



CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS
ALLIANCE

Apartment Defects Campaign Update, 11 December, 2023 – PLEASE SHARE

FULLY-FUNDED INTERIM FIRE SAFETY MEASURES SCHEME NOW OPEN FOR APPLICATIONS

Today, the Minister for Housing, Darragh O’Brien TD, announced that the Interim Fire Safety Measures Scheme is now open for applications and the Construction Defects Alliance has described this as a very significant step forward in sorting out the issues affecting Celtic Tiger-era apartments.

The Interim Fire Safety Measures Scheme – which was proposed by the Alliance 18 months ago – will fully-fund a range of interim measures such as fire alarm upgrades or replacements as well as making sure escape routes are safe. The costs of competent professionals – in carrying out an initial fire safety risk assessment and in managing the process of implementing the interim measures – will also be covered by the scheme.

The purpose of the scheme is to ensure that people can continue to live safely and free from worry and anxiety in their apartments while they await full remediation of defects.

Now that this scheme is up and running it is vitally important that OMCs and the people acting on their behalf (not individual owners) log onto the Housing Agency’s website (<https://www.housingagency.ie/interim-remediation-scheme-fire-safety-defects-eligible-apartments-and-duplexes-2023>) and register for the scheme.

The creation of this scheme will thankfully prompt many OMCs to commission fire safety risk assessments to see if there are such defects in their complexes. Where fire safety risk assessments have already been carried out for apartment developments then they can move on to getting interim works carried out reasonably quickly.

The Construction Defects Alliance wants to express its gratitude to its colleagues in this campaign in the Apartment Owners’ Network and Not Our Fault as well as to Minister O’Brien and his advisers, Government and Opposition Housing Spokespersons, and the officials in the Housing Agency.

Our focus will now be on getting this Interim Fire Safety Measures Scheme rolled out effectively before turning to getting retrospection and the legislation for the overall remediation scheme sorted.

Ends.

