

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

DATE RECEIVED
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# APPLICATION TO REMOVE A FIELD BOUNDARY

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**PART 1:- Applicant details**

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1. Business Reference Number

2. Title

Forename(s)

Surname

3. Address

4. Telephone Number

5. Mobile Telephone  
Number

6. E-Mail Address

## Important Information

***You must use this form to request derogation (permission) to remove a field boundary. The completed form should be returned to Countryside Management Delivery Branch at your local DARD office at the address shown on page 4. A copy of your farm map, with the proposed boundary changes clearly marked, should be included with this application. Please provide any additional information that you consider may be relevant.***

***DARD will assess your application for field boundary removal using field boundary assessment criteria, including consideration of the field size and the quality of the field boundary. DARD will inform you of its decision in writing.***

Under Cross Compliance rules removal of field boundaries (dry stone walls, ditches, hedges, rows of trees and earthbanks) is not permitted without prior written permission from DARD. This includes piping or laying drainage pipes in open sheughs. This applies to all land within an agricultural business irrespective of whether it is used to activate Single Farm Payment Scheme entitlements.

Field boundaries are a very important feature in the Northern Ireland farmed landscape. The boundaries include hedgerows, hedgerow trees, dry stone walls, ditches (sheughs) and earth banks, all of which provide important habitats for a variety of flora and fauna. In 2000, the Northern Ireland Countryside Survey estimated that we have approximately a quarter of a million kilometres of field boundaries, hedges being the main type.

It is important to remember that even when derogation has been granted, you must not destroy or damage birds, their nests or eggs, nor disturb birds when they are nesting and comply with the Wildlife (Northern Ireland) Order 1985. The bird nesting season is 1<sup>st</sup> March to 31<sup>st</sup> August (inclusive).

More information can be found at [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk) or by contacting your local Countryside Management Delivery Branch adviser.

Please complete the form in BLOCK LETTERS and sign Part 3.

**Please note that applications for derogations to remove field boundaries received on form FBR1 after 1<sup>st</sup> January in any year may not be assessed in time for the start of the bird nesting season (1<sup>st</sup> March – 31<sup>st</sup> August).**

**PART 2:- Details of field boundary removal request**

1. Farm Survey Number  2. Field Number

3. Location of field boundary in the field  
(e.g. hedge beside road)

4. Description of proposed work to field boundary  
(e.g. hedge removal and / or piping open sheugh)

5. Length of proposed field boundary work

6. Reason for proposed field boundary work

For additional field boundary removal requests please complete continuation sheet FBR2 and attach it to this form.

**PART 3:- Declaration to be signed by all applicants**

I declare that the information entered in this form is correct.

Signature  Date

Status (owner / tenant or agent)

**PLEASE NOTE:- NO WORK IS PERMITTED TO COMMENCE BEFORE WRITTEN APPROVAL IS RECEIVED FROM DARD.**

## **COUNTRYSIDE MANAGEMENT DELIVERY BRANCH POINTS OF CONTACT**

Countryside Management Delivery Branch provides advice on all aspects of countryside management. Local Countryside Management Delivery Branch staff can be contacted at the following locations.

Kilpatrick House  
38-54 High Street  
Town Parks  
BALLYMENA  
Co Antrim  
BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 2566 2800

2 Newry Road  
Corporation  
ARMAGH  
BT60 1EN

Tel: (028) 3751 5600

Rathkeltair House  
Market Street  
Demesne of Down Acre  
DOWNPATRICK  
Co Down  
BT30 6LZ

Tel: (028) 4461 2211

Inishkeen House  
Killyhevlin  
ENNISKILLEN  
Co Fermanagh  
BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004

Units 36-38  
Meadowland Shopping Centre  
Moneymore Road  
Town Parks of Magherafelt  
MAGHERAFELT  
BT45 6PR

Tel (028) 7939 5308

Sperrin House  
Sedan Avenue  
Lisnamallard  
OMAGH  
Co Tyrone  
BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 8225 1020

2B Portaferry Road  
Commons  
NEWTOWNARDS  
BT 23 3NT

Tel (028) 9181 3570