



To: Directors of Planning

CC: Chief Executives

Senior Planners

An Bord Pleanála

Directors of Regional Assemblies

Office of the Planning Regulator

Circular Letter PL 04/2020

22 April 2020

Re: Government Decision on event licensing in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic

In the context of the ongoing and evolving public health advice in relation to the management of the current Covid-19 pandemic, I wish to advise that the Government yesterday (21 April 2020) decided that all applications for licences in respect of outdoor events requiring an event licence under Part XVI of the Planning and Development Act 2000, as amended, and associated regulations - i.e. events comprising an audience of 5,000 people or more – should not be considered in respect of events scheduled to take place in the period up to the end of August 2020.

This decision was taken having regard to the need to provide certainty to planning authorities and event promoters, as well as all other stakeholders, in the context of the ongoing Covid-19 emergency while also maintaining the integrity of the planning system including the statutory consultation requirements in this regard.

Planning authorities should now inform relevant event promoters of the Government Decision. A copy of the press release issued by the Government Information Services following the making of the Government Decision is available at this link - https://merrionstreet.ie/en/News-Room/News/Government_Statement_on_licensed_events.html

Any queries in relation to this Circular Letter can be emailed to planning@housing.gov.ie

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