



# *Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim*

## **Suspension of ALL Masonic Meetings and Gatherings due to COVID – 19**

### **Frequently Asked Questions. (FAQ's)**

#### **Question:**

1. Does the instruction issued by Grand Lodge apply to the Province of Antrim?

#### **Answer:**

- Yes. As per the Grand Lodge statement, this suspension applies to the “Island of Ireland” of which the Province of Antrim is a part.

#### **Question:**

2. Does the instruction issued by Grand Lodge apply to the other appendant bodies, such as Royal Arch Chapter, Preceptories, etc.?

#### **Answer:**

- Yes. All the heads of the appendant bodies were involved in the decision-making process.

#### **Question:**

3. What happens to Lodges and other masonic bodies that have yet to install their officers?

#### **Answer:**

- Craft Lodges can install their officers at their first meeting when the suspension is lifted.
- Other disciplines have specific dates by which officers must be installed and therefore you should contact them directly for advice.

#### **Question:**

4. Is there a plan if this ban is extended beyond 31<sup>st</sup> August 2020?

#### **Answer:**

- This is a very fluid situation and is being continually monitored by Grand Lodge. Any decisions or updates made by government will have to be

accepted and any updates will be issued immediately to those on the Grand Lodge emailing lists.

**Question:**

5. I have a private function being held in a masonic hall/centre. Can this event still go ahead?

**Answer:**

- We strongly recommend that no private functions take place in or on Masonic premises.

**Question:**

6. Will the Provincial Office remain open?

**Answer:**

- The Provincial Office has now closed in accordance with the government advice and instructions, until further notice.

**Question:**

7. Our lodge Receipts and Payments (Annual Accounts.) have not been audited or approved by the lodge. As the return should be made by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020, What should I do?

**Answer:**

- Post or preferably email your Receipts and Payments form to the Provincial Office with a note indicating that they haven't been audited or approved by the Lodge.
- The accounts can be audited and approved when the restrictions have been lifted and when lodge meetings can be held once again.

**Question:**

8. I am a PG Inspector. As I haven't received copies of the Receipts and Payments form from a number of my lodges, should I send in my Annual Report?

**Answer:**

- Yes, send in a copy of your Annual Report to the Provincial Office preferably by email. The Lodge Receipts and Payments can be checked at a later date.

**Question:**

9. My lodge didn't have an opportunity to discuss the Nomination of Provincial Officers for 2021 and the Closing Date is 30<sup>th</sup> April 2020. What can we do?

**Answer:**

- The Provincial Grand Master is aware of the situation and as a large number of lodges are in a similar position, consideration will have to be made on how to deal with this matter. Any decision will be conveyed through the lodge secretaries.

For updates on this issue, please check on the Grand Lodge website at , [www.freemason.ie](http://www.freemason.ie) or the Provincial Grand Lodge of Antrim website at [www.pglantrim.org](http://www.pglantrim.org).