

Voluntary Approval Scheme FAQ's

FAQ

- **What is the timescale for this to be resolved?**

It is our intention that the scheme reopens on 1 September. Once the scheme has reopened CIW will have a back log of c50 nannies that have been unable to renew and CIW will begin working through this but this will take time. The renewals will be prioritised in the following order:

- Those who are seeking to renew before falling off the scheme;
 - Those who fell off the scheme first;
 - The remainder who fell off the scheme;
 - New applications.
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- **I was unable renew my approval between March and September, what happens now?**

Welsh Government and Care Inspectorate Wales have made the decision that these nannies be allowed to renew their membership rather than re-apply, on the understanding that they would need to re-register when they reach the point of three years from their original registration.

- **My approval is due for renewal shortly, what action do I need to take?**

If a nanny's approval has not lapsed and is still valid they will need to reapply in the usual way when their approval is due for renewal. If their approval has not lapsed there is no change to their situation.

- **What happens to the existing scheme now, will this happen again?**

Earlier this year, the Welsh Government was made aware that a complication had arisen in respect of the 'Childcare at Home Voluntary Approval Scheme', sometimes referred to as the "Nanny Scheme", introduced in 2007.

The complication had arisen due to a change made to the governing legislation by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). As a result, the scheme was closed whilst Welsh Government officials worked with DWP and HMRC to understand the full implications of these changes and consider future options.

Following further intensive discussions, the Welsh Government, DWP and HMRC are in agreement that a new scheme will ultimately be required to replace the existing 2007 scheme. The Welsh Government is prioritising the establishment of a replacement scheme. DWP and HMRC have also committed to making the necessary amendments to the UK Government legislation as soon as practicably possible to give effect to a new scheme for Wales.

- **When will the new scheme be in place?**

It is hoped the new scheme will be in place in early 2020. Once the new scheme is in place all nannies will need to reapply for approval under the new scheme at the appropriate time.

- **Retrospective Payments**

Discussions were held with DWP and HMRC about the possibility of making retrospective payments in relation to those families who may have missed out on tax or benefit concessions under the 2007 Scheme. HMRC have confirmed that they are not willing to consider making retrospective payments as a result of the closure of the scheme.