

**Brennan, Mike**

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**From:** Morelli, Emer  
**Sent:** 19 December 2016 17:29  
**To:** Brennan, Mike; Scott, Michelle  
**Subject:** FW: Options

Mike/ Michelle

For info and as discussed by Minister at this morning's briefing.

Emer

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**From:** Máirtín Ó Muilleoir [<mailto:mairtin@newbelfast.com>]  
**Sent:** 19 December 2016 11:32  
**To:** Morelli, Emer  
**Cc:** Eoin Rooney  
**Subject:** FW: Options

### Option 1. Fix system and reduce to allowable tariff.

#### Pros

1. Keep £400m of AME coming into economy (approx £20m per annum)
2. Fix system and get renewable energy benefits
3. No cost to public purse
4. Avoids distress of genuine users if system is closed down and stories in newspapers etc.

#### Cons

1. Needs Commission Approval
2. Needs legislation (as do all options)
3. Will be end of year before this new system is in place.
4. Attorney General prefers closure option below.

### Option 3. Close system down

#### Pros

1. It's over
2. No danger of additional cost going forward once we buy out the users and compensate them.
3. British may gift us the £60m cost of closing
4. Doesn't need Commission Consent
5. Attorney General thinks this is best route forward if challenged

#### Cons

1. Will cost around £60m to public purse
2. We lose the AME going forward £600m which is payment to those using boilers and goes into economy. If used correctly there is no extra cost to our coffers.
3. Loses any renewable benefits of the scheme in terms of movement from fossil fuels.

4. Smacks of panic.