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An Roinn  
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**Communities**

**From: Donna Knowles**  
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Our ref:  
Date: 6 April 2022

**Council Senior Officials.**

### **Affordable Warmth Scheme Budget and Referrals 2022 - 2023**

At our meeting on 16 March 2022 I explained the Department's uncertain budget position going into next year and the possible impact on the number of monthly referrals required from Councils to the Affordable Warmth Scheme from 1 April 2022. As agreed I am writing in relation to a request from Councils regarding funding for the delivery of the Affordable Warmth Scheme.

The letter provides an indicative position regarding Capital spending in 2022/23 as, in the absence of an Executive, it is not possible to set a budget for 2022/23. However, legislative cover provides for contingency arrangements to allow spend to be incurred in the year ahead. In this context, a contingency planning envelope has been proposed by the Finance Minister to enable public services to be maintained.

I have therefore been advised that a reasonable planning assumption for the Affordable Warmth Scheme is for a capital budget of £16m for 2022/23. On that basis Councils are asked to submit 30 referrals each per month for April and May and 20 per month from June onwards.

I would like to take this opportunity to once again thank you for your continued support in the delivery of the Affordable Warmth Scheme.

Yours sincerely,

**Donna Knowles**  
**Head of Affordable Warmth & Energy Branch**