

Issued to all Federation Presidents on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7.40pm

**Advisory Recommendation to all ICA Federations & Guilds from the National Executive Board during Coronavirus epidemic**

Dear Federation Presidents and ICA Members,

It is with regret that the National Executive Board issues this advisory recommendation to all ICA Federations & Guilds. Due to the worsening situation and in order to exercise leadership in our duty of care to ICA members, The National Executive Board is now issuing a strong recommendation to all Federations and their Guilds to cease all ICA activities until the situation improves and we are so notified by Public Health Authorities.

The National Executive Board is also suspending all services at An Grianan from Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> March at close of business until further notice. We do this to take a lead in fulfilling our duty of care responsibilities to ICA members and to protect their health.

These steps are taken in recognition that the membership of ICA largely fall into the 'at risk' age category as identified by the HSE. Additionally, many ICA activities could be considered non-essential indoor social gatherings – which are advised against, and may have difficulty in ensuring the hygiene and community spacing protocols can be adhered to.

We would ask each Federation or Guild Committee to consider this advice when deciding their course of action in this matter.

The National Executive Board will keep the matter under review and maintain contact through the Federation Presidents as the situation evolves and improves.

In the meantime we wish each member and her family good health and safety during this worrying time.

**For and on behalf of**

**The National Executive Board**