

Circular 01/2016

6th January 2016

To: GLAS Advisors

Re: First Instalment of GLAS 1 2015 Part-Year Payment

Dear Advisor,

At the end of December 2015, the Department commenced processing the first instalment of 2015 GLAS Tranche 1 payments. These payments are for 2015 part-year, covering the three month period 1st October 2015 – 31st December 2015 in respect of contracts with a 1st October 2015 start date that have 2015 payable actions. A list of the 2015 payable actions is set out in the annex to this circular.

This payment is based on an estimate of 85% of the payable amount for each applications 2015 payable actions, rounded down to the nearest €100. For example an applicant for whom 85% of their 2015 part-year payment is estimated to be between €900 and €1,000 received a first instalment advance payment of €900.

In relation to all applications with commonage action the estimated value of the part-year payment for the commonage action has been calculated based on an average area of 17ha.

The balancing payments in respect of the remainder of the 2015 part-year payment will take account of the final calculated commonage areas, as well as any GLAS+ payments. In accordance with EU regulations, these balancing payments can only be made when all relevant inspections are completed. We expect to make these payments in May.

The following categories of applicants did not receive a first instalment advance payment:

- a) Applicants who have indicated that they have withdrawn actions, parcels or applications;
- b) Applications that did not have 1st October 2015 start date or did not have 2015 payable actions;
- c) Applications for which we are finalising the data needed to estimate their contract value;
- d) Applications for which 85% of their 2015 payment is estimated to be less than €100;
- e) Applications that have a BPS query associated with them, including an outstanding inspection or a query on a BPS claimed area or a nitrates derogation issue.

A second payment run will be made at the end of January to facilitate payment of cases which have been updated.

Please note that these payments are only in respect of a part year for certain actions so farmers will only see the full value of their GLAS contracts realised in 2016, this being the first full year of their five-year contracts.

GLAS
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Annex

GLAS Actions payable for period 1st October 2015 to 31st December 2015

For applications that are given an approval date of 1st October 2015, the following actions, are payable for the period 1st October 2015 to 31st December 2015.

- Breeding Waders
- Cough
- Corncrake
- Geese and Swans
- Hen Harrier
- Twite A
- Commonage
- Farmland Habitat (Private Natura)
- Low Input Permanent Pasture
- Traditional Hay Meadow
- Traditional Dry Stone Wall Maintenance