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| **YOU ARE ADVISED TO KEEP A COPY OF THIS FORM** |  |

FORM BC4 - BUSINESS SCISSION APPLICATION

Form BC4 should be used to notify the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) of a business scission (split) with a request to have the entitlements held by the original farm business (the transferor) divided and transferred to the new businesses (the transferees) created as a result of the scission.

You do not complete Form TE1 – Transfer of BPS Entitlements application, nor can you use the online application to transfer entitlements involved in a scission.

Each new farm business created as a result of a division of a farm business will also require Form FB1 – DAERA farm business identifier application – to be completed.

If you want the business scission to take place for the 2024 BPS scheme year, this Form BC4 should be received by DAERA **no later than 15 May 2024**, by either post or email

**Section 6 of this Form BC4 should be completed and signed by all members of the original farm business and the member(s) of each farm business created as a result of the scission**. **Evidence and supporting documentation should be submitted with the relevant form by 15 May**.

Agents/authorised persons who complete a scission / transfer application on behalf of a transferor (the original farm business) **MUST** enter the Entitlement Transfer ID of the transferor and transferee in the relevant sections of the transfer application. An agent / authorised person must obtain the Entitlement Transfer ID directly from the transferor and transferee.

**Note:** If an agent / authorised person has completed the scission / transfer application on your behalf it is still your responsibility to ensure that the form(s) is / are submitted to us on time and that the information provided is correct. We will consider the information on the form to have been provided in accordance with your wishes. If we have any queries we will contact the authorised agent.

Before completing Form BC4 you are advised to read the ‘Guide to Business Change’

[Guide to Business changes | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/guide-business-changes) particularly where:

* You have nominated an authorised person to act on your behalf.
* An EJO or Bankruptcy Order exists against you. If the Order restricts the transfer of assets, including payment entitlements, Form BC4 may be rejected.
* There are outstanding debts / penalties exist against the original business.

It is envisaged that this form will cover the majority, but not all, of the situations likely to occur in Northern Ireland. If you feel that this form does not adequately cover your situation you should contact us for further advice.

You should read the Guide to Transfer of BPS Entitlements and the Guide to Business Change, available on the DAERA website, for further advice:

[Guide to Business changes | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/guide-business-changes)

[Guide to the Transfer of Basic Payments Entitlements | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/guide-transfer-basic-payments-entitlements)

**Please note, you are transferring entitlements to the farm businesses formed as a result of the scission at your own risk.** All parties should be aware that if, after we finalise a transfer, we discover that the entitlements should not have been transferred, the transfer may be ruled null, and void and the entitlements returned to the business which originally possessed them. Repayment, with interest, of any monies not due to either party will be required.

If you do no have access to email or an agent contact our Advisory Service below;

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  | **Call us on 0300 200 7848 (9am – 5pm)**  If you need any help to complete this form |

**To submit this form:**

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|  | **Email to:**  [areabasedschemes@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:areabasedschemes@daera-ni.gov.uk) |

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|  | **Post to:**  Area-based Schemes Payment Branch, Business Change Section, Orchard House, 40 Foyle Street, Londonderry, Derry/Londonderry BT48 6AT |

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| **SECTION 1** | **ABOUT THE BC4 SCISSION APPLICATION** |

This Form BC4 application should be completed if an original farm business is dividing into two or more separate businesses.

A scission occurs when a business is split creating either:

* at least two new separate businesses, of which at least one remains controlled in terms of management, benefits, and financial risk by one of the persons (legal or natural) who managed the original business;

or

* at least one new business, the other one remaining controlled in terms of management, benefits, and financial risks by the original business.

**Each new farm business created as a result of a division of a farm business will require a Form FB1 – DAERA farm business identifier application, to be completed and returned. Each new farm business must be registered and approved with us as a Category 1 business, before the entitlements belonging to the original farm business can be split between the newly created businesses.**

Form BC4 should provide details of how the entitlements held by the original business is to be shared between the original business and the new separate farm business(es) created as a result of the scission.

The following sections of the Form BC4 **must be completed** and signed by all current members of the business. If any current members listed with the Department have deceased and their death has not been notified previously please forward a copy of their death certificate:

**Section 2 -** Details of the original farm business

**Section 3 -** Details of the farmer(s) managing the farm businesses created as a result of the scission

Section 4 - Allocation of the payment entitlements following the scission

Section 5 - Date of scission

Section 6 - Declarations and Undertakings

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| --- | --- |
| **SECTION 2** | **DETAILS OF THE ORIGINAL BUSINESS** |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ID:** |  |
| **BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **NAME OF THE PERSON(S) TO WHOM PAYMENT WILL BE MADE, IF THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **DATE OF BIRTH:** |  |
| **BUSINESS ADDRESS**: | |
| **POSTCODE:** |  |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** |  |
| **MOBILE NUMBER:** |  |
| **E-MAIL:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SECTION 3** | **DETAILS OF THE MEMBERS OF EACH BUSINESS CREATED AS A RESULT OF THE SCISSION** |

**Business No 1:**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ID NUMBER:** |  |
| **BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **NAME OF THE PERSON(S) TO WHOM PAYMENT WILL BE MADE, IF THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **DATE OF BIRTH:** |  |
| **BUSINESS ADDRESS**: | |
| **POSTCODE:** |  |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** |  |
| **MOBILE NUMBER:** |  |
| **E-MAIL:** |  |

List the details below of **all** members of Business No 1.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No:** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No:** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No:** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No:** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

**Continue on a separate sheet as necessary.**

**Business No 2**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ID NUMBER:** |  |
| **BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **NAME OF THE PERSON(S) TO WHOM PAYMENT WILL BE MADE, IF THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **DATE OF BIRTH:** |  |
| **BUSINESS ADDRESS**: | |
| **POSTCODE:** |  |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** |  |
| **MOBILE NUMBER:** |  |
| **E-MAIL:** |  |

List the details below of **all** members of Business No 2, including the person to whom payment will be made, as named above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No:** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No. (if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No. (if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No.(if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

**Continue on a separate sheet as necessary.**

**Business No 3**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **CATEGORY 1 BUSINESS ID NUMBER:** |  |
| **BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **NAME OF THE PERSON(S) TO WHOM PAYMENT WILL BE MADE, IF THIS IS DIFFERENT FROM THE BUSINESS TRADING NAME:** |  |
| **DATE OF BIRTH:** |  |
| **BUSINESS ADDRESS**: | |
| **POSTCODE:** |  |
| **PHONE NUMBER:** |  |
| **MOBILE NUMBER:** |  |
| **E-MAIL:** |  |

List the details below of **all** members of Business No 3, including the person to whom payment will be made, as named above.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No. (if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No. (if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No. (if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

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| --- | --- |
| **Applicant Ref No. (if known):** |  |
| **Forename(s):** |  |
| **Surname:** |  |
| **Date of Birth:** |  |
| **Address:** |  |
| **Tel No:** |  |

**Continue on a separate sheet as necessary.**

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| **SECTION 4** | **ALLOCATION OF THE PAYMENT ENTITLEMENTS FOLLOWING THE SCISSION** |

**How are payment entitlements to be split between the farm businesses created as a result of the scission?**

The table below should be completed to show how the entitlements should be split between the new farm businesses.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Original Business** | **New Business No 1** | **New Business No 2** | **New Business No 3** |
| **NUMBER OF ENTITLEMENTS TO BE TRANSFERRED** |  |  |  |  |
| **UNIT VALUE OF ENTITLEMENTS TO BE TRANSFERRED** |  |  |  |  |

* Have you completed Form FB1 – DAERA business identifier - Yes  No

to apply for a new farm business ID?

If No –

We cannot transfer entitlements or pay BPS to a new farm business unless you are registered with us and hold a Category 1 business ID. As the registration process can take time, you are strongly advised to submit a Form FB1 immediately.

If Yes -

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|  |

If you have applied on Form FB1 for approval as a new farm business, please confirm the date Form FB1 was submitted:

For the business scission to take effect for this BPS scheme year, you must submit a Form FB1 on or before 15 May 2024.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SECTION 5** | **DATE OF SCISSION** |

We will normally take the date of the scission as the date we received this form. If you want us to consider a different scission date, please tell us here.

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(***must be on or before 15 May 2024***)

**Evidence detailing the nature of the transfers, such as a Deed of Transfer, a Lease Agreement or any similar legal document relating to the division of the business, should be submitted with this application.**

You should be aware that this application will be assessed in order to determine whether the new businesses are separate from each other and the original business.

**Note:**

If you have already provided documentary evidence, as listed above, in relation to an earlier assessment of the business scission, you do not have to resubmit the evidence. In such cases you should indicate below, the documents sent to DAERA, when they were sent and provide a copy of any related correspondence from DAERA when requested.

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| --- |
| Details of evidence already submitted to DAERA: |

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| List of documents enclosed with this application: |

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| --- | --- |
| **SECTION 6** | **DECLARATION AND UNDERTAKING** |

***If applicable, references within the declaration to EU regulations are to be taken as references to those provisions, as assimilated in UK law by the Direct Payments to Farmers (Legislative Continuity) Act 2020 and as amended by secondary legislation made under the Direct Payments to Farmers (Legislative Continuity) Act 2020 and the Agriculture Act 2020.***

The Declaration MUST be signed by ALL members of the original farm business. If any current members listed for this business with the Department have deceased please forward a copy of their death certificates to have the business membership updated.

For any new farm business, it may be signed by one representative of each business created if the scission has resulted in a multi-member business.

DECLARATION:

* I/We request that this application be considered under the business scission arrangements pertaining to the BPS.
* I/We declare that the information given by me/us in this Form BC4 application is true and complete to the best of my/our knowledge and belief.
* I/We have enclosed all relevant documents relating to this application.
* I/We wish to transfer BPS entitlements by way of a business scission, as detailed in Section 3 of this Form BC4.
* I/We are aware that if, at a later date, it is found that the original business was incorrectly allocated entitlements under the BPS, these entitlements will have to be recovered or their value amended.
* I/We are aware of the conditions pertaining to the BPS and have complied with them.
* I/We are farmers carrying out agricultural activity on a holding within the meaning of Articles (4)(1)(a), (b) and (c) of Regulation (EU) No. 1307/2013, as set out in the ‘[Guide to Basic Payment Scheme 2024 | Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (daera-ni.gov.uk)](https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/guide-basic-payment-scheme-2024) I/We have read and understood all of the relevant guides.

I/We undertake:

* To provide any additional information relating to this application that DAERA may reasonably require.
* To advise DAERA of any material change to the information given on this Form BC4.
* To comply with scheme rules and any other applicable legislation governing the BPS and the Single Application process.
* To comply with EU Regulations as assimilated into domestic law and any other applicable legislation governing the BPS and the Single Application process.
* To discharge any debt or penalty currently owed by the original business, or any debt or penalty which is subsequently applied by DAERA to the original business.

**ALL MEMBERS OF THE ORIGINAL FARM BUSINESS**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

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| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

**Continue on a separate sheet as necessary.**

**REPRESENTATIVE OF THE NEWLY CREATED BUSINESSES**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **On behalf of Business No 1:** |  |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **On behalf of Business No 2:** |  |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **On behalf of Business No 3:** |  |
| **Signed:** |  |
| **Print Name:** |  |
| **Date:** |  |

**Continue on a separate sheet as necessary.**

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| **PERSONAL DATA PRIVACY NOTICE** |

DAERA takes data protection, freedom of information and environmental information issues seriously. It takes care to ensure that any personal information supplied to it is dealt with in a way which complies with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. This means that any personal information you supply will be processed principally for the purpose for which it has been provided. However, DAERA is under a duty to protect the public funds it administers, and to this end, may use the information you have provided for this purpose. It may also share this information with other bodies responsible for the audit or administration of public funds, in order to prevent and detect fraud.

In addition, DAERA may also use it for other legitimate purposes, in line with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, Environmental Information Regulations 2004 and will comply with the UK General Data Protection Regulation and the Data Protection Act 2018. The full DAERA Privacy Statement online here - [DAERA Privacy Statement | NICS Intranet (nigov.net)](http://nics.intranet.nigov.net/daera/articles/daera-privacy-statement).

These include:

* Administration of the Common Agricultural Policy and other aid schemes;
* Administration of the Common Fisheries Policy;
* The production and safety of food;
* Management of land and other environmental controls;
* Animal health and welfare;
* Occupational health and welfare;
* The prevention and detection of fraud or maladministration (e.g. The Comptroller & Auditor General and HM Revenue & Customs);
* Compilation of maps and statistics;
* Disclosure to other organisations when required by law to do so; and
* Disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 or the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 where such disclosure is in the public interest.

Paying Agencies are required to publish details of the amounts paid to CAP beneficiaries. Data will be published for all beneficiaries on a searchable website and will include the name and locality of the beneficiary and details of the amounts and schemes for which subsidy has been paid. However, for those receiving less than the equivalent of €1,250 in subsidies, the name of the beneficiary will be withheld. Data will be made available from 31 May each year and will cover all payments made in the preceding CAP financial year (October to October). The data will be updated annually and remain available for two years from the date it is published.