

**Wednesday 21st October 2020**

**Press Release**

**PROPERTY PROFESSIONALS ISSUE UPDATED GUIDANCE FOR LEVEL 5 COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS**

IPAV, the Institute of Professional Auctioneers & Valuers, following co-operation with the PSRA – the Property Regulator, and the SCSi, Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland, have published a property services providers guidance in implementing the plan for living with Covid-19 Level 5 restrictions that come into effect from midnight tonight (Wednesday).

The document sets out guidance for how Valuers and all Property Service Providers (PSPs) involved in sales, lettings, valuations and property management services, for both residential and commercial property, can operate safely and in accordance with Government guidance.

Under the new guidance Estate Agents offices will remain closed to the public.

In property rentals viewings of properties takes place online only. Physical viewings are permitted, where the potential tenant has been offered the property to rent. Viewing of the property takes place prior to signing of the lease and payment of a security deposit.

Viewings by the public is permitted on vacant new and second hand properties for sale by appointment only on confirmation provided of (a) proof of funds (b) property previously viewed online.

The engagement of Valuers, surveyors and other required professionals to progress sales may take place.

Pat Davitt, Chief Executive of IPAV, thanked the PSRA and colleagues in the SCSi for their co-operation.

“Having agreed standards and clear guidance to all those involved in the profession is absolutely essential so that we can pull together, guarantee the utmost safety for the public and for staff and to play our part in tackling the pandemic for the benefit of all.

“I am very grateful to all involved,” he said.

**Ends**