

Paul Scott (Housing)

From: Andrew Caldicott <Andrew.Caldicott@decc.gov.ie>
Sent: Thursday 17 December 2020 12:53
To: Paul Scott (Housing)
Cc: Brian Quirke; Kevin ODonoghue; Denis Dunne
Subject: Draft Guidelines on Design Standards for New Apartments

Categories: Filed to eDocs

Dear Paul

Thank you for taking my call this morning.

As I mentioned earlier, we welcome the development of these amended guidelines and in particular the articulation of measures in relation to the management of waste from and within apartment buildings. The acknowledgment of the three bin system is particularly welcome.

The recently published *A Waste Action Plan for a Circular Economy* identifies improved waste segregation in apartment buildings as an key priority for targeted action, which will help deliver on EU targets for recycling and landfilling. In this context, while we have no comments specifically related to the AA or SEA screening reports, we do have a number of comments in relation to the content of the guidelines themselves, including the following:

- 1) We note that the guidelines 'discourage' the use of in-sink macerators. The language in the Irish Water code of practice on wastewater is stronger ("No under-sink or other type of food macerator/grinder for the processing, discharging or disposal of food waste to the drainage system shall be installed in developments" [<https://www.water.ie/connections/Wastewater-Code-of-Practice.pdf> p.79]) and we feel more appropriate;
- 2) In a similar vein, we feel the guidance on waste management could be strengthened in a number of places by replacing "should" with "shall", for example in relation to the adequate provision of temporary storage for segregated materials within apartments prior to deposition in the communal system, and in relation to the taking into account of design considerations;
- 3) The design consideration relating to the provision of sufficient communal storage area to satisfy the three-bin system should make reference to an adequate number or capacity of bins having regard to the population of the building.

We appreciate that the focus of the current consultation is on the SEA and AA scoping reports, and that our comments fall somewhat outside their scope, however we would welcome the opportunity to discuss the guidelines and our observations in greater detail. Appropriate contacts in this regard are myself, Andrew Caldicott (andrew.caldicott@decc.gov.ie) (I lead on Municipal Waste Capacity), and Brian Quirke (brian.quirke@decc.gov.ie) who leads on Food Waste.

With best regards and thanks

Andrew Caldicott, Assistant Principal
Waste Policy & Enforcement Division

— —
An Roinn Comhshaoil, Aeráide agus Cumarsáide
Department of Environment, Climate and Communications
Bóthar an Bhaile Nua, Loch Garman, Y35 AP90
Newtown Road, Wexford, Y35 AP90

—
T 085 8517171

andrew.caldicott@decc.gov.ie www.dccae.gov.ie

Disclaimer:

This electronic message contains information (and may contain files), which may be privileged or confidential. The information is intended to be for the sole use of the individual(s) or entity named above. If you are not the intended recipient be aware that any disclosure, copying, distribution or use of the contents of this information and or files is prohibited. If you have received this electronic message in error, please notify the sender immediately. This is also to certify that this mail has been scanned for viruses.

Tá eolas sa teachtaireacht leictreonach seo (agus b'fhéidir sa chomhaid ceangailte leis) a d'fhéadfadh bheith príobháideach nó faoi rún. Is le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine nó le h-aghaidh an aonáin atá ainmnithe thuas agus le h-aghaidh an duine/na ndaoine sin amháin atá an t-eolas. Murab ionann tusa agus an té a bhfuil an teachtaireacht ceaptha dó bíodh a fhios agat nach gceadaítear nochtadh, cóipeáil, scaipeadh nó úsáid an eolais agus/nó an chomhaid seo. Más trí earráid a fuair tú an teachtaireacht leictreonach seo cuir, más é do thoil é, an té ar sheol an teachtaireacht ar an eolas láithreach. Deimhnítear leis seo freisin nár aims odh víreas sa phost seo tar éis a scanadh.