Dealing with Soil and Stone Waste since the Building Upturn

Hubert Fitzpatrick, Director Housing, Planning & Development Services Construction Industry Federation (CIF)



ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

- The economy continues to grow strongly with real growth projected to be 4.3 % in 2017 and 3.5 % in 2018.
- Unemployment is now at its lowest level since 2008, at 6.1 % and is forecast to fall to 5.7 % on average in 2018.
- The value of construction output in 2017 is expected to exceed €18 billion (6.1% of GDP/7.4% of GNP).



ECONOMIC ENVIRONMENT

The overall volume of construction output is forecast to increase by 14.6 % in 2017, followed by 12.7 % in 2018 and 7.9 % in 2019.

- The average annual growth rate in the period 2017-2020 is projected at 8.5 %. The volume of construction output by 2020 is forecast to reach €22.2 billion in 2016 prices or around 7.1 % of GDP (8.7% of GNP).
 - Gross voted expenditure is up 4.6 % in the year, reflecting the Government's commitment to investing in public services and infrastructure.



POPULATION & INVESTMENT

Between now and 2040, the Irish population is likely to increase by **1 million**

At least 500,000 extra homes will be required

- Government will have to target investment to remedy existing bottlenecks especially in areas such as health and education
- Public investment has not kept pace with demographic changes and population growth



BUDGET 2018

Budget increased voted capital expenditure by €790 million from €4.54 billion this year to just over €5.3 billion in 2018.

This is an increase of over 17 %.

It includes:

- €750 million housing finance through HBFI.
- €500 million for an additional 3,000 new build social houses by 2021
- €75m for a second phase of the Local Infrastructure Housing Activation Fund (LIHAF)
- Various capital investment increases across transport, health, education and heritage.



CAPITAL EXPENDITURE

 Capital expenditure will double between 2015 and 2021 - from €3.7 billion to €7.8 billion Gross Voted Capital.

- During the review the of Capital Plan, proposals for increased investment received from Departments amounted to approximately €11 billion greatly exceeding the €4.1 billion available for allocation.
- Highlights the necessity for sustaining a substantial level of public capital investment under the 10 year National Investment Plan (NIP).



REQUIREMENTS

CIF seeking:

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- A published pipeline of planned investment in infrastructure

- The introduction of active annualised programme management of projects to provide certainty for investors and the supply chain, as well as helping forecast future skills needs required to deliver on planned infrastructure.



CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

- The construction sector is one of the key sectors in the Irish economy employing well in excess of 140,000 people directly.
- The construction sector needs "certainty"

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Government can provide certainty by emphasising its commitment to the capital programme, which will give local employment in the broad industry a pipeline of work and some much needed confidence to face into the next few years.



CIF MARKET REVIEW OF SOIL WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE DUBLIN AREA (Aug 2016)

- Purpose was to quantify the scale of the problem facing members in management of soil waste
- Conclusion Soil Recovery Capacity Issue

- By 2023, a capacity gap of over 2m tonnes estimated
- Capacity situation fluid new licensed facilities anticipated to come on stream



DATA SOURCED

- Figures sourced from National Waste Collection Permit Office
- Strong growth in construction and demolition waste including soil
 - With particular reference to Greater Dublin Area
 - Significant growth 2013 2015

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Absence of regular data reporting on this waste stream resulting in minimal monitoring of the capacity shortfall situation developing



CONCLUSIONS OF MARKET REVIEW

Waste facility permits and CORs are not long term solutions for capacity issues

- High volume large scale construction activity areas require secure and long term capacity outlets
- Ability of permitted facilities and CORs to address capacity issues is limited (100,000 tonnes and 25,000 tonnes respectively over 5 year life of facility)



CONCLUSIONS OF MARKET REVIEW

Permitted Facilities

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- More suited to serving needs of construction activities at a local level with a moderate activity level
- Not suited to long term needs of construction activity in high density urban and suburban areas

Preferred Solution:

- Through waste licensing system
 - Sites favour locations such as exhausted quarries / pits



2016

- Early 2016 closure of the 2 largest soil recovery sites serving Dublin City
- Need to bring additional capacity on stream to alleviate current shortfall
- Option open to existing licensed sites to increase their annual capacity limits.





- Article 27: Names the EPA as the decision maker for by-product and end of waste. Responsibility should shift to local authorities
- Note: EPA Guidance 24 November 2017 on clarification and notification of soil and stone as a by-product
- De-classifications of crushed concrete and stone as a waste

- CIF supportive of application by ICF for declassification of material
- If and when declassification is approved, communication of suitability of uses for this material required to professional bodies
- Current practice of tying the intake at licensed soil recovery sites located at discontinued quarries to the previous annual rate of extraction should be reviewed



- Extend the capacity of waste permits from 100,000 tonnes to a lifetime capacity of 500,000 tonnes, with maximum annual intake 100,000
 - Improve the effectiveness of waste permitted sites to serve the market

- Widen the landscape of soil recovery facilities which is heavily reliant on licensed sites
- Provide long term, secure and compliant destinations for market operators
- -Reduce the number of smaller sites which will reduce impacts on land, recovery environment and support better implementation of consistent regulatory practices



- Modify Article 27 By product mechanism to support waste prevention through re-use of clean soil materials
- Nominating bodies for processing applications should include local authorities

- Suggested local application limit of 25,000 tonnes with local authorities overseeing the nøtification and approval process
- Requests above 25,000 level to revert to existing system with applications processed by the EPA



Potential benefits of modifying the Article 27 process include:

- Improve the scale of re-use of clean soil materials and avoiding waste generation
- Provide local contractors with practical mechanism for the re-use of clean materials
- Share the management burden of the Article 27 process
- Encourage local contractors to improve the management of soil resources generated on site
- Extend available solutions for the re-use of by-product materials



Consistent Enforcement

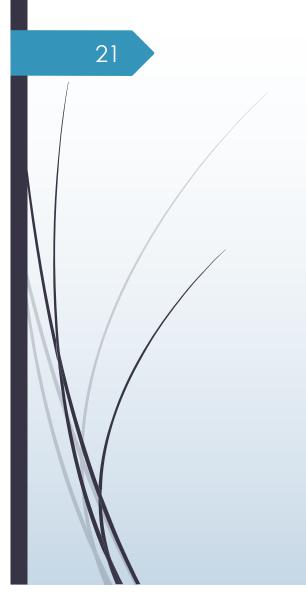
- Illegal activities hamper the development of authorised capacity
- Authorisation conditions regulating acceptance of soil wastes at permitted and licensed sites are not consistent
- Licensed operators required to undertake testing regime to intake materials, similar required at permitted sites accepting the same type of waste
- Continuing monitoring of the soil recovery capacities in the Market is required



- Mobile concrete crushing equipment requirement for waste facility permit
 - Possibility of permitting cross local authority boundaries v exclusive local authority permitting system
- Declassification of crushed concrete and blocks as waste
 Supportive of approach

- Establishment of Construction Waste Resource Group
 - Representative of all stakeholders including regulators





THANK YOU

