

From: Housing Minister <MINISTER@housing.gov.ie>
Sent: Wednesday 9 February 2022 11:12
To: info <info@kilkennycoco.ie>
Subject: RE: HPLG-MOBO-00112-2022 Fao Ms Anne Maria Walsh

9 February 2022

Ms. Anne Maria Walsh
Kilkenny County Council
County Hall
John Street
Kilkenny

**RE: HPLG-MOBO-00112-2022
NOM 20-2021**

Dear Ms. Walsh,

I have been asked by Mr. Darragh O'Brien T.D., Minister for Housing, Local Government and Heritage, to thank you for your letter dated 10 January 2021, in connection with the maximum grant limits under the Thatching Grant.

At present the amount of the grant is based on the cost of the work, not on the size of the roof specifically. A grant of up to €3,810 or two thirds of the approved cost (whichever lesser) may be payable towards necessary works to renew or repair the thatched roofs of houses. A higher grant (up to €5,714) may be payable for houses on specified Islands. For Medical Card holders, the maximum grant is €6,350, or up to 80% of the approved cost (€8,252 for Islands). The grant is not payable unless a period of 7 years has elapsed since payment of a previous grant.

I can however confirm that Officials from my Department are planning to review the general operation of the Thatching Grant scheme in the coming months and I expect this work to be completed by the end of this year. I will ensure your observations and suggestions are brought to the attention of the team involved, and due consideration will be given to the feasibility of the changes you have raised in your letter. However, there are currently no plans to make any changes to the current maximum grant limits until this project is concluded and the results have been reviewed.

Yours sincerely,

Niamh Redmond
Private Secretary