

As of the 1st of January 2024 the Minister changed the Regulations in relation to grant support available under the:

1. Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) under the National Inspection plan
2. Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) for Prioritised Areas for Action
3. Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) in High Status Objective Catchment Areas.

To qualify for grant support you must meet the eligibility criteria listed under one of the three categories below.

1) Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance) (under the National Inspection Plan)

To be eligible for a grant your primary residence must have been chosen for an inspection under the National Inspection Plan. Inspection criteria are based on the guidelines set out by the Environmental Protection Agencies National Inspection plan for Domestic Waste Water Treatment systems 2022-2026. If your residence has been chosen for an inspection, you will receive a pre-inspection letter at least 10 days in advance of an inspection taking place.

Please note the Council cannot facilitate requests for inspections.

2) Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems Financial Assistance for Prioritised Areas for Action)

If your household has received a letter from the Local Authorities Waters Programme (LAWPRO) advising your residence may constitute a risk to water quality in your area you can contact Wexford County Council for an inspection.¹

Please note that LAWPRO cannot facilitate requests for letters and will contact householders in areas deemed at risk.

¹ Location within a PAA does not automatically result in eligibility for this grant scheme. This grant scheme is in place to support the attainment of water quality objectives in Prioritised Areas for Action as outlined in the national River Basin Management Plan for Ireland 2018-2021. LAWPRO are conducting river and water quality assessments, not inspections of individual domestic wastewater treatment systems (DWWTS). They determine the risk to water quality from domestic wastewater based on a scientific assessment of the river and we will not be visiting individual properties. Where these assessments confirm that there is a potential risk to the environment from specific domestic wastewater treatment systems LAWPRO will issue letters of potential eligibility for the grant to the occupier of the associated house.



3) **Housing (Domestic Waste Water Treatment Systems
Financial Assistance in High Status Objective Catchment Areas)**

If your household falls within a High Status Objective Catchment area you can employ an Agent to review your Domestic Waste Water Treatment system. The report subsequently can be shared with the Council for review in order to resolve issues identified.

The following changes to the Domestic Wastewater Treatment System grant scheme has taken place from the 1st January 2024:

- an increase in the maximum grant available to €12,000, up from €5,000; (Up to 85% of cost of work up to max. of €12,000 or cost of the work, or whichever is lower) and
- previously all septic tanks had to be registered prior to the 1st of February 2013, this prescribed date has been removed.
- Eligibility criteria for the grant has not changed. See below.

In order to qualify for the grant, the house served by the Domestic Waste Water Treatment system must, in the opinion of the local authority:

- a) be occupied by the applicant as their primary place of residence (e.g. not a holiday home),
- b) not be connected to a public sewerage scheme,
- c) not be currently under construction or constructed within the last 7 years,
- d) not have been paid a grant for the DWWTS within the last 7 years, and
- e) have all works completed satisfactorily in accordance with the Advisory Notice.

Any grant process that has commenced under the previous scheme, but has not been concluded, homeowners may be eligible to have their grant concluded under the new scheme, provided that all eligibility criteria are met.

