

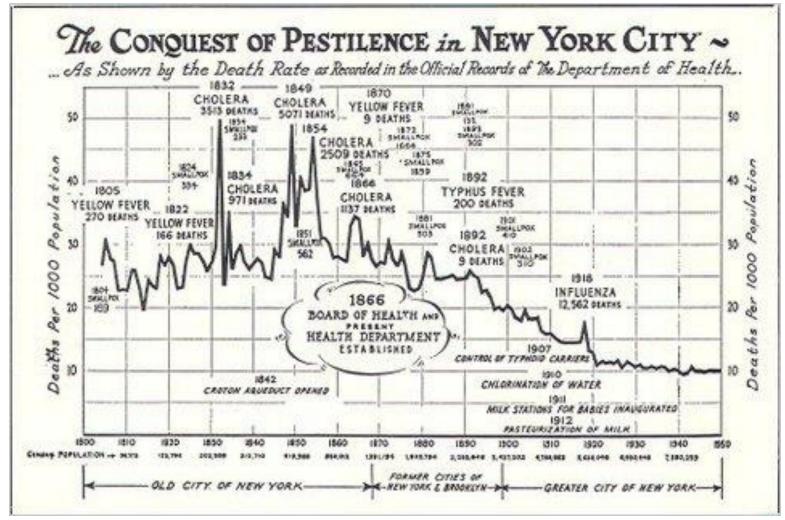
# OMCs and MUD Act

## **IPAV**

14 November 2020

# **COVID?** The Triumph of the City





## 3 Rs



Respect

Reality

Resources

## The Housing Agency





"To promote the building of sustainable communities"

### Working with:

- Department HLG&H
- Local Authorities
- Approved Housing Bodies
- Stakeholders

www.housingagency.ie

### Presenter



# David Rouse, Advisor The Housing Agency

David is Multi-Unit Developments Advisor with The Housing Agency. He works with sector stakeholders including local authorities, State organisations, and the professional bodies. David is a volunteer director of an OMC of 1,300 homes in Dublin. He is a Fellow of Chartered Accountants Ireland, and a Business and Law graduate of UCD.



## What's New for Apartments?



- New Stats
- PSRA Guide
- COVID-19 & Essential Services
- Companies Act 2020
- CRO Filing Extensions

### **Recent Stats from CSO**



- 2019: for the first time, more apartments than houses granted permission
- Permissions for 20,582 apartments in 2019, 9,138 in 2018: 125% increase
- Number still lower than peak of 32,077 apartments granted in 2004
- 2010-2019 new apartments granted increased by almost 200%; houses by 70%
- 3,550 apartments completed in 2019, 2,280 in 2018: up 56%
- Of the 6,926 completions in Dublin:
  - o 2,590 (37%) apartments
  - 4,032 (58%) scheme dwellings,
  - o 304 (5%) single dwellings.
- Dublin apartments completed = 73% of apartments completed nationally in 2019

# **Apartment Planning Permissions**



Figure 2 Number of units for which planning permissions granted, 2001 to 2019





Source: CSO Ireland

## Permissions 2009-2019







Show Table: 15.1 Summary of planning permissions granted for dwellings

## Local Authority vs SHDs



Office of the Planning Regulator

Annual Report 2019



Figure 11: Residential units approved 2018-2019 (CSO 2020)

## FP Logue – SHD Tracker



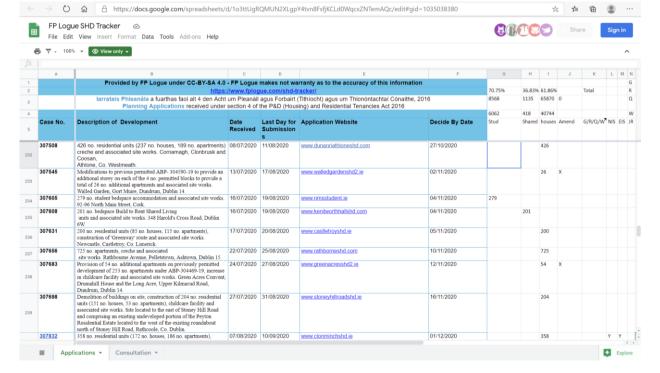


About Services Team Blog Contact Key Cases In the news SHD Tracker

#### SHD TRACKER

FP Logue maintains a tracker listing all the SHD applications to An Bord Pleanála for strategic housing development, it's licensed under CC-BY-SA





To access use this <u>link</u>
The Housing Agency

# Where? By Region





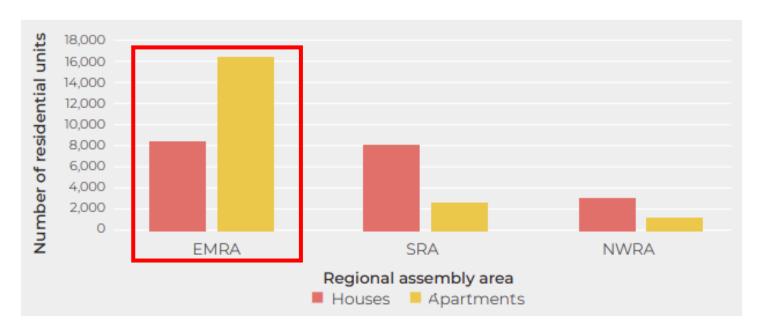


Figure 12: Houses and apartments permitted by regional assembly 2019 (CSO 2020)

# Where? By City



Office of the Planning Regulator
Annual Report 2019

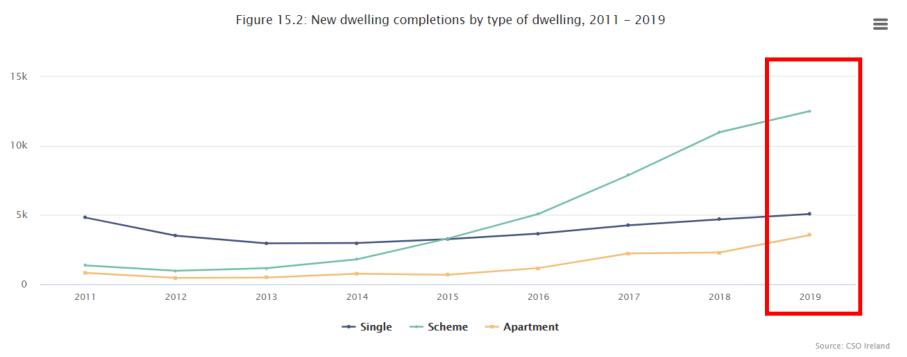


Figure 13: Houses and apartments permitted, by city region and Eastern region 2019 (CSO 2020)

## Completions 2011-2019



### New Dwelling Completions



Show Table: Table 15.2 Summary of new dwelling completions by type of dwelling, 2011 - 2019

## Completions 2016 to 2020



Figure 1; Number of new dwelling completions by type of dwelling, Q2 2016 - Q3 2020

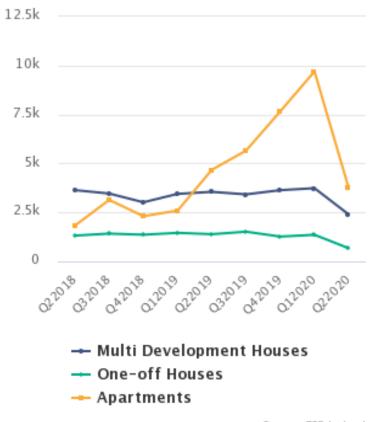


Source: CSO Ireland

## News – Planning trends 2018-20







Source: CSO Ireland

## **News – Planning Q2 & Q1 2020**



CSO statistical release, 11 September 2020, 11am

#### **Planning Permissions**

**Quarter 2 2020** 

Number of dwelling units for Quarter 2 in 2019 and 2020

	Houses	Apartments	Total
Quarter 2 2019	4,936	4,675	9,611
Quarter 2 2020	3,063	3,744	6,807
% change	-37.9	-19.9	-29.2

CSO statistical release, 12 June 2020, 11am

### **Planning Permissions**

**Quarter 1 2020** 

Number of dwelling units for Quarter 1 in 2019 and 2020

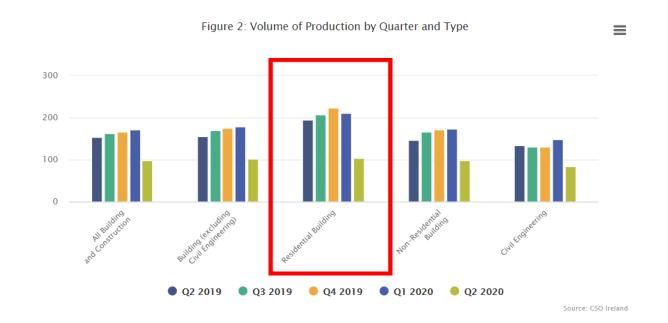
Houses	Apartments	Total
4,901	2,592	7,493
5,091	9,698	14,789
3.9%	274.2%	97.4%
	4,901 5,091	4,901 2,592 5,091 9,698

## **COVID, Residential Construction Q2**



Figure 1: Seasonally Adjusted Volume of Production for Building and Construction Indices





## New OMCs – estimated



Year	Companies- Estimated No.	? Directors
2020 (to 11 Nov)	127	508
2019	174	696
2018	152	608
2017	177	708
2016	120	480
	750	?3,000

### **PSP Guide to COVID Plan**





Property Services Providers

Guidance to implementing

Plan for Living with Covid 19





23 October, 2020



## **PSP Guide**



#### LICENCE C – THE LETTING OF LAND

Cubinet method	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Subject matter	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Office open to the public	Business As Usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Office closed to the public.	Office closed to the public
Attendance at the office	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Agents and staff should work remotely where possible. Where this is not possible, all relevant safety protocols to be adhered to.	Agents and staff should work remotely where possible. Attendance only where necessary to facilitate provision of services.
Estate Agent to view property on engagement by client	Business As usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Agents at commencement of engagement by their client, may view the property to be placed on the market for rent and arrange for BER certification and any other requirement on engagement.	Agents at commencement of engagement by their client, may view the property to be placed on the market for rent and arrange for BER certification and any other requirement on engagement.
Viewings by public of property for rent	Business As Usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Properties to be viewed online.  No viewings in person permitted except  Where the potential tenant has been offered the property. Viewing of the property takes place prior to signing of the lease and payment of a security deposit.  In emergency circumstances. In these circumstances, viewings by one party of two people from the same household is only permitted.	Properties to be viewed online.  No viewings in person permitted except  Where the potential tenant has been offered the property. Viewing of the property takes place prior to signing of the lease and payment of a security deposit.  In emergency circumstances.  In these circumstances, viewings by one party of two people from the same household is only permitted.

#### LICENCE D – PROPERTY MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Subject matter	Level 3	Level 4	Level 5
Office open to the public	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Office closed to the public.	Office closed to the public.
Attendance at the office	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Agents and staff should work remotely where possible. Where this is not possible, all relevant safety protocols to be adhered to.	Staff should work remotely where possible. Attendance only where necessary to facilitate provision of services.
Management Agent to view property on engagement by client	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Agents at commencement of engagement by their client, may view the property and arrange any necessary requirements.	Agents at commencement of engagement by their client, may view the property and arrange any necessary requirements.
Supply, repair, installation and maintenance of machinery and equipment for essential services to businesses and private residences (including electrical, gas, plumbing, glazing and roofing services)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)
Services relating to electricity, gas, water, sewage and waste management	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)
Services necessary to support any other essential service: (i) the cleaning of buildings: (ii) industrial cleaning activities;	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)	Business as usual (In line with Joint Sector Protocol for Property Services Providers)

## **Essential services**





Departments Consultations Publications Policies

Languages -

#### Publication

#### View the list of essential services at Level 5

From Department of the Taoiseach Published at 14 October 2020 Last updated 23 October 2020

- 1. Agriculture, horticulture, forestry, fishing, animal welfare and related services
- 2. Manufacturing
- 3. Supply, repair and installation of machinery and equipment
- 4. Electricity, gas, water, sewage and waste management
- 5. Construction and development
- 6. Wholesale and retail trade
- 7. Transport, storage and communications
- 8. Accommodation and food services
- 9. Information and communications

- 10. Financial and legal activities
- 11. Professional, scientific and technical activities
- 12. Rental and leasing activities
- 13. Administrative and support activities
- 14. Public administration, emergency services and defence
- 15. Human health and social work activities
- 16. Education
- 17. Community and voluntary services
- 18. Diplomatic missions and consular affairs

#### Part of

Campaigns

Resilience and Recovery 2020-2021: Plan for Living with COVID-19

COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

Policies

Health

#### Share







This list applies for Level 5 only.

Physical attendance at workplaces is only permitted for those providing the following services where such services can only be provided in person and cannot be delivered remotely. It does not include administrative and other support for such businesses and services unless specified in section 13 and the physical presence of a worker is required.

### **Essential services**



### Electricity, gas, water, sewage and waste management

- **4.** The following services relating to electricity, gas, water, sewage and waste management:
- the generation, transmission, supply and distribution of electric power
- the extraction and distribution of gas and decommissioning activities in relation to offshore gas filed facilities
- · the collection, treatment and supply of water
- the collection, treatment and disposal of sewage or wastewater
- the collection of waste, remediation activities and other waste management treatment and disposal activities (including the operation of landfill sites, waste transfer stations, waste processing centres and recycling facilities or waste recovery)

#### Construction and development

- **5.** The following services relating to construction and development:
- construction or development work and the provision of support services relating to construction and development work
- the repair, maintenance and construction of road, rail and utility infrastructure
- the supply and delivery of maintenance and repair services to businesses and places of residence (including electrical, gas, oil, plumbing, glazing and roofing services)

#### Rental and leasing activities

- **12.** The following services relating to rental and leasing activities:
- property services (within the meaning of the Property Services (Regulation)
   Act 2011 (No. 40 of 2011)), property letting and management services
- the provision of a service for the rental or leasing of mechanically propelled vehicles or bicycles

#### Administrative and support activities

- 13. The following services relating to administrative and support activities:
- payroll and payment services necessary for the operation of undertakings and bodies
- employment placement and human resources services associated with the recruitment and deployment of workers engaged in the provision of essential services
- data processing, website hosting and related activities
- security activities to assist in either or both of the following:
- (i) the delivery of essential services
- (ii) the securing of premises closed to the public
- where such services are necessary to support any other essential service:
- (i) the cleaning of buildings
- (ii) industrial cleaning activities
- (iii) the provision of key third party supports other than those referred to in paragraph (f) provided under contract to a person providing an essential service

### **COVID-19 Guidance for OMCs**











## **OMCs - Company Law Changes**





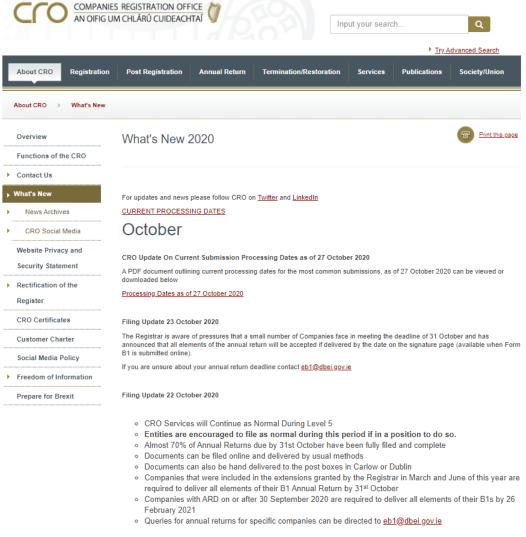
## **Company Law changes**



- Allows virtual/online AGMs
- Voting online
- Current deadline = 31 December
   2020

## **CRO filing deadlines for OMCs**

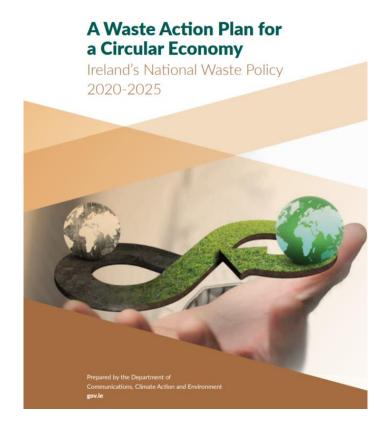




## Waste Action Plan & Apartments









## Waste Action Plan & Apartments



- "We will incorporate municipal waste recycling targets as conditions of waste collection permits (i.e. collectors will be required to achieve a 55% recycling rate of municipal waste by 2025, 60% by 2030 and 65% by 2035). The effect of this will be to incentivise the waste industry, in the context of the current market structure, to drive enhanced segregation including for apartment complexes."
- "We will work with relevant stakeholders to improve waste segregation in apartment complexes."

## Waste Action Plan & Apartments



- "We will develop a quality waste management assurance scheme for businesses (including apartments serviced by management companies) to sign up to. This will verify that premises are complying with best waste management practice in terms of waste prevention and recycling (including organic waste)."
- "We will work with the Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government to make regulatory changes in planning and tenancy laws required to ensure apartment dwellers are provided with infrastructure to support food waste segregation."

## Apartment Living in Ireland 2019





National Study of Irish Housing Experiences, Attitudes and Aspirations in Ireland

### APARTMENT LIVING IN IRELAND 2019



# Management - survey findings



#### 4.9 Apartment-specific experiences

#### Key insight

High satisfaction levels with the work of the OMCs overall were reported, but 66% had concerns about significant increases in management fees in the future.

The 2019 iteration of this study included an extra module of questions

specific to apartment living. The analysis for the following section has divided apartment dwellers into three separate categories: owners living in a private development (owners), renters living in a private development (renters), and those renters living in local authority/approved housing body schemes or developments.

Overall, owners surveyed had positive opinions about their Owners' Management Companies (OMC)<sup>28</sup> and agreed that they were happy with the work the OMC does (66%) and

thought their OMC was well-run (73%). Renters in private developments were similarly positive about the work of the OMC in the development they were living in, with 73% agreeing they were happy with the work the OMC does, and 78% agreeing that the OMC was well-run. Understandably, renters were more likely to agree that they should be allowed to become involved in the running of the OMC, at 72% compared to 59% of owners.

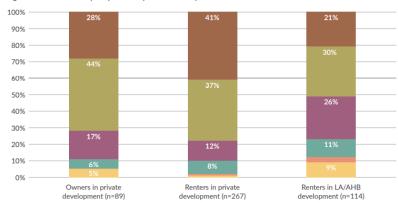




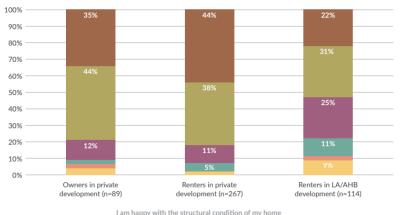
# Facilities - survey findings







The communal areas are well maintained



## Report – on our website





## 3 Rs



Respect

Reality

Resources

## **Managed Estates**



- Apartments
- Conventional housing
- Mixed use developments:

Residential



Commercial

### **Apartments?**



- 'Conventional' multi-owner
- PRS conventional build/one owner
- BTR purpose built

### Professor Hazel Easthope

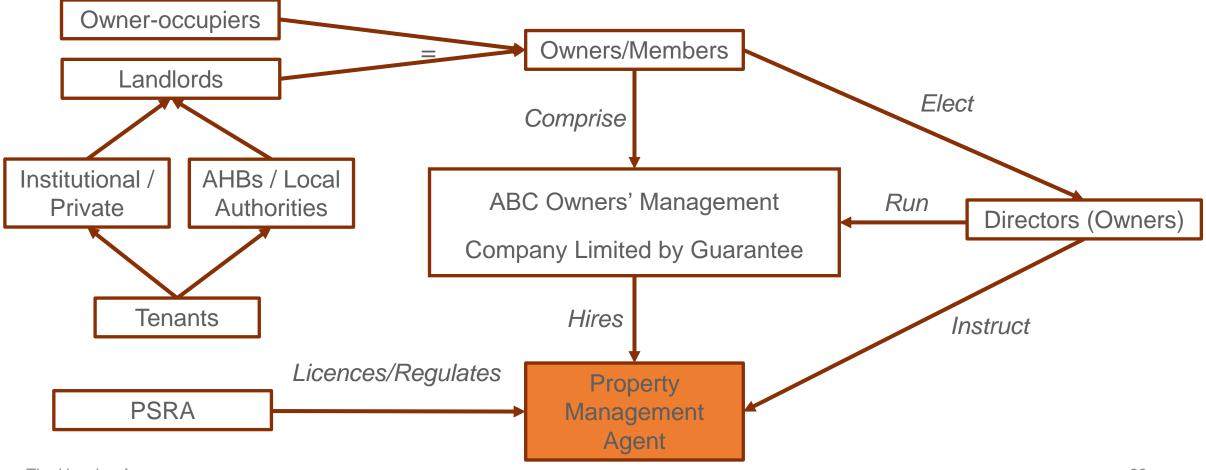


### Collective vs Individual Rights

- Proximity
- Interdependence
- Joint-Decision Making

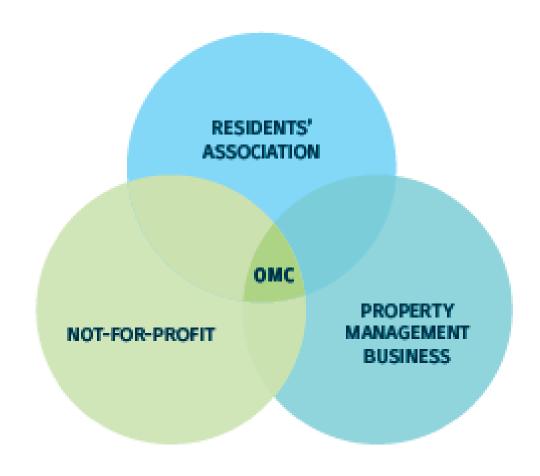
# We're All In This Together





# Managed Estate: OMC = Hybrid





### **Principles**



- Collective structures
- Clear understanding of roles
- Volunteerism
- Sustainable communities require sustainable funding

### **Principles - Law**



- Founded in
  - Land Law
  - Company Law
  - Other?
- Legislation specific
  - Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011
  - Property Services (Regulation) Act 2011
  - Companies Act 2014

### MUD Act – positives



- Definitions / clarity
- Transfers of Common Areas?
- Developers' responsibilities
- Rights of OMC
- Voting
- OMC Annual Report

# MUD Act – gaps?



- Service charges
- Sinking funds
- OMC governance
- Circuit Court applications Section 24
- Directors' knowledge

### Rights & Duties – Head Lease



THIS INDENTURE made the day of Two Thousand and Three BETWEEN having its Registered Office at

St. Stephens Green in the City of Dublin (hereinafter called "the Lessor" which expression shall where the context so admits or requires include its successors and assigns) of the First Part,

MANAGEMENT COMPANY LIMITED having its registered office at:

St. Stephen's Green in the City of Dublin (hereinafter called "the Management Company" which expression shall where the context SO admits or requires include its successors and assigns) of the Second Part and [the Purchaser] of [\*Block 2/4]

in the City of Dublin (hereinafter called "the Lessee" which expression shall where the context so admits or requires include his/her/their executors, administrators, successors and assigns) of the Third Part.

### WHEREAS

A. In these presents and the several Schedules

### Rights & Duties – Head Lease



- 8. Not use or permit to be used the Demised Premises for any purpose other than a single private residence nor to use the same for any dangerous, noisy, noxious or offensive trade, business, manufacturer or occupation whatsoever or for any illegal or immoral purpose;
- 9. Not play or allow to be played any musical instrument television radio loudspeaker or mechanical or other noise making instrument of any kind or permit any singing to be practised on the Demised Premises so as to cause annoyance to the owners and occupiers of any other part of the First Phase Development Property or so as to be audible outside the Demised Premises between the hours of 12 midnight and 9 a.m.;

### **Key Documents – OMC Constitution**



Companies Act 2014 and Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011: s. 14(3)

### Constitution

of

[●] [● Owners' Management Company] / [● OMC]¹ Limited by Guarantee

Issued by and © 01 July 2016 Law Society of Ireland

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Complete the name of the Company. The words 'Owners' Management Company' or 'OMC' must be used in the Company's name: *Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011, s. 14(3)*. The name of the Company must end in 'Company Limited by Guarantee (*Companies Act 2014, s. 1178(1)*) but these words may be abbreviated to 'CLG' by the Company or any other person in any usage after the Company's registration (*Companies Act 2014, s. 1178(2)*).

### **OMC Constitution – vote / GDPR**



### **Votes of Members**

- 28. Subject as hereinafter provided on a show of hands or on a poll every Member shall have one vote of equal value for each Unit which he owns and no persons other than the Unit owners shall have a vote.
- 29. A Member of unsound mind, or in respect of whom an order has been made by any court having jurisdiction in cases of unsound mind or pursuant to *section* 8 of the *Powers of Attorney Act, 1996*, may vote, whether on a show of hands or on a poll, by his committee, receiver, guardian, attorney or other person appointed by that court, and any such committee, receiver, guardian, attorney or other person may vote by proxy, on a show of hands or on a poll.
- 30. No Member shall be entitled to exercise a vote in respect of a Unit at any general meeting (or by signing a resolution in writing pursuant to **Article 27**) unless all moneys payable to the Company including any service charge or sinking fund contributions in respect of that Unit have been paid in full.

(l) To process personal data and sensitive personal data relating to any Unit Owner and/or any tenants and/or licensees of the Unit Owners including but not limited to (i) disclosing information relating to the payment or non-payment of service charges and sinking fund contributions to some or all of the Unit Owners; and (ii) disclosing information relating to any breach of any rules, house rules, regulations, restrictions and byelaws relating to the multi-unit development to some or all of the Unit Owners;

### **MUD Act & Tenants**



- Information to be provided to OMC
- Service charges
- House Rules

### **MUD Act – Tenants' Details**



- (*b*) be obliged to perform all the obligations (including the payment of service charges) pertaining to the membership of such company concerned.
- (2) Notwithstanding subsection (1) an owners' management company shall take all steps necessary to ensure—
  - (a) that the share certificate or membership certificate, as appropriate, is issued to the member concerned as soon as practicable following notification of the change of ownership of the residential unit,
  - (b) that the register of members of the company is altered accordingly, and
  - (a) that there is compliance with all other relevant requirements under the Companies Acts.
- (3) A unit owner (whether the owner of a residential unit or a commercial unit) shall be under an obligation to furnish to the relevant owners' management company—
  - (a) particulars of his or her name,
  - (b) particulars of his or her address,
  - (c) particulars of the names of the tenants in the unit,
  - (a) particulars of any habitual occupiers of the unit other than tenants, and
  - (e) such other contact particulars as the owners' management company may reasonably request,

and shall promptly notify the owners' management company of any change in such particulars.

# Tenant & service charges?



- (9) Where expenditure is incurred following an approval under *subsection* (6) the owners' management company may recover such expenditure from any person (including the developer) who had responsibility for incurring such expenditure or carrying out the works concerned.
- (10) The owner of each unit in a multi-unit development (including a person who is the developer or building contractor of the development) shall be under an obligation to pay all service charges levied under this section.
- (11) For the purposes of this section a developer or building contractor, as the case may be, shall be regarded to be the owner of a unit in a multiunit development the first sale of which unit has not been completed, as and from the day on which the first sale of a residential unit in the relevant part of the development is closed.

(12) Nothing in this section shall operate to prevent a unit owner from seeking and recovering reimbursement of service charges levied under this section from a tenant of that owner where so provided by agreement.

### House Rules – application



House rules.

23.— (1) An owners' management company may, as respects the multi-unit development for which that company has responsibility, make house rules as respects the development or part of the development relating to the effective operation and maintenance of the development and with the objective of enhancing the quiet and peaceable occupation of units generally in the development, and such house rules shall be binding on—

- (a) unit owners,
- (b) tenants of unit owners, and
- (c) servants, agents and licensees of persons referred to in paragraphs (a) and (b).
- (2) House rules made pursuant to subsection (1) shall be consistent with the covenants and conditions contained in—
  - (a) the documents of title under which unit owners in the multi-unit development concerned have title to the units concerned, and
  - (b) the documents of title under which the owners' management company concerned has title to the multi-unit development concerned.
- (3) House rules made under subsection (1) shall be made in a manner consistent with—
  - (a) the objective of advancing the quiet and peaceful enjoyment of the property by the unit owners and the occupiers, and
  - (b) the objective of the fair and equitable balancing of the rights and obligations of the occupiers and the unit owners,

in the development or part of the development concerned.

### House Rules & Renters/Tenants



(9) House rules made pursuant to this section may be amended from time to time in the same manner as house rules may be made.

(10) It shall be a term of every letting of a unit in a multi-unit development that the letting is subject to the observance by all those occupying the property (including their licensees, servants or agents), in whatever capacity, of—

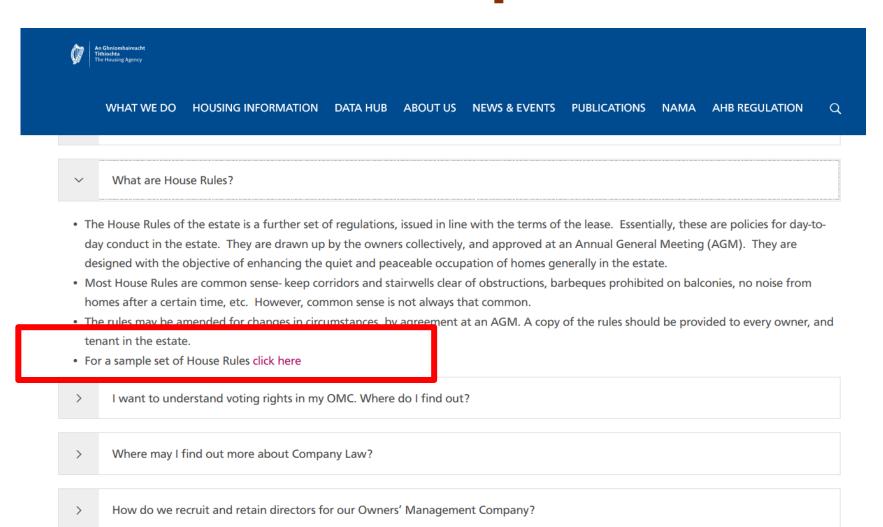
- (a) the conditions and covenants in the title documents relating to the use and enjoyment of the property, and
- (b) house rules made under this section,

and a summary of such relevant conditions and covenants together with a copy of any house rules shall be incorporated into the letting agreement relating to the unit concerned.

(11) Where a person, who by reason of *subsection (1)* is obliged to comply with house rules, commits a material breach of such rules, the owners' management company of the development concerned may recover the reasonable costs of remedying such breach from such person which costs may be recovered as a simple contract debt in a court of competent jurisdiction.

### House Rules – template





# **Breaking the Rules?**



Please ensure that you are parked in your allocated parking space only. Your car space number may not correspond with your property number. Please check with your landlord/agent. or the management agent, for your space number. Unauthorised or illegal parking may result in non-refundable clamping charges. The management company reserves the right to arrange for the removal of vehicles parked otherwise than in keeping with these House Rules, or vehicles that appear to be abandoned in the estate.

Residents should be mindful of tailgating in car parks, and suspicious activity should be reported to the management agent.

### 13. Costs Arising from a Breach of House Rules:

In accordance with Section 23(11) of the Multi-Unit Developments Act 2011, the owners' management company reserves the right to recover all costs incurred (including administrative costs) from the owner of a residence involved in a breach, or a resident breaching any House Rule.

### **MUD Act & Tenants / Renters**





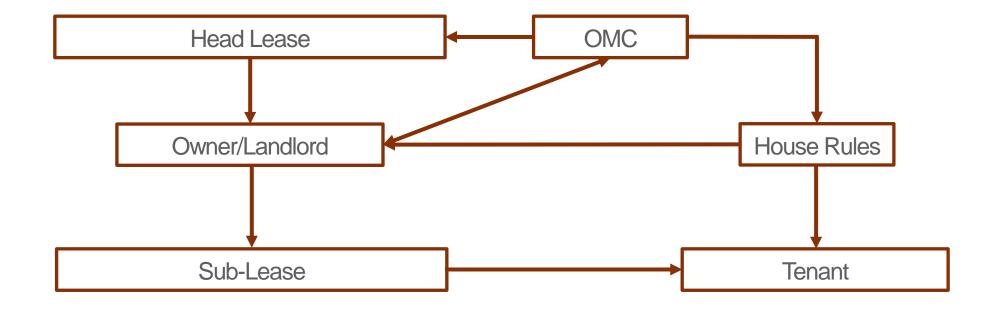
### **MUD Act & Tenants / Renters**



- Mr. Kennedy = Tenant in a MUD
- He claimed OMC was seeking to implement House Rules which were in breach of law
- Tenants not listed in section 25 of Act as persons who may apply for relief
- But "with the permission of the court, such other person as the court sees fit" may apply- section 25(1)(f)
- Could Mr. Kennedy, the tenant, bring an action under the MUD Act?
- Yes, Court would not refuse tenant the right to bring an action
- MUD Act actions = Circuit Court...?

# Leases in a Managed Estate





# Service Charges – reality check



### 2019 SERVICE CHARGE BUDGET FOR OWNERS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

7.1 Sinking fund  GRAND TOTAL	€	26,340.00 <b>141,999.75</b>	€	185.49
7. DEVELOPMENT IMPROVEMENTS - LONG TERM PLANS				
6.3 Data Storage	€	281.00	€	1.98
6.2 Postage, stationery, etc	€	426.00	€	3.00
6.1 Bank charges	€	296.00	€	2.08
6. OTHER				
5.1 Public & Common Area Electricial Costs	€	9,250.00	€	65.14
5. ELECTRICITY				

# **Service Charges**



### 2019 SERVICE CHARGE BUDGET FOR OWNERS MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Cost category	All Apartments		Per apartment	
1 MANAGEMENT COCTS				142
1. MANAGEMENT COSTS				
1.1 Management Fee	€	21,300.00	€	150.00
1.2 Audit Fees	€	1,845.00	€	12.99
1.2.1 Company Secretarial Services	€	345.00	€	2.43
2. INSURANCE				
2.1 Block Insurance	€	9,000.00	€	63.38

# Sinking Feeling?





# Sinking Fund



Replacement Cost

•

Remaining Expected Life

Of course, parts of a building have differing lifespans!

# **Sinking Funds**



### Appendix A ITEMS TO BE INCLUDED IN A TYPICAL BIF

A BIF table will be included in the planning submission. It will include for the calculation of a Sinking Fund. It is based on Block 1 in the development which consists of 40 apartments over 4 floors.

BUILDING INVESTMENT FUND (SINKING FUND) CALCULATIONS		
Elements	Life Expectancy	Amount
Roofs		
Replacement felt roof covering incl. insulation to main roofs/ overhaul to green roofs.	18	€121,000
Replacement parapet details	18	€26,000
Replacement/ repairs to facias	18	€18,000
Replace roof access hatches	25	€12,000
Specialist Roof Systems - Fall arrest	25	€8,000
Overhaul waterproofing details to paved areas	12	€10,000
Elevations		
Decorate rendered panels to apartments	25	€32,000
Minor repairs and preparation for decorations of rendered areas	18	€5,000
Replace exit/ entrance doors	25	€8,000
Replace Rainwater goods	20	€15,000
Recoat powder coated Finishes to balconies	5	€7,000
Periodic replacement and overhauling of external fixings	25	€5,000
Replace Balcony floor finishes	25	€30,000
	Elements  Roofs  Replacement felt roof covering incl. insulation to main roofs/ overhaul to green roofs.  Replacement parapet details  Replacement/ repairs to facias  Replace roof access hatches  Specialist Roof Systems - Fall arrest  Overhaul waterproofing details to paved areas  Elevations  Decorate rendered panels to apartments  Minor repairs and preparation for decorations of rendered areas  Replace exit/ entrance doors  Replace Rainwater goods  Recoat powder coated Finishes to balconies  Periodic replacement and overhauling of external fixings	Elements  Roofs  Replacement felt roof covering incl. insulation to main roofs/ overhaul to green roofs.  Replacement parapet details  Replacement/ repairs to facias  Replace roof access hatches  Specialist Roof Systems - Fall arrest  Overhaul waterproofing details to paved areas  Elevations  Decorate rendered panels to apartments  Replace exit/ entrance doors  Replace exit/ entrance doors  Replace exit/ entrance doors  Replace exit/ entrance doors  Replace Rainwater goods  Recoat powder coated Finishes to balconies  Periodic replacement and overhauling of external fixings

### MUD Act - Section 19(5)



"Subject to subsection (6) the amount of the contribution to be paid as respects a unit by each unit owner of such a unit to the sinking fund in respect of a particular year shall be the amount of €200 or such other amount as may be agreed by a meeting of the members as the contribution in respect of the year concerned."

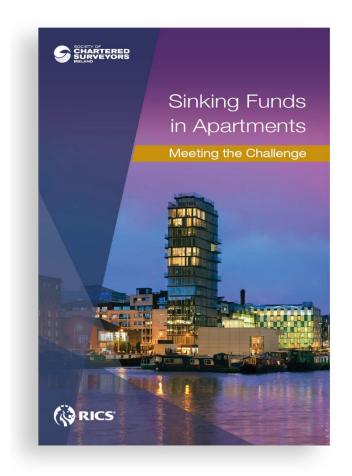
# Sinking Funds



- Total sinking fund needed = €585,000
- Block of 40 apartments
- Life span, say 25 years
- €585 contribution per apartment, per annum

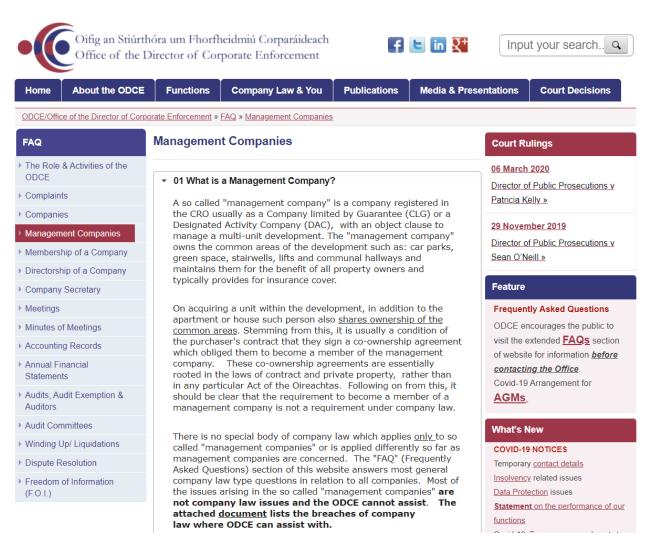
# Sinking Funds – SCSI work





### Company Law compliance





# Company Law compliance



### The ODCE and Residential Management Companies

The ODCE's remit is company law and as such it deals with complaints in relation to the following, where breaches of company law may occur:

- ✓ Register of Members
- ✓ Register of Director and Secretaries
- ✓ Directors' duties under company law (i.e. statutory duties)
- ✓ Company Secretaries duties
- √ Financial Statements
- ✓ Holding of AGMs
- ✓ Access to the Registered Office
- ✓ Requirements for Company Letterheads/websites
- ✓ Insolvent Liquidations

Contact ODCE at 01 8585800 Press Option - 2 - Complaints

Queries in relation to Filing of Company Accounts, and to involuntary strike-off are dealt with by the Companies Registration Office - 01 8045200

The ODCE does not deal with complaints in relation to the following:

- ★ Chairing of Meetings
- ★ Holding of EGMs
- Minute taking
- Maintenance of Common Areas.
- × Repairs
- X Service Charges
- \* Insurance
- × Waste Management
- × Taxation
- × Litter
- ✗ Local Government Issues
- X Planning Issues
- ★ Contractual Issues
- \* Employment Issues
- X Health & Safety Issues
- \* Property Law

- ★ Memo and Articles of Association (including procedures relating to the election/resignation of directors)
- ★ Management Company's Bank Account
- ✗ Depreciation/Dilapidation and Capital Expenditure
- ★ Access to Accounting Records by members/others (i.e. invoices, individual expenses, bank records etc.)
- Mean Delays in transfer of common areas from a developer to a management company
- \* 'Ad Hoc' and other Committees

### **Management Agent Regulation - PSRA**



Údarás Rialála Seirbhísí Maoine



**Property Services Regulatory Authority** 



A Guide for Users
of
PROPERTY SERVICES PROVIDERS
In
Ireland

April 2017

# **PSRA** ≠ **OMC** regulation



complaint submitted, the Authority is obliged for the aforegoing reasons to provide the PSP with a copy of any such complaint made.

### Can I complain about a PSP not being licensed

A complaint can only be made against a licensee holder for improper conduct under the terms of the Act. The Authority has no powers to investigate complaints of improper conduct against unlicensed companies or individuals. A complaint against an unlicensed PSP is treated by the Authority as a report of unlicensed trading. As with complaints, persons submitting such a report should provide any and all information that will provide evidence, if not proof, of the allegations made. Persons selling or letting out their own properties do not require a licence.

### Can I complain about Owner Management Companies?

The Authority has no role in the regulation of Owner Management Companies.

# Housing Agency resources





### Multi-Unit Developments / Managed Estates



### **March/April - Information Notes**



### 10 Tips for Owners' Management Companies During COVID-19

All decisions should reflect the advice and guidance of the HSE and Department of Health. Up to date information is available on the HSE's website: hse.ie/coronavirus.

### 1. Display HSF COVID-19 Poster

Consider putting up HSE posters in common areas with advice on preventing the spread of COVID-19. These posters are available from the HSE website: <a href="https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/partner-resources/">https://www.hse.ie/eng/services/news/newsfeatures/covid19-updates/partner-resources/</a>

### 2. Get Guidance and Advice from the Estate Management Agent

OMC directors should seek advice from the management agent and be guided by their experience and expertise. The agent is a trained property professional and should be licensed by the PSRA.

### 3. Consider Prioritising the Cleaning of High-Contact Common Areas

Identify ways to prioritise the cleaning of common areas, particularly sanitising door handles, push plates, keypads, lift buttons, and handralls. Consider if resources could be diverted from non-essential works, e.g. gardening or litter-picking, to facilitate these measures.

### 4. Communication with OMC Members

Clear, consistent communication is recommended with a balance between sufficient communication and too much. Ascertain whether formal online channels, such as Blockman or alternative online tools, are available for communications. Consider other options available through social media channels operated by residents' groups.

### 5. Communication with Residents

Remember that about 80% of apartment residents are renters/tenants, and therefore not members of the OMC. Communication by notices posted to letterboxes, or posters erected in lobbies, halls, lift cars, and carparks may be most effective.

### 6. Contact Other Stakeholders

Engagement with local authorities, Housing Bodies, or commercial organisations owning homes in the estate may be beneficial in achieving communication with all residents.

### 7. Curtailment of Access to Non-Essential Common Areas

Consider curtailment of access to or the closure of high contact but low priority parts of the estate, such as playgrounds, gyms, halls, or other amenities.

### 8. Hold Board Meetings by Telephone or Online

It would be best for OMC directors to meet and take decisions by way of virtual means, or written resolution over email. Check that your OMC Constitution allows for these arrangements.

### 9. Postponing the Annual General Meeting

AGMs may be held up to 15 months apart. The MUD Act requires a meeting in each year. The date of the 2019 AGM will determine whether the 2020 AGM can be delayed. The implications of this for the OMC's finances should be carefully considered. Directors should be mindful of their duties and responsibilities under company law.

### 10. Consider Employees

Does the OMC have direct employees? Consider the health and safety of all staff members

Information provided above is general in nature. It should not be considered to amount to legal advice, and no reliance should be placed on it. The Housing Agency cannot be held responsible for actions or failure to act on foot of the information provided. Professional legal advice may be necessary in relation to the individual circumstances or facts of a natificial crase.

For further information email MUD@housingagency.ie



### **OMC Finances & Governance during COVID-19**

All decisions should reflect the advice and guidance of the HSE and Department of Health. Up to date information is available on the HSE's website: hse.ie/coronavirus.

### 1. Consider Immediate Steps to Manage Cashflows

- Delay discretionary spend, such as decoration works, and cash movements to the sinking fund account.
- Reduce variable costs, e.g. ensure common area lighting is synchronised with extended daylight.
- Extend payables, for example seek extended payment terms on block insurance, or defer PAYE in respect of direct
  employees. More details are available from <a href="https://www.revenue.ie">www.revenue.ie</a>.
- Expedite receivables non-private owners may have capacity to pay management charges early.
- o Contact the bank overdraft or other short-term facilities may be available.

### 2. Discuss Budgets and Cash-flows with the Management Agent

Where the OMC has engaged the services of a property management agent, the OMC directors should be guided by their agent's experience and expertise. A management agent is a trained property professional, and should be licensed by the PSRA.

### 3. Communicate with Other Advisors

It may be helpful to link in with the OMC's auditor, accountant, or solicitor, who may offer advice on more challenging financial and legal queries.

### 4. Consider Other Business Continuity Planning Measures

A checklist of preparatory actions in responding to COVID-19 is available from the Department of Business, Enterprise and Innovation at <a href="https://www.dbel.gov.ie">www.dbel.gov.ie</a>. While the material is directed at trading companies, many of the actions apply equally as well to OMCs.

### 5. AGM Arrangements

ptions to facilitate an AGM that is due under company law may include:

- o A 'hybrid' AGM, involving:
- A physical meeting complying with the quorum requirement, usually the presence of at least two members.
- Electronic participation by other members, by means such as Skype, Zoom, MS Teams, or other web and conferencing
  platforms available.
- Members physically present abide by HSE social distancing guidelines.
- Members not physically present appoint proxies to vote on their behalf.

The OMC Constitution should be reviewed to ensure these measures are permissible

### 6. Delay the Annual Return filed with the CRO

Annual returns due to be filed with the CRO up to 30 June 2020 will be deemed filed on time once all elements of the return are completed and filed by that date. This frees up OMCs to focus on immediate challenges. Further information and FAQs are available from <u>www.cro.ie</u>.

### 7. Remind Residents of House Rules

Residents will be at home for the most of the day. In following the House Rules, respect and consideration for neighbours will help communities to manage through the period ahead.

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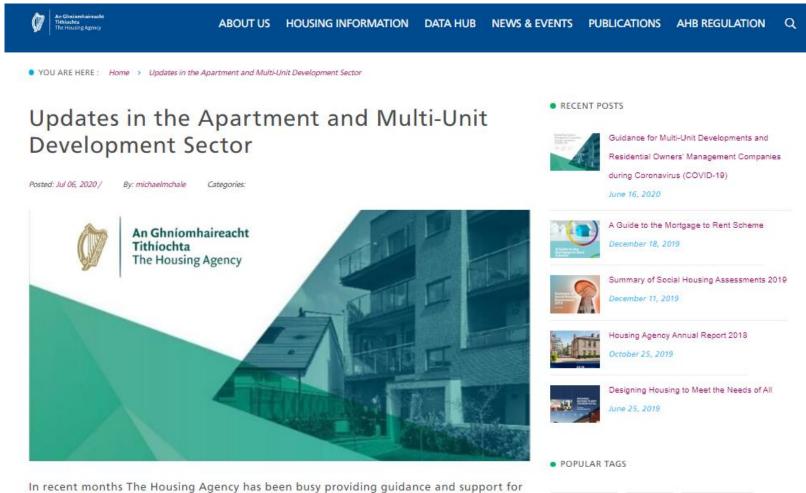
> For further information email MUD@housingagency.ie



# 15 webinar recordings

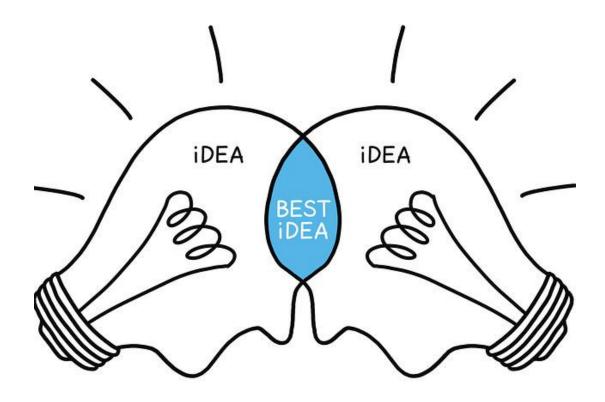


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### Collaboration!





### **Collaboration with IPAV**





Posted: May 14, 2020 / By: michaelmchale Categorie





Managing Apartments and Multi-Unit Developments through COVID-19



# COVID-19 – gov.ie





### COVID-19 (Coronavirus)

### Ireland is at Level 5

See all of the measures that are in place at Level 5 here.



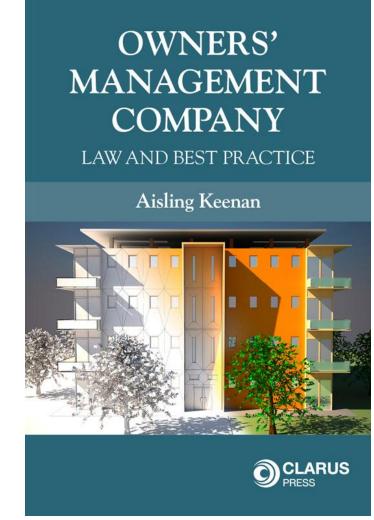
### **Publications**





Company Law Handbook on Residential Property Owners' Management Companies ("Management Companies")





### 3 Rs



Respect

Reality

Resources

### Contact



# MUD@housingagency.ie

### Disclaimer



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