangements in place to deliver the energy transition

The above multi-annual work programme and the framework reports of recent years highlight the need for the Committee to consider the recurring issue of the cost and economic viability of national

energy policy. During 2025, the Committee will consider how best to approach this essential topic including the possibility of liaising with other organisations or institutions.

The above multi-annual work programme and the framework reports of recent years highlight the need for the Committee to consider the recurring issue of the cost and economic viability of national

energy policy. During 2025, the Committee will consider how best to approach this essential topic including the possibility of liaising with other organisations or institutions.

**Eamonn O'Reilly**  
**Chair, Energy & Climate Action Standing Committee**

## 2. INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE

Chair:

Tim Corcoran

MEMBERSHIP	Brendan Barrett	Margaret O'Mahoney	John T. Murphy	Ken McIntyre
	Gerry Carty	David Poeter	Mary O'Donovan	Mary Moloney
	Tom Costello	Adrian Bell	Úna Parsons	Terry Nolan
	David Dumigan	Leo Clancy	John Power	Jack O'Leary
	Sean Finlay	Theo Cullinane	Maurice Buckley	Michael Phillips
	David Gavaghan	Ciaran Fahy	Anne Marie Conibear	Paddy Power
	Michael Hand	John Flanagan	Gerry Duggan	Peter Quinn
	Peter Langford	Anne Graham	Kieran Feighan	Cormac Sreenan
	Ria Lyden	Jonathan Hegan	Padraic Fogarty	P.J. Rudden
	Conor McCarthy	Tom Leahy	Jerry Grant	Tony Smyth
	Don McQuillan	John T. Martin	Mary Kelly	Michael Shaw
	Dave Murphy	John McGowan	Finn Lyden	
	Padraic O'Donoghue	Jerry Mehigan	Seamus McKeague	

### ACTIVITES

#### ① REVIEW OF THE UISCE ÉIREANN DRAFT WATER SERVICES STRATEGIC PLAN 2050 – SUBMISSION TO UISCE ÉIREANN JULY 2024

Prepared Tom Leahy, Tim Corcoran, Gerry Carty, Anne Marie Conibear, Michael Shelly, Anne Graham with input from Alan Curran and Grellan McGrath.

### SUMMARY

The needs of the economy are determined by the rate of growth / decline in economic activity within Ireland, the EU and globally. The scenario considered in the draft Plan is that Ireland will continue to grow its population and economy over the period to 2050. Pressures, existing and emerging will require to be carefully managed and resolved.

The draft Plan demonstrates a deep understanding of the technical and organisational issues that will be faced by UÉ over coming years. That is combined with insightful analysis and presentation of the individual approaches proposed to meet challenges and achieve the stated objectives. In the period to 2050 it is accepted that we will expect unprecedented changes in Ireland, many of them changes will impact the water cycle.

Overall delivery of the draft Strategic Plan 2050 is subject to “economic and technical feasibility” suggesting that it may be beyond the control of UÉ to deliver all of its strategic objectives, perhaps in part because it’s funding model relies on 80% central government support. It should be technically feasible to deliver the objectives and demonstrate that affordability / value for money is the primary constraint on achieving compliant and energy efficient water services infrastructure. The availability of funding is therefore one of the key challenges, and also a key constraint if available funding is below the level required to deliver the necessary standard of water services.

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE

---

UÉ has a well-developed structure, teams and strong technical capacity. It is restrained from meeting its long-term objectives primarily by the availability of funding.

The IAE commends UÉ's approach to innovation since its establishment and strongly supports and encourages that approach into the future.

A 10-to-15-year horizon with the ambition to be fully compliant by 2040 would be more appropriate. Reviews and updates at 5-year intervals are insufficient, do not provide the flexibility to address emerging priorities.

The IAE believes there is a case to be made for a change to the current approach of separating OpEx and CapEx to one which provides flexibility to the utility to take a more holistic approach to the management of its asset base.

Notwithstanding the sensitivities relating to the question of funding, there should be no room for any misunderstanding on the scale of investment and certainty on funding required. Certainty on funding availability on a multi-annual basis is critical to achievement of the Plan Objectives. This would also be critical for high value multi-year projects, where Ministerial consents are provided on a phased basis, with no future certainty of funding.

Without multi-annual and adequate funding, the necessary and essential improvements to our water services will not be made and existing infrastructure will continue to deteriorate.

The introduction of a fit for purpose planning system with clear timelines for approvals is critical to timely implementation and upgrading of water services. Significant delays have been encountered in the planning process over the last 10 years. The extent to which planning and environmental issues delay proposed works must be addressed. While a new Planning and Development Bill has been published, it has not progressed with the urgency needed to address the delays inherent in the current planning process.

UÉ's demand for energy will inevitably increase in future given the utilities need to provide for ongoing population increase, economic growth and the impact of evolving national and EU legislative requirements. This increased need can be partially addressed by selecting processes and equipment that is more efficient and carbon neutral.

Resilience is the ability of the system to recover from shock or disruption. Many schemes have capacity deficits, with little or no headroom. Examples include the Dublin drinking water and wastewater schemes, which are deficient in overall capacity and do not have the required resilience to cope with increasing demands.

Ireland's distribution network is between 65 to 85 years old. Our leakage rates are very high. To achieve a national leakage rate of 25% by 2030 will require substantial additional investment.

Interactions between intense rainfall, storm water drainage, storm water overflows, and discharges of untreated wastewater from combined sewers will always exist. The role of UÉ and local authorities need to be clearly defined and a programme of measures put in place to minimise discharges to the combined sewer network. Source protection through catchment management and nature-based solutions are essential to protect our water resources.

More intense rainstorms will inevitably lead to an increased incidence of overflow from combined drainage networks. Investment in our networks and treatment plants, including the WSP and GDD projects are essential to meet national needs.

In the decade from 2014 UÉ has been successfully established and has set out its strategy for the period to 2050. In this review the IAE has identified a number of areas, which are critical to delivery of a fit for purpose water services to 2050.

**② CLIMATE CHANGE WON'T WAIT - DELIVERY OF RENEWABLE ENERGY URGENT. RECOMMENDATIONS ON PLANNING AND CONSENT PROCESSES : MEETING THE 2030 TARGETS ON RENEWABLES IN IRELAND - JULY 2024**

Contributing Academy members: Tim Corcoran, Peter Langford, Tom Leahy, John Martin, Ria Lyden, Jack O’Leary, Mary Kelly, Tony Smyth.

**Summary**

The world’s climate is changing rapidly with temperatures increasing faster since 1970 than in any other 50-year period over at least the last 2,000 years. Climate change has been described by the Government as the defining challenge of our time. Ireland, as an EU Member State, has committed to achieving a 51% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030, and to achieving net-zero emissions by 2050. Successive Climate Action Plans have highlighted the essential role of renewable energy in achieving these targets, particularly in decarbonising the electricity sector which in turn supports the decarbonising of other sectors such as transport, heating and industry.

The 2024 Climate Action Plan specified that electricity from renewable sources should meet 80% of demand by 2030. However, achieving that target looks increasingly challenging. The renewable electricity targets are shown in the table below.

<b>Capacity</b>	<b>2030 Targets</b>	<b>Installed capacity, end 2023</b>
Onshore wind	9 GW	4.7 GW
Offshore wind	5 GW	25MW
Solar photovoltaic	8 GW	1.1 GW

While there is a reasonable pipeline of onshore wind and solar projects, some are awaiting grid connections, and four recent planning permissions have been subject to judicial reviews. Six offshore wind projects, with a combined capacity of about 4.2GW, have been granted marine area consents, allowing them to apply to An Bord Pleanála for planning permission. Four of the projects, with a combined capacity of circa 3GW, will be supported under the Offshore Renewable Energy Support Scheme. Given the time needed to go through the planning, procurement and construction stages, it is unlikely that any of the offshore projects will be fully operational by 2030. There have also been delays in designating further potential sites for offshore wind generation off the south coast.

The scale of new renewable energy capacity needed by 2030 – and even more so by 2050 – is extremely challenging and also requires major upgrades to the national grid. Unfortunately, EirGrid has experienced significant public opposition in delivering such projects, especially long-distance high-voltage transmission lines.

The IAE’s central conclusion is that greater political commitment at the heart of Government is essential. The key recommendations are set out below. Detailed recommendations were provided at the end of each section in the report.

1. Delivery of the Climate Action Plan targets needs to be driven by the Department of the Taoiseach, in order to:
  - Demonstrate high-level political support,
  - Monitor progress and eliminate obstacles (such as shortages of skilled staff or capital resources),
  - Ensure effective co-ordination between the wide range of public sector bodies responsible for delivery.
2. The Government as a whole, needs to explain to the public why improving the national grid is essential if 80%+ of our electricity is to be generated from renewable sources by 2030.
3. The number and complexity of projects that An Bord Pleanála has to assess means that the range of skills required will need to be appraised by the Government on an ongoing basis. A regular and formal monitoring programme should be established to ensure that the necessary resources are always in place. A similar process is required for the Planning and Environmental Division of the High Court.
4. The target of 5GW of offshore wind generation by 2030 is unlikely if not impossible. This means that an increased focus is necessary to achieve the maximum capacity possible in onshore renewables. To facilitate this, updated guidelines for onshore wind are urgently required from the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage. Guidelines for solar energy projects must be provided and the guidelines for good practice recently issued by the Irish Solar Energy association provide a good basis on which to work.
5. The Commission for Regulation of Utilities' ECP process for assessing and awarding grid connections must be expedited and made less costly.
6. EU Directive 2023/2413 on the promotion of the use of energy from renewable sources should be transposed fully into Irish law as soon as possible to facilitate the achievement of the 2030 targets.
7. Irrespective of our progress on renewable energy generation, the success of our renewable energy programmes will depend entirely on the proposed transformation of the National Electricity Grid. The Government, with the support of opposition parties, must drive the grid upgrade programme to ensure it is completed as a matter of urgency.

### ③ STRATEGIC INFRASTRUCTURE – MAJOR PROJECT DELIVERY. PUBLICATION BY IAE – NOVEMBER 2024

Contributing Members:

Tim Corcoran  
Gerry Duggan  
Kieran Feighan  
Jerry Grant

Michael Hand  
Tom Leahy  
John T Murphy  
Mary O'Donovan

Tony Smyth  
Michael Tiernan

#### Introduction

The National Development Plan (NDP) sets strategic objectives for future growth and development of our economy and society. The delivery of the NDP presents many significant challenges to meet the project delivery schedules and cost projections in a time of supply chain and labour resource constraints. While delays in planning and delivery lead to increased project costs, the greater impact is the societal cost of capacity deficits, the opportunity costs when anticipated benefits are delayed coming onstream. This is reflected in economic loss with uncertainty around provision of critical services (energy, water, transport) impacting housing provision, investment in jobs and services. The IAE considers that Ireland needs to take

a far more strategic and long-term view of infrastructure capacity needs. This would recognise the realistic timeframes for complex infrastructure and ensure that plans are agreed enabling individual investments to be advanced as needed in line with funding availability

In that context, a report was prepared and published describes some of the challenges in more detail and makes recommendations on how they could be resolved or mitigated. The report considered Policy Context, Strategic Level Issues and Delivery Issues. Within each section, the report identified individual recommendations, however, it is the view of the Irish Academy of Engineering (IAE) that there are 5 key overarching recommendations, which when implemented could greatly improve the timely delivery of essential public infrastructure namely:

### **Provide new focus on delivery of Public Infrastructure**

Implement an independent high-level body or commission (perhaps similar to the UK's National Infrastructure Commission or the Infrastructure and Projects Authority - or a combination of both) to provide advice directly to the Department of the Taoiseach on the delivery of major public infrastructure, in terms of optimising and prioritising within and across sectors and geographies.

### **Major projects should have annually reviewed cost and project delivery plans**

All major projects should have:

- Full cost estimates using standard cost templates for all project phases including estimating the impact of inflation on project cost to the end of the construction phase.
- A project delivery timescale from inception to completion of construction
- Full details of expenditure to date.
- Cost benefit analysis
- Statement of public benefit

### **Broad strategic major infrastructure plans**

"Strategic Infrastructure Plans" should be prepared for Transport, Energy, Wastewater, Housing, Flooding, etc. They should be prioritised "across" Government Departments rather than "within" individual departments using cost and project delivery plans. These plans would complement and support delivery of the National Development Plan.

### **Ensure committed pipelines of projects**

Committed pipelines of major projects will encourage domestic and external organisations to gear up to deliver. In particular, it would encourage overseas organisations to bring resources, staff, labour and financing to the market in a sustained way. It would also give confidence to people in Ireland to join the construction sector – at all levels.

### **Multi-annual funding**

Adopt multi-annual funding to reassure the infrastructure delivery industry that there is a consistent volume of work available to price and deliver and avoid stop/go phases in priority projects. Despite the additional funding being made available for capital investment, sponsoring organisations companies remain under obligation to balance exchequer funding year by year to the approved allocation despite the multi-year capital pipeline commitments. This practise continues to cause inefficiencies in spending, delays and acceleration in a sub-optimal way.

## ④ **INPUTS TO: INFRASTRUCTURE – 2025-2040. A PUBLISHED REPORT IDENTIFYING PLANNED INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENTS NEEDED OVER THE NEXT 15 YEARS. MARCH 2025.**

An IAE Report with inputs from all committees and Regions.

Contributing Members:

Sean Finlay	Joe Harford	Michael Shelly
Tim Corcoran	PJ Rudden	Ken McIntyre
Gerry Duggan	Seamus McKeague	Tim McGloughlin
Tom Leahy	Eamonn O'Reilly	John T Murphy
Tony Smyth	Bob Savage	
David Porter	Gerry Carty	

The report identifies planned infrastructure investments needed over the next 15 years. While it identifies specific sectoral investment the report emphasises that cross sectoral challenges such as housing require water, wastewater, electricity and broadband infrastructure to deliver new housing supported by transport, schools and other services. The report identifies individual capital investment funded from the public purse and also identifies examples of the private sector investment in medical technology and Biopharmaceuticals leveraged off this investment, giving both employment and delivery of goods and services supporting the people on the island of Ireland. Topics covered in detail include:

- Power Infrastructure - Transmission, Wind, Solar PV and Storage
- Water, Wastewater and Flooding infrastructure
- Roads and Transportation infrastructure
- The Medical Technology Industry
- The Biopharmaceutical Industry
- Construction Innovation and Regulation
- Artificial Intelligence (AI) – Future opportunities

## ⑤ **INFRASTRUCTURE COMMITTEE WORKING GROUPS**

Three working groups have been active as follows:

### **Working Group 1 - Delivering Major Public Sector Infrastructure – Challenges – Report published**

Contributing Members:

Tim Corcoran	Michael Hand	Tony Smyth
Gerry Duggan	Tom Leahy	Michael Tiernan.
Kieran Feighan	John T Murphy	
Jerry Grant	Mary O'Donovan	

See above – “Strategic Infrastructure – Major Project Delivery” Report published November 2024.

### **Working Group 2 - Public Sector Construction Sector Contract Strategy**

Contributing  
Members

Ciaran Fahy (Chair)  
Theo Cullinane

Michael Shelly  
Tony Smyth

Tim Corcoran

The working group is researching:

- o Issues with public sector contracts in Ireland
- o Project risks
- o Contract strategy that might be better suited to delivering major public sector infrastructure projects, including transport, health, education and other essential services projects.

Current status: stakeholder discussions, developing content.

### **Working Group 3 - Planning and Development Consents for Renewable Energy – Report published**

Contributing  
Members

John Martin  
Peter Langford  
Ria Lyden

Jack O’Leary  
Tom Leahy  
Mary Kelly

Tim Corcoran

See above – “Climate Change Won’t Wait – Deliver of Renewable Energy Urgent”  
Recommendations on Planning and Consent Processes : Meeting the 2030 targets on renewables in Ireland -  
report published July 2024.

John Murphy  
Vice Chair Infrastructure Standing Committee

### 3 ENTERPRISE, INNOVATION & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

#### MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Mark Gantly

MEMBERSHIP	Jim Browne	Karen Rafferty	John McGowan	Tom Leahy
	Simon Cotton	Joseph Walsh	Eoin O'Driscoll	John McCanny
	Mark Gantly	Julie Byrne	Michael Shaw	Dick Meaney
	Kevin Lunney	Martin Cronin	Gerry Wrixon	Una Parsons
	Daniel McCaughan	Frances Hardiman	Leo Clancy	Ed Walsh
	John O'Dea	Brian MacCraith	David Dumigan	

#### ACTIVITIES

##### Research Ireland Formation

The EIE Standing Committee met in March 24 to consider a response to the proposed merger of Science Foundation Ireland and the Irish Research Council under a single organisation – Research Ireland (Taighde Eireann). The principal concerns expressed were:

- The dilution of the science and engineering brief which SFI had very effectively discharged since its inception. Apart from the wider scope of its research brief, the proposed governance structure of Research Ireland would reduce the representation of enterprise stakeholders.
- The elimination of the SFI brand which had built an international profile over 20 years.

Following the meeting, and based on some intelligence that the impact would not be as damaging as feared, it was decided that the best course of action would be to meet directly with new leadership of Research Ireland, also to engage with the new minister for DFHERIS when appointed.

##### Work Program for 2025

The EIE standing committee met in December 2024 to start planning a work program for 2025. Four submissions were made

1. Preparing for the Green Economy
2. Talent/ Skills – matching supply and demand
3. Nurturing Excellence
4. Rebuilding competitiveness
5. Timely and cost effective use of our wind resources

In addition, the following qualifying criteria were agreed for inclusion in the 2025 work program

- Criticality to the future success of the economy
- Leveraging the unique assets of the Academy
- Real potential for impact eg on government policy

At the December meeting, submissions 1 and 2 were considered in detail, refined somewhat, and it was agreed to meet again in early 2025 to finalise the work program.

In addition, consideration was given to how best to achieve impact with the outputs of the work program ie actions beyond publishing a paper. These might, for example, include targeting influencers or partnering with other organisations with easier access to decision makers.

**Mark Gantly**

**Chair, Enterprise, Innovation & Education Standing Committee**

## 4 HERITAGE COMMITTEE

There were no meetings of the Engineering Heritage Standing Committee during the session 2024-2025. This was due to the absence of engineering heritage issues being brought before the committee for debate. In the meantime, the recording and appreciation of the heritage of Ireland’s engineering sector continues to be of importance.

A younger chairperson is required who could draw together a fresh committee to consider and report on engineering heritage issues.

The future of the John DeCourcy Heritage Award is dealt with elsewhere in the annual report.

Ron Cox (Chair) March 2025.

## 5 SOUTHERN BRANCH COMMITTEE

### MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Brendan J. Murphy

MEMBERSHIP	Gerald Beesley	Michael Tiernan	(Vice Chair)	Mary Moloney
	Theo Cullinane	Gerry Wrixon	Jack O’Leary	Dave Murphy
	Edmond Harty	Paddy Caffrey	Reg Shaw	Neil O’Carroll
	Conor McCarthy	Tara Dalton	Ed Walsh	Niall Olden
	Dick Meaney	Peter Langford	Ger Hallissey (E)	Cormac Sreenan
	Dermot Moynihan	Tim McGloughlin	Philip Callery	Joseph Walsh
	Jerry Murphy	Anthony Moloney	Frances Hardiman	
	Brian O’Gallachoir	John Mullins	Ria Lyden	
	Bob Savage	John Murphy	Patrick McGrath	

### ACTIVITIES

Quarterly scheduled hybrid meetings of the Southern Branch membership took place in 2024. The first in DELL Technologies Ovens, the second and fourth were hosted by Arup Cork and the third was hosted in the UL Bernal Institute, Limerick. Hybrid meetings have facilitated a larger attendance and also facilitate the participation of the President at regional meetings.

As new Fellows of the Academy are appointed, those based in the Southern Region are invited to attend our meetings and give a short outline of their background, what they are interested in and how they will contribute to the work of the Academy at regional, divisional and national level.

At each meeting, there is an update given on the overall work of the Academy by the President and/or the former President, Tom Leahy. These briefings include the recent decisions of Council as well as the financial and governance position of the Academy, again this is important as it ensures members are aware of the overall running of the Academy. Members are also briefed on the national & international work of the academy viz. standing committees and cooperation with the RAE, CASE, and CAETS etc.

In 2024 the Southern Region has had various presentations as follows, this innovation has proved to be very popular with the fellows.

February: DELL and AI, the Future, a presentation by David Bowden and Laurence Dusoswa

April: Engineering at MTU Kerry by Joseph Walsh

September: Update on the recently published "The All-island Strategic Rail Review" by John Murphy.

November: "Strategic Infrastructure – Major Project Delivery" IAE published paper, by Tim Corcoran

Our work programme for 2023/24 included

- Atlantic City Regions – Infrastructure Review
- National Backbone Grid
- Irish Ports – Supporting Offshore Wind Development
- Implementation and monitoring of the RSES and ongoing cooperation with the SRA (Southern Regional Assembly)

There was active engagement by fellows in these work programmes e.g. meetings, consultations and submissions.

**Brendan J. Murphy,**  
**Chair, Southern Region**

## 6 NORTHERN BRANCH COMMITTEE

### MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Jonathan Hegan

MEMBERSHIP	Gavin Andrews	Peter Quinn	Don McQuillan	Seamus McKeague
	Jayne Brady	William Scanlon	Steve Orr	David McIlhagger
	Simon Cotton	Eric Beatty	Karen Rafferty	Gordon Millington
	David Gavaghan	Gavin Campbell	Michael Shaw	David Porter
	David Jones	Philip Donald	Adrian Bell	Michael Ryan
	Kevin Lunney	Eileen Harkin-Jones	Alan Cooper	William Stafford
	John McCanny	Alfie Kane	Vincent Fusco	
	James McLoughlin	John Martin	John Hill	
	Máire O'Neill	William McCoubrey	Paddy Larkin	

## ACTIVITES

### Regional Meetings

We are now in the routine of holding at least 3 meetings per year for our Northern Fellowship Members. Accordingly, meetings were held on 30th May, 3rd October '24 and 27th February '25.

All of these meetings were attended by Seamus McKeague (President), Tom Leahy (Past President) and Joe Hartford (Hon Sec), who were able to give up-to- date briefings on the business of the Academy.

In keeping with the current communications strategy, records of these meetings, with a photograph, were circulated to the Academy.

Also, similar to the other regions, we will be endeavouring to arrange site visits for our Members. Therefore, our next scheduled Regional Meeting on 11th June 2025, will be held at the Moyle InterConnector. This has been arranged by Paddy Larkin FIAE of Mutual Energy NI.

A special thanks to our Fellow Member, Steve Orr, for hosting all of these meetings in his premises at Catalyst in the Titanic Qtr Belfast.

The Chairman of the Region, Jonathan Hegan, has been participating in the Executive Committee and Regional Chairs Meetings, which are organised virtually by Tom Leahy.

### Collaboration with RAEng

The collaboration with the Royal Academy, through their Belfast Hub, continues apace. They are regular attenders at our Regional Meetings to give update reports on the collaboration under our MoU.

- The open call for their ENTERPRISE FELLOWSHIPS is completed, but the applications from RoI were poor, so regrettably none were awarded. RAEng are currently analysing the interest from Ireland and putting together a plan to increase awareness over the next 12 months in advance of new funding in 2026.

- The PEOPLE and PLACE IRELAND study is progressing well:-
  - Stage 1 - the data analysis is at its final sign off” stage.
  - Stage 2 - the construction of a “dashboard” is underway.
  - Stage 3 - the production of an All Island Report has begun.
- 
- The Euro Case conference 2026 will be held in Belfast at the Waterfront Conference Hall on 18th - 20th November. This will be a joint RAEng/ IAE event under our MoU. The occasion will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the founding of the Royal Academy.
- 
- Invitations were issued to Local Members to join in the RAEng Strategy Conference in Belfast on 15th October 2025. It was led by their President and Chief Executive. Former IAE Presidents Tom Leahy and Jim Browne also attended.

### The Annual Sir Bernard Crossland Lecture

The lecture this year was held in Queen’s University’s Great Hall on 18th February. The guest speaker was Warren East, former CEO of Rolls Royce Engines and ARM. He is the current President of IET. His theme was the Challenges for Engineering in Climate Change.

There was an audience of 150, including our President and the President of Engineers Ireland.

After 15 years as Chairman of the organising committee, Jonathan Hegan FIAE has stepped down and has been replaced by Peter Quinn, the former President of EI and Fellow of the Academy.

### The Parsons’ Medal

Local Member, Sir John McCanny, will continue to Chair the Organising Committee. He has confirmed that the 2025 Medal Award will be made at Birr Castle during their Engineering Heritage Festival.

Jonathan Hegan  
Chair, Northern Region

## 7 WESTERN BRANCH COMMITTEE

### MEMBERSHIP

Chairman: Padraic O’Donoghue

MEMBERSHIP	Jim Browne	Michael Tiernan	Barry J. O’Sullivan	Mary O’Donovan
	Tara Dalton	Maurice Buckley	Walter Rafferty	Abhay Pandit
	Frances Hardiman	Padraic Fogarty	Luuk van der Wielen	Helen Ryan
	Conor McCarthy	Gerard Hurley (Vice Chair)	Darragh Colgan	Ed Walsh
	Dick Meaney	Tim McGloughlin	Mark Gantly	
	Mike O’Flynn	John O’Dea	John Kileen	
	Úna Parsons		Peter McHugh	

## ACTIVITES

In summer 2024, Padraic O'Donoghue was appointed Chairperson of the Western Region of the Academy in succession to John Killeen, who had held the post with distinction for many years. Subsequent to this, Professor Ger Hurley was appointed as Vice-Chairperson for the Region. The membership of the Western Region includes fellows from Connacht and also from the mid-west (Clare, Limerick). Fellows from the latter area also hold membership of the Southern Region. As activities have evolved, this link through the mid-west members has strengthened ties between the Western and Southern Regions, leading to more effective engagement.

Two meetings of the Western Region were held in autumn 2024. The first of these was held in September and it took place at the University of Galway. As a number of members were relatively new to the Academy, this was an excellent opportunity to share information and to get to know colleagues. The meeting included Tom Leahy, Special Advisor to the Academy, Tim Corcoran, Academy Treasurer and Chair of the Infrastructure Standing Committee and Mark Gantly, Chair of the Enterprise, Innovation and Education Standing Committee. Tom provided a very useful and informative overview of the Academy structures and on the major initiatives that are ongoing. Tim and Mark updated members on the activities in the respective Standing Committees. This flow of information was very much welcomed by those in attendance. Thanks go to Professor Peter McHugh, Interim President of the University of Galway, for

hosting this meeting.

The second meeting involved a site visit to the Boston Scientific plant in Galway. The meeting was began with an excellent tour of the facilities and discussions with senior staff at Boston Scientific, including James Lyons, VP Operations. In 2024, Boston Scientific celebrated their 30th year in Galway on a 60 acre site with over 850,000 sq. ft. of offices and manufacturing facilities. Boston Scientific employs over 4,400 people on the campus. The Academy members got a great understanding of the highly impressive Boston Scientific operations at the Galway site. The role played by our colleague Darragh Colgan in facilitating this visit is very much acknowledged.

It should be mentioned that, also in September, the Southern Region held a meeting in the Bernal Institute at the University of Limerick and members of the Western Region were invited to attend this meeting. It was good to see that a number of colleagues availed of the opportunity and this invitation was very much appreciated.

Planning for activities in 2025 also took place and it is expected that the Western Region will meet on four occasions, twice in the spring and twice in the autumn. It was also agreed that one of these meetings will be jointly with the Southern Region.

Padraic O'Donoghue  
Chair, Western Region

## MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 2024

Following a revised nomination process, nine new Fellows were admitted to membership in 2024. They are drawn from the public sector (2), third level (2), consultancy (2) and industry (3).

Name	Nominated by	Sector
John Flanagan	Tom Leahy	Local Authority(DCC)
Karen Rafferty	Vincent Fusco	3rd Level (QUB)
Simon Cotton	Vincent Fusco	3rd Level (QUB)
Michael Shaw	Jonathan Hegan	Consultancy
Ria Lyden	Tim Corcoran	Consultancy
Andy Cronin	Gerry Duggan	Consultancy
Padraig Fogarty	Sean Finlay	Public Utility
Kevin Lunney	Seamus McKeague	Industry
David Dumigan	Seamus McKeague	Industry

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE

---

It is planned to seek nominations for 2025 on or before 24th April 2025 with a view to completing the process earlier in the year.

A lunch to welcome new Fellows elected in 2024 is scheduled for 13th June 2025.

**Sean Finlay**  
**6 March 2025**

## ORGANISATION AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE ACADEMY

### ORGANISATION

The membership of the Council/Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Membership Committee at March 31st 2025 is as follows:-

#### COUNCIL

- Seamus McKeague, President/Chairman
- Sean Finlay, President Elect
- Tom Leahy, Special Advisor & Immediate Past President
- Tim Corcoran, Honorary Treasurer
- Joe Harford, Honorary Secretary
- Jim Browne
- Mark Gantly
- Eileen Harkin-Jones
- Mary Kelly
- Brendan Murphy

#### OFFICERS/DIRECTORS/TRUSTEES

- Seamus McKeague, President
- Sean Finlay, President Elect
- Tom Leahy, Special Advisor & Immediate Past President
- Tim Corcoran, Honorary Treasurer
- Joseph F. Harford, Honorary Secretary

#### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Sean Finlay, Chairman
- Anne Butler
- Eileen Harkin-Jones
- Mary Kelly
- Seamus McKeague
- Brendan Murphy
- Mary O'Donovan
- Úna Parsons
- Joe Harford, ex-officio

### HONORARY SECRETARY'S REPORT

#### Meetings of Council/Executive

During the past year, a total of four Council Meetings were held in person and by teleconference. The Executive met in person on six occasions.

The Academy has now transitioned to a fully volunteer-led organisation with substantial discussions and decisions

made by the Council and the Executive to support and lead the organisation in its work.

Meetings of the Regional Committees, attended by the Executive Committee, were held. Two of the meetings included visits to EI Electronics and Boston Scientific. The Western Regional Committee was reactivated under the chairmanship of Padraic O'Donoghue.

### **Membership Committee**

The Membership Committee, chaired by Sean Finlay, reviewed nominations for new Fellows using the revised two-stage nomination procedures for membership. The Committee recommended nine new Fellowships, which have been approved by the Council. The conferring of the new Fellows will occur on 13 June in Engineers Ireland.

A call for new Fellows has now been issued for 2025.

### **Governance**

All our regulatory financial filings were completed punctually and without any adjustments from our external auditors, Mazars. As a registered charity, the Academy is required to comply with The Charities Regulator's Governance Compliance Code. We dedicated substantial effort to ensuring that we fulfilled the code's requirements. We also submitted our Annual Report for the year 2024.

### **Insurance**

Last year, we put in place insurance coverage and protections to ensure the Academy, its members, and staff are protected in the event of litigation. We have just completed an in-depth review of our existing policies. Some changes have been implemented to enhance the coverage provided. Competitive quotations were sought and received to ensure we receive the best protection at a competitive cost.

### **Official List of Members**

A full list of members as of March 31st 2025, the official year end date, is also included in succeeding pages and also on our website <https://iae.ie/full-membership-list/> Names only are quoted for reasons of confidentiality. Full details of all members are held in the Official List of Fellows which is kept under secure conditions in the Administrative Office of the Academy at 22 Clyde Road. Access to the Register is normally restricted to the Officers of the Academy and is made available, as required, to members of the Council/Board of Directors, the Executive Committee and the Membership Committee either by the Administrator, Ms Fiona McCarron or the Honorary Secretary.

### **Deceased Members**

Obituaries are included in this Annual Report for distinguished colleagues who died during the year. We extend sincere sympathy to their families, colleagues and friends.

### **Parsons Medal**

The Parsons Medal commemorates Sir Charles Parsons, the youngest son of William Parsons, 3rd Earl of Rosse, and one of Ireland's most distinguished engineers. Since the COVID-19 pandemic, the awarding of the Parsons Medal has been put on hold. Last year, we were able to invite applications for the award, and we received many excellent nominations. Under the chairmanship of Sir John McCanny, the selection committee considered the nominations and selected Dr Ann B. Kelleher from Intel as the winner. The award was presented at Birr Castle by Sir Brendan Parsons, the Earl of Rosse, a descendant of Sir Charles Parsons.

The process of selecting the recipient of the 2025 Award Medal is now in progress, and it will once again be held in October at Birr Castle. This year, it will be part of the Annual Engineering Festival, scheduled to take place in October.

### **International Activities**

During the past year, the Academy has been active with several committees of the International Council of Academies

## THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE

---

of Engineering and Sciences (CAETS), including the Communications Committee and the EURO-CASE Finance Committee. Tom Leahy has been serving on both of these committees.

Joe Harford continues to be involved with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee, which encourages all those involved in engineering and sciences to promote diversity, equality, and accessibility. The committee discusses ways to help make everyone feel welcomed, valued, and respected.

**Joe Harford**  
**Honorary Secretary**

## OBITUARIES

**John (Seán) Duffy**  
30th December 1936 - 3rd July 2024

In July 2024 the Academy lost one of its most prominent and distinguished Engineers with the passing of our colleague John Duffy in his 88th year. John served our profession with great distinction and played a major role in the construction of many of ESB's power stations across the country in the 1960s and 1970s.

John was born in Tuam where his father was a superintendent in the Guards. When John was 9 the family moved to Howth. He attended secondary school in St. Fintan's Sutton and Coláiste Mhuire and entered UCD in 1954 to study electrical and mechanical Engineering. He worked in the UK for 2 years after graduating before returning to join the ESB. He worked in Arigna and the midland stations and in System Operations. In the early 1960s he went to work in the newly formed ESB Project Department with Alf Kelly. In this role he became involved in power station construction and over the next 15 to 20 years worked on many sites across the country. His first posting was in Bellacorrick and he went on to work as Resident Engineer in Marina, Great Island, Tarbert and Poolbeg. He would later return to Tarbert where he was appointed Site Manager and in 1977 moved in the same role to Aghada.

His talent had not gone unnoticed in Head Office and in 1979 he returned to Dublin to take over operational control of all the major Dublin Power Stations. This was quite a departure from tradition as up to that time jobs at this level had always been the preserve of the Head Office-based engineering purists. John not only thrived in the role but it wasn't long before he was appointed to the Executive Director team as Director of Generation. In the early 1980s he moved to Riyadh where he was instrumental in delivering many multi-million euro contracts for ESB International. His last role was to take charge of Strategic Planning and he retired in 1997.

John was an exceptional Engineer and a thorough gentleman and made a significant contribution to the development of ESB both in terms of delivering critical infrastructure and as a Director of the company.

John married Detta Rooney who was originally from Skerries in 1962 and they had 5 children. He was devoted to Detta and his family and they welcomed 14 grandchildren into their lives. John and Detta were enthusiastic golfers, had a love affair with west Mayo and had a huge and eclectic library. Sadly Detta passed away in 2022.

A brilliant Engineer, committed to ESB and a devoted family man, he left the world a much better place.

Padraig McManus FIAE

## OBITUARIES

### Bill Morrison (1942-2024)

Bill Morrison: throughout his career, his guiding star would be his desire to make things better for people, to improve their lives and conditions, wherever they were and whatever their economic and social circumstances

Some years ago, the Northern Ireland Builders' Federation was holding its annual dinner dance in a Co Down hotel. There was an after-dinner speaker: Bill Morrison (July 16th 1942 - August 30th, 2024), renowned city planner, a man who was always worth hearing. On this occasion, there was a surprise. As he finished his speech, he lifted a guitar and launched into a song. It was the old Tammy Wynette hit but this time it had become Stand By Your Plan.

Later, with the tables cleared away, the curtains parted on the stage and there was Bill again, this time leading the band for the evening, the Dominoes.

As one wag said - "Bill, you're the only person I've ever met who could follow himself."

The truth is that Bill Morrison never followed anybody. He was a trailblazer whose achievements were rich and varied, a man who developed a national plan for an island in the Caribbean and at home launched the career of a future Eurovision winner.

He cut his planning teeth on the creation of the new city of Craigavon. Later challenges would include how to revitalise Belfast city centre, the development of Poleglass in West Belfast and the problems of planning in a divided community.

In 1975, he and his family made the adventurous move to the island of St Lucia which was in the process of becoming independent.

Bill's job, working with a UN team, was to develop a plan for that transition. His influence is still felt there today.

Throughout his career, his guiding star would be his desire to make things better for people, to improve their lives and conditions, wherever they were and

whatever their economic and social circumstances. And there was his music. That was about people too - giving them a good time, brightening their lives.

Right from his schooldays at Campbell College in Belfast, he had always led bands. The list includes the Dominoes, the Group, and Chips which he formed but then had to leave when they wanted to turn professional. Chips became one of Ireland's most popular touring bands and featured a young Linda Martin who would go on to win the Eurovision Song Contest for Ireland in 1992.

After his return from St Lucia, the music started again with a revived version of the Dominoes. The band played on until August 2011 when Bill called a halt. Things weren't right and eventually he was diagnosed with Parkinson's. It was a shocking blow but he insisted, "I may have it but it doesn't have me."

He threw himself into the work of Parkinson's UK, helping to create a programme for sufferers with speech difficulties. He wrote a book, Big Hand for the Band, a memoir of his life and times, and he had the bright idea of organising train rides to Dublin every year so that Belfast musicians could meet up with old musical friends.

Covid put an end to these excursions but since then there have been other gatherings and a series of charity musical nights, all inspired by Bill and his wonderful ability to bring people together. Indeed, he did so again at his memorial service in St Columba's Church in Belfast on September 10th.

Bill is survived by his wife Lyn, daughter Sara, son Michael and his grandchildren Jack and Lottie.

**Keith Baker**  
**Irish Times Sept. 2024**

## OFFICIAL LIST OF FELLOWS (AS OF MARCH 31ST, 2025)

Ms Aoife Ahern	Mr. Kieran Feighan	Dr. Daniel McCaughan
Mr. Lionel Alexander	Prof. Mark W.J. Ferguson	Prof. Conor McCarthy
Prof. Gavin Andrews	Mr. Sean Finlay	Mr. William James McCoubrey
Dr. Norman Apsley	Prof. David FitzPatrick	Mr. Danny McCoy
Mr. Brendan Barrett	Dr. John Flanagan	Prof. Sir Jim McDonald (Honorary)
Mr. Fred Barry	Mr. Padraic Fogarty	Mr. Sean McEwen
Prof. Muhammed Basher	Prof. Vincent Fusco	Prof. Tim McGloughlin
Prof. Eric Kirkland Beatty	Mr. Mark Gantly	Mr. John McGowan
Mr. Gerald Beesley	Mr. David Gavaghan	Mr. Patrick McGrath
Mr. Adrian Kennedy Bell	Mr. Don Godson	Prof. Peter McHugh
Dr. Jayne Brady	Dr. John D. (Jack) Golden	Mr. David McIlhagger
Prof. Jim Browne	Ms Anne Graham	Mr. Ken McIntyre
Dr. Nael Bunni	Mr. Jerry Grant	Mr. Seamus McKeague
Mr Maurice Buckley	Prof. Jane Grimson	Prof. James McLaughlin
Mr. Frank Burke	Mr. William (Bill) Grimson	Mr. Padraig McManus
Ms. Anne Butler	Mr. Michael Hand	Dr. James McQuaid
Mr. Dermot Byrne	Dr. Frances Hardiman	Mr. Don McQuillan
Prof. Gerry Byrne	Mr. Joseph F. Harford	Mr. Albert Manifold
Ms Julie Byrne	Prof. Eileen Harkin-Jones	Mr. John H. Martin
Dr. Paddy Caffrey	Dr. Edmond Harty	Mr. John V. Martin
Mr. Philip Callery	Mr. Jonathan Hegan	Mr. Richard (Dick) Meaney
Mr. Gavin Campbell	Dr. John Allan Hill	Mr. Jerry Mehigan
Mr. Gerry Carty	Ms Ann-Marie Holmes	Dr. Gordon S. Millington (Honorary)
Mr. Brian Caulfield	Prof. Gerard Hurley	Dr. Dervilla Mitchell
Mr. Leo Clancy	Prof. David Jones	Mr. Anthony M. Moloney
Dr. Darragh Colgan	Mr. Alfie Kane	Dr. Mary Moloney
Ms Anne Marie Conibear	Mr. John A. (Jack) Kavanagh	Mr. Don Moore
Mr. Alan Cooper	Dr. Mary Kelly	Ms Regina Moran
Mr. Tim Corcoran	Prof. (Michael) Peter Kennedy	Prof. J.W.O. Morrison
Mr. Tom Costello	Dr. Pat Kenny	Mr. Dermot Moynihan
Prof. Simon Cotton	Dr. John J. Killeen (Honorary)	Mr. John Mullins
Dr. Ronald Cox	Mr. Peter Langford	Dr. Brendan J. Murphy
Mr. Martin Cronin	Mr. Paddy Larkin	Mr. David Murphy
Mr. Theo Cullinane	Mr. Tom Leahy	Prof. Jerry Murphy
Prof. Patrick Cunningham	Dr. J. Owen Lewis	Mr. John Murphy
Dr. Martin G. Curley	Mr. Bernard Looney	Mr. Martin Naughton
Dr. Tara Dalton	Mr. Martin Lowery	Mr. Terry Nolan
Dr. Philip Donald	Mr. Kevin Lunney	Prof. Brian Norton
Prof. Linda Doyle	Mr. Finn Lyden	Prof. Fergal O'Brien
Mr. Kieran Drain	Ms Ria Lyden	Mr. Kieran O'Brien
Mr. John Duffy	Mr. Patrick J. Lynch (Honorary)	Mr. Richard James (Jim) O'Brien
Mr. Gerry Duggan	Prof. Brian MacCraith	Mr. Neil O'Carroll
Mr David Dumigan	Dr. Frank McCabe	Mr. John O'Dea
Mr. Ciaran Fahy	Mr. Paul McCambridge	Prof. Colm O'Donnell
Prof. Orla Feely	Prof. Sir John Vincent McCanny	Prof. Padraic O'Donoghue

## OFFICIAL LIST OF FELLOWS (AS OF MARCH 31ST, 2024)

Ms Mary O'Donovan  
Mr. Eoin O'Driscoll  
Prof. Brian O'Gallachoir  
Mr. Mike O'Flynn  
Mr. Kenneth O'Hara  
Mr. Jack O'Leary  
Mr. Liam O'Mahony  
Prof. Margaret O'Mahony  
Prof. Máire O'Neill  
Mr. Eamonn O'Reilly  
Prof. Barry O'Sullivan  
Mr. Barry J. O'Sullivan  
Mr. Niall Olden  
Dr. Steve Orr  
Prof. Abhay Pandit  
Sir John Parker  
Sir Brendan Parsons (Honorary)

Ms Úna Parsons  
Mr. Michael M. Phillips  
Mr. David Porter  
Mr. John Power  
Mr. Paddy Power  
Prof. Patrick Prendergast  
Mr. Peter Quinn  
Prof. Karen Rafferty  
Mr. Walter Rafferty  
Mr. P.J. Rudden  
Dr. Helen Ryan  
Sir Michael J. Ryan  
Ms Marguerite Sayers  
Mr. Robert (Bob) Savage  
Prof. William Scanlon  
Dr. Michael Shaw  
Dr. Reg Shaw

Dr. James Sheehan  
Mr. Michael Shelly  
Mr. Eamonn Sinnott  
Mr. John A. (Tony) Smyth  
Prof. Cormac Sreenan  
Mr. William Stafford  
Dr. Brian N. Sweeney  
Dr. Michael Tiernan  
Dr. David J. Timoney  
Dr. Ed Walsh  
Prof. Joseph Walsh  
Mr. David Waters  
Prof. Roger Whatmore  
Prof. Luuk van der Wielen  
Prof. Gerry Wrixon

**TOTAL 184 MEMBERS**

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT (JANUARY 1ST TO DECEMBER 31ST, 2024)

### Commentary

The Academy entered the year with a Bank Credit balance of €101,152.40 and closed 2024 with a credit balance of €155,201.25. A number of factors contributed to this situation.

The Academy Income includes Fellow's Subscriptions and Special Contributions (additional sums contributed by Fellows in excess of the standard subscriptions requested). The combined above contributions were €39,037.38 in 2024, which is less than the 2023 amount by €5,951.15. The generous additional contributions by a number of Fellows amounted to €2,445.11, in 2024 this figure was €8,739.94.

The Academy also benefitted from generous support totalling €80,917.39 from twelve of our fourteen Corporate Patrons who supported the work of the Academy through annual financial payments. This also included €10,000.00 outstanding from 2023. Philanthropy income from four sources amounted to €40,000.00 in 2024, including €10,000.00 outstanding from 2023.

The Academy, by virtue of its Charitable Status, is able to recover part of the tax element of individual contributions of a number of Fellows (not recouped from employers) amounting to €3,822.24 for 2024.

In 2023 the largest single item for Personnel Costs was €100,971.46 out of a total expenditure of €142,638.16 which was unsustainable.

In order to address expenditure the post of Chief Executive (Part time) was abolished in 2024, philanthropy support expenditure was cancelled and the Academy reverted to a member lead volunteer organisation.

This reduced Personnel Costs for 2024 to €74,699.41 including one off cost arising from statutory redundancy payments for the Chief Executive, who departed on mutually agreed terms. Further cost savings are expected in Personnel Costs in 2025. The remaining costs are those associated with philanthropy expenditure, administration, bank charges, Government fees, website and computer charges.

General Project costs of €5,473.50 were incurred in 2024, which comprised costs associated with design and print on reports published during the year.

The final bank balance at year-end 2024 was €155,201.25.

### Reserve fund

It should be noted that our Auditor Mazars requires a minimum bank balance reserve of €50,000 each year. In addition, the Academy has been a member of Euro CASE for many years and has yet to host one of their annual conferences in Ireland. The Academy has agreed to host the 2026 Conference in Belfast in November 2026 in conjunction with RAE. This will be a significant cost in terms of organisation, service provider support cost and venue booking cost etc. To date an initial reserve of €30,000 has been set aside to cover this event with an additional provision of €10,000 in 2025 and 2026.

In practice this reduces the available 2024 bank balance to €75,201.25

## INCOME AND EXPENDITURE BUDGET V ACTUAL JANUARY 1<sup>ST</sup> TO DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup> 2024

	2024 Budget	2024 Actual	
Bank Balance January 1st 2023			€101,152.40
Income			
Subscriptions	36,000.00	36,592.27	
AGM & Fellows/Conferring Lunch	2,000.00	1,560.00	
Corporate Income	75,000.00	80,917.39	
Philanthropy Income	40,000.00	55,000.00	
Parsons Award	0.00	0.00	
Special Contributions	4,000.00	2,445.11	
Tax/VAT Recovery from Charitable Status	4,000.00	3,822.24	
Miscellaneous	0.00	595.00	
	<b>161,000.00</b>	<b>180,932.01</b>	<b>180,932.01</b>
<b>Balance</b>			<b>282,084.41</b>
Expenditure			
Personnel Costs	100,000.00	74,699.41	
Printing/Telephone/Postage	1,500.00	644.20	
Administration	3,000.00	9,389.78	
Euro-CASE & CAETS	7,000.00	5,172.30	
Meetings & Travel	5,000.00	5,905.43	
AGM & Fellows/Conferring Lunch	9,000.00	1,900.24	
General Project Expenditure	6,000.00	5,473.50	
Philanthropy Expenditure	10,000.00	1,199.25	
Philanthropy Funded Projects	5,000.00	6,242.25	
Parsons Award	0.00	73.80	
Engineers Ireland	5,000.00	5,931.58	
Website & Computer Charges	<b>1,000.00</b>	5,146.32	
Bank Charges and Government Fees		1,754.30	
Special Event/Euro-CASE	<b>10,000.00</b>	0.00	
Insurances	<b>3,500.00</b>	3,351.80	
	<b>167,500.00</b>	<b>126,883.16</b>	<b>126,883.16</b>
Projected Bank Balance Dec. 31st 2024	94,652.40		
Actual Bank Balance at Dec. 31st 2024			155,201.25

## NOTES

## NOTES

---

 The Irish Academy of Engineering  
22 Clyde Road, Ballsbridge, Dublin D04 R3N2  
 Telephone: +353 1 665 1337  
 academy@iae.ie  
www.iae.ie  
Registered in Ireland: CRO 439234, CHY18046, RCN 20068455



**THE IRISH ACADEMY OF  
ENGINEERING**  
ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY

THOUGHT LEADERSHIP IN A TIME OF GREAT CHANGE