



27 January 2022

Ms. Anne Maria Walsh,
Meetings Administrator
Corporate Services Department
Kilkenny County Council
County Hall, John Street
Kilkenny

Our Reference: DAFM-MMO-00123-2022
Your Reference: NOM 17-2021

Dear Ms. Walsh,

I refer to your recent correspondence addressed to Charlie McConalogue T.D., Minister for Agriculture, Food and the Marine requesting that the Department introduce *“a new fully funded TAMS (Targeted Agricultural Measures) supports to grant aid farmers to build new tanks to address the 40% deficit in slurry storage capacity in order to resolve excess slurry run off and nitrification of ground and water courses.”*

Funding at 40% for all applicants with a top up of 20% for qualified young farmers is already available for precast concrete tanks and circular slurry stores under the Targeted Agricultural Modernisation Scheme (TAMS). All details of grants available are published on the Departments Website.

To date, total expenditure under the seven measures of the TAMS, including transitional expenditure, has reached in excess of €332m with commitments of an additional €145m made to scheme participants who have yet to draw down those grants.

Some 46,992 applications have been approved under the scheme.

All outstanding approvals issued represent potential outstanding liabilities for the Department and we must have a budget in place to pay these claims. As a result, it is not possible to consider increasing the available funding for investment items such as slurry storage at this time.

I trust this clarifies the situation.

Yours sincerely,

Paul Whelan
Private Secretary