



New Consumer Guide explains apartment owners' rights and responsibilities under new legislation - The Multi Unit Development (MUD) Act 2011

Surveyors offer a free public seminar for apartment owners on the MUD Act and its implications on 7th December.

Today 29th November 2011: The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland has published a new consumer guide – 'Apartment ownership under the MUD Act' which will provide apartment owners with information to improve apartment living under the Act.

The Society has said that the new consumer guide will provide apartment owners with an overview of the important regulations contained in the Act and explains its practical requirements, in a user-friendly format.

The guide answers some key questions about the MUD Act including:

- What is an Owners' Management Company (OMC) and what are its rights and responsibilities
- The transfer of the common areas of a development from the developer to the OMC
- Obligations on the developer to complete the development
- New requirements for Fire Safety
- New measures to resolve Disputes
- New Service Charge Budget arrangements
- New and fairer Voting rights

Siobhan O'Dwyer, Chair of the Property & Facilities Management Professional Group of the Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland said "This guide sets out the key provisions of the legislation which enhance consumer protection for apartment owners.

"It includes the new conditions and obligations on developers, dispute resolution measures and the rights and responsibilities of Owners' Management Companies and Directors which directly affects the common areas of the development and consequently, the value of the properties in the development".

"In light of recent events in Multi Unit Developments such as Priory Hall, it is essential that apartment owners are aware of their rights and responsibilities from the day of purchase.

"We would encourage apartment owners, landlords and tenants living in a Multi Unit Development to download the free consumer guide available on the Society of Chartered

Surveyors Ireland website www.scsi.ie and to attend the free Public Seminar on December 7th”, said Ms. O’Dwyer.

The Society of Chartered Surveyors Ireland will hold a public seminar ‘Apartment Ownership under the Multi Unit Development Act’ on Wednesday December 7th at 6pm at its offices on 38 Merrion Square, Dublin 2. Attendance is free of charge but spaces are limited. Registration by email to events@scsi.ie is required.

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