An Roinn Breisoideachais agus Ardoideachais, Taighde, Nuálaíochta agus Eolaíochta Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science



Ms. Sarah Cremin Committee Secretariat Committee of Public Accounts PAC@oireachtas.ie

8th March 2023

Ref: S1207 PAC33

Dear Ms Cremin,

I refer to the meeting of the Public Accounts Committee on 9th February 2023, where Deputy Paul McAuliffe raised a query in relation Whitehall College of Further Education. I understand that legal proceedings are ongoing at the High Court between the Office of Public Works (OPW) and Western Building Systems in relation to Whitehall College.

The matters in dispute precede the establishment of this Department of Further and Higher Education, Research, Innovation and Science. Since legal proceedings are ongoing between the parties it would not, therefore, be appropriate for this Department to comment further on this issue.

However, I wish to advise the Committee that, despite this ongoing legal issue, Whitehall College for Further Education is continuing to provide further education training to over 520 students in a building licensed from the OPW on Mobhi Road. Whitehall College for Further Education has 29 courses in the areas of Applied Health & Environment, Business Studies, Information Technology, Office Administration and Social Care.

I trust the above is of assistance.

Yours sincerely

Jim Breslin

Secretary General