



<b>Correspondence Report</b>	<b>13<sup>th</sup> February 2018</b>
<b>To: The Leisure and Development Committee For Information</b>	

<b>Linkage to Council Strategy (2015-19)</b>	
<b>Strategic Theme</b>	
<b>Outcome</b>	
<b>Lead Officer</b>	Director of Leisure & Development
<b>Cost: (If applicable)</b>	N/A

<b>1.</b>	<b>Reinstatement of the Area of Natural Constraint Scheme (dated 8<sup>th</sup> January 2018)</b>
	Re-issued correspondence from Fermanagh and Omagh District Council to invite the 10 other Councils to support a motion to reinstate the ANC scheme to at least 2016 levels by writing to all Party Leaders, the Farming Unions and the Secretary of State.

Your Ref  
Our Ref Democratic Services  
Date 8 January 2018  
Email democraticservices@fermanaghomagh.com



Fermanagh & Omagh  
District Council  
Comhairle Ceantair  
Fhear Manach agus na hÓmaí

**Brendan Hegarty**  
Chief Executive

Mr David Jackson  
Causeway Coast and Glens Borough Council  
Civic Headquarters  
66 Portstewart Road  
Coleraine  
BT52 1E

*David*

Dear ~~Mr~~ Jackson

**RE: Motion – Reinstatement of the Area of Natural Constraint Scheme**

Firstly, on behalf of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, I wish you a very happy new year.

At the Council meeting of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council held on 2 January 2018, Members requested that I re-issue correspondence sent from the Council dated 9 May 2017, relating to a Council Motion regarding the 'Reinstatement of the Area of Natural Constraint Scheme'. We are re-issuing this correspondence, a copy of which is attached, due to the significance of this issue and also because some Members have become aware that in some instances the intended recipients did not receive it.

If you did not receive the original letter, the Council would ask that you now give the Motion due consideration and support this Council in its quest to have the ANC Scheme reinstated to at least 2016 levels, as outlined in the detail of the Motion.

We look forward to receiving your response in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brendan Hegarty'.

**Brendan Hegarty**  
Chief Executive

Enc

9 May 2017

SENT TO: 10 Council Chief Executives

Dear

**RE: Motion – Restatement of the Area of Natural Constraint Scheme**

At a recent meeting of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, the Council approved the following Motion:-

**That this Council:**

- (i) Notes that farming in the Fermanagh and Omagh Council area is the most important industry and source of income in rural areas;**
- (ii) Notes the very serious concern in the farming community at the cutting of the Area of Natural Constraint scheme;**
- (iii) Writes to all the Party-Political leaders, Farming Unions (UFU, NIAPA), NILGA and the Secretary of State James Brokenshire, requesting their support and commitment to reinstate the ANC scheme to at least 2016 levels; and**
- (iv) Invites the 10 other Councils to support this motion by also writing to all the Party leaders and the Farming Unions, as well as the Secretary of State James Brokenshire, requesting the reinstatement of the ANC scheme.**

The Council is calling for widespread support for its request to lobby the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) to abandon its current decision to reduce the Area of Natural Constraint (ANC) Scheme funding by 60% and then to withdraw it in 2018. The Council is calling for the ANC Scheme to be fully reinstated as it is vital to the survival of a significant number of farmers including those in the South West where much of the area is categorised as a Severely Disadvantaged Area (SDA).

As per point (iv) above, Fermanagh and Omagh District Council is asking that your Council will consider and support the Motion. For the purpose of writing to all the Political Party leaders, it was agreed by Members that this would relate to the 11 registered political parties in Northern Ireland and a schedule containing details of the parties is attached.

On behalf of Fermanagh and Omagh District Council, I thank you in anticipation of your Council's support.

Yours sincerely

**Brendan Hegarty**  
**Chief Executive**