



**ATT: An Taoiseach, Micheal Martin - An Tanaiste, Leo Varadkar - Minister for Health, Stephen Donnelly - Minister for TCAGSM, Catherine Martin**

**REF: Letter to Party Leaders and Minister to Urgently Review the Guideline of “No Live Music/Dancing” at Weddings**

Date: 26.7.2021

Dear Taoiseach, Tanaiste and Ministers,

As of today (26.7.2021), all industries are back open. Aviation & Hospitality are back, which is encouraging and we wish them well in their reopening plan. However, the guidelines of “no live music/dancing” at weddings sits on the sidelines without a date or plan in place for the return of live music at weddings. The Wedding Band Association continues to engage with officials from Minister Martin’s department, who have been supportive and have echoed our plight. We are now calling for a collective response from this government to urgently omit this guideline, get us back to work and allow us honor our contracts for our wedding couples from 5th of August onwards. Last July (2020), we commissioned our members to complete a COVID Officer training course and we also published an extra set of guidelines that we would adhere to in order to return to work and return safely. “Live doesn’t mean Loud” and we do not see any justification in not allowing couples to have live music at their wedding.

We have sacrificed our livelihoods and businesses with minimal support from this government. We have always fully supported the public health advice and we are proud that we played our part, however we believe now that there is simply no justification for not delivering us with a return date and roadmap. We also speak for the thousands of wedding couples who don’t have a voice, and some who have moved their wedding up to five times.

Let us return to work from the 5th of August and let us honor our services and contracts.

Your Sincerely,

Cathal Molloy - Founder of the Wedding Band Association

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