



Northern Ireland  
Assembly

**Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs**

Mr Michael Oliver  
Departmental Assembly Liaison Officer,  
Office of the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and  
Rural Affairs (Assembly Section),  
Room 427,  
Dundonald House,  
Ballymiscaw,  
Belfast, BT4 3SB

07 October 2021

Dear Michael,

**THE HORSE RACING (AMENDMENT) BILL**

I write further to the meeting of the Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (AERA) on 07 October 2021, where the Committee undertook deliberations and clause-by-clause decision-making on the above legislation.

I would like to thank Department Officials for attending and assisting the Committee in this process.

The Committee agreed to seek clarity from the Department on the feasibility of facilitating “outstanding” allocations from the Fund to horse racecourses that have been unable to apply in 2019 and 2020, due to the legislative anomalies of the 1990 Order.

It would be helpful if the Department could confirm whether this could be achieved through the Bill as drafted, or what alternative route may be available, such as a racecourse operator making a larger application to cover loss of income in previous years, after the Bill has been given Royal Assent.

I would be grateful please if you could forward this letter to colleagues and for return of the Department’s considerations on this as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely

**Nick Henry**  
**Clerk, Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs**