

Land Registry Applications – What Can Go Wrong?

Preparing Applications For Lodgement in the PRA

Eamonn Morris

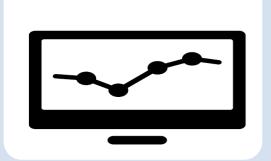
Casework & Corporate Services Manager PRA, Chancery Street office

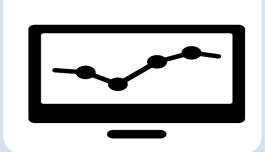


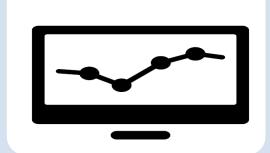
Content

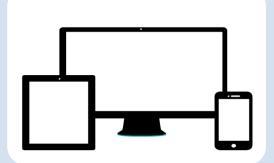
- PRA: Current Activity & New Initiatives
 - Property Alert
- Videos & Checklists
- Rejection Policy: Key Points
- Other Issues
- Form 3
- Electronic Payments
- Error in Registration

Key Statistics YTD (at end October 2019)









Net Intake

- 213,389 transactions lodged YTD 2019
- +7% on YTD 2018

Completions

- 212,000 transactions completed YTD 2019
- +5 % on YTD 2018

FR Completions

- 3,671 FR Examiner Cases transactions completed YTD 2019
- +34% on YTD 2018

Online Actions

- 8.7 million online actions YTD 2019
- +1% on YTD 2018









New Initiatives - 2019

PROPERTY ALERT:

- Property Alert was introduced in 2019 and participation levels are increasing
- A new, free, online service available to all that will allow property owners to monitor registered properties for possible fraudulent activity.
- Users of the service will receive email and/or text alerts when an application has been lodged with the PRA to update the Land Register.
- Early warning system that will allow owners to take appropriate action should they believe fraudulent activity has happened with their property



New Initiatives - 2019

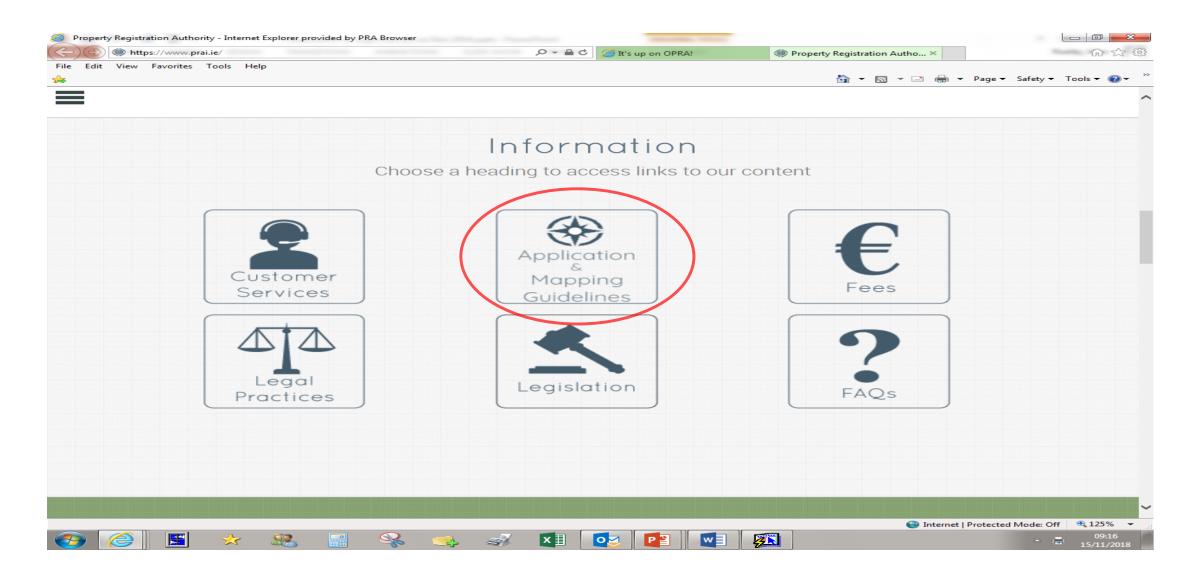
STATE PROPERTY UNIT

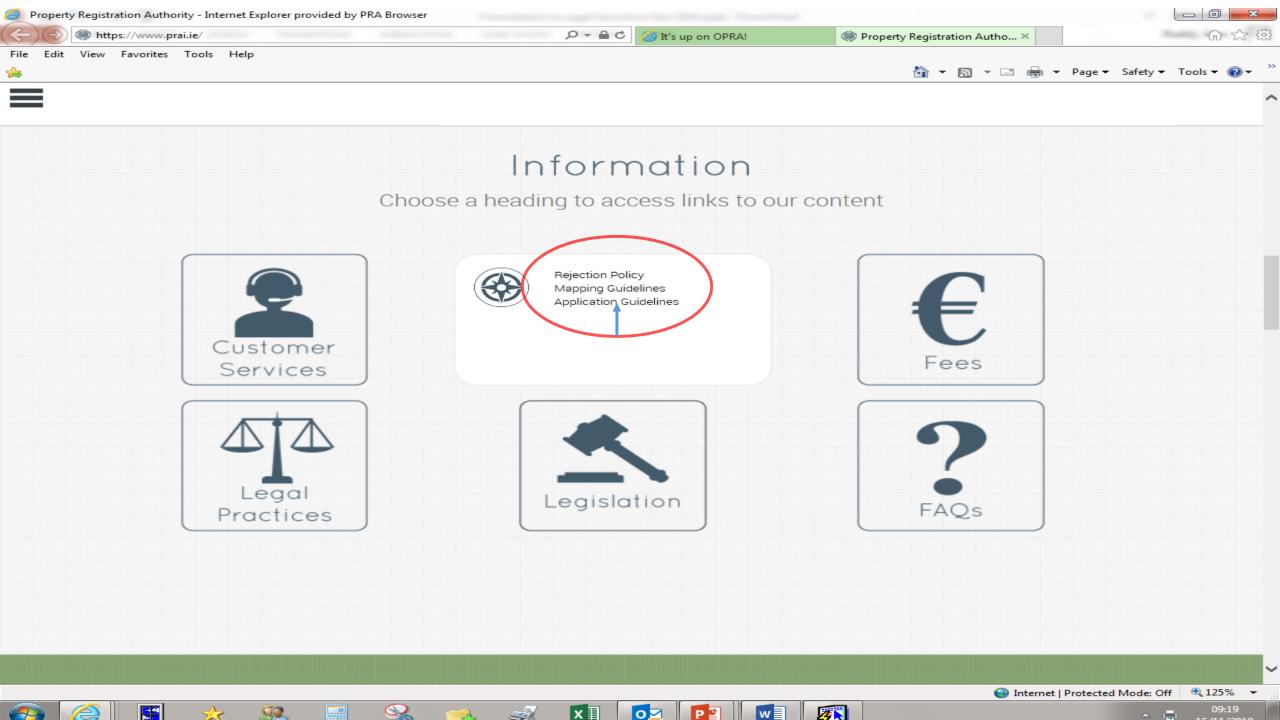
- The State Property Unit (SPU) was established in the Waterford Office in early January 2019.
- The unit is responsible for processing all applications where the applicant is a state organisation.

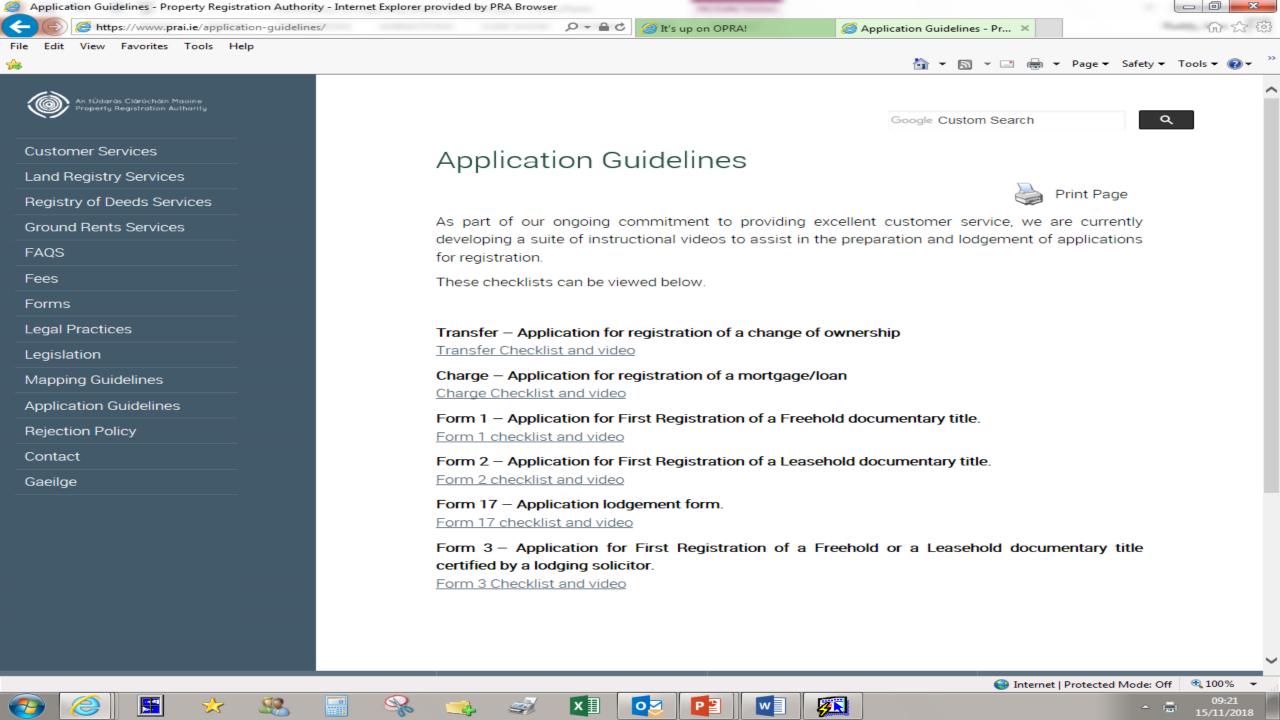


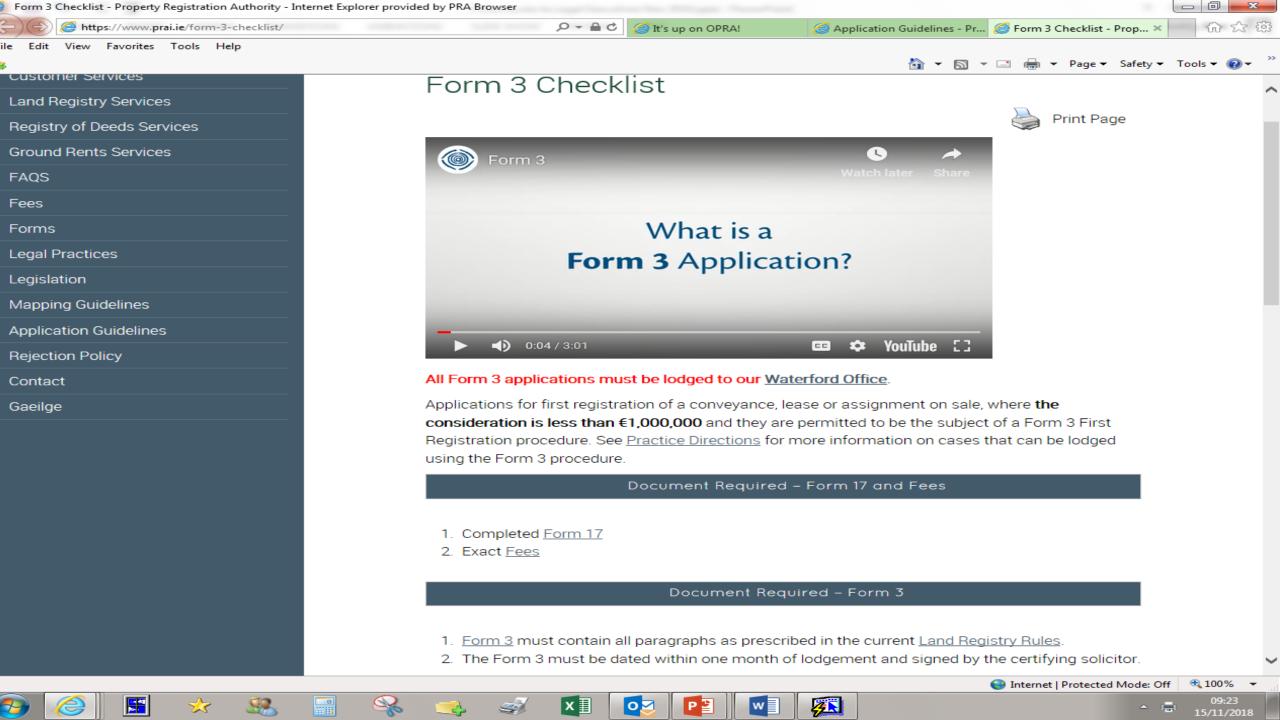


Videos & Checklists





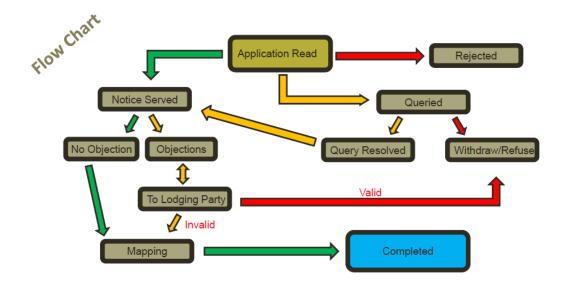






Registration Issues

(Common defects in applications lodged)





PRA Rejection Policy

- In May 2018 the PRA updated their practice in relation to rejection of dealings. This policy can be accessed on our website at: https://www.prai.ie/query-managementreview-and-rejection-of-applications-legal-office-notice-no-1-of-2018/.
- This notice clarifies and sets out clearly the issues that will result in an application for registration being rejected and was intended to address concerns expressed by the Conveyancing Committee of the Law Society in relation to rejection of dealings.
- The grounds for rejection are set out in the Appendix to the Legal Office Notice and it is the PRA view that all these matters are essential for registration.

Grounds for Rejection of Applications for Registration

- 1. Necessary documents required for registration have not been lodged (e.g. deed of transfer, leases etc.).
- 2. A defect or omission preventing registration that requires a deed to be amended and re-executed.
- 3. The deed is not properly executed or properly attested.
- 4. Incorrect folio and county references are quoted in the operative clause of a deed or in an assent.
- 5. The prescribed fees are not lodged.

(Applications should not be rejected on the sole basis of insufficient fees lodged).

6. No Stamp certificate or other evidence of revenue stamping is lodged

Under Stamp Duty Legal Office Notice no. 4 of 2014 /Examination of Documents the following rejection grounds are also listed:

- a) The stamp certificate security number does not correspond with the security number entered on the form 17
- b) The date of execution of the deed on the stamp certificate does not correspond with the date on the relevant deed.
- c) The relevant folio number is not inserted on the stamp certificate
- d) The folio number quoted on the stamp certificate does not correspond with the folio number on the relevant deed.
- 7. A transmission application predates the date of an assent.
- 8. An assent/application is incomplete in a transmission
- 9. The shares, in which tenancies in common are to be held, are not stated in the deed, or otherwise in the application.
- 11. A residential charge lodged on or after the 1st of December 2009 is not in the correct format.
- 12. The jurat to an affidavit has not been completed



Necessary documents for registration have not been lodged

- Form 17
 - Not signed by lodging Solicitor
- Deed of Transfer/Charge/Wayleave
- Lease & Counterpart Lease
- Transmission application probate not lodged
- Power of Attorney (original or certified copy)
 - Legal Statement
- Map

A defect or omission preventing registration that requires a deed to be amended and re-executed

- Deeds do not adhere to format prescribed in L R Rules 2012
- Deed not dated/incorrect date
 - Charge predating transfer
- Incorrect folio or county quoted
- Consideration in Deed and Form 17 differ
- Transferor not properly identified or name differs from folio
- Operative clause defective
- Use of correcting fluid

A defect or omission preventing registration that requires a deed to be amended and re-executed

- Transmissions
 - Prescribed forms in L R Rules 2012 not adhered to
 - Application of person entitled dated prior to date of Assent
- Description of property transferred vague/incorrect/omitted
 - Discrepancies between the schedule of the Deed (transfer/lease) and map lodged
- Scheme transfer of part not executed by purchaser
 - What effect does this have?
- Assent to easements granted in Deed not included

The deed is not properly executed or properly attested

- Not executed by vendor
- Not properly witnessed
 - Not witnessed
 - Address and description of witness not provided
- Not re-executed following amendment
 - Initialling at change will not suffice



The deed is not properly executed or properly attested

- Executed by company
 - Rule 74(4) applies
 - Seal affixed in the presence of Secretary, Deputy Secretary or Director (position must be stated)

Incorrect folio and county references are quoted in the operative clause of a deed or in an assent

- Incorrect folio/county quoted in operative clause/transmission assent
 - Different from Form 17
 - Different from header to deed content
 - Different from supporting documentation
- Folio details omitted

No Stamp certificate or other evidence of revenue stamping is lodged

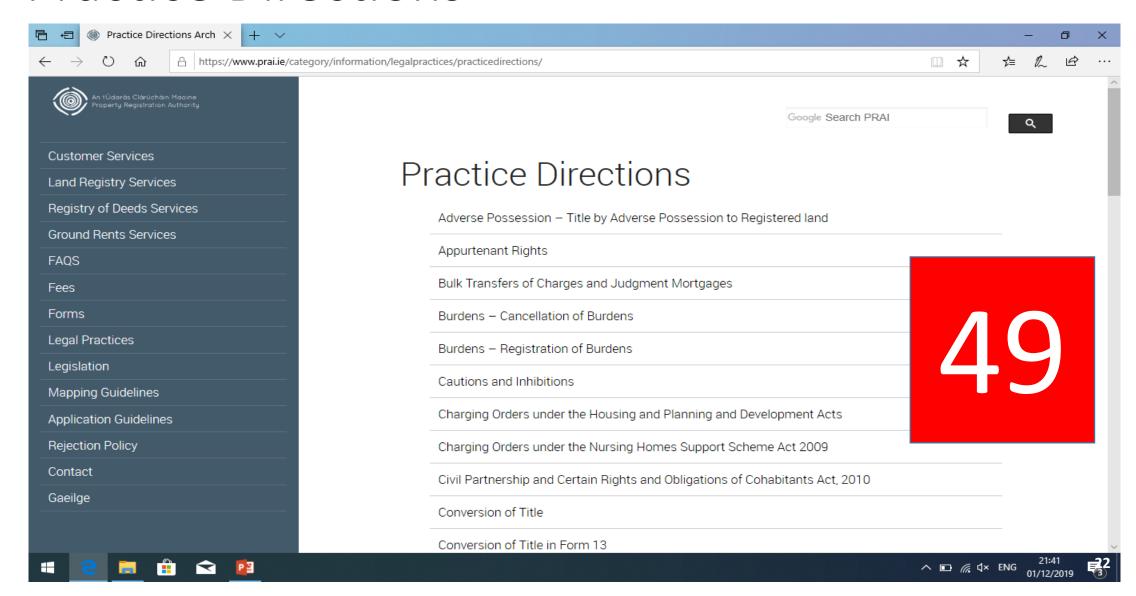
- The stamp certificate security number does not correspond with the security number entered on the Form 17
- The date of execution of the deed on the stamp certificate does not correspond with the date on the relevant deed
- The relevant folio number is not inserted on the stamp certificate
 - Communicated to Law Society Conveyancing Committee
- The folio number quoted on the stamp certificate does not correspond with the folio number on the relevant deed
- What are the exceptions to Stamp Certificate being required?

Other Issues

- The shares, in which tenancies in common are to be held, are not stated in the deed, or otherwise in the application
- On lodgement of an application for registration of an easement as a single application, no assent to its registration is included
- A residential charge lodged on or after the 1st of December 2009 is not in the correct format
 - Form 51 or 52
- The jurat to an affidavit has not been completed
 - Hybrid Starts as an affidavit and ends as a declaration and vice versa (especially prevalent in Withdrawal of Name Affidavits)

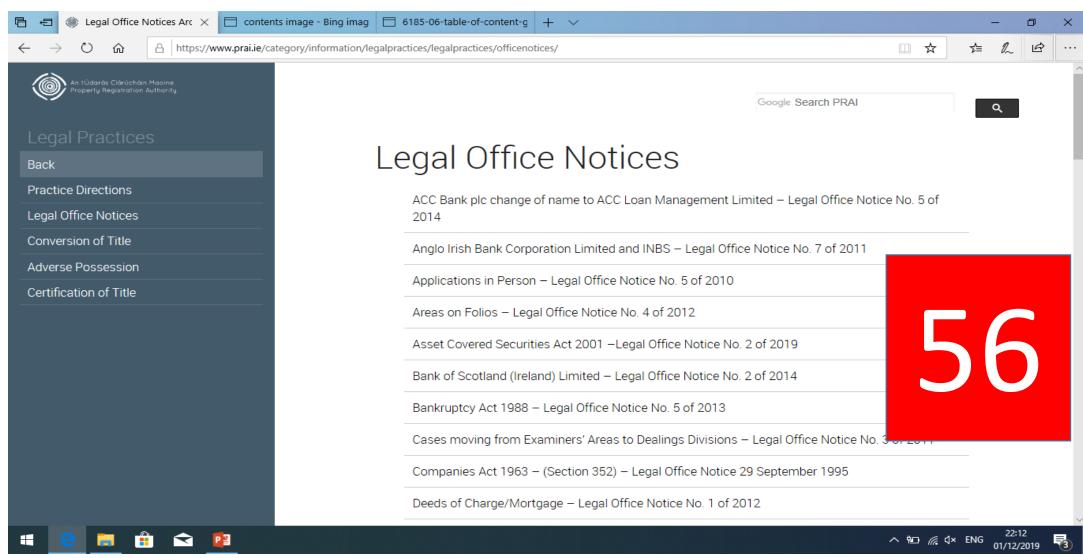


Practice Directions





Office Notices



Transfer in Exercise of Power of Sale

- Charge must be registered as a burden
- If burden cancelled prior to lodgement of transfer then cannot proceed
- Charge dated after 1st Dec 2009 requires Court Order under s100(3) of the Land and Conveyancing Law Reform Act 2009 or consent of mortgagor in writing to such exercise
- A court order or relevant consent under section 100(3) is not required if evidence is lodged that the charge is not a housing loan mortgage and that the provisions of section 100(2) and (3) have been contracted out of in the deed of charge

Transfer in exercise of power of sale

- On registration the charge and all puisne burdens are cancelled pursuant to s65(10) of the Registration of Title Act, 1964
- In the case of sales by the owner of a charge created on registered land notice is to be served after registration on the registered owner of the folio and on the owners of all charges and burdens that rank in priority after the transferor's charge
- In the case of sales by the owner of a charge created prior to first registration (including first registration of a lease dated prior to 26th May 2006) prior notice must be served on the registered owner and on the owners of all charges and burdens which it is proposed to cancel pursuant to section 60 of the Registration of Title Act 1964

Transfer by Receiver

- Charge under which receiver is purporting to transfer must be registered as a burden
- Deed of Charge must authorise the appointment of a Receiver
- Deed of Appointment: Receiver appointed as attorney of the borrower
- Deed should be "Executed by the Receiver as attorney for the registered owners" and witnessed
- Charge and puisne burdens not automatically cancelled

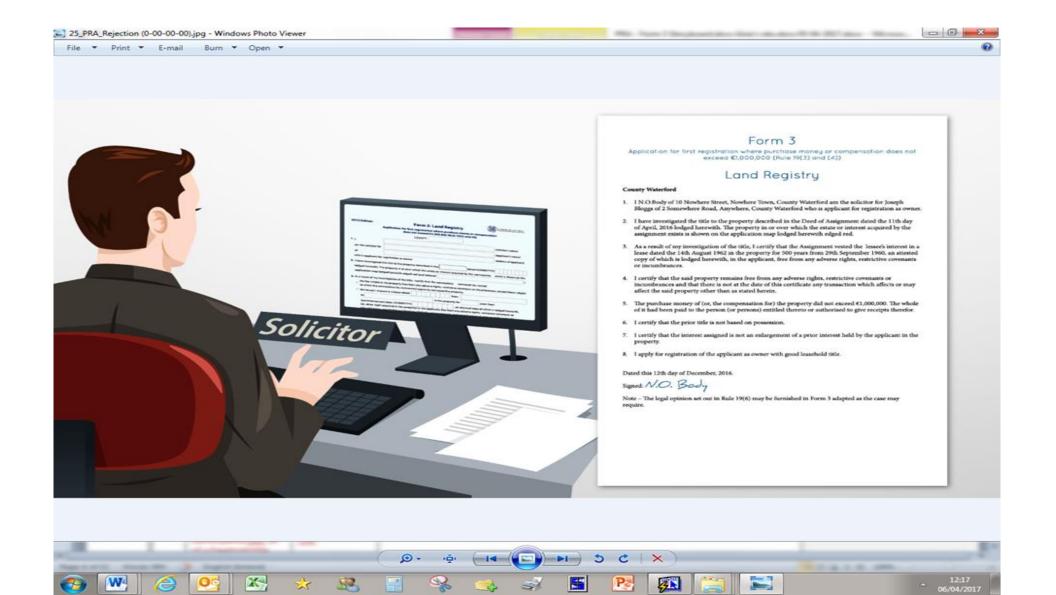
Lost Deeds

Gardiner v Gardiner (1976) Vol 110 I.L.T.R. 21 Mr Justice Butler, the Land Judge, stated that it was clear that it is the practice to receive in evidence and to act upon a copy of an original document which is shown to have been lost.

Directed that the Registrar of Titles (now the PRA) should effect registration in any case where evidence on affidavit is produced which exhibits and identifies a copy of the lost deed and which clearly shows:

- that the original deed was duly executed
- that the parties to the deed subsequently acted on it according to its tenor
- that it has been lost or destroyed

Form 3 Applications



Compulsory First Registration

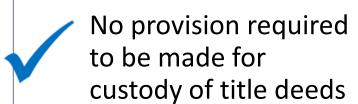




Simple forms of transfer



No repetitive investigations of title





No searching required to ascertain the whereabouts of original title documents



Clear property descriptions based on an Ordnance Survey Map



Purchasers can accept the title offered



Additional advantages of registered title available via our online service, landdirect.ie

Benefits to using a Form 3



Form 3

Application for first registration where purchase money or compensation does not exceed €1,000,000 (Rule 19(3) and (4))

Land Registry

County Waterford

- I N.O.Body of 10 Nowhere Street, Nowhere Town, County Waterford am the solicitor for Joseph Bloggs of 2 Somewhere Road, Anywhere, County Waterford who is applicant for registration as owner.
- I have investigated the title to the property described in the Deed of Assignment dated the 11th day of April, 2016 lodged herewith. The property in or over which the estate or interest acquired by the assignment exists is shown on the application map lodged herewith edged red.
- 3. As a result of my investigation of the title, I certify that the Assignment vested the lessee's interest in a lease dated the 14th August 1962 in the property for 500 years from 29th September 1960, an attested copy of which is lodged herewith, in the applicant, free from any adverse rights, restrictive covenants or incumbrances.
- I certify that the said property remains free from any adverse rights, restrictive covenants or
 incumbrances and that there is not at the date of this certificate any transaction which affects or may
 affect the said property other than as stated herein.
- The purchase money of (or, the compensation for) the property did not exceed €1,000,000. The whole
 of it had been paid to the person (or persons) entitled thereto or authorised to give receipts therefor.
- 6. I certify that the prior title is not based on possession.
- I certify that the interest assigned is not an enlargement of a prior interest held by the applicant in the property.
- 8. I apply for registration of the applicant as owner with good leasehold title.

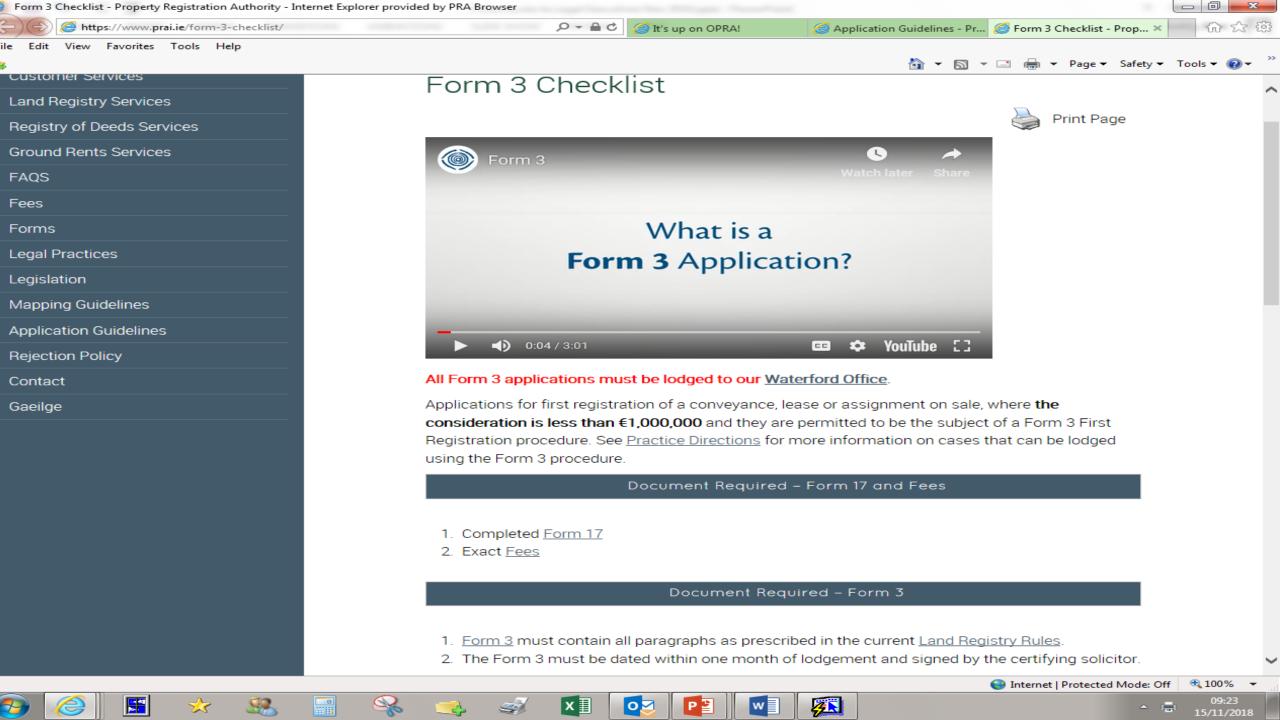
Dated this 12th day of December, 2016.

Signed: N.O. Body

Note – The legal opinion set out in Rule 19(6) may be furnished in Form 3 adapted as the case may require.

The benefits of using the Form 3 process:

- the least expensive of the first registration applications
- a much quicker completion rate as it is fast-tracked on receipt



Form 3 Solicitor's Certificate Issues

- Pre-dates lodgement more than one month
- Name of certifying solicitor omitted
- Form 3 signed in firm's name not individual solicitor
- Not signed/dated
- Applicant(s) address(es) omitted
- Lease details omitted

Form 3 Solicitor's Certificate Issues

- Old version of Form 3 lodged
- All paragraphs in Form 3 not included
- Section 69 burdens that affect the property not set out paragraph 8 of Form 3
- Conveyance/Assignment on sale dated more than 2 years prior to lodgment

Form 3 – Supporting documentation

Certified copies of earlier deeds requested when:

- A certified copy of the lease is not lodged (assignment of leasehold)
- Property is subject to a Fee Farm Grant
- Lease/Fee Farm Rent apportioned/indemnified in earlier Deed
- Property subject to covenants and conditions
- Description of property in applicant's deed refers to map attached to an earlier deed
- Note searches are not required by PRA for these cases

eForm 17 and Electronic Payments

- Government Policy
- More secure means of payment
- Reduced transaction fees
- Convenient and easy to use
- eForm17 must be created on www.landdirect.ie
- Once application number is created, all payments can be managed through your <u>www.landdirect.ie</u> account



eForm 17 and Electronic Payments

Electronic Payment Methods Available

- Direct Debit Mandate
- Deduction from <u>www.landdirect.ie</u> account
- Debit Card/ Credit Card

eForm 17 and Electronic Payments

Signing up to Electronic Payments

- Once off sign-up is required
 - Set up a 'super user' on your landdirect account
 - Assign 'fee approver role' to chosen users of www.landdirect.ie
 - If choosing to pay by Direct Debit, submit a signed mandate

Contact Landdirect Fees Unit

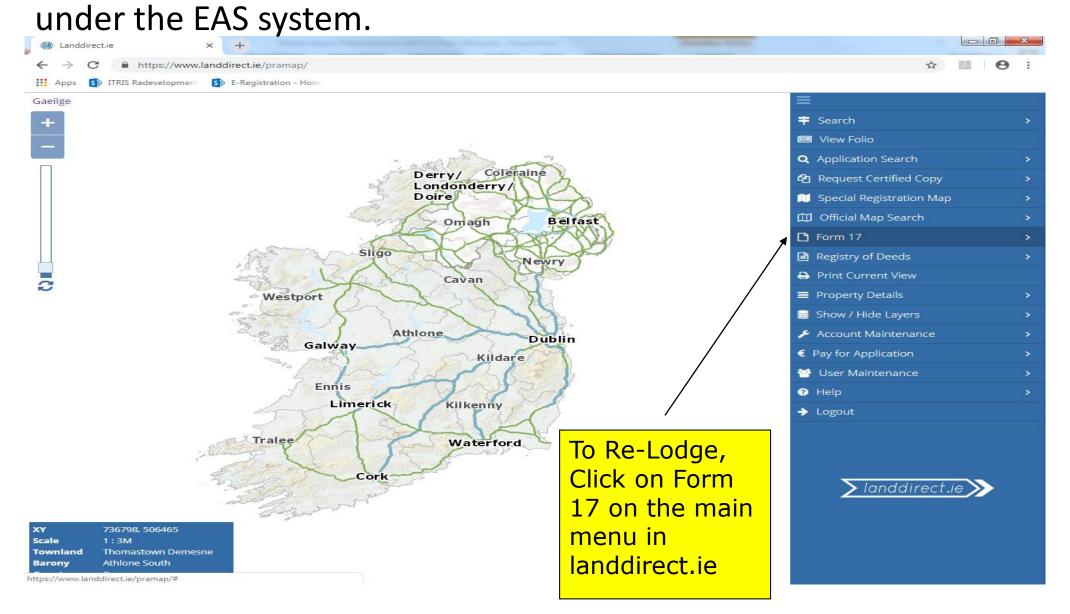
You can contact the project team in our Roscommon office

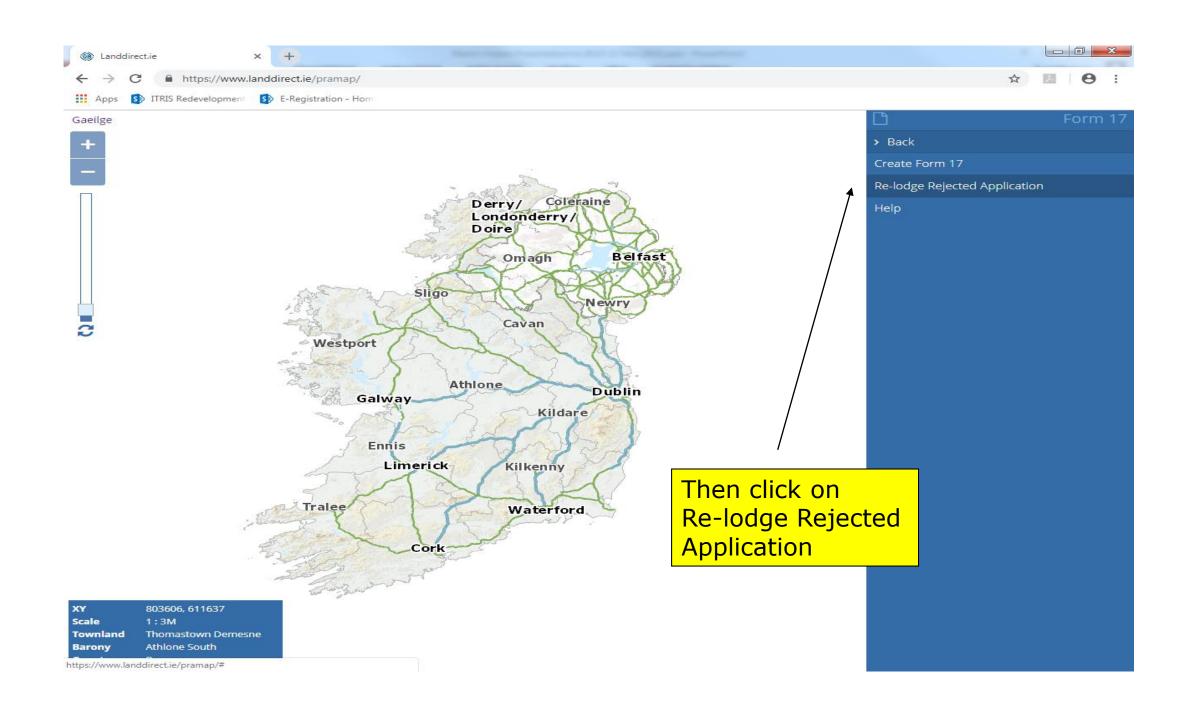
E-Mail: <u>landdirectfees@prai.ie</u>

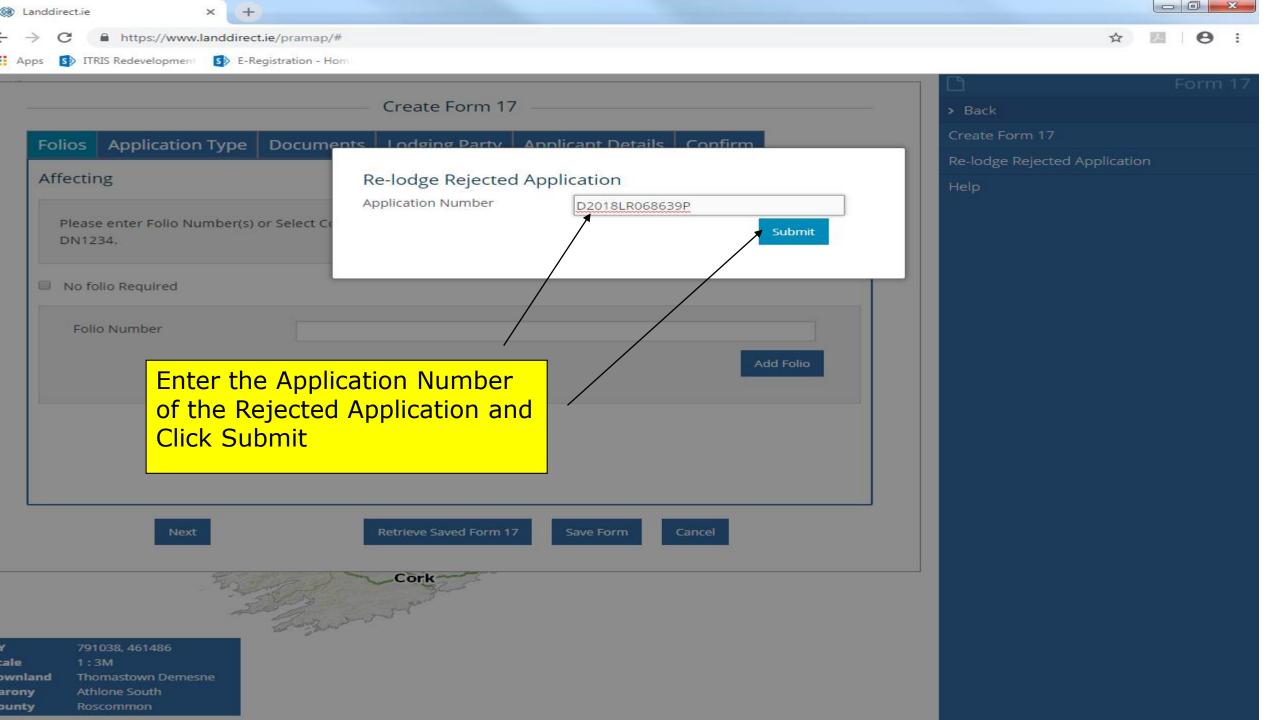
Phone: 0906 632606

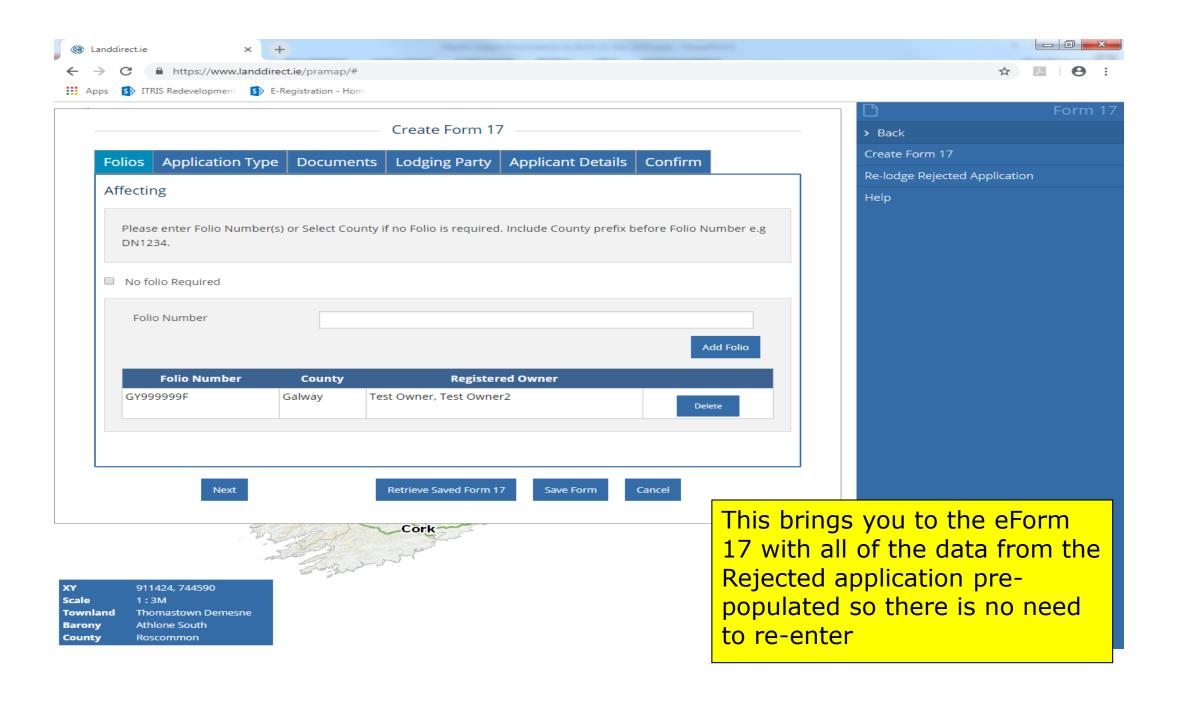


Using the Re-lodgement button when re-lodging a rejected application









landdirect.ie



Access to our interactive map is free of charge to all customers. Non account holders who access the services or products that require the payment of a fee, can do so using our secure online payments facility.



By accessing our extensive digital register, all users can conduct mapping searches, search by location or address, view details of all property registered in the Land Registry and order official copy documents.



Account holders have access to a wider range of services tailored for the professional user, including access to the Registry of Deeds.

Error in Registration

- Dedicated Unit Priority Customer Reviews
 - qaexternal@prai.ie
 - Provide specific details of alleged error
- Historic errors dealt with in chronological order
 - Expedite process available
- Fast-track for recent errors (contact PRA immediately)
- Above process communicated to Law Society Conveyancing Society
 - Law Society Gazette Aug/Sept 2019



Thank you

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