



Returning to Ireland from France - Your Roadmap

Thursday 8th October 2020
19.00pm (CET)



SAFE HOME IRELAND
EMIGRANT SUPPORT SERVICE





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About us

We were established in 2000 as a pilot project in Mulranny, Co. Mayo to support older Irish born people return home to live in their native areas. The demand/interest grew and we now provide key services and support to anyone considering moving or returning to Ireland.

We are a very small team of 4 staff, our central office located in Mulranny and outreach/home offices in Galway, Kerry and Laois.

Core Funded under DFA Emigrant Support Programme and smaller project-based funding



Government of Ireland
Emigrant Support Programme



An Roinn Gnóthas Eachtracha agus Trádála
Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

Our Services



- **Information and Guidance** to anyone (regardless of age or circumstances) who may be contemplating returning or moving to Ireland
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- **Housing Assistance** for **qualifying** * older Irish born emigrants to return to *secure* accommodation in Ireland
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- **Outreach and Advocacy** - to people who *have returned home both through and independent* of Safe Home (regardless of age or circumstances)
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- Act as a **link** with home via website, monthly newsletter, social media,

Housing Assistance



Qualifying criteria for access to housing via Safe Home Ireland:

- Irish born living abroad
- Aged 57 years and over
- Capable of Independent living
- Living in rented accommodation abroad and unable to provide accommodation for themselves (from own income/savings) on return to Ireland



Contact our office for more info/applic form

Outreach & Advocacy



Open to any returnee regardless of age/circumstances throughout 26 counties - crisis & planned returns

- Home visits .. after 14 day self-isolation completed .. observing all public health guidelines
- Form filling - housing, child benefit, housing, schools etc...
- Emotional/practical support with settling in and linking in to other local services where relevant
- Signposting to local/more specialist supports



Self/family/agency referral for this service

Nursing Home Care

There are two ways to apply for **Nursing Home Care** in Ireland;

- Applying directly to **private** nursing home providers - applicable to people who have sufficient means to cover the cost of their care (approx. €1,200/week). For an outline of private nursing home operators in Ireland, see Nursing Homes Ireland <http://www.nhi.ie/>
- Applying for financial assistance via the **Nursing Home Support Scheme (NHSS)**, also referred to as ‘**Fair Deal**’ – which provides financial support to people who require long-term residential care. For a full outline of the NHSS, see <https://www.hse.ie/eng/fair-deal-scheme/>

NOTE: THERE ARE RESTRICTIONS TO ANY ADMISSIONS DUE TO COVID-19 SO BEST TO CONTACT OUR OFFICE IF ANY QUEIRES IN RELATION TO RETURNING TO NURSING CARE.

Documentation to bring with you (just a few examples)

- Personal documentation – birth cert, marriage cert, divorce papers
- Back up documentation regarding any medical conditions and take home 3/6 months supply of medication if possible;
- Name and Address of last employer and social security number;
- Payslips and if in receipt of social welfare payment .. proof of same;
- Proof property abroad sold or tenancy ended;
- Car insurance documents (that show ‘no claims history’);
- If taking car – drivers licence, documents to show ownership;
- 6 months bank statements;
- Letter outlining engagement with Embassy/Irish Agency in the case of emergency/crisis return (if relevant)
- **Any other relevant paperwork you may have**

Key Advice if considering returning to Ireland

- Research and plan ahead in advance
- Arrange self-isolation accommodation & longer term accommodation in advance (is possible)
- Budget for your move i.e. flights, removals costs, rent/housing costs in Ireland
- Arrange employment in advance (if possible)
- Retrieve PPS number if you had one previously
- If possible, open bank account in advance (see on-line accounts)
- Have realistic expectations - especially due to Covid-19
- It takes time to resettle .. don't underestimate the emotional impact
- Bring as much documentation as possible with you
- Treat as an new migration experience and not just 'returning home'
- Reach out and reconnect with family/friends in advance

If return is in crisis/emergency ensure contact is made with services in Ireland in advance to assist in every possible way on return

Additional sources of information

Citizens Information Board: www.citizensinformation.ie

Crosscare Migrant Project: www.migrantproject.ie

Irish Council for Prisoners Overseas www.icpo.ie

Helplink Counselling Service: www.helplink.ie

DFA Global Irish (Directory of Irish orgs abroad) : www.dfa.ie/global-irish

Department of Social Protection: www.welfare.ie

Health Service Executive (HSE) : www.hse.ie

Medical cards: www.medicalcard.ie

Info on renting/buying: www.daft.ie or www.myhome.ie

Info on private health insurance: www.hia.ie

Info on education system: www.education.ie

Revenue Commissioners: www.revenue.ie

Latest Updates on Covid-19: gov.ie (central portal)– [HERE](#) AND Citizen Information Board – [HERE](#)

Information/Advice – Keep in touch



Safe Home Ireland Emigrant Support Service

Safe Home office is closed to the public in line with Covid-19 restrictions, but our service remains open.

Our telephone information line and advocacy and support work is ongoing to respond to any queries or concerns you may have.

We are contactable via phone, email or our social media channels.

Tel (Landline) : + 353 98 36036

Tel (Mobile) : + 353 86 059 4538

Email: info@safehomeireland.com

Website: www.safehomeireland.com



Website



Post



Phone



Email



Twitter



Facebook

Other Areas

Banking

Links to explore the option of setting up online non-resident bank accounts - this can then make it easier to transfer to a resident account on arrival in Ireland

[HERE](#) for the link for the Bank of Ireland Coming to Ireland Team

[HERE](#) for AIB returning to Ireland

[HERE](#) for Permanent TSB, coming back to Ireland

[HERE](#) for Ulster Bank non-resident EU banking

Driving in Ireland – Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT)/Insurance

Vehicle Registration Tax (VRT) is the tax which must be paid when a vehicle is first registered in Ireland. This must be paid if you bring your car to Ireland. There are some exemptions and further info available from Revenue at www.revenue.ie

Vehicles must be **registered** within 30 days but an appointment to inspect/register must be made within 7 days of importing into Ireland. More info on www.nct.ie

Important to be aware of **motor tax rates** in Ireland as can be quite high. More info on www.motortax.ie

Car Insurance can be very high for returning emigrants (due to lack of Irish driving history in Ireland) and important to bring as much documentation/evidence to validate ‘claims free driving history’ More info at www.insuranceireland.eu

If you have a driving licence issued by an EU/EEA member state, you can drive in Ireland as long as your existing licence is valid. If you wish to exchange your driving licence for an equivalent Irish driving licence, you must do so within 10 years of your driving licence expiring – More info on on [NDLS](http://www.ndls.ie) website

Buying / Renting Property

It is difficult to get a mortgage if living abroad, however, some Irish banks will lend but with higher rates of deposits (between 30-50%)

Details of property auctioneers and estate agents throughout Ireland: www.ipav.ie

Details of property to rent/buy throughout Ireland: www.daft.ie www.myhome.ie

Tax Matters

Tax matters are personal and can be different pending on someone's individual circumstances. We advise everyone to contact relevant tax authority in France for outline on how tax matters will be affected by leaving the jurisdiction.

In Ireland contact local Revenue Commissioners office – see www.revenue.ie for listings of offices on a county by county basis

Nursing Home Support Scheme (NHSS)/Fair Deal – Steps involved

Step 1. Applicants **need a PPSN** (Irish social security number) to apply for the NHSS

- can be **retrieved** by contacting Client Identity Services – Tel: 00 353 1704 3281/email: cis@welfare.ie
- **new PPSN** - **may** be able to apply for one from abroad under the **Exceptional Circumstances**

Step 2. Applicants should **contact the relevant NHSS office** in the region they hope to relocate to for **Application Form** - Details of regional NHSS offices can be found via

<https://www.hse.ie/eng/fair-deal-scheme/applying-for-fair-deal/contact-us/>

Step 3. **Care Needs Assessment form** by relevant medical professional involved in the applicant's care abroad to establish an applicants needs

Step 4. **Financial assessment** - income, cash assets, property assess to calculate contribution towards cost of care

Step 5. Identify a Nursing Home ... then planned return

NOTE - we can support/guide applicants at each step

Thank You



Go raibh míle maith agat