



To: Chief Executives and Directors of Planning

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

Circular Letter PL 05/2020

9 May 2020

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

Circulars PL 02/2020 of 29 March 2020 and PL 03/2020 of 17 April notified planning authorities of the making of Orders 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 9 May 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 two Orders already signed thereby had the effect of extending the duration of all relevant periods and timelines specified in planning legislation by a period of 42 days/ 6 weeks.

Arising from the further Government decision to extend the Covid-19 related restrictive measures until 18 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 14 days, up to and including 23 May 2020. The three Orders thereby have the combined effect of extending the relevant planning periods and timelines by an aggregate of 56 days/ 8 weeks. A copy of the Government Order will be available on the Department's website early next week.

An updated FAQ document for the information of planning staff 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 has been uploaded on the Department's website. 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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