



CONSTRUCTION DEFECTS ALLIANCE

General Election Week 2 Update – Time to Take Action

Local Campaigning Vital

The Dáil has now been dissolved and the election campaign is now well and truly underway. While the Construction Defects Alliance nationally is lobbying the leaderships of all the political parties about their manifestoes and what goes into the next Programme for Government, local lobbying by you, your neighbours, friends and family members can make a big difference by ensuring that as many TDs as possible are personally invested in the delivery of some form of redress for apartment owners

This is why we need you and those close to you to undertake some or all of the actions below over the coming weeks.

Write to Your Candidates

All public representatives very much welcome contact from their constituents – that's why they have clinics. In particular they like to know what's happening on the ground, what issues are affecting people – indeed, they know this contact helps them to make better policies. Of course, it also helps to get them elected.

So what we need you to do now is to write to all of your local candidates by clicking on the *Email Your Candidates Now* button at this link
<https://www.constructiondefectsalliance.ie/act/>

Please write to them as early as possible in the campaign – ideally this weekend or early next week – and ask them to write back to you with their position on the redress issue before 31 January. Please forward any replies you get to the Alliance by emailing info@constructiondefectsalliance.ie

Show Your Colours

The easiest thing to do is to physically show your support for the Alliance's campaign for redress by wearing our badge and getting others you know to do likewise – click here if you want to order any <https://www.constructiondefectsalliance.ie/contact/>

You can also download and print off the poster

https://www.constructiondefectsalliance.ie/assets/files/pdf/campaign_poster.pdf

and put it in your sitting room window or on your hall door – and get your neighbours, family and friends to do so too. This way any canvassers and candidates will see in a very tangible way that voters in their constituency are looking for action on this issue.

Engage With Canvassers

Over the coming weeks you're going to be bumping into canvassers and candidates – whether that's on your doorstep, outside the local schools or in the main shopping areas. These encounters represent important opportunities to ask them if their party will support redress for owners of defective apartments. So please download and print off the Questions for Canvassers document by clicking on this link

https://www.constructiondefectsalliance.ie/assets/files/pdf/questions_for_canvassers.pdf

and keep a copy in your coat pocket and one at your hall door.

Given that most members of the public will politely take leaflets from canvassers and say nothing, if you or anyone you know does engage with them about their policies this will stand out. This information is also passed on to headquarters to see what voters are talking about. Let's use the opportunity presented by canvassers and candidates.

Call/Meet Candidates

The best and most effective way to lobby candidates is to talk to them face-to-face by visiting their clinics or offices or when you meet them out and about – that's what they are there to do, meet their public.

If you can't meet them directly on a personal basis – or are nervous about doing it, call them using the contact details supplied on the map.

It's really important that you:

- Contact all candidates – ideally before 31 January – giving them all an equal chance to support the Alliance's campaign
- Ask them to reply in writing to you with their party's position on redress for owners of defective apartments before 31 January
- Remember to thank them for their time and attention – courtesy is a long term investment

Make Sure To Vote

The most important thing, you, your neighbours, family members and friends can do to affect policy for owners of defective apartments is to vote. Voter turnout amongst apartment owners tends to be very low – and this can impact on political decisions.

As the saying goes, only those who turn up get to make the decisions.