

Questions:

1. The final calculation spreadsheet, model, table, calculation sheet or working document used to calculate or support the final advised nursing home tariff uplift percentage.
2. Any final briefing note, submission or paper explaining the basis for the recommended uplift.
3. Any summary table showing the cost categories, figures, assumptions, sources, adjustments or weightings used to calculate the final uplift.
4. Any policy, guidance, methodology or decision-making framework used to assess or recommend the annual nursing home uplift.
5. The above information for the most recent year, 2025/26, if providing information for all requested years would exceed the cost limit.

Responses:

1. The final nursing home tariff uplifts were included in the response to DOH 2026-0129:

Financial Year	Final uplift %
2022/23 (See note 1)	6.58% (in year only) 5.73% (recurrently)
2023/24	6.88%
2024/25	6.91%
2025/26	7.02%

- *Note 1: In 2022/23 an in-year percentage uplift of 6.58% was applied. This included the impact of one-off items, such as the in-year impact of changes to Employer National Insurance requirements and arrears in respect of the 2021/22 Agenda for Change (AfC) pay award. The recurrent uplift was 5.73% excluding these items.*
- *Note 2: Uplifts are applied to the weekly nursing bed tariff for the previous year before the tariff is then rounded to the nearest whole pound.*
- *Note 3: Where final percentage uplifts were confirmed after the beginning of the financial year, they will have been backdated to the beginning of the financial year.*

A summary of the calculation(s) of the percentage nursing home tariff uplift is set out in Annex A (attached), based on applying the relevant uplifts to elements of the tariff, resulting in an overall blended percentage. The tables in Annex A reflect initial approvals for each annual interim uplift, which will reflect the documents provided in response to question 2, below.

The tables in Annex A also set out any subsequent wider approvals impacting the percentage uplift, which determined the final tariff uplift, for example the approval of any annual Agenda for Change (AfC) pay award which is applied to any non-National Living Wage (NLW) element of the tariff.

2. In more recent years, it has been the practice to seek approvals for an interim uplift in advance of the financial year, to enable rate increases to be paid from April (or as early as possible thereafter), given that providers will face increased costs from, for example, the

increase in the NLW in April each year or where other statutory employer costs increase, such as changes to employer National Insurance contributions (NIC) arrangements.

The relevant documents for these interim uplifts, upon which approval was received, are attached as follows:

- 2025/26: Annex B
- 2024/25: Annex C
- 2023/24: Annex D
- 2022/23: Annex E

As noted above, subsequent to the approval of interim tariff increases, other increases are applied which relate to wider approvals, such as the annual AfC pay award, which will impact the increase in the tariff percentage, as set out in Annex A.

3. Please refer to the response to question 1 above and the information provided in Annex A
4. We have provided you with the primary document in respect of decision making on the nursing home annual uplift in our response to question 2, with supporting Annexes noted.
5. The final versions of documentation (approved submissions) and the summary of final nursing home percentage uplifts have been provided in this response for the four financial years requested, 2022/23 to 2025/26.

We have also provided you with more detailed calculations in Annex A, which align with the approval of interim uplifts, as this may assist you further with your query.

Appendices may be requested from the Information Management Branch (IMB) if required at the following address:

- FOI@health-ni.gov.uk

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