



21 October, 2020

Cllr Ed O'Brien

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**Subject: Civil Law and Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 (Section 29)
(Local Authorities) (Designation) Order 2020 (S.I. No. 445 of 2020)**

Dear Mayor

I wish to inform you that the attached Civil Law and Criminal Law (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2020 (Section 29) (Local Authorities) (Designation) Order 2020 (S.I. No. 445 of 2020) was given effect by the Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, Mr Darragh O'Brien TD, on 20 October 2020.

This will allow for meetings to be held remotely by local authorities. Any decision made or vote taken or other act done at such a meeting shall be as good and effectual as a decision made or vote taken or other act done by the members concerned would have been if such a meeting had been held in person.

It is a matter for the members of each elected council to decide if they wish to hold remote meetings and, if so, how they will go about doing so. The Department is working with councillors and local authorities on suggested standing orders for remote meetings, which will issue in the coming days.

This is an important measure in the context of the response to COVID-19, particularly for those elected members who may be more vulnerable to the virus.

Yours sincerely

Peter Burke TD
Minister of State for Local Government and Planning

cc. Danny McLoughlin, Chief Executive