Hi Caspar

Please find below the Construction Employers Federation response to the above Draft Determination. Our comments relate only to the section commencing on page 169 ‘Connections charge pass-through’.

Best wishes

David

**We believe the introduction of option 2 will unfairly penalise many new customers who happen want to live in an area which, through no fault of their own, suffers from either inadequate or aging and underfunded infrastructure supply. We believe that this burden of infrastructure connection, if it must be passed on to new customers, should be recovered with all customers contributing equally and fairly as they all end up with the exact same service. A fixed payment charge (option 1) is the only fair way of achieving that goal without major discrimination taking place. We also would be concerned that the introduction of option 2 could have a negative effect on the development of many areas during a housing supply crisis – something that is undoubtedly happening now given the disparity between the number of new houses required in Northern Ireland and the number being annually built.**

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