

3rd August 2023

Mr. Seamus Bonner
Secretary
IIMRO
Leabgarrow, Árainn Mhór,
Galway. A-200464

Ref No: POSB01100006 – Producer Organisation Scheme - Part B

Dear Seamus

Further to receipt of the claim for payment received under the above scheme.

I regret to inform you that the application cannot be processed further for the following reasons:

1. Under the terms and conditions of the current scheme, grant aid is paid for costs incurred by a PO. These costs must be paid up front and claimed retrospectively. Proof of payment transactions must be provided in support of any claim.

You have indicated in the claim documents that the costs contained are indicative costs only as all work was carried out on a voluntary basis and therefore no payment transactions have taken place. This is ineligible for grant assistance as it stands.

2. Further to your enquiry regarding payment in relation to meetings linked to the approved Production and Marketing Plan as per your email dated 1st June 2023.

As the scheme currently stands the specified meeting eligible to claim are:

- Quota Management Advisory Committee (each monthly meeting - 12)
- Irish Fisheries Science Research Partnerships (each quarterly - 4)
- Discard Implementation Group (each meeting and a maximum of 5 meetings in any calendar year of Technical Sub-Groups)
- EU Council & National Consultative Council (maximum 2 meetings in any calendar year of the European Fisheries Council and at each of the National Sea Fisheries Consultative Council Meetings)
- This year DAFM approved the inclusion of all supplementary, follow-on and stakeholder meetings in relation to QMAC and these must be verified by DAFM in the same way as the other meetings. The Marine Institute verify the IFSRP above also.

*Note: Not all these Groups may still be operational.

Unfortunately, for the same reason above, we are assuming that the attendance was on a voluntary basis and that no financial transactions have taken place to reimburse the members involved. Therefore, this also falls outside the terms and conditions of the scheme.



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I would like to acknowledge the difficulties experienced by newly recognised POs as has been pointed out. The current PO Scheme under EMFF ends this year and to date there has been no indication on how or if any new PO Scheme will be forthcoming under the EMFAF.

As the claim stands at present, we will close the application. However, if you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me.

Yours sincerely,

Tom Scanlon
Investment Services Manager
Corporate Services Division