

## **Information Update for Apartment Owners on Roll-Out of Interim Remediation Scheme, 29 April 2024**

A number of apartment owners have been in touch with the Construction Defects Alliance this morning on foot of an article by Mick Clifford on the front page of this morning's Irish Examiner <https://www.irishexaminer.com/news/arid-41383933.html> which was also mentioned in "It says in the papers' on Morning Ireland.

Basically, this article has highlighted problems that have been encountered since January with the roll-out of the Interim Remediation Scheme which is focused on upgrading fire alarm systems and making escape routes safe.

To be clear:

- These issues only relate to the Interim Scheme and do not relate to the full remediation scheme which is not yet live as it requires legislation to underpin it
- There has been no change in Government policy in relation to sorting out apartment defects, this is an implementation issue.

The facts of the situation in relation to the issues with the Interim Remediation Scheme are as follows:

- The Interim Scheme opened for applications on 11 December last
- At this stage over 130 apartment complexes have applied for funding under this scheme
- Before applicants can receive funding from the Housing Agency (which is administering the scheme) their applications have to be reviewed by the fire services in their area
- However, the fire services have not been cooperating with this process — the issue seems to be about a lack of resources to manage this additional work
- As a result, none of the 130 applications have yet been processed

The Construction Defects Alliance has been engaging intensively with the Minister, his advisers and the Housing Agency on this matter since January and we had expected that it would have been resolved by now.

We know the Minister is meeting the fire services tomorrow afternoon in an effort to sort this out and we will appraise you of the outcome in the coming days.