

## Glastir Advanced Renewals

### FAQ

#### **1. Why am I being offered a renewed contract?**

European Union (EU) regulations allow farm businesses and land managers to be offered a shorter contract once they complete their original 5 year contract period.

The Welsh Government wishes to retain and continue the valuable environmental benefits being delivered by existing contract holders, including any Glastir Entry commitments, which must continue as part of the Glastir Advanced renewed contract

#### **2. I hold a Glastir Advanced contract but have not been offered a renewed contract – why?**

Renewed contracts will only be offered to those who have fulfilled their contractual obligations during the original Glastir Advanced contract period, and the underpinning Glastir Entry contract.

#### **3. Why couldn't I apply for the new round of Glastir Advanced 2019**

Your land has already been assessed by a Contract Manager and the environmental benefits that could be delivered have already been identified and secured.

(Please see question **18** on why certain options have been upgraded or discontinued).

#### **4. How long is my renewed contract?**

Glastir Advanced contracts ending **31 December 2018** will be offered a renewed contract starting from 1 January 2019, which will last until 31 December 2019 (1 year).

#### **5. Why isn't my contract being renewed for a longer period?**

The transition of the Rural Development Programme (RDP) is being considered as a whole, as well as the needs of individual schemes. As part of the overall programme planning, proposals for contract extensions under selected elements of the Glastir suite of schemes are being considered. The Cabinet Secretary for Energy, Planning and Rural Affairs will be making an announcement in the near future to confirm the intended approach.

## 6. What will be included in my renewed contract?

The renewed contract will be based on the management options delivered in the final year of your original contract.

Some option numbers have been adjusted to reflect the [Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020](#) which was agreed with the European Commission (EC) in 2015.

Additional Capital Works will not be included in your renewed contract, as all necessary Capital Works required to ensure the successful management of the contracted options were included in your original contract.

## 7. Do I have to continue with my original Glastir Entry options?

Yes.

It was a condition of your Glastir Advanced contract that the Entry options continue to be delivered. A number of the Glastir Entry options also form part of the payment for a number of Glastir Advanced options.

If you are unable to deliver any option in your renewed contract please contact [Rural Payment Wales \(RPW\)](#) immediately.

## 8. I haven't completed all of my Capital Works, can I complete these during the renewal period?

No.

Capital Works **NOT** completed by **31 December** in the final year of your original 5 year contract will **NOT** be eligible for payment during the renewal period.

Please see questions **16** and **17** on contract renewal and possible penalties/recoveries.

## 9. How do I accept my renewed contract? And what is the deadline date?

The contract will be offered via RPW Online. **You will then need to accept this contract via RPW online within 21 days of the contract offer.**

## 10. What happens if I do not accept my renewed contract by the deadline?

Your original 5 year Glastir contract will end.

See question **13**.

**11. Do I need to take action if I wish to decline my renewed contract?**

No.

The contract will not be available to accept after the 21 days have passed.

See question 13.

**12. If I decline my renewed contract, will I be required to repay any payments made under the original contract?**

No.

Your renewed contract is a separate contract to the original 5 year Glastir Advanced contract.

See question 13.

**13. If I don't accept or decline the offer, do I have any ongoing commitments?**

There are no ongoing contractual commitments. However, you are reminded to continue to observe all the appropriate regulatory requirements such as [Environmental Impact Assessment](#) (EIA) on land qualifying as habitat.

Please note that you may be required to obtain an EIA screening decision before undertaking any agricultural improvement work.

**14. If my Glastir contract ends, will this affect my Basic Payment Scheme (BPS) eligibility (2008 rule)?**

Yes.

Any land set-aside under an Agri Environment commitment must be assessed against the new [BPS eligibility rules](#).

For example, stock excluded trees will not be eligible for BPS when the Glastir commitment ends because they will be considered to be a group of trees or contain >100 scattered trees per hectare and will no longer be available for BPS entitlements.

**15. I have land in my renewed contract that I will be losing management control over during the contracted period. What should I do?**

This land must be removed from your renewed contract.

The renewed contract must be accepted online within 21 days of the contract offer and you must contact [RPW](#) to inform us of any land changes by 31 January 2019. We will then remove the affected land and a revised renewed contract will be issued before the end of February.

You are reminded that you must notify RPW of any land changes **within 30 days**.

**16. Why have some options been removed/added to my renewed contract?**

Options have been updated in line with the requirements of the [Welsh Government Rural Communities - Rural Development Programme 2014 - 2020](#), as agreed with the EC.

**17. Are there any options in my renewed contract that I cannot undertake anymore?**

There may be some individual management options which you can not undertake because of the following circumstances:

- If you can demonstrate force majeure or exceptional circumstances for why an option cannot be continued
- If your options have been amended in line with the new requirements agreed by the EC.

Your contract will include your original and any revised management options and you will be required to continue with these in your renewed contract, unless you request an amendment related to the above points.

The renewed contract must be accepted within 21 days of the contract offer and you must contact [RPW](#) to inform us of any options changes by **31 January 2019**.

We will then consider your request and make any appropriate changes and a revised renewed contract will be issued before the end of February.

**18. What are the amended options under the new framework?**

**Regulatory change**  
**(No change in payment or management requirements)**

- **Option 101 (Trees and Scrub, Establishment by Planting)** has been re-named Option 420.
- **Option 102 (Trees and Scrub, Establishment by Natural Regeneration)** has been re-named Option 421.
- **Options 500 to 505 (Footpaths, Bridleways with or without dogs and dedicating new PROW)** have been renumbered Options 413 to 417.

- **Option 672 (Ride and open ground mechanised mowing)** has been re-numbered Option 419.

**Regulatory change**  
**(A change in payment or management requirements)**

- **Options 15b/15d (Grazed Permanent Pasture with Low Inputs)** have been upgraded to **Options 15/15c (Grazed Permanent Pasture With No Inputs)**, respectively.

**Renewed but with no supporting Capital investment**

- **Option 153 (Red Clover Ley)** is included as an **optional** area payment but no Capital Work funding will be provided (to establish or reseed Red Clover Ley).
- **Option 155 (Improve Nutrient Management through Planning and Soil Sampling)** is included as an **optional** payment but no Capital Work funding will be provided (for Soil Sampling).

**Not renewed**

- **Option 402 (Additional Management Payment: Control Burning)** is not being offered in the renewed contract because an assessment of the site for a programme of controlled burning was undertaken for the original contract.

**Other**

- **Option 37 (UK Native Breeds at Risk)** is being offered only to those customers who currently have eligible cattle, sheep and equines, as defined on the latest UK approved list of native breeds at risk.

**19. Where do I find details of the changes to management options?**

The new technical specification for contracts commencing 1 Jan 2019 can be found on the [Welsh Government website](#).

**20. What action do I need to take if I want to amend my renewed contract?**

The renewed contract must be accepted online within 21 days of the contract offer and you must contact [RPW](#) to inform us of any options changes by **31 January 2019**.

## 21. Do I have to obtain new consents for the management options included in my renewed contract?

The Welsh Government will seek agreement to extend consents related to your contractual commitments already in place for land designated as [Sites of Special Scientific Interest from Natural Resources Wales \(NRW\)](#)

If your original Glastir contract required a water abstraction licence, these are time limited and may expire during the new period of your renewed contract. It is your responsibility to ensure that you comply with all legal requirements. Please contact [NRW](#) to obtain further advice.

## 22. How is my renewal contract payment calculated?

**Glastir Advanced Element:** The value will be based on the quantity of the option and the respective payment rate.

**Glastir Entry Element:** The value will be based on the quantity of the option and the respective payment rate i.e. payment is no longer based on £34/hectare.

**Whole Farm Code:** The Whole Farm Code payment will be based on the revised 4 tier rates. See below:

The Whole Farm Code	Payment Rate – £ per ha	Unit
	6.00	Up to 20.00 ha
	4.00	20.01 up to 50.00 ha
	1.00	50.01 up to 100.00 ha
	0.50	Over 100 ha

## 23. When will the payment details for my renewed contract be confirmed?

Your offer of a renewed Glastir contract will include your revised payment schedule. Please note that you will **NOT** be eligible to submit an Expression of Interest for Glastir Small Grants on any land subject to a Glastir Advanced contract.

## 24. How do I claim my annual payment?

You must continue to claim for your annual payment via your Single Application Form, and you must claim for each land parcel included in your renewed contract.

You must also ensure the declared crops and areas correctly reflect the requirements for any management option within that land parcel.

**25. How will my Glastir rotational options be paid?**

Your Glastir Entry rotational options will now be included in your renewed contract showing the total mapped area you can claim.

**26. If I breach my renewed contract, will there be any impact on the payments received under my original Glastir contracts.**

Your renewed contract is a new contract and separate from your original 5 year contract.

If breaches are discovered during the renewed period, penalties will be applied to your renewal period claims.

If the evidence indicates the breach occurred during the original contract period, penalties may also be applied to claims already paid.

Depending on the severity of the breach, consideration may be given to terminating your original and/or renewal contract and recovering all monies paid.

**27. Why can't I bring in additional land acquired (bought/rented) during my first five years in Glastir Advanced?**

This is a **renewed** contract, it can only be offered on land covered by original Glastir contracts.

However, any land not covered by a Glastir Advanced contract can be considered under [Glastir Small Grants](#).