



**COMMITTEE FOR AGRICULTURE, ENVIRONMENT AND RURAL AFFAIRS**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2020  
ROOM 30, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present: Mr Declan McAleer MLA (Chairperson)  
Mr Philip McGuigan MLA (Deputy Chairperson)  
Ms Clare Bailey MLA  
Mrs Rosemary Barton MLA  
Mr Maurice Bradley MLA  
Mr John Dallat MLA  
Mr Harry Harvey MLA  
Mr William Irwin MLA

Apologies: Mr John Blair MLA

In attendance: Ms Stella McArdle, Committee Clerk  
Ms Elaine Farrell, Assistant Assembly Clerk  
Ms Marion Johnson, Clerical Supervisor  
Mr Thomas Coogan, Clerical Officer

*10.02 a.m. The meeting commenced in Closed Session.*

The Chairperson provided an overview of the running order for the meeting.

*10.09 a.m. The meeting moved in Open Session.*

**1. Apologies**

As above.

**2. Draft Minutes**

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting held on 21 January 2020.

**3. Departmental briefing on Statutory Rules from the Food and Farming Group**

The following departmental officials joined the meeting at 10.12 a.m.

Norman Fulton, Deputy Secretary, Head of Food and Farming  
Stephen Johnston, Grade 7, Agri-Food Policy II  
John Terrington, Grade 7, Agri-Food Brexit Policy II  
Nichola Connery, Grade 7, Agri-Food Policy 1

The officials briefed the Committee and this was followed by a question and answer session.

*Mr Irwin joined the meeting at 10.22 a.m.*

**4. SR 2018/18: the Areas of Natural Constraint Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018**

The Committee considered The Areas of Natural Constraint Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018 which allows the Department to pay Areas of Natural Constraint allowances to eligible claimants, define conditions such as eligibility, exclusions, timing of notifications, interest calculations, debt arrangements etc.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2018/18: The Areas of Natural Constraint Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**5. SR 2018/122: The Common Agricultural Policy Basic Payment and Support Schemes (Revocation) Regulations (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Common Agricultural Policy Basic Payment and Support Schemes (Revocation) Regulations (NI) 2018 which revokes Regulation 11 of the Common Agricultural Basic Payment and Support Schemes Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (Active Farmers).

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2018/18: The Areas of Natural Constraint Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.



**6. SR 2018/191: The Beef and Veal Labelling (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Beef and Veal Labelling (Amendment) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2018 that will provide enforcement powers for EU legislation dealing with mandatory and voluntary labelling of beef and veal. The voluntary labelling requirements were removed from the EU Regulations in 2014 and now fall under the general labelling principles of the Provision of Food information to Consumers Regulations, which is now the responsibility of the Food Standards Agency. The amendment will reflect this change and remove the enforcement provisions.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2018/191: The Beef and Veal Labelling (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2018 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**7. SR 2018/216: The Carcase Classification and Price Reporting Regulations (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Carcase Classification and Price Reporting Regulations (NI) 2018, which is required to implement EU Regulation 1308/2016 regarding the Union scales for the classification of beef, pig and sheep carcasses and the reporting of marketing prices. DAERA inspectors in meat plants will also require legislative powers to enter the premises and to implement controls and these need to be made before the UK leaves the EU and references to out of date EU legislation will be corrected.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2018/216: The Carcase Classification and Price Reporting Regulations (NI) 2018 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**8. SR 2019/11: The Agriculture (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Agriculture (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (NI) 2019, which updates references that are required before the UK leaves the EU before the power to do so under Section 2(2) of the European Communities 1972 (ECA) are revoked by the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018 on EU Exit Day.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/11: The Agriculture (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**9. SR 2019/16: The Residues (Charges and Examination) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Residues (Charges and Examination) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 which makes minor amendments to update EU references before the power to do so under Section 2(2) of the European Communities 1972 (ECA) are revoked by the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018 on EU Exit Day.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/16: The Residues (Charges and Examination) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**10. SR 2019/66: The Marketing of Bananas Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Marketing of Bananas Regulations (NI) 2019 which provide DAERA with the powers to enforce EU Regulation 1333/2011, which lays down marketing standards for bananas and rules on the verification of compliance with those marketing standards before exit from the EU, which at the time set was 29 March 2019, when the power to do would be repealed by the European Union (Withdrawal Act) 2018.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/66: The Marketing of Bananas Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**11. SR 2019/67: The Equine Identification Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Equine Identification Regulations (NI) 2019, which will be the introduction of a time limit for submitting an application for a horse passport and the requirements for updating passport information with associated penalties.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/67: The Equine Identification Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the



Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**12. SR 2019/85: The Common Agricultural Policy (Review of Decisions) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Common Agricultural Policy (Review of Decisions) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 which will amend The Common Agricultural Policy (Review of Decisions) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2015 (SR 2015/318).

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/85: The Common Agricultural Policy (Review of Decisions) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**13. SR 2019/210: The Eggs and Chicks and Poultrymeat (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Eggs and Chicks and Poultrymeat (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 which will update minor amendments to out-of-date EU references before the power to do so under Section 2(2) of the European Communities Act 1972 are revoked by the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/210: The Eggs and Chicks and Poultrymeat (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**14. Departmental briefing on the remaining backlog of Statutory Rules from the Veterinary Service and Animal Health Group**

The following Departmental officials joined the meeting at 10.38 a.m. to from the Veterinary Service and Animal Health Group:

Robert Huey, Grade 3, Chief Veterinary Officer  
Naomi Callaghan, Grade 6, EU Transition and Legislation Branch  
Chris Andrews, Grade 7, Animal Identification and Welfare Branch  
Anne Loughran, Grade 7, Animal Health Strategy and TSE Branch  
Ignatius McKeown, Grade 7, Epizootic Disease, TSE and Animal By-Products.

The officials briefed the Committee and this was followed by a question and answer session.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to consider a briefing in due course on animal welfare in light of the recent high profile incident in Cloughmills.

**15. SR 2019/82: The Animal Health and Welfare (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Animal Health and Welfare (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 that amends out-of-date EU and domestic legislation as it has been revoked, replaced or amended. This will accurately reflect the most updated position prior to the conversion into UK law following the EU (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/82: The Animal Health and Welfare (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**16. SR 2019/197: The Animal Health and Welfare (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Animal Health and Welfare (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 2019 which will make minor miscellaneous amendments to Northern Ireland legislation to deal with out-of-date EU references in order to accurately reflect the correct version of EU law before conversion into UK law to allow it to function effectively.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/197: The Animal Health and Welfare (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

**17. SR 2018/204: The Zootechnical Standards Regulations (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Zootechnical Standards Regulations (NI) 2018, which will make provision to implement Regulation (EU) 2016/1012 of the European Parliament and of the Council in Northern Ireland to cover promotion and production of livestock with particular genetic characteristics by setting standards for the breeding of these animals. It also imposes a requirement for controls and checks on the activities of recognised breed



societies in the UK (including Northern Ireland) to ensure consistent application of the rules.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2018/204: The Zootechnical Standards Regulations (NI) 2018 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rule report had no objection to the Rule.

#### **18. SR 2018/213: The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (NI) 2018, which replaces and updates the previous domestic legislation, The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2010 to clarify policy, operational and technical changes.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2018/213: The Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (NI) 2018 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

#### **19. SR 2019/227: The Official Controls (Animals, Feeds and Food) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Official Controls (Animals, Feeds and Food) Regulations (NI) 2019, which supports the implementation of the animal health and welfare aspects of the Official Controls Regulations and replaces the Official Controls (Animals, Feeds and Food) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2007.

*Agreed:* The Committee considered SR 2019/227: The Official Controls (Animals, Feeds and Food) Regulations (NI) 2019 and subject to the Examiner of Statutory Rules report had no objection to the Rule.

#### **20. Departmental briefing on remaining backlog of Statutory Rules**

The following officials joined the meeting at 11.01 a.m.

Paul Donnelly, Grade 5, Director of Rural Affairs

Niall Heaney, Grade 7, Sustainable Rural Communities Branch

The officials briefed the Committee and this was followed by a question and answer session.

**21. SR 2017/78 (C.7): The Rural Needs (2016 Act) (Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2017**

*Noted:* The Committee noted SR 2017/78 (C.7): The Rural Needs (2016 Act) (Commencement No. 1) Order (Northern Ireland) 2017 that is not subject to Committee approval.

**22. SR 2018/115 (C.10): The Rural Needs (2016 Act) Commencement No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2018**

*Noted:* The Committee noted SR 2018/115 (C.10): The Rural Needs (2016 Act) Commencement No.2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2018 that is not subject to Committee approval.

*Noted:* The Committee noted that an update on the Rural Needs Act would likely be available in the next few months.

The following officials joined the meeting at 11.07 a.m.

John Joe O'Boyle, Grade 5, Chief Executive Forest Service  
Jim Crummie, Grade 6, Director of Plant Health  
Diane Steenson, Grade 7, Plant Health Policy Branch

*Agreed:* The Committee noted that some of the Statutory Rules for consideration had subsequently been revoked. The Committee agreed to defer consideration of all the Statutory Rules in this group until clarification has been received.

**23. SR 2017/086: The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2017**

The Committee The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2017 which amends the existing implementation of Directive 2011/92/EU on the assessment of the effects of certain public and private projects on the environment ("EIA Directive").



It brings into effect Directive 2014/52/EU amending Directive 2011/92/EU ("2014 Directive"), which amends the EIA Directive.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2017/086: The Environmental Impact Assessment (Forestry) (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2017 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

#### **24. SR 2017/119: The Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material Regulations (NI) 2017**

The Committee considered the Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material Regulations (NI) 2017, which will implement Council Directive 2008/90 /EC on the marketing of fruit plant propagating material, and fruit plants intended for fruit production. It also implements the Commission Implementing Directive 2014/96/EU, 2014/97/EU and 2014/98/EU.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2017/119: The Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material Regulations (NI) 2017 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

#### **25. SR 2018/183: The Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2018 which amends the Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1999 (S.R. 1999 No. 502) which implements Council Directive 1998/56/EC and sets out the marketing requirements for ornamental plant propagating material. It implements Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2018/484 which sets out additional marketing requirements for certain species of Palmae (palms, including trees) to prevent infestation of the harmful organism *Rhychophorus ferrugineus* (Olivier), also known as red palm weevil.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2018/183: The Marketing of Ornamental Plant Propagating Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2018 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

## **26. SR 2018/184: The Plant Health Order (NI) 2018**

The Committee considered The Plant Health Order (NI) 2018 which consolidates with amendments the Plant Health Order (Northern Ireland) 2006 (S.R. 2006 No. 82) which contains measures to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful plant pests and diseases and the Plant Health (Phytophthora ramorum) Order (Northern Ireland) 2005 (S.R. 2005 No. 23) which contains measures to prevent the introduction and spread of Phytophthora ramorum and various amendments to those Orders.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2018/184: The Plant Health Order (NI) 2018 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

## **27. SR 2019/41: The Plant Health and Seeds (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health and Seeds (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (NI) 2019, which make necessary amendments in order to update out of date legislative references within domestic legislation. The amendments will be made under existing powers in the European Communities Act 1972 prior to EU exit day. The amendments are minor and technical and do not involve implementing any new policy.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/41: The Plant Health and Seeds (Miscellaneous Amendments) Regulations (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

## **28. SR 2019/49: The Plant Health (Amendment) Order (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Amendment) Order (NI) 2019 which amends the Plant Health Order (Northern Ireland) 2018 (S.R. 2018 No. 184) ("the principal Order") which contains measures to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful plant pests and diseases. It extends current measures to protect against the introduction of *Xylella fastidiosa* from the EU following findings on olive trees in Belgium, implements the specific control measures in Commission Implementing Decisions (EU) 2018/1503 and (EU) 2018/1511, removes provisions relating to Commission Implementing Decisions 2014/237/EU and (EU) 2015/1849 which are no longer in force and updates the principal Order to clarify all the material that is subject to import checks



*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/49: The Plant Health (Amendment) Order (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

**29. SR 2019/50: The Forest Reproductive Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Forest Reproductive Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 which amends The Forest Reproductive Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2002 (S.R. 2002 No. 404) which make provisions for the approval of basic material for use in the production of forest reproductive material which may be marketed in Northern Ireland.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/50: The Forest Reproductive Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

**30. SR 2019/73: The Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) Regulations (NI) 2019 which revoke and replace the Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Wood and Bark) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005. Under Directive 2000/29/EC member States are required to charge fees to cover the costs of documentary, identity and plant health checks of certain imports of plants, plant products and other objects from third countries. The Directive contains a procedure for setting reduced rates of inspection for imports of plants, plant products and for charging fees at a proportionally reduced rate.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/73: The Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) Regulations (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

**31. SR 2019/99: The Plant Health (Wood and Bark) (Amendment) Order (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Wood and Bark) (Amendment) order (NI) 2019 which revokes and replaces the Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2005 and the Plant Health (Import Inspection Fees) (Wood and Bark) Regulations (Northern

Ireland) 2005. Under Directive 2000/29/EC member States are required to charge fees to cover the costs of documentary, identity and plant health checks of certain imports of plants, plant products and other objects from third countries. The Directive contains a procedure for setting reduced rates of inspection for imports of plants, plant products and for charging fees at a proportionally reduced rate.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/99: the Plant Health (Wood and Bark) (Amendment) Order (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

### **32. SR 2019/151: The Plant Health (Amendment No.2) Order (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Amendment No.2) Order (NI) 2019 which amends the Plant Health Order (Northern Ireland) 2018 (S.R. 2018 No. 184) ("the principal Order") which contains measures to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful plant pests and diseases. It strengthens current measures to protect against the introduction of OPM into Northern Ireland following the finding of OPM caterpillars on oak trees imported into England from nurseries in the Netherlands and Germany.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/151: The Plant Health (Amendment No.2) Order (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

### **33. SR 2019/160: The Plant Health (Amendment No. 3) Order (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Amendment No. 3) Order (NI) 2019 which amends the Plant Health Order (Northern Ireland) 2018 (S.R. 2018 No. 184) ("the principal Order") which contains measures to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful plant pests and diseases. It implements the specific control measures in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2019/449 and Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/523.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/160: The Plant Health (Amendment No. 3) Order (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

### **34. SR 2019/161: The Marketing of Plant and Propagating Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019**



The Committee considered The Marketing of Plant and Propagating Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 which amends the Marketing of Vegetable Plant Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1995 and the Marketing of Fruit Plant and Propagating Material Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2017 to provide that the Department may authorise the marketing of plant material from any country outside the European Union if satisfied that the plant material has been produced under conditions equivalent to those required by the Regulations in each case.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/161: The Marketing of Plant and Propagating Material (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

**35. SR 2019/162: The Plant Health (Wood and Bark) (Amendment No.2) Order (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Wood and Bark) (Amendment No.2) Order (NI) 2019 which amends the Plant Health (Wood and Bark) Order (Northern Ireland) 2006 (S.R. 2006 No. 66) ("the principal Order") which contains measures to prevent the introduction and spread of harmful plant pests and diseases. It implements the specific control measures in Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1503, Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2018/1959 and Commission Implementing Directive (EU) 2019/523.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/162: The Plant Health (Wood and Bark) (Amendment No.2) Order (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

**36. SR 2019/230: The Plant Health (Official Controls and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations (NI) 2019**

The Committee considered The Plant Health (Official Controls and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations (NI) 2019, which will implement the new EU Plant Health Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2016/2031) and the plant health elements of the new Official Controls Regulation (Regulation (EU) 2017/625) and associated tertiary legislation, which applies from 14 December 2019.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to defer consideration of SR 2019/230: The Plant Health (Official Controls and Miscellaneous Provisions) Regulations (NI) 2019 until the meeting on 30 January 2020.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to request a written briefing on the work of Forest Service and its remit for consideration at a future date.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to request a written update on the work of Forest Service with community groups and Local Authorities including future plans.

### **37. Correspondence**

The Committee noted the following reports:

- i. ISNI Investing Activity Report January 2017.
- ii. NI Executive Office Brussels Report: November 2016-June 2018.
- iii. The Northern Ireland Environment Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17.
- iv. DAERA Annual Reports and Accounts 2016/17.
- v. Forest Service Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17.
- vi. Committee on Climate Change Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17.
- vii. Criminal Justice Inspection Northern Ireland Inspection Reports of the DAERA Fraud Investigations and Enforcement Activities.
- viii. Drinking Water Inspectorate for Northern Ireland Drinking Water Quality report for 2015.
- ix. Gangmasters Licensing Authority Annual Report and Accounts.
- x. AFBI Annual Report and Accounts 2016/17.
- xi. The Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland 2018
- xii. DAERA Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture for 2018.
- xiii. Loughs Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2015.
- xiv. DAERA NI Agri-Food Sector – key statistics June 2017.
- xv. Committee on Climate Change report on Reducing Emissions and Preparing for Climate Change: 2017.
- xvi. Loughs Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2016.
- xvii. DAERA Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland June 2017.
- xviii. DAERA Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 2017.
- xix. DAERA Report of Proceedings of the Agricultural Wages Board for the two years ended 31 December 2017.
- xx. Northern Ireland Environment Agency Annual Report and Accounts 2017/18.
- xxi. Committee on Climate Change Reducing UK Emissions – 2018 progress.



- xxii. Forest Service Annual Report and Accounts 2017/18.
- xxiii. DAERA Departmental Annual Report and Accounts 2017/18.
- xxiv. Committee on Climate Change Annual Report and Accounts 2017/18.
- xxv. AFBI Annual Report 2016/17.
- xxvi. NIAO Eradicating Bovine TB in Northern Ireland in 2018.
- xxvii. Loughs Agency Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 December 2017.
- xxviii. DAERA Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report 1 June 2017-31 March 2018.
- xxix. DAERA Report on the Creation of a Network of Conservation Sites in the Northern Ireland Inshore Region for 2019.
- xxx. DAERA Departmental Response to NIAO Report Recommendations in 2019 on "Eradicating Bovine TB in Northern Ireland".
- xxxi. NIHRC Annual Statement 2018.
- xxxii. DAERA College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise Review of Higher Education Tuition Fees: Stakeholder Engagement.
- xxxiii. DAERA: The Agricultural Census in Northern Ireland: Results for 2018.
- xxxiv. DAERA Statistical Review of Northern Ireland Agriculture 2018
- xxxv. AFBI Annual Report and Accounts 2017/18.
- xxxvi. NIEA Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31 March 2019.
- xxxvii. Forest Service Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19.
- xxxviii. DAERA Departmental Annual Report and Accounts 2018/19.
- xxxix. Committee on Climate Change Reducing UK Emissions 2019 progress report to Parliament.
- xl. DAERA NI Agri-Food Sector Key Statistics July 2019
- xli. DAERA Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaption Programme 2019-2024.
- xlii. DAERA Review of the Northern Ireland Carrier Bag Levy.
- xliii. DAERA Rural Needs Annual Monitoring Report 1 April 2018-31 March 2019.
- xliv. AFBI 2018/19 Annual Report and Statement of Account

The Committee noted the following NI Environment Agency Charging Schemes:

- i. Waste Management Charging (NI) Scheme 2017 and 2018.
- ii. Water (NI) Order 1999 Fees and Charges to Recover the Cost of Processing Discharge Consent Applications and the Monitoring of

discharges to Waterways and Underground Strata 1 April 2017 and 1 April 2018

- iii. The Water Abstraction and Impoundment (Licensing) Regulations (NI) 2017 (Fees and Charges).
- iv. The Pollution Prevention and Control (Industrial Emissions Charging Scheme (NI) 2017 and 2018.
- v. The Greenhouse Gas Emissions Charging Scheme (NI) 2017 and 2018
- vi. The Radioactive Substances (Fees and Charges) Scheme (NI) 2017 and 2018.
- vii. The Pollution Prevention and Control (District Councils) Charging Scheme (NI) 2017.
- viii. The Water Abstraction and Impoundment (Licensing) Regulations (NI) 2018 (Fees and Charges).
- ix. NIEA Fees and Charges Schemes 2019-20.

The Committee noted the following consultation documents that had been issued by DAERA:

- i. Consultation on proposed consolidated private water supplies regulations 2017.
- ii. Consultation on the transposition of the medium combustion plant directive 2017 (1-50 megawatts) including the regulation of thermal electricity generators.
- iii. Consultation on revised requirements for radiological protection: regulation of public exposures and the justification of practices 2017.
- iv. Consultation on proposed amendments to UK waste electrical and electronic equipment regulations 2013.
- v. Consultation on the proposed amendments to the Department's response to the TBSPG's.
- vi. Consultation on proposals to amend the Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies Regulations (NI) 2018;
- vii. Consultation on Stakeholder engagement for NI future agricultural policy framework.
- viii. Consultation on draft fluorinated greenhouse gases (Amendment) Regulations (NI) 2018.
- ix. Consultation on the Round 3 Industry Noise Action Plan.

The Committee agreed to consider the following items of correspondence at a future meeting:

- i. Correspondence from SD Little in respect of local authorities approach to recycling crisp packets.
- ii. Correspondence from Planet Earth in respect of global warming and threat to wildlife.



### **38. Forward Work Programme**

The Committee agreed to invite the following organisations to brief the Committee at a future meeting:

- i. Ulster Farmers' Union.
- ii. Northern Ireland Producers Association.
- iii. Northern Environment Link.
- iv. Council for Nature Conservation and the Countryside.
- v. Rural Community Network.
- vi. Rural Action.
- vii. Rural Community Development Support Services.
- viii. Northern Ireland Women's Network.
- ix. WRAP (NI).
- x. Local Government (Domestic Waste).
- xi. Chartered Institute of Waste Management.
- xii. Anglo Northern Irish Fish Producer Organisation.
- xiii. Northern Ireland Fish Producers Organisation.
- xiv. Ulster Angling Federation (Inland Fisheries).
- xv. Young Farmers Club of Ulster.
- xvi. AFBI.
- xvii. Loughs Agency.
- xviii. Northern Ireland Meat Exporters Association.
- xix. Dairy UK.
- xx. Livestock and Meat Commission

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to host a stakeholder event for rural community groups immediately after one of the Committee meetings.

*Agreed:* The Committee agreed to a visit before Easter recess to a venue to be brought forward by the clerk at the next meeting.

### **39. AOB**

There was no other business.

### **40. Date, time and place of the next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs will take place on Thursday 30 January 2020 at 10.00 a.m. in Room 30.

11.54 a.m. The meeting adjourned.

Declan McAleer

Declan McAleer, Chairperson, Committee for Agriculture and Rural Development

6 Feb 2020

Date