



**Northern Ireland  
Assembly**

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

Room 285  
Parliament Buildings  
Ballymiscaw  
Stormont

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**From:** Dr Janice Thompson  
Clerk to the Committee

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> February 2025

**To:** Emer Boyle,  
Clerk to the Committee for Communitates

**Subject:** LCM – Employment Rights Bill – Gangmaster and Labour Abuse  
Authority

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Emer,

At its meeting on the 20th February the Committee for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs received an oral briefing from DAERA & DFC officials, regarding the above LCM.

The Committee noted that it had considered correspondence on 19 November from DAERA regarding the Employment Rights Bill and the LCM.

It then considered a further update from DAERA on the matter at its meeting on 23 January, which led to the Committee request for the oral briefing.

The Minister's correspondence indicated that he had requested an amendment to the Bill, due to his concern that Part 2 of Schedule 4 confers a power on the Secretary of State, to amend relevant labour market legislation set out in Part 1 of Schedule 4.

Minister Muir had requested that the Employment Rights Bill is amended to address this issue, thereby giving assurance that this power will not be exercisable in the absence of NI Executive approval.

The Officials confirmed yesterday that the UK Government has agreed to this amendment and the Committee is content that the LCM proceeds.

Regards,

**Dr Janice Thompson  
Committee Clerk**