



To: Chief Executives and Directors of Planning

CC: An Bord Pleanála  
Directors of Regional Assemblies  
Office of the Planning Regulator

Circular Letter PL 03/2020

17 April 2020

**Re: Further Order extending the planning time periods during the Covid-19 emergency**

Circular PL 02/2020 of 29 March 2020 notified planning authorities of the making of an Order by the Government under section 251A(4) of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, to the effect that the period of 29 March 2020 to 20 April 2020, inclusive, could be dis-applied in the calculation of any appropriate period, specified period or other timeline in the Act or other related planning legislation. The Order thereby had the effect of extending the duration of all relevant periods and timelines specified in planning legislation by a period of 23 days.

Arising from the decision of the Government earlier this week to extend the Covid-19 related restrictive measures until 5 May 2020, the Government has now made a further Order under section 251A(4) of the Planning Act extending the duration of all relevant periods and timelines specified in planning legislation by an additional 19 days, up to and including 9 May 2020. The two Orders thereby have the combined effect of extending the relevant planning periods and timelines by an aggregate of 42 days/ 6 weeks. A copy of the Government Order will be available on the Department's website early next week.

Also enclosed for the information of planning staff is an updated FAQ document on the impacts and implications of the extended time periods on various aspects of the planning system further to the making of the new Order. Any queries in relation to this Circular Letter can be emailed to [planning@housing.gov.ie](mailto:planning@housing.gov.ie)

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