



Irish Council for
Civil Liberties

3 June 2020

Dear Deputy,

The Irish Council for Civil Liberties, along with other civil societies, scientists and academics, have today published [nine principles](#) which must be followed if our Government is to ensure it fulfils its legal and human rights obligations by making sure the app is a privacy-protecting piece of technology.

We previously welcomed Minister for Health Simon Harris's recent comments in the Dáil in which he said that he would publish the app's source code and DPIA [ahead of the app's launch](#). Democratic principles require that independent experts are given an opportunity to review the workings of this app.

However, it's unclear if these will be published ahead of the app's [reported trial among members of An Garda Síochána](#). As stated in our principles, we would strongly encourage the Government to publish the source code, DPIA and design specifications before such trials begin.

We also note reports that an expert advisory group formed by Science Foundation Ireland has been selected [to assess the effectiveness of the app](#). We would suggest that academic and legal experts who have the ability to build and test the code, and give timely feedback, would be included in this group.

This proposed app will need to have the trust and consent of the population to work effectively. We believe adhering to our nine principles is a necessary foundation for building that trust.

Yours sincerely,

Liam Herrick

Executive Director, Irish Council for Civil Liberties