

Terms and Conditions for

grants for the improvement of a private water supply to a house

Rural Water Unit

Department of Housing, Planning and Local Government

Government Buildings

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Téarmaí agus Coinníollacha do

dheontais chun soláthar uisce príobháideach do theach a fheabhsú

An tAonad Uisce Tuaithe

An Roinn Tithíochta, Pleanála agus Rialtais Áitiúil

Tithe an Rialtais

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| **Grants payable under the Housing (Private Water Supply Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 192 of 2020)**   * Please read the following information notes before completing the application form. * All questions on the form must be answered and, where specified, supporting documents must be provided. Incomplete forms or those which are not accompanied by the appropriate documents will not be processed. * Work must NOT start before approval is provided in writing by the housing authority. If work has commenced before approval is received, your application will not be considered and payment will be refused. * The grant scheme is administered by housing authorities. All matters relating to the day-to-day operation of the grant scheme, including applications and payments, are a matter for the relevant housing authority. * Any enquiries about the grant should be addressed to the relevant housing authority’s Rural Water Programme Liaison Officer. |

# Purpose of grant

The purpose of this grant scheme is to assist households in rural areas that are dependent on a private water supply (individual well) for their household use, by financially assisting them where they incur capital expenditure, to carry out improvements to the supply to ensure that the water supply is wholesome and clean, or that the quantity supplied is insufficient to meet the domestic needs of the household as defined in the Housing (Private Water Supply Financial Assistance) Regulations 2020 (S.I. No. 192 of 2020).

For grant purposes, a private water supply is defined as a system providing a supply of water to a single house by means of a source that is not common or shared.

This scheme forms part of the funding investment under Measure 8 of the Multi-Annual Rural Water Programme (MARWP) 2019 to 2021.

The grant enables improvement works to be carried out to a private water supply (see Appendix I) so that it will provide water that is compliant with the quality standards of the Drinking Water Regulations[[1]](#footnote-2) (“the Regulations”) and/or will supply the sufficient quantity of water that meets the domestic needs of the household.

The grant is an integral part of improving the quality and reliability of private water supplies that are supplying water for domestic use by houses in rural areas.

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| **Deontais atá iníoctha faoi Rialacháin na dTithe (Cúnamh Airgeadais do Sholáthar Uisce Príobháideach), 2020 (I.R. Uimh. 192 de 2020)**   * Léigh na nótaí eolais seo a leanas, le do thoil, sula líonann tú an fhoirm iarratais. * Caithfear gach ceist ar an bhfoirm a fhreagairt agus, sa chás go sonraítear, caithfear cáipéisí tacaíochta a sholáthar. Ní phróiseálfar foirmeacha neamhiomlána nó na foirmeacha siúd nach ngabhann na cáipéisí cuí leo. * NÍOR CHEART tús a chur le hobair sula dtugann an t-údarás tithíochta cead i scríbhinn. Má cuireadh tús le hobair roimh sula bhfaightear faomhadh, ní dhéanfar breithniú ar d’iarratas agus diúltófar íocaíocht a dhéanamh. * Déanann údaráis tithíochta an scéim deontais a riar. Is faoin údarás tithíochta ábhartha atá sé plé le gach ceist a bhaineann le hoibriú laethúil na scéime deontais, iarratais agus íocaíochtaí san áireamh. * Ba cheart aon fhiosrúcháin faoin deontas a dhéanamh le hOifigeach Idirchaidrimh Chlár Uisce Tuaithe an údaráis tithíochta ábhartha. |

# Cuspóir an deontais

Is é cuspóir na scéime deontais seo chun cabhrú le teaghlaigh i gceantair thuaithe a bhraitheann ar sholáthar uisce príobháideach (tobar aonair) a úsáidfidh a dteaghlach, trí chúnamh airgeadais a thabhairt dóibh nuair a thabhaíonn siad caiteachas caipitiúil, chun tabhairt faoi fheabhsúcháin ar an soláthar lena chinntiú go bhfuil a t-uisce folláin agus glan, nó nach leor an méid uisce chun freastal ar riachtanais an teaghlaigh faoi mar a shainmhínítear i Rialacháin na dTithe (Cúnamh Airgeadais do Sholáthar Uisce Príobháideach), 2020 (I.R. Uimh. 192 de 2020).

Ar mhaithe le cuspóirí deontais, is é an sainmhíniú a thugtar ar sholáthar uisce príobháideach ná córas a sholáthraíonn soláthar uisce do theach aonair trí fhoinse nach foinse choiteann ná roinnte é.

Tá an scéim seo mar chuid den infheistíocht chistithe faoi Bheart 8 den Chlár Uisce Tuaithe Ilbhliantúil (an CUTIB) ó 2019 go 2021.

Cumasaíonn an deontas oibreacha feabhsúcháin a dhéanamh ar sholáthar uisce príobháideach (féach Aguisín I) chun go gcuirfidh sé uisce ar fáil a chomhlíonann caighdeáin cháilíochta na Rialachán Uisce Óil[[2]](#footnote-3) (“na Rialacháin”) agus/nó déanfaidh sé méid dóthanach uisce a sholáthar a fhreastalaíonn ar riachtanais tí an teaghlaigh.

Cuid lárnach is ea an deontas d’fheabhas a chur ar cháilíocht agus ar iontaofacht soláthairtí uisce príobháideacha a chuireann uisce ar fáil d’úsáid tí i dtithe i gceantair thuaithe.

Important: Houses with individual connections to a common source of supply using separate abstraction and distribution systems do not constitute a private water supply for the purposes of the grant. The grant must be used solely for the improvement of a private water supply to a house. No part of the grant payment may be used to cross subsidise other non-domestic use e.g. farming activity or other commercial use.

**2. Level of grant**

The level of a grant is determined by the type of improvement works being undertaken and shall not exceed the following amounts:

1. (i) 85% of the approved costs for rehabilitation works, subject to a maximum of €3,000;

or

(ii) 85% of the approved costs for the provision of a new well, subject to a maximum of €5,000 (where the housing authority agrees that this is the most appropriate solution);

1. 100% of the approved costs for works that, in the opinion of the housing authority, are necessary to treat the water to meet the water quality standards specified in the Regulations, subject to a maximum grant of €1,000. Examples of such treatments are filtration or Ultra Violet treatment.

An application can be submitted in respect any of the following:

* Grant aid solely for rehabilitation works at (a)(i) above;

or

Grand aid solely for the provision of a new well at (a)(ii) above;

or

Grand aid solely for treatment works at (b) above.

* Grand aid for rehabilitation works as per (a)(i) above plus treatment works as per (b) above.
* Grant aid for the provision of a new well as per (a)(ii) above plus treatment works as per (b) above.

The grant is not available for improvement works that cost less than €750, in total.

3. Eligibility

An applicant may be considered eligible for a grant if, in the opinion of the housing authority, the following criteria are met:

1. The improvement works will be carried out on a water supply to a house, where that water supply does not meet the quality standards in the Regulations or the quantity supplied is insufficient to meet the domestic needs of the household; and,
2. The house is occupied by the applicant as his or her normal place of residence; and,
3. The house is not connected to, and cannot reasonably be connected to, Irish Water or a Group Water Scheme[[3]](#footnote-4); and,

Tábhachtach: Ní hionann tithe a bhfuil ceangail aonair acu le foinse choiteann de sholáthar trí úsáid a bhaint as córais astarraingthe agus dáilte agus soláthar uisce príobháideach ar mhaithe le cuspóirí an deontais. Caithfear an deontas a úsáid díreach chun feabhas a chur ar sholáthar uisce príobháideach do theach agus dó sin amháin. Ní féidir aon chuid den íocaíocht deontais a úsáid chun úsáid neamhthí eile, e.g. gníomhaíocht feirmeoireachta nó úsáid tráchtála eile, a thras-fhóirdheonú.

**2. Leibhéal an deontais**

Deimhníonn saghas na n-oibreacha feabhsúcháin a dhéantar an leibhéal deontais agus ní sháróidh sé na suimeanna seo a leanas:

1. (i) 85% de na costais costais a cheadaítear d’oibreacha athshlánaithe, faoi réir €3,000, ar a mhéid;

nó

(ii) 85% de na costais a cheadaítear ar thobar nua a sholáthar, faoi réir €5,000, ar a mhéid (nuair a chomhaontaíonn an t-údarás tithíochta leis gurb é seo an réiteach is fearr);

1. 100% de na costais costais a cheadaítear d’oibreacha atá riachtanach, i dtuairim an údaráis tithíochta, chun an t-uisce a chóireáil chun freastal ar chaighdeáin cháilíochta an uisce a shonraítear sna Rialacháin, faoi réir deontas uasta €1,000. Scagachán nó cóireáil Ultravialait iad samplaí de na cóireálacha siúd.

Is féidir iarratas a sheoladh ar aghaidh maidir le haon cheann den mhéid seo a leanas:

* Cúnamh deontais d’oibreacha athshlánaithe amháin ag (a)(i) thuas;

nó

Cúnamh deontais nach n-úsáidtear ach chun tobar nua a sholáthar ag (a)(ii) thuas;

nó

Cúnamh deontais d’oibreacha cóireála amháin ag (b) thuas.

* Cúnamh deontais d’oibreacha athshlánaithe de réir (a)(i) thuas móide oibreacha cóireála de réir (b) thuas.
* Cúnamh deontais chun tobar nua a sholáthar de réir (a)(i) thuas móide oibreacha cóireála de réir (b) thuas.

Níl an deontas ar fáil d’oibreacha feabhsúcháin a chosnaíonn níos lú ná €750, ar an iomlán.

3. Cáilitheacht

Ní féidir a mheas go bhfuil iarratasóir incháilithe do dheontas más é tuairim an údaráis tithíochta go sásaítear na critéir seo a leanas:

1. Tabharfar faoi na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin ar sholáthar uisce do theach, áit

nach sásaíonn an soláthar uisce sin na caighdeáin cháilíochta sna Rialacháin

nó nuair nach leor an méid uisce a sholáthraítear chun freastal ar riachtanais

tí an teaghlaigh agus,

(b) Tá an teach áitithe ag an iarratasóir mar a g(h)nátháit chónaithe; agus,

(c) Níl an teach ceangailte le, agus ní féidir é a cheangal go réasúnta le, Scéim

Uisce de chuid Uisce Éireann nó le Grúpscéim Uisce[[4]](#footnote-5); agus,

1. The house is not located in an area that is, or is about to be, served by Irish Water or a Group Water Scheme; and,
2. The house has been fully constructed for more than seven years, and a grant has not been paid for the provision of, or improvement to, a water supply to the house under the scheme within the previous seven years. This includes grant aid in relation to treatment works.

Note: For the purposes of this grant scheme a normal place of residence includes long-term rentals but excludes private holiday homes and properties operated on a commercial basis (e.g. short-term rentals, self-catering properties, caravans/mobile homes, caravan/mobile home sites etc.). Properties owned by local authorities, housing associations, Health Services Executive etc. are not eligible.

**Additional eligibility information:**

* Applicants cannot avail of both grant amounts at Section 2(a) above i.e. they cannot avail of €3,000 for well rehabilitation plus the €5,000 for a new well. For further clarification see Section 2 above.
* The qualifying age of a house for a grant is seven years, and the period before a subsequent application can be made remains at seven years. This refers to grant aid in respect of improvement works, and includes treatment works.
  + In exceptional circumstances, applicants may be permitted to make a second application within the seven-year period if the maximum grant was not fully utilised and some significant unforeseen or emergency issue arises after the first application. Examples of such circumstances would include contamination of the water supply, subsidence, deterioration caused by weather events.
  + Applicants will be required to demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the housing authority, that an unforeseen or emergency issue has arisen in their case.
  + Where a second application is made within the seven-year period under these circumstances, the combination of the original payment and the second payment shall not exceed the maximum amount ordinarily payable, which is €3,000 in the case of a well rehabilitation or €5,000 in the case of a new well.

*Example: In the case of a well rehabilitation, if €1,500 grant aid was paid in relation to the first application, and if further emergency rehabilitation works arise, the maximum additional payment that could be made within the seven-year period would be €1,500.*

**4. Approved cost**

The housing authority determines the approved cost for each grant. It is an estimate of the reasonable cost of the qualifying works (see Appendix II).

Applicants must obtain three quotes for all proposed improvement works and submit copies of the quotes with the grant application. This includes proposed treatment works.

5. Receipts

Each claim for grant aid must be accompanied by receipts from each contractor engaged for the purpose of stated works. Receipts must include details of the works carried out and the associated costs.

1. Níl an teach suite i gceantar a bhfreastalaíonn Uisce Éireann nó Grúpscéim Uisce air, nó ina bhfuil Uisce Éireann nó Grúpscéim Uisce ar tí freastal air; agus,
2. Tá an teach go hiomlán tógtha le breis agus seacht mbliana anuas, agus níor

íocadh deontas chun soláthar uisce a sholáthar, nó a fheabhsú, don teach faoin

scéim le seacht mbliana anuas. Áirítear cúnamh deontais leis seo maidir le hoibreacha cóireála.

Nóta: Ar mhaithe le cuspóirí na scéime deontais seo, áirítear le háit chónaithe cíosanna fadtéarmacha, ach ní áirítear leis tithe saoire príobháideacha agus réadmhaoin a oibrítear ar bhonn tráchtála (e.g. cíosanna gearrthéarmacha, réadmhaoin féinfhreastail, suíomhanna ina bhfuil carbháin/tithe soghluaiste, etc.). Níl réadmhaoin faoi úinéireacht údarás áitiúil, comhlachais tithíochta, Feidhmeannacht na Seirbhíse Sláinte etc. incháilithe.

**Eolas breise faoi cháilitheacht:**

* Ní féidir le hiarratasóirí an dá mhéid deontais a fháil ag Mír 2(a) thuas, i.e. ní féidir leo €3,000 a fháil chun tobar a athshlánú móide an deontas €5,000 do thobar nua. Chun teacht ar shoiléiriú breise, féach Mír 2 thuas.
* Is í an aois a cháilíonn teach do dheontas seacht mbliana, agus is í an tréimhse sular féidir iarratas a dhéanamh ina dhiaidh sin seacht mbliana. Tagraíonn seo do chúnamh deontais maidir le hoibreacha feabhsúcháin, agus áirítear leo oibreacha cóireála.
  + Faoi chúinsí eisceachtúla, is féidir cead a thabhairt d’iarratasóirí chun an dara hiarratas a dhéanamh laistigh den tréimhse seacht mbliana murar úsáideadh an deontas uasta go hiomlán agus má tháinig saincheist éigin thábhachtach nó éigeandála gan choinne aníos i ndiaidh go ndearnadh an chéad iarratas. I measc samplaí de na cúinsí siúd, bheadh éilliú an tsoláthair uisce, turnamh, teagmhais aimsire is cúis le dul in olcas.
  + Beidh ar iarratasóirí a léiriú, chun sásaimh an údaráis tithíochta, gur tháinig saincheist gan choinne nó éigeandála aníos ina gcás.
  + Sa chás go ndéantar an dara hiarratas laistigh den tréimhse seacht mbliana faoi na cúinsí seo, ní sháróidh an meascán den íocaíocht bhunúil agus an dara híocaíocht an tsuim uasta a íoctar de ghnáth, arb ionann sin agus €3,000 i gcás athshlánú tobair nó €5,000 i gcás tobar nua.

*Sampla:* *I gcás athshlánú tobair, má íocadh cúnamh deontais €1,500 maidir leis an gcéad iarratas, agus má thagann oibreacha breise athshlánaithe éigeandála aníos, bheadh an íocaíocht uasta a d’fhéadfaí a dhéanamh laistigh den tréimhse seacht mbliana €1,500.*

**4. Costas faofa**

Deimhníonn an t-údarás tithíochta an costas faofa do gach deontas. Meastachán atá ann i dtaobh chostas réasúnta na n-oibreacha cáilitheacha (féach Aguisín II).

Caithfidh iarratasóirí trí luachan a fháil do gach ceann de na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin go léir a bheartaítear agus cóipeanna de na luachana a sheoladh ar aghaidh leis an iarratas ar dheontas. Áirítear leis seo oibreacha cóireála a bheartaítear.

**5.** **Fáltais**

Caithfidh fáltais ó gach conraitheoir a fostaíodh chun na hoibreacha a luaitear a dhéanamh gabháil le gach éileamh ar chúnamh deontais. Caithfear a áireamh le fáltais sonraí faoi na hoibreacha a rinneadh agus na costais ghaolmhara.

6. Tax clearance requirements

In the case of each contractor engaged to carry out improvement works to a private water supply, a copy of a current tax clearance certificate issued to the contactor by the Revenue Commissioners must be submitted.

7. Processing of applications for grant aid

The following procedure will apply to the processing of all applications:

1. Applications for approval of grant aid should be submitted on *Form PWS 1a* (attached), to the housing authority in whose functional area the house served by the private water supply, the subject of the application, is located.
2. The private water supply that is the subject of the application will then be inspected by the housing authority or its representative to confirm the validity of the application with regard to the scope of works proposed. The pre-works inspection will:

* establish that the existing water supply is not wholesome and clean or that the quantity of water supplied is insufficient to meet the domestic needs of the household; and,
* determine whether the proposed works qualify for grant funding and are the most appropriate to address the particular issues; and
* give advice to the applicant on how to generally and specifically improve and secure the integrity of their private water supply.

1. The housing authority will subsequently advise the applicant in writing (or via email) if the application is deemed eligible (subject to terms and conditions) or ineligible.
2. The applicant may then proceed with the required improvement works (see Appendix II) however, only works that are included in the application and deemed eligible will receive payment of grant aid.
3. Applications will be processed as quickly as possible.
4. If assistance in completing the form is required, please contact the relevant housing authority.
5. The housing authority reserves the right to make any enquiries it considers necessary, to verify information or supporting documentation provided as part of an application for grant aid, and may exclude from consideration for grant aid any applicant who supplies false or misleading information or documents.

8. Processing of claims for payment

The following procedure will apply to the processing of all claims for payment:

1. Once the works have been completed, claims for payment should be submitted on *Form PWS 1b* (attached), to the housing authority whose functional area the house served by the private water supply, the subject of the application, is located.
2. *Form PWS 1b* must be accompanied by all receipts from each contractor engaged for the purpose of the improvement works.
3. The housing authority will carry out a post-works inspection of the improvement works to establish that:
   * the approved works have been satisfactorily undertaken and completed; and
   * a water supply which is satisfactory in both quality and quantity has been provided.

**6. Riachtanais imréitigh cánach**

I gcás gach conraitheora a fostaíodh chun tabhairt faoi oibreacha feabhsúcháin ar sholáthar uisce príobháideach, caithfear cóip de dheimhniú imréitigh cánach reatha a d’eisigh na Coimisinéirí Ioncaim don chonraitheoir a sheoladh ar aghaidh.

**7.** **Iarratais ar chúnamh deontais a phróiseáil**

Beidh an nós imeachta seo a leanas i gceist maidir le gach iarratas a phróiseáil:

1. Ba cheart iarratais ar chúnamh deontais a fhaomhadh a sheoladh ar aghaidh ar *Fhoirm PWS 1a* (atá ar ceangal), chuig an údarás tithíochta a bhfuil limistéar feidhme an tí ar a bhfreastalaíonn an soláthar uisce príobháideach, ábhar an iarratais, suite ann.
2. Déanfaidh an t-údarás tithíochta nó a ionadaí cigireacht ansin ar an soláthar uisce príobháideach, arb é sin ábhar an iarratais, chun bailíocht an iarratais a dheimhniú maidir le scóip na n-oibreacha a bheartaítear. Déanfar an méid seo a leanas sa chigireacht réamhoibreacha:

* a dheimhniú nach bhfuil an soláthar uisce reatha folláin agus glan nó nach leor an méid uisce a sholáthraítear chun freastal ar riachtanais an teaghlaigh; agus,
* a dheimhniú cibé acu an gcáilíonn nó nach gcáilíonn na hoibreacha a bheartaítear do chistiú deontais agus gurb iad nó nach iad na hoibreacha is cuí chun dul i ngleic leis na saincheisteanna ar leith; agus
* comhairle a chur ar an iarratasóir faoi conas feabhas ginearálta agus sonrach a chur ar shláine a soláthair uisce phríobháidigh agus an soláthar uisce príobháideach a dhéanamh slán.

1. Cuirfidh an t-údarás tithíochta an t-iarratasóir ar an eolas ina dhiaidh sin i scríbhinn (nó ar ríomhphost) má mheastar go bhfuil an t-iarratas incháilithe (faoi réir téarmaí agus coinníollacha) nó má mheastar go bhfuil sé neamh-incháilithe.
2. Is féidir leis an iarratasóir leanúint ar aghaidh ansin leis na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin (féach Aguisín II) a theastaíonn, ach ní íocfar cúnamh deontais ach d’oibreacha a chuimsítear san iarratas agus a mheastar atá incháilithe.
3. Próiseálfar iarratais a thapúla agus is féidir.
4. Má theastaíonn cúnamh chun an fhoirm a líonadh, déan teagmháil, le do thoil, leis an údarás tithíochta ábhartha.
5. Tá an ceart ar cosaint ag an údarás tithíochta chun aon fhiosrúcháin a dhéanamh a mheasann sé is gá, chun eolas nó cáipéisíocht tacaíochta a cuireadh ar fáil mar chuid d’iarratas ar chúnamh deontais a dheimhniú, agus is féidir leis aon iarratasóir a fhágáil as an áireamh, nuair a bhíonn breithniú á dhéanamh ar chúnamh deontais, a sholáthraíonn eolas nó cáipéisí bréagacha nó míthreoracha.

**8. Éilimh ar íocaíocht a phróiseáil**

Beidh an nós imeachta seo a leanas i gceist maidir le gach éileamh ar íocaíocht a phróiseáil:

1. A luaithe a críochnaíodh na hoibreacha, ba cheart éilimh ar íocaíocht a sheoladh ar aghaidh ar *Fhoirm PWS 1b* (atá ar ceangal), chuig an údarás tithíochta a bhfuil limistéar feidhme an tí ar a bhfreastalaíonn an soláthar uisce príobháideach, ábhar an iarratais, suite ann.
2. Caithfidh *Foirm PWS 1b* gabháil le gach fáltas ó gach conraitheoir a fostaíodh chun na hoibreacha a luaitear a dhéanamh.

(c) Tabharfaidh an t-údarás tithíochta faoi chigireacht iaroibreacha ar na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin leis an méid seo a leanas a dheimhniú:

- tugadh faoi agus críochnaíodh na hoibreacha faofa go sásúil; agus

- cuireadh soláthar uisce ar fáil atá sásúil i dtaobh cáilíochta agus cainníochta.

(d) Once the housing authority has established that the improvement works have been completed to its satisfaction, the claim for payment shall then be processed.

(e) Where the housing authority is of the opinion that the improvement works have not been undertaken in accordance with the application, or have not been satisfactorily completed, it may:

* + determine a revised approved cost, or
  + withhold payment of the grant until the applicant carries out such alterations to the existing works or such additional works as may be notified by the housing authority.

1. Where the housing authority is of the opinion that the actual cost of the qualifying works

is less than the approved cost, a revised approved cost will be determined.

(g) Claims will be processed as quickly as possible.

(h) If assistance in completing the form is required, please contact the relevant housing

authority.

(i) The housing authority reserves the right to make any enquiries it considers necessary, to verify information or supporting documents provided as part of a claim for grant aid, and may exclude from consideration for grant aid any claimant who supplies false or misleading information or documents.

**9. Appeals process**

In processing applications under this grant scheme, it is recognised that some applicants may be dissatisfied with the housing authority’s decision. Housing authorities will give every applicant an appeal mechanism allowing them to have the decision in their case reviewed by a housing authority official who did not deal with their original application.

The following procedure shall apply to each appeal:

1. The dissatisfied applicant is invited to submit a **written appeal** (this may be via email) on any decision notified to them by the housing authority on their application.
2. The appeal must be received by the housing authority **within three weeks** of the date of the decision and must state the reasons for the appeal.
3. The appeal will be considered by the housing authority and adjudicated upon within four weeks of receipt.
4. A decision on the appeal will be notified in writing to the appellant within two weeks of the decision being made.
5. A luaithe a dheimhnigh an t-údarás tithíochta gur críochnaíodh na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin chun a shásaimh, déanfar an t-éileamh ar íocaíocht a phróiseáil ansin.
6. Nuair a bhíonn an t-údarás tithíochta faoin tuairim nár tugadh faoi na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin i gcomhréir leis an iarratas, nó nár críochnaíodh go sásúil iad, is féidir leis an méid seo a leanas a dhéanamh:
   * costas leasaithe faofa a dheimhniú, nó
   * íocaíocht an deontais a shiarchoinneáil go dtí go dtugann an t-iarratasóir faoi na hathruithe siúd ar na hoibreacha reatha nó na hoibreacha breise siúd is féidir leis an údarás tithíochta a fhógairt.
7. Nuair atá an t-údarás tithíochta faoin tuairim gur lú costas iarbhír na n-oibreacha cáilitheacha ná an costas faofa, deimhneofar costas leasaithe faofa.
8. Próiseálfar éilimh a thapúla agus is féidir.
9. Má theastaíonn cúnamh chun an fhoirm a líonadh, déan teagmháil, le do thoil, leis an údarás tithíochta ábhartha.
10. Tá an ceart ar cosaint ag an údarás tithíochta chun aon fhiosrúcháin a dhéanamh a mheasann sé is gá, chun eolas nó cáipéisí tacaíochta a cuireadh ar fáil mar chuid d’iarratas ar chúnamh deontais a dheimhniú, agus is féidir leis aon éilitheoir a fhágáil as an áireamh, nuair a bhíonn breithniú á dhéanamh ar chúnamh deontais, a sholáthraíonn eolas nó cáipéisí bréagacha nó míthreoracha.

**9. An próiseas achomhairc**

Nuair a bhíonn iarratais á bpróiseáil faoin scéim deontais seo, aithnítear go bhféadfadh roinnt iarratasóirí a bheith míshásta le cinneadh an údaráis tithíochta. Cuirfidh údaráis tithíochta meicníocht achomhairc ar fáil do gach iarratasóir a cheadaíonn go ndéanfaidh oifigeach údarás tithíochta nár dhéileáil lena mbuniarratas athbhreithniú ar an gcinneadh a rinneadh ina gcás.

Bainfidh an nós imeachta seo a leanas le gach achomharc:

1. Tugtar cuireadh do gach iarratasóir míshásta chun **achomharc scríofa** a sheoladh ar aghaidh (is féidir é seo a dhéanamh ar ríomhphost) in aghaidh cinneadh ar bith ar chuir an t-údarás tithíochta in iúl dóibh maidir lena n-iarratas.
2. Caithfidh an t-údarás tithíochta an t-achomharc a fháil **laistigh de thrí seachtaine** i ndiaidh dháta an chinnidh agus caithfear a lua ann na cúiseanna a bhí leis an achomharc.

(c) Breithneoidh an t-údarás tithíochta an t-achomharc agus tabharfar breithiúnas air laistigh de cheithre seachtaine i ndiaidh é a fháil.

(d)Cuirfidh cinneadh faoin achomharc in iúl i scríbhinn don achomharcóir laistigh de

choicís i ndiaidh go ndearnadh an cinneadh.

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1. Information on carrying out of improvement works

After the applicant receives approval in writing from the housing authority, the improvement works may commence.

Testing, sampling, analysis and certification of the water supply is an essential part of verification of the improvement works. This testing, sampling, analysis and certification is necessary to verify that the serious deficiency has been resolved to the satisfaction of the housing authority.

The necessary testing, sampling, analysis and certification varies depending on the improvement works carried out and is as follows:

***(a) Improvement works consisting of the installation of water treatment equipment:***

* Pre-installation - Sampling, analysis and certification of the water must be carried out to provide information on the equipment likely to be required.
* Post-installation – Sampling, analysis and certification of the water must be repeated in order to validate the water quality.

1. ***Improvement works consisting of the drilling a new well or rehabilitating of an existing well:***

* Pre-installation – once water is found, testing must be carried out by the well driller to validate the adequacy, for domestic purposes, of the water quantity available from the well. Sampling, analysis and certification of the water must be carried out to provide information on the treatment equipment likely to be required.
* Post-installation – Sampling, analysis and certification of the treated water must be carried out to validate the water quality.

***(c) Improvement works consisting of the drilling of a new well or rehabilitating an existing well and the installation of water treatment equipment***:

* Pre-installation (drilling of a new well only) – testing must be carried out by the well driller to validate the adequacy, for domestic purposes, of the water quantity available from the well.
* Pre-installation (both new well or rehabilitation of existing well) – Sampling, analysis and certification of the water must be carried out to provide information on the water treatment equipment likely to be required.
* Post-installation (both new well or rehabilitation of existing well) – Sampling, analysis and certification of the treated water must be carried out to validate the water quality as set out at (a) and (b) above.

**Water Quality:** Sampling and analysis is carried out to ensure that the water supply is fit for human consumption i.e. complies with water quality standards set out in the Regulations. The housing authority, based on its knowledge of the area of the water supply, will provide the applicant with a list of parameters (called bacteriological and

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**1. Eolas faoi thabhairt faoi oibreacha feabhsúcháin**

I ndiaidh don iarratasóir faomhadh a fháil i scríbhinn ón údarás tithíochta, is féidir leis na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin tosú.

Cuid bhunriachtanach de dheimhniú na n-oibreacha feabhsúcháin is ea tástáil, sampláil, anailís agus deimhniúchán an tsoláthair uisce. Tá gá leis an tástáil, an tsampláil, an anailís agus an deimhniúchán seo lena dheimhniú gur cuireadh an t-easnamh tromchúiseach ina cheart chun sásaimh an údaráis tithíochta.

Is éagsúil a bhíonn an tástáil, an tsampláil, an anailís agus an deimhniúchán riachtanach ag brath ar na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin faoina dtugtar agus seo a leanas é:

***(a) Oibreacha feabhsúcháin ina ndéantar trealamh cóireála uisce a shuiteáil:***

* Sula ndéantar an tsuiteáil – Caithfear tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniú an uisce chun eolas a sholáthar faoin trealamh is dóchúil a bheidh ag teastáil.
* I ndiaidh go ndéantar an tsuiteáil – Caithfear tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniú an uisce arís eile chun cáilíocht an uisce a bhailíochtú.

1. ***Oibreacha feabhsúcháin ina ndéantar tobar nua a dhruileáil nó tobar reatha a athshlánú:***

* Sula ndéantar an tsuiteáil – a luaithe a aimsítear uisce, caithfidh an druileálaí tobair tástáil a dhéanamh chun leordhóthanacht mhéid an uisce atá ar fáil ar chuspóirí tí ón tobar a bhailíochtú. Caithfear tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniú an uisce chun eolas a sholáthar faoin trealamh cóireála is dóchúil a bheidh ag teastáil.
* I ndiaidh go ndéantar an tsuiteáil – Caithfear tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniú an uisce chóireáilte chun cáilíocht an uisce a bhailíochtú.

***(c) Oibreacha feabhsúcháin ina ndéantar tobar nua a dhruileáil nó tobar reatha a athshlánú agus ina ndéantar trealamh cóireála uisce a shuiteáil:***

* Sula ndéantar an tsuiteáil (tobar nua a dhruileáil amháin) – an druileálaí tobair tástáil a dhéanamh chun leordhóthanacht mhéid an uisce atá ar fáil ar chuspóirí tí ón tobar a bhailíochtú.
* Sula ndéantar an tsuiteáil (tobar nua nó tobar reatha a athshlánú) – Caithfear tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniú an uisce chun eolas a sholáthar faoin trealamh cóireála uisce is dóchúil a bheidh ag teastáil.
* I ndiaidh go ndéantar an tsuiteáil (tobar nua nó tobar reatha a athshlánú) – Caithfear tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniú an uisce chóireáilte chun cáilíocht an uisce a bhailíochtú faoi mar a leagtar amach ag (a) agus (b) thuas.

**Cáilíocht an Uisce:** Tugtar faoi shampláil agus anailís lena chinntiú go bhfuil an soláthar uisce maith a dhóthain go n-ólfaidh daoine é, i.e. sásaíonn sé caighdeáin cháilíocht an uisce a leagtar amach sna Rialacháin. Cuirfidh an t-údarás tithíochta, bunaithe ar an eolas atá aige ar limistéar an tsoláthair uisce, liosta paraiméadar ar fáil don iarratasóir (ar a dtugtar paraiméadair sheiceála

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chemical check parameters) appropriate to local conditions for which the water must be analysed.

Sampling, analysis and certification must be carried out by a competent, recognised, independent and INAB (Irish National Accreditation Board) or equivalent accredited laboratory[[5]](#footnote-6). Analysis by non-accredited bodies will not be accepted.

The applicant is responsible for arranging sampling by the laboratory (the laboratory must take the water sample, not the applicant, as specific equipment and methods are used including sampling bottles, which have to be sterile).

In some parts of the country the housing authority or the HSE may be able to provide a sampling, analysis and certification service.

To validate water quality separate sets of sampling, analysis and certification are required:

**Pre-treatment equipment (where being installed):** The results from this sampling, analysis and certification of the raw water will guide the equipment providers on the appropriate water treatment equipment to install,

**Post treatment equipment:** The results from this sampling, analysis and certification of the treated water will verify the effectiveness of the installed water treatment equipment. It is advisable to use the water treatment system for a minimum period of two weeks prior to having the water tested.

Where the improvement works only involve works consisting of a drilling a new well or rehabilitating an existing well, and water treatment equipment is already in place, then normally only the sampling, analysis and certification of the treated water is required.

The housing authority will not pay a grant unless results to their satisfaction are obtained from the sampling, analysis and certification process. The housing authority will require that repeat sampling, analysis and certification, and if necessary further improvement work is carried out, until results to their satisfaction are obtained.

The applicant must retain a copy of the Certificate of Analysis issued by the laboratory and return it to the housing authority with the claim for payment of the grant. The housing authority will not pay a grant unless a Certificate of Analysis to their satisfaction is provided.

**Water Quantity:** Where the improvement works consist of drilling a new well or rehabilitating an existing well then once water is found tests must be carried out to validate water quality. The water quality analysis requirements apply, as set out above.

Water quantity is validated by the drilling contractor. The contractor must provide a signed Certificate of Water Quantity giving details of the borehole together with its estimated water production quantity based on a pumping test.

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baictéareolaíche agus ceimicí) a bhaineann le dálaí áitiúla ar gá anailís a dhéanamh ar an uisce ina dtaobh.

Caithfidh saotharlann inniúil, aitheanta, neamhspleách agus de chuid Bhord Náisiúnta na hÉireann um Chreidiúnú (BNÉC) nó a chomhionann de shaotharlann chreidiúnaithe tabhairt faoi shampláil, anailís agus deimhniúchán[[6]](#footnote-7). Ní ghlacfar le hanailís a dhéanann comhlachtaí neamhchreidiúnaithe.

Tá an t-iarratasóir freagrach as sampláil a dhéanfar sa tsaotharlann a shocrú (caithfidh an tsaotharlann, seachas an t-iarratasóir, an sampla a ghlacadh, mar gheall go n-úsáidtear trealamh agus modhanna ar leith, buidéil samplála san áireamh, agus caithfidh iad seo a bheith steiriúil).

I roinnt codanna den tír, b’fhéidir go mbeidh an t-údarás tithíochta nó FSS in ann seirbhís samplála, anailíse agus deimhniúcháin a sholáthar.

Chun cáilíocht an uisce a bhailíochtú, is gá sraitheanna samplála agus deimhniúcháin ar leith a dhéanamh:

**Trealamh réamhchóireála (nuair atá sé á shuiteáil):** Déanfaidh na torthaí ó shampláil, anailís agus deimhniúchán an amhuisce seo na soláthraithe trealaimh a threorú maidir leis an trealamh cuí cóireála uisce atá le suiteáil,

**Trealamh iarchóireala:** Déanfaidh na torthaí ó shampláil, anailís agus deimhniúchán an uisce chóireáilte éifeachtacht an trealaimh chóireála uisce shuiteáilte a dheimhniú. Moltar úsáid a bhaint as an gcóras cóireála uisce ar feadh tréimhse íosta dhá sheachtain sula ndéantar an t-uisce a thástáil.

Sa chás nach mbaineann ach oibreacha ina ndéantar tobar nua a dhruileáil nó tobar reatha a athshlánú leis na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin, agus go bhfuil trealamh cóireála uisce i bhfeidhm cheana féin, is gnách nach mbíonn ach sampláil, anailís agus deimhniú le déanamh don uisce cóireáilte.

Ní íocfaidh an t-údarás tithíochta deontas mura mbaintear torthaí amach a bhfuil siad sásta leo ón bpróiseas samplála, anailíse agus deimhniúcháin. Iarrfaidh an t-údarás tithíochta go ndéanfar sampláil, anailís agus deimhniúchán arís eile, agus, más gá, go ndéanfar obair bhreise feabhsúcháin, go dtí go mbaintear amach torthaí a bhfuil siad sásta leo.

Caithfidh an t-iarratasóir cóip den Deimhniú Anailíse a choimeád a d’eisigh an tsaotharlann agus é a sheoladh ar ais go dtí an t-údarás tithíochta leis an éileamh ar íocaíocht an deontais. Ní íocfaidh an t-údarás tithíochta deontas mura gcuirtear Deimhniú Anailíse ar fáil chun a sásaimh.

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The necessary form, Certificate of Water Quantity, is available from the housing authority and should be provided with the written approval of the grant application.

The applicant must retain a copy of the Certificate of Water Quantity issued by the well driller and return it to the housing authority with the claim for payment of the grant. The housing authority will not pay a grant unless a Certificate of Water Quantity to their satisfaction is provided.

Where the improvement works involve drilling a new well and installing a pump, it is advisable to have the installation disinfected and to use the treatment for a minimum period of two weeks prior to having the water tested.

1. **Information on a wholesome and clean water supply**

A water supply may be regarded as not meeting the required standards for water quality as defined in the Regulations if the housing authority is satisfied that the water supply is in need of upgrading or replacement as it is not wholesome and clean[[7]](#footnote-8) or where the quantity is insufficient to meet the water demand for domestic purposes of the house.

A water supply depending on a rainwater tank may be regarded, for grant purposes, as not being wholesome and clean, or supplying insufficient quantity to meet the water demand for domestic purposes of the house. However, a water supply should not be regarded as supplying insufficient quantity merely because the demand for water for non-domestic purposes from the source concerned has increased.

Water ‘Hardness’ is a natural characteristic of much of Ireland's drinking water supply that does not cause quality deficiencies in the supply. Hard water is not regarded as meeting the stated criteria for grant purposes. Therefore, the installation of a water softener is not covered by the grant scheme. Similarly, systems installed to remove sodium, in water that has been softened, are not covered by the grant scheme.

**AGUISÍN 1**

**Méid an Uisce:** Nuair a bhíonn tobar nua a dhruileáil nó tobar reatha a athshlánú i gceist leis na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin, a luaithe a aimsítear uisce, caithfear tástálacha a dhéanamh le cáilíocht an uisce a bhailíochtú. Bíonn na riachtanais anailíse ar cháilíocht an uisce i gceist, faoi mar a leagtar amach thuas.

Déanann an conraitheoir druileála méid an uisce a bhailíochtú. Caithfidh an conraitheoir Deimhniú um Méid an Uisce sínithe a sholáthar ina dtugtar sonraí faoin tollpholl chomh maith lena mhéid measta táirgthe uisce, bunaithe ar thástáil chaidéalaithe.

Tá an fhoirm riachtanach, Deimhniú um Méid an Uisce, ar fáil ón údarás tithíochta agus ba cheart í a sholáthar le faomhadh scríofa an iarratais ar dheontas.

Caithfidh an t-iarratasóir cóip den Deimhniú um Méid an Uisce a choimeád a d’eisigh an druileálaí agus é a sheoladh ar ais go dtí an t-údarás tithíochta leis an éileamh ar íocaíocht an deontais. Ní íocfaidh an t-údarás tithíochta deontas mura gcuirtear Deimhniú um Méid an Uisce ar fáil chun a sásaimh.

Sa chás go ndéantar tobar nua a dhruileáil agus caidéal a shuiteáil mar chuid de na hoibreacha feabhsúcháin, moltar an tsuiteáil a dhíghalrú agus úsáid a bhaint as an gcóras cóireála ar feadh tréimhse íosta dhá sheachtain sula ndéantar an t-uisce a thástáil.

1. **Eolas ar sholáthar uisce folláin agus glan**

Is féidir a mheas nach mbaineann soláthar uisce na caighdeáin riachtanacha amach i dtaobh cháilíocht an uisce, faoi mar a shainítear sna Rialacháin, má tá an t-údarás tithíochta sásta gur gá an soláthar uisce a uasghrádú nó a athsholáthar mar gheall nach bhfuil sé folláin nó glan nó sa chás nach leor méid an uisce chun freastal ar an éileamh uisce ar mhaithe le cuspóirí tí an teaghlaigh.[[8]](#footnote-9)

Is féidir a mheas nach bhfuil soláthar uisce, ag brath ar umar uisce báistí, ar mhaithe le cuspóirí deontais, folláin agus glan, nó nach soláthraíonn sé méid leordhóthanach chun freastal ar an éileamh ar uisce ar mhaithe le cuspóirí tí an teaghlaigh. Níor cheart a mheas, áfach, nach bhfuil méid dóthanach á sholáthar ag soláthar uisce díreach mar gheall go bhfuil méadú tagtha ar an éileamh ar uisce ar mhaithe le cuspóirí neamhthí ón bhfoinse atá i gceist.

Saintréith nádúrtha de go leor den soláthar uisce óil in Éirinn is ea ‘Cruas’ agus ní bhíonn sé mar chúis le heasnaimh cháilíochta sa soláthar. Ní cheaptar go sásaíonn uisce crua na critéir a luaitear le haghaidh cuspóirí deontais. Ar an ábhar sin, ní íoctar as bogthóir uisce a shuiteáil sa scéim deontais. Ar an gcuma chéanna, ní íoctar sa scéim deontais as córais a suiteáladh chun sóidiam a bhaint in uisce a rinneadh bog.

APPENDIX II

**Information on qualifying works**

Works qualify for funding under the grant scheme where they are undertaken to improve a supply of domestic water in a house and they consist of one or more of the following:

* drilling or commissioning a new well,
* rehabilitating an existing well, including deepening or relining an existing bore and the removal of silt,
* providing or upgrading a supply of water from a surface water source,
* the construction or improvement of a pump house, piping or other facilities in connection with the supply of water,
* the provision or improvement of mechanical or electrical equipment or facilities in connection with the supply of water,
* the provision or improvement of facilities or equipment for the treatment of water, or,
* sampling, analysis and certification of the water supply (pre and post the works) to verify that the supply to the house at the kitchen tap is compliant with the Regulations.

Works do not qualify where, in the opinion of the housing authority, they:

* exceed that required to secure an adequate supply of water for domestic purposes (e.g. treatment in excess of that required to satisfy the wholesome and clean requirement is being proposed)[[9]](#footnote-10),
* relate to the installation or improvement of plumbing inside a house,
* relate to the provision or up-grading of a supply of water for non-domestic purposes (i.e. for some commercial activity where the improved supply will be used for both domestic and some commercial activity e.g. farm, business operated from home, etc.)5,
* have commenced before an on-site pre-works assessment visit and written approval has been issued to the applicant by the housing authority,
* are for water softeners or related treatment.

**AGUISÍN II**

**Eolas faoi oibreacha cáilitheacha**

Cáilítear oibreacha do chistiú faoin scéim deontais nuair a dhéantar iad chun feabhas a chur ar sholáthar uisce tí i dteach agus nuair a bhíonn ceann amháin nó níos mó den mhéid seo a leanas i gceist leo:

* tobar nua a dhruileáil nó a choimisiúnú,
* tobar reatha a athshlánú, toll reatha a dhoimhniú nó a athlíneáil agus siolta a bhaint ina measc sin,
* soláthar uisce dromchla a sholáthar nó a uasghrádú ó fhoinse uisce dromchla,
* teach caidéil, píobáin nó saoráidí eile maidir leis an soláthar uisce a thógáil nó a fheabhsú,
* trealamh nó saoráidí meicniúla nó leictreacha maidir leis an soláthar uisce a sholáthar nó a fheabhsú,
* saoráidí nó trealamh chun uisce a chóireáil a sholáthar nó a fheabhsú, nó
* sampláil, anailís agus deimhniúchán a dhéanamh ar an soláthar uisce (roimh agus i ndiaidh na n-oibreacha) lena dheimhniú go sásaíonn an soláthar don teach ag an sconna sa chistin na Rialacháin.

Ní cháilítear oibreacha sna cásanna seo a leanas, faoi thuairim an údaráis tithíochta:

* sáraíonn siad na hoibreacha a theastaíonn chun soláthar leordhóthanach uisce a fháil ar mhaithe le cuspóirí tí (e.g. beartaítear cóireáil a dhéanamh a sháraíonn an chóireáil sin a theastaíonn chun an riachtanas i dtaobh soláthar folláin agus glan a shásamh)[[10]](#footnote-11),
* nuair a bhaineann siad le pluiméireacht a shuiteáil nó a fheabhsú laistigh de theach,
* nuair a bhaineann siad le soláthar uisce a sholáthar nó a uasghrádú ar mhaithe le cuspóirí neamhthí (i.e. i gcás roinnt gníomhaíocht tráchtála nuair a úsáidfear an soláthar feabhsaithe le haghaidh gníomhaíocht tí agus roinnt gníomhaíocht tráchtála, e.g. feirm, gnólacht a oibrítear as baile, etc.)5,
* nuair a cuireadh tús leo sular thug an t-údarás tithíochta cuairt measúnaithe réamhoibreacha ar an láthair agus sular eisigh an t-údarás tithíochta faomhadh scríofa don iarratasóir,
* nuair a dhéantar na hoibreacha ar mhaithe le bogthóirí uisce nó cóireáil ghaolmhar.

1. *The European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations, 2014 (S.I. No. 122 of 2014) see at:* [*http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/si/122/made/en/print*](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/si/122/made/en/print%20) *and the European Union (Drinking Water) (Amendment) Regulations 2017 (S.I. No. 464/2017) see at:* [*http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2017/si/464/made/en/print?q=464/2017*](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2017/si/464/made/en/print?q=464/2017) [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. 1 *Tá Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpach (Uisce Óil), 2014 (I.R. Uimh. 122 de 2014) ar fáil ag:* [*http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/si/122/made/en/print*](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2014/si/122/made/en/print%20) *agus tá Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Uisce Óil) (Leasú), 2017 (I.R. Uimh. 46/2017) ar fáil ag:* [*http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2017/si/464/made/en/print?q=464/2017*](http://www.irishstatutebook.ie/eli/2017/si/464/made/en/print?q=464/2017) [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. 2 *For the purposes of these Terms and Conditions, a Group Water Scheme means a scheme providing a private supply of water to two or more houses by means of a common or shared source of supply and distribution system.* [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
4. 2*Ar mhaithe leis na Téarmaí agus Coinníollacha seo, ciallaíonn Grúpscéim Uisce scéim a sholáthraíonn soláthar uisce príobháideach do dhá teach nó níos mó trí fhoinse nó córas dáilte nó roinnte coiteann soláthair.* [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
5. 3For some further guidance see at: <http://www.epa.ie/water/dw/hhinfo/testtreat/> [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
6. 3 Chun teacht ar threoir bhreise, tabhair cuairt ar: <http://www.epa.ie/water/dw/hhinfo/testtreat/> [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
7. *4 “wholesome and clean” in relation to a water supply has the same meaning as in the European Union (Drinking Water) Regulations 2014 (S.I. No. 122 of 2014), as amended.* [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
8. *4 Is ionann an bhrí atá ag “folláin agus glan” maidir le soláthar uisce agus an bhrí atá aige i Rialacháin an Aontais Eorpaigh (Uisce Óil), 2014 (I.R. Uimh. 122 de 2014), arna leasú.*  [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
9. *5 In such circumstances the housing authority may determine an approved cost that reflects the cost of the domestic element of the overall proposed works.* [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
10. *5 Faoi na cúinsí siúd, is féidir leis an údarás tithíochta costas faofa a dheimhniú ina léirítear costas ghné thí na n-oibreacha a bheartaítear, ar an iomlán.* [↑](#footnote-ref-11)