# OPTIONS FOR FUTURE SUPPORT TO AREAS OF NATURAL CONSTRAINT

# CONSULTATION RESPONSE PROFORMA

**Q1.** In the Table below, please rank in order of preference (where 1=most preferred) at least your **top three options**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Option** | **Preference (1=most preferred)** |
| 1 | Do nothing - the ANC claim made in 2016 and paid in 2017 would be the last |  |
| 2a | An ANC Scheme in Pillar I from the 2017 claim year using 5% of the Pillar I budget annually |  |
| 2b | A transitional ANC Scheme in Pillar I for the 2017 and 2018 claim years using 5% and 3% of the Pillar I budget across the respective years  |  |
| 3 | A Pillar II ANC Scheme for the claim years 2019 and 2020 funded by a Pillar I to Pillar II budget transfer |  |
| 4 | A transitional ANC Scheme in Pillar I for the 2017 and 2018 claim years, followed by a Pillar II ANC Scheme for the claim years 2019 and 2020, the latter funded by a Pillar I to Pillar II budget transfer. This option is, in effect, Option 2b and Option 3 combined |  |
| 5a | An ANC Scheme in Pillar II funded by an additional £20 million per annum from the NI Executive  |  |
| 5b | A transitional ANC Scheme in Pillar II for the 2017 and 2018 claim years funded from the NI Executive  |  |

Please explain the reasons for your preferences.

**Q2.** Which option(s) would you strongly oppose and why?

**Q3.** If no additional national funds are available (i.e. Option 5a and 5b are not possible), please rank in order of preference (where 1=most preferred) in the table below at least your **top three options**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Option** | **Preference (1=most preferred)** |
| 1 | Do nothing - the ANC claim made in 2016 and paid in 2017 would be the last |  |
| 2a | An ANC Scheme in Pillar I from the 2017 claim year using 5% of the Pillar I budget annually |  |
| 2b | A transitional ANC Scheme in Pillar I for the 2017 and 2018 claim years using 5% and 3% of the Pillar I budget across the respective years  |  |
| 3 | A Pillar II ANC Scheme for the claim years 2019 and 2020 funded by a Pillar I to Pillar II budget transfer |  |
| 4 | A transitional ANC Scheme in Pillar I for the 2017 and 2018 claim years, followed by a Pillar II ANC Scheme for the claim years 2019 and 2020, the latter funded by a Pillar I to Pillar II budget transfer. This option is, in effect, Option 2b and Option 3 combined |  |

**Q4**. Are there any other options which you believe the Department should consider? If so, please give details.

**Q5.** Any further comments that you would like to add?

Responses should be e-mailed to: **policy.development@dardni.gov.uk**

Or, alternatively please send printed responses by post to:

**Policy and Economics Division**

**Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**

**Room 361A**

**Dundonald House**

**Upper Newtownards Road**

**Ballymiscaw**

**Belfast**

**BT4 3SB**

**Written responses to the consultation paper should be sent to the address above by email or post and should arrive no later than 5 pm Friday 29 April 2016. It may not be possible to consider responses received after this date. An acknowledgement will be sent to confirm receipt of each response.**

**Publication of Responses**

The Department will publish a summary of responses following the closing date for receipt of comments. Your response, and all other responses to this publication, may be disclosed on request. The Department can only refuse to disclose information in exceptional circumstances. Before you submit your response, please read the paragraphs below on the confidentiality of responses and they will give you guidance on the legal position about any information given by you in response to this publication. Any confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system in e-mail responses will not be treated as such a request.

The Data Protection Act states that information provided by respondents to this consultation exercise will be held and used for the purposes of the administration of this current exercise.

The Freedom of Information Act gives the public a right of access to any information held by a public authority, namely, the Department in this case. This right of access to information includes information provided in response to a consultation. The Department cannot automatically consider as confidential information supplied to it in response to a consultation. However, it does have the responsibility to decide whether any information provided by you in response to this consultation, including information about your identity, should be made public or be treated as confidential. If you do not wish information about your identity to be made public, please include an explanation in your response.

This means that information provided by you in response to the consultation is unlikely to be treated as confidential, except in very particular circumstances. The Lord Chancellor’s Code of Practice on the Freedom of Information Act provides that:

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* Acceptance by the Department of confidentiality provisions must be for good reasons, capable of being justified to the Information Commissioner.

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