

Further Extended Temporary Assistance Payment Scheme for Private and Voluntary Nursing Homes (“the Scheme”) – Frequently Asked Questions

‘Visiting Infrastructure Grant’ - December 2020

New health guidance rules permit one visit to nursing home residents per week by one person under the Government’s Level 3 restrictions. A once-off adjustment has been made to the scheme to allow for a contribution to minor adjustments and equipment to create safe winter visiting spaces. The infrastructure grant will support nursing homes with up to €2,500 to facilitate visits through the installation of infrastructure with high quality infection prevention and control.

How do I apply for the visitation infrastructure grant?

There is a separate ‘Visiting Infrastructure Grant’ application form for December that can be submitted along with the Further Extended Standard assistance payment claim form.

Is the grant available to all private and voluntary nursing homes?

This enhanced eligibility is available at the same value to every eligible private and voluntary nursing home already, regardless of size.

What supporting documentation will be required to support a claim for this grant?

The ‘Visiting Infrastructure Grant’ application form will need to include the description of the installation and a breakdown of the costs by time and material with a supporting invoice(s) from a third party who carried out the works detailing the nature of the space created. Where the works were carried out by an existing on-site craftsman the claim would be for materials cost only.

Nursing homes will also need to provide statements supporting the nature of works undertaken and the alignment with public health guidance.

Will this payment amount be part of the monthly threshold limit?

The ‘Visiting Infrastructure Grant’ will not be considered as part of the overall monthly cap on the maximum amount that can be paid to each Nursing Home under the Scheme.

What type of infrastructure qualifies under the grant?

The infrastructure can be an internal or external addition to the Nursing Home but must clearly be an addition, which has enhanced the capacity to facilitate visiting which otherwise would have presented Covid risks.

Are there any standards or compliance requirements for the infrastructure supported under the grant?

The visiting infrastructure must comply with fire safety regulations and COVID infection prevention and control guidance.

Where works have already taken place prior to the introduction of the 'Visiting Infrastructure Grant', will retrospective eligible expenditure be accepted?

Eligible expenditure must have been incurred in the months of October to December, and must be claimed as a December period claim on the associated Claim Form.