



## CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS ALLIANCE

### **Apartment Defects Campaign Update, 26 July, 2023 – PLEASE SHARE**

#### **Portal for Registering Interest in Defects Scheme Now Live!**

A web portal for apartment owners, OMC directors and managing agents to register their interest in taking part in the Government's proposed defects remediation scheme is now live. The portal – which the Alliance proposed to Government – can be accessed by all at <https://www.housingagency.ie/remediation-defects-apartments-and-duplexes>

It's important to note that this process is not a formal registration process for the scheme – that can only happen when it is formally launched which will most likely be later next year. However, by connecting with the portal now owners, OMCs and agents will:

- Get helpful information and advice through the portal itself and by email;
- Contribute to the creation of a vital database of defective developments;
- Help the Housing Agency and the Government plan the operation of the proposed defects remediation scheme.

#### **Interim Fire Safety Measures**

The Minister for Housing, Darragh O'Brien TD, has published the Fire Safety Code of Practice <https://www.gov.ie/en/publication/95159-code-of-practice-for-the-remediation-of-fire-safety-defects/> for defective apartment developments and has announced that funding mechanisms for interim fire safety measures will be published in the autumn.

We know that up to 90,000 apartments across the country could be affected by fire safety defects and, as the Code of Practice acknowledges, a range of interim measures – such as fire alarm upgrades and presence of fire wardens – may be required so that people can continue to live safely in their homes while awaiting remediation.

Significantly, the Code of Practice – and the Interim Measures Scheme which will be based upon the Code – will include making escape routes safe as well as ensuring that they are well-lit and free of obstacles. We know of a number of apartment developments where

escape routes are compromised from a safety perspective so it's crucial for the residents of these complexes that their escape routes are made fire-safe.

After the summer break, the Alliance – together with the 'Not Our Fault' group – will be engaging intensively with the Minister and his officials to tease out the details of the interim measures scheme – especially the financing arrangements for the rest of 2023 and 2024. We will revert with more information on this vital scheme – which we expect to commence in autumn this year – once it comes to hand.

In the meantime, you can assist us to get the funding in place by you and your neighbours emailing your local TDs and Senators through the following link:

<https://www.constructiondefectsalliance.ie/act/email-your-tds/>

### **Webinar on 4 September**

Put a marker in your diary for the evening of Monday, 4 September next when the Minister for Housing will join the Alliance's Pat Montague and Bryan Maher from the Apartment Owners' Network in an information webinar for apartment owners and OMC directors.

We'll revert at the end of August with a link and an exact time for the event.

Ends.