

13 February 2015

Ms Margaret Falsey
PAC Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

Dear Ms Falsey,

I refer to your letter of 28 January 2015 seeking further information for the Committee in relation to issues raised at the meeting of 22 January.

I now enclose the following (copies will also be sent by email):

1. Copies of Annual Governance Statements submitted by NCAD to the HEA from 2009 to 2013. Please note that collection of these statements from the College only commenced in 2009.
2. Proposed merger between Institute of Technology Carlow and Waterford Institute of Technology:
 - i) Projected costs
This figure is not yet available and is pending detailed costings that would underpin a stage 2 Technological University submission.
 - ii) Amount paid out to date:
To date, the HEA has provided a total of € 170,000 towards the costs of merger. The joint award was made under a Strategic Innovation and Development Fund grant in 2013.
 - iii) The costs that have been met by each of the two institutes

Total costs of € 366,822 have been incurred to date. As above, € 170,000 has been provided from the Strategic Innovation and Development Fund grant; the remainder has been met from institutional resources.

Waterford Institute of Technology

WIT has incurred direct costs of €152,077. The breakdown of the expenditure is as follows:

Staff Costs	€98,484
Consultancy/External Experts	€42,218
Travel and subsistence	€5,947
Office & Other Expenses	€5,428

Institute of Technology, Carlow

ITC has incurred direct costs of €214,745. The breakdown of the expenditure is as follows:

Staff Costs	€79,445
Professional Fees	€66,902
Due Diligence Costs	€49,200
Meeting and associated costs	€19,198

3. CIT

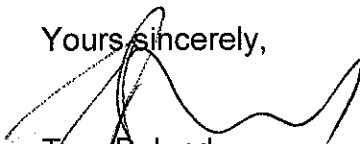
In relation to the costs involved in the services of two communications companies by CIT, the Institute has provided the HEA with the following information:

- Tender for Press Liaison and Public Relations Service 18/09/13 - provided by Kearney Melia - €4,070 & VAT per month.
- Tender for PR for Munster Technological University 09/05/14 - provided by "The Communications Clinic" - €27,000 & VAT per annum.

4. A copy of the HEA's risk register is enclosed. The HEA is currently reviewing the register together with the Department of Education and Skills particularly in the context of the issues raised in the C&AG's Special Report. It is intended that the HEA and Department will develop a joint risk register which will clearly and transparently set out the respective roles of the HEA and Department in relation to accountability and governance in the higher education sector as well as how risks viz. accountability and governance in the higher education sector can be identified and mitigated.

I hope this information is of assistance to the Committee and if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Boland,
Chief Executive.