



11th September 2020

Dear Chief Executive,

I refer to previous correspondence from this Department concerning the 6 month waiver of commercial rates.

As you are aware, the Government has allocated €600 million to the local government sector to fund the waiver, by extension supporting both local authorities and ratepayers through the current pandemic. I am writing to assure you that payment of the relevant portion of these funds will be made to every local authority in the coming weeks, as soon as Dáil Éireann has considered the Revised Estimate 2020. In line with the arrangements in the relevant circulars, local authorities should continue to apply the waiver to qualifying rate accounts.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the local government sector for its efforts to support the development of the rates waiver process, including the work on calculating the costings.

In terms of funding issues, the local government team here in the Department continue to be available to work with each local authority on financial issues arising and please do not hesitate to contact Lorraine O'Donoghue and her team, as required. You can also be assured that we are continuing represent the sector in the context of Budget 2021 in relation to the funding issues and many challenges, which we are all facing during these current very difficult times.

I would be grateful if you could bring the contents of this letter to the attention of the elected members as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Mary Hurley
Assistant Secretary
Local Government Division

