



Circular L2/22

18 October 2022

**To: Director of Services with responsibility for Water Services
CC: Rural Water Liaison Officer**

**Re: Revised Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme
administered by Local Authorities**

Dear Director,

I am writing to advise you that S.I. No. 56 of 2016 has been revised with the publication of the Housing (Domestic Lead Remediation Grant) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 519 of 2022). A copy of the revised Regulations, Terms and Conditions and the relevant supporting documentation are issued with this circular letter. The revised scheme will come into effect from **1st December 2022**.

The Domestic Lead Remediation (Financial Assistance) Regulations 2016 (S.I. No. 56 of 2016), brought into operation a grant scheme to assist householders with the cost of the replacement of lead pipes and fittings, located within the internal distribution system of a house.

An individual may apply to their local authority for assistance under the revised Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme. In advance of applying for a grant the applicant must have received one of the following: (note (c) is an additional option under the revised grant):

- (a) a notification from a water supplier advising that there is likely to be lead pipes and related fittings within the internal distribution system of the house, or
- (b) hold a certificate dated within the six months immediately prior to the date of application by a laboratory accredited by the Irish National Accreditation



Board confirming a parametric value for lead in the drinking water supply to the house concerned, which exceeds the statutory limit, of 10µg/l,
or

- (c) a notification from a registered building professional advising that there are lead pipes and related fittings located within the internal distribution system of the house concerned.

The **new** eligibility conditions in the revised grant include:

- Removal of the means test requirement;
- Introduction of a uniform grant rate of 100% of the eligible costs of the replacement of any such lead pipes and/or related fittings, or €5,000, whichever is the lower;
- An additional eligible cost can be claimed to a maximum of €200 for the provision of a certificate from a laboratory or notification from a registered building professional, as outlined at (b) and (c) above and provided for in Regulation 5(1)(b) and 5(1)(c). This cost is to be included in the calculation of the maximum eligible cost total of €5,000. Note, any indirect costs incurred by the applicant themselves are not eligible costs;
- The house concerned must be occupied by the applicant as their normal place of residence;
- Minimum expenditure on eligible works in order to qualify for a grant has been increased from €200 to €750.

When a local authority pays a grant under the scheme:

- The Department will reimburse 100% of the amount paid by the local authority to the maximum amount of €5,000.
- All requests for recoupment of grants paid by the local authority should be submitted electronically to the Rural Water Unit in the Department at rural.water@housing.gov.ie.

The forms (Form DLRG 1 and DLRG 1 Schedule), which are to be used by local authorities when requesting recoupment of grants paid, from the Department's Rural Water Unit, are attached. Also included with this letter are the Terms and Conditions for the scheme and the customer grant claim form (Form DLRG 1a). Each local authority is required to use the standardised forms as issued by the Department. It is a matter for each local authority to insert their contact details,



such as name, address and phone number, into the text box on the customer claim Form DLRG 1a. This is the only part of the form which should be edited by the local authority.

For Irish Water customers, Irish Water also offers a lead pipe replacement scheme which will replace any public side lead service connection pipes free of charge to customers, if they have replaced the private side lead supply pipes.

Further details on the Irish Water Customer Opt-in Lead Pipe Replacement Scheme can be found at: <https://www.water.ie/projects/strategic-plans/lead-mitigation-plan/>.

Any queries in relation to this circular may be addressed to: Sarah Kearns, Telephone 096 24359 or email Rural.Water@housing.gov.ie.

Yours sincerely

Belinda Treacy
Assistant Principal Officer
Rural Water Unit
Tel:096 24338

**Application to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage for
refund of grants paid by local authorities under the Domestic Lead
Remediation Grant Scheme**

Local authority:

1. I hereby certify that the grant payments set out in the attached schedule have been made by this local authority to the person(s) named in the schedule and that such payments are in compliance with the *Housing (Domestic Lead Remediation Grant) Regulations 2022 (S.I. No. 519 of 2022)* and the Department of Housing, Local Government and Heritage Circular L2/22 dated 18th October 2022.
2. I hereby claim recoupment of € , being the total of the grant payments made by the above name local authority to the person(s) named in the attached schedule.
3. I hereby certify that none of the grant payments as set out in the attached schedule have previously been claimed from the Department.

Prepared by: _____ (Signature)
_____ (Name in BLOCK)

Date: _____

Certified by*: _____ (Signature)
_____ (Name in BLOCK)

Date: _____

* *Director of Services or equivalent*

DLRG 1 Schedule

Schedule for refund of grants paid by local authorities under the Domestic Lead Remediation Grant Scheme

Name of Grantee	Eircode of Grantee	Cost of works carried out €	Grant amount paid by local authority €	Date grant was paid (dd/mm/yy)	Payment transaction number	Description of works (i.e. replacement of pipes or fittings or both)
	Total					

Prepared by: _____ (Signature) _____ (BLOCK)	Certified by*: _____ (Signature) _____ (BLOCK)
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Date: _____	Date: _____
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**Director of Services or equivalent*

This completed schedule must be completed by the local authority and submitted with a Form DLRG 1 to the Department of Housing, Local Government & Heritage.