

6 February 2025

Our Ref: FOI 659

Request

We received your request on 28 January 2025 for the following information:

*Reference NIHE's 2023 National Pay Award (Human Resources Bulletin 206)
Cost of living Payment and Pay increase of 3.8%; and how it relates to full-time agency staff and agency staff who were assigned to the Housing Executive, but had left their Housing Executive assignment before receiving payment.*

- 1. Who is eligible to receive the pay award?*
- 2. How many full-time agency staff eligible, have received the above pay award?*
- 3. How many full-time agency staff eligible, did not receive the above pay award?*
- 4. Of full-time agency staff who are eligible, and have left the Housing Executive before receiving the above pay award, how many have not received the pay award to date?*
- 5. Of full-time agency staff eligible, who have left the Housing Executive before receiving the pay award, What is the expected wait time to receive the pay award after making a written request to the relevant department?*
- 6. Which department is responsible for administering the pay award to full time agency staff? Please supply contact information.*

Your request has been handled under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Our response

1. Who is eligible to receive the pay award?

Employees and Agency Workers with the Housing Executive during the period 1st April 2023 - 31st March 2024.

2. How many full-time agency staff eligible, have received the above pay award?

659 Agency Workers have received payment from the NIHE to their respective employing agencies.

3. How many full-time agency staff eligible, did not receive the above pay award?

All active Agency Workers eligible at 31 March 2024 have been paid the pay award (534).

Agency Worker leavers must make a request through their agency in order to have a review of their circumstances and eligibility for payment. To date 125 Agency Workers have followed this process and received payment. No Agency Worker who has made this request through their agency and deemed as eligible for payment has been declined.

4. Of full-time agency staff who are eligible, and have left the Housing Executive before receiving the above pay award, how many have not received the pay award to date?

Agency leavers must make a request through their agency in order to have a review of their circumstances and eligibility for payment. To date 125 Agency Worker leavers have followed this process and received payment. No Agency Worker who has made this request through their agency and deemed as eligible for payment has been declined payment.

5. Of full-time agency staff eligible, who have left the Housing Executive before receiving the pay award, What is the expected wait time to receive the pay award after making a written request to the relevant department?

The request for payment is made by the relevant recruitment agency to NIHE. Payment by NIHE to the relevant agency is estimated within four weeks of the request. NIHE cannot, however, confirm timeframes for payment between recruitment agencies and the agency worker in question.

6. Which department is responsible for administering the pay award to full time agency staff? Please supply contact information.

Northern Ireland Housing Executive Finance Department is responsible for processing payment to the employing recruitment agencies for eligible Agency Workers. The employing agency is responsible for administering payment to their Agency Workers. The contact details for the relevant Finance Team within NIHE is FinanceAgencyTimesheets@nihe.gov.uk, however, the employing recruitment agency

should be contacted in relation to queries regarding payment to agency workers as payment is administered by them.

This concludes our response.