



CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS
ALLIANCE

Apartment Defects Campaign Update, 11 October 2021 – PLEASE SHARE

Eve of Budget Update

Tomorrow lunchtime we'll see the Ministers for Finance and Public Expenditure and Reform announce the details of Budget 2022.

At this stage – based on recent answers to Parliamentary Questions from Deputies Eoin Ó Broin, Steven Matthews, Ged Nash, Cian O'Callaghan – it seems very unlikely that the Ministers will tomorrow announce the ending of the discrimination against owner-occupiers and social landlords in relation to the ability to write off remediation levies against tax liabilities.

In a nutshell, the principal reason put forward by Government is that it would be premature to introduce such measures given that the work of the Defects Working Group is still ongoing.

However, this is not yet the end of the matter with regards to budgetary policy for 2022.

The Finance Bill debate – which will start within the next couple of weeks – will provide an opportunity to test the Government's mettle on ending the tax discrimination against owner-occupiers and social landlords. In this context, the Construction Defects Alliance will be working with a number of Opposition politicians to prepare and propose amendments to the Finance Bill – and we will be looking for your support around these amendments in the coming weeks.

The battle goes on!

Thanks Due

Thanks are due to a lot of people for their support for our campaign over recent weeks.

Firstly, to the hundreds of people who have sent in emails to their local Oireachtas members asking them to support our Budget 2022 proposals. In addition, many of you have sought

and held meetings with your politicians and this has certainly helped to build awareness of the issues facing thousands of apartment owners across the country.

Well done on all this work. While it hasn't borne fruit so far, it most definitely will in the not too-distant future.

Secondly, Sinn Féin, Labour and the Social Democrats have all included costed proposals in their Alternative Budgets for 2022 providing for the tax breaks we asked for as well as redress schemes. The Construction Defects Alliance really appreciates these parties for taking on board our proposals.

Thirdly, many Government backbenchers have been busy working behind the scenes raising the issue of redress for apartment owners affected by defects in their parliamentary party meetings as well as in the corridors of Leinster House. We look forward to their continued support especially when the Defects Working Group concludes its work next year.

Onwards and upwards!