



COVID-19

COMPANY SECRETARIAL AND COMPLIANCE

Companies (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Covid-19) Act 2020: Annual General Meetings

by **Elaine Hughes, Liam Boyle, Colm Hanley**

Companies (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Covid-19) Act 2020: Annual General Meetings

4th September 2020 | by Elaine Hughes, Liam Boyle, Colm Hanley

The Companies (Miscellaneous Provisions) (Covid-19) Act 2020 was signed into law on 1 August 2020 and will remain operative for the Interim Period.

The Act proposes to address certain compliance challenges being faced by companies due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Section 174A of the Act provides that a company is not obliged, during the interim period to hold an annual general meeting during the period required under the Companies Act 2014 or the company's constitution, provided that the meeting is held by 31 December 2020 at the latest.

This section also expressly provides that a general meeting of a company's members may be held wholly or partly by the use of electronic communications technology, provided those entitled to attend have a reasonable opportunity to participate, including the provision of a mechanism for casting votes (either before or during the meeting). Companies should ensure that any electronic communications used by attendees at meetings is secure, and that the platform used minimises the risk of data corruption and/or unauthorised access.

If you require assistance with Company Secretarial matters throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, our highly experienced Company Secretarial Team is on hand to assist. Please contact a member of our team:

Elaine Hughes at ehughes@lkshields.ie

Liam Boyle at lboyle@lkshields.ie

James Carolan at jcarolan@lkshields.ie

Colm Hanley at chanley@lkshields.ie

Amy McLoughlin at amcloughlin@lkshields.ie

To subscribe to our news, insights and events [click here](#).

About the Authors



Elaine Hughes

Director of Company Secretarial and Corporate Governance

Elaine has extensive experience (15 years) in the provision of advice and assistance on all aspects of company secretarial, corporate governance and compliance matters affecting companies, directors, shareholders and other stakeholders.

T: +353 1 6371529 **E:** ehughes@lkshields.ie



Liam Boyle

Company Secretary

Liam is a Company Secretary who has worked predominantly within the financial services industry in the areas of regulated funds and structured finance.

T: +353 1 6371584 **E:** lboyle@lkshields.ie



Colm Hanley

Company Secretary

Colm is a senior Company Secretary with expertise in company law, corporate governance, company secretarial matters, due diligence and client relationships.

T: +353 91 341 346 **E:** chanley@lkshields.ie