Minutes of Special meeting of Finance & Capital Investment Committee meeting

Date:	Thursday, 18 December 2025
Time:	4pm
Location:	Microsoft Teams
Chairperson:	Professor Patrick Prendergast
Attendees:	Professor Veronica Campbell Dr Frances Hardiman Ms Carol Lynch Mr Patrick McCormack Ms Louise Grubb Ms Louise Walsh Ms Erin Ní Fhóghlú Mr Cormac O'Toole, VP Finance/Financial Controller Ms Elaine Sheridan, VP Governance/University Secretary
In attendance:	Mr David Denieffe, Chief Operations Officer
Apologies:	Dr Helen Murphy Mr Alan Quirke
In attendance for Agenda Item 2.a	Mr Keith Williams, Capital Projects Manager
Secretariat:	Ms Mary Clare Coogan

Item Title	
1.	**Chairperson's Welcome**:
a.	Chairperson's opening: NOTED The Chairperson welcomed members to the meeting, and confirming the meeting was quorate he commenced the business of the meeting.
b.	Conflict of Interest Declaration: NOTED The Chairperson asked members if they had any conflicts to declare, particularly associated with items on the agenda. No member present declared a conflict for this meeting.
2.	**Committee matters**:
a.	Approval to proceed with the awarding of the contract for the transitionary works associated with Veterinary Programme

NOTED The VP Finance introduced this item to the committee. He stated that ahead of the new building works for the new Veterinary Programme, the University is undertaking transitionary works to enable the course to commence in September 2026. These works have gone out to competitive tender, via eTenders in accordance with Public Procurement guidelines, which has been managed by the Capital Projects Manager and supported by an independent Quantity Surveyor. The University needs to award the contract in time for the contractor to begin works in January and ensure readiness for the programme's commencement.

Mr Williams was welcomed to the meeting and provided a presentation which outlined the need for temporary accommodation to support the delivery of the new Veterinary and Pharmacy programmes ahead of the completion of permanent buildings in 2029. The permanent facilities, with a combined floor area of approximately 3,000m² are planned for the Glassworks Campus and Teagasc Kildalton, while the first student intake is scheduled for September 2026.

To bridge this gap, transition works are proposed behind Carriganore House to refurbish former outbuildings. These works will provide essential teaching and support facilities, including a clinical skills lab for 40 students, a general-purpose lab for 20 students, staff and technician offices, changing rooms, storage areas, and animal facilities such as dog kennels and a cattery.

An open tender process was conducted via the eTenders portal in November 2025, with submissions received on 5 December 2025 and assessed by an independent Quantity Surveyor. Kenlis Construction Ltd. submitted a tender of ***(Information redacted)*** which was within the value of the pre-tender estimate that had been prepared by an independent Quantity Surveyor. The contract duration is six months, with completion targeted for early July 2026. It was noted that ***(Information redacted)*** will be funded through a philanthropic donation, with the remaining balance to be covered by the University's Devolved Grant for 2025/26.

As the project value falls between €1m and €4.99m, approval is required under SETU's Capital Projects Management Policy. The Capital Projects Committee has reviewed the tender assessment and recommends proceeding with the appointment of Kenlis Construction Ltd., and approval from FCIC is now sought to proceed with this appointment. It was noted that the Executive Management Team had granted their approval at their meeting of 17th December. Once the permanent Veterinary and Pharmacy buildings are completed in 2029, the refurbished facilities at Carriganore will be available for alternative University uses.

(Information redacted)

AGREED To 1) approve the awarding of the contract for the transitionary works associated with Veterinary Programme to Kenlis Construction Ltd. 2) approve that the President will sign and execute any agreements associated with the contract.

There being no other business, the Chairperson thanked members for their attendance, wished everyone a very happy Christmas, and closed the meeting at 4.30pm.

Approved: ______________________   Date: 5th February 2026