

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



Our Ref: Case DFHE-CU-00275-2023

Mr Michael Quinn
Deputy Chief Executive
Waterford City and County Council
City Hall
Waterford

12th June 2023,

Dear Mr Quinn,

Thank you for your correspondence on behalf of Waterford Metropolitan District Council in relation to the development of South East Technological University.

As you are aware, in March of this year, I formally announced that I had given approval to SETU to agree to the Vendor's price for the 20.3 acres of the 37-acre Waterford Crystal site, the entirety of what was offered to SETU, subject to the necessary due diligence requirements. The purchase of the site will allow SETU expand and grow, and embed in the city of Waterford.

This site purchase will satisfy a number of wider local and regional objectives through the reusing/repurposing of a prominent brownfield site in the city to create a dynamic University Enterprise Quarter for students, research, enterprise and the people of Waterford. This investment will allow SETU to cater for future student growth, address the current shortfall in space requirements and allow SETU to be a driver of economic and social development in Waterford.



At this stage, I would like to provide you with the latest update on the site acquisition. SETU are currently engaging with the vendor of the site and undertaking the relevant due diligence, once this process is completed successfully, SETU will be in a position to sign the contract for the purchase of this site. I can also confirm that relevant funding arrangements have been put in place within my Department for this site purchase.

Rest assured that I remain firmly committed to the development of a high quality state of the art campus environment for the South East Technological University. I hope this clarifies the current status for you.

I trust this is of assistance to you.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Harris T.D.
Minister of Further and Higher Education,
Research, Innovation and Science.