

**An Roinn Tithíochta,
Rialtais Áitiúil agus Oidhreacht**
Department of Housing,
Local Government and Heritage



Ms Éilis Fallon
Committee Secretariat
Committee of Public Accounts
Leinster House
Dublin 2

3 June 2021

Ref: S0382 PAC33

Dear Ms Fallon

I refer to your letter dated 24 May 2021 following discussion by the Committee at their meeting on 11 May 2021 on the subject of planning bonds.

Please find attached at Appendix 1 the Department's response to the Committee's request for further information.

If you have any questions on the attached please do contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Janet Jacobs
Assistant Principal
Departmental Finance Unit



Appendix 1

Departmental Response to PAC – re further information on ‘Bond Surrender’

The Department has now received responses from all 31 local authorities following its request for information on ‘Bond Surrender’, and will now prepare a complete report on the matter for the Committee. Also included in this will be the further information requested by the Committee in its previous correspondence to the Department of 16 April 2021. The Department acknowledges the Committee’s request for the incorporation of potential solutions in the report.

Regarding the request by the Department to consider developing a national register to include:

- Estates not taken in charge by local authorities; and
- Developers that have not completed related developments

the Department will contact the local authorities with a view to ascertaining the level of relevant data currently available and the feasibility of developing such a register. The transcript of the Committee’s meeting also requests that the Department provide information on the procedures in place ‘to monitor the progress local authorities are making regarding the taking in charge of estates’. The Department will include this in its correspondence with the local authorities.

The complete report, including all of the above mentioned requests, will be submitted to the Committee by 2 July 2021.