



ACRES Circular No. 17/2023

01 August 2023

Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES)
Extension of Closing Date for submission of ACRES Scorecards

Dear ACRES Advisor

The deadline for the submission of completed scorecards in respect of results-based actions under Tranche 1 of the Agri-Climate Rural Environment Scheme (ACRES) has been extended from 31st August 2023 to 23:59 Friday 29th September 2023. This extension has been granted to support advisors by enabling them to plan and manage their scoring workload. The extension may allow advisors to assess the extent and type of land to be scored within the extended timeframe and accordingly prioritize the associated work, for example, the scoring of grass fields before peatlands, where possible.

As the deadline for submission has been extended by just over 4 weeks, please note that the 7-day late submission facility is no longer available (this was the facility whereby completed scorecards submitted after the deadline would have been accepted for a period of up to 7 additional calendar days but with the application of a penalty for each day beyond the original deadline of 31st August 2023). **The final date for submission is now 29th September 2023** with no payment being made over the life of the ACRES contract in respect of Parcel(s) for which scorecards are submitted after this date.

While the Scheme requires that all lands that were required to be scored in 2023 (i.e. Year 1 of Tranche 1 contracts) would again be scored in Year 3 (2025 in relation to Tranche 1 contracts) the Department will be considering an option to allow advisors spread the scoring workload evenly across the five years of ACRES.

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