



Northern Ireland
Assembly

Research and Information Service Briefing Note

Paper 00/000

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Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee

Quarterly Status Update

Proposed REPLACEMENT ACT

COM(2023) 411: Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation (EU) 2017/625

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This information is provided to Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) in support of their duties, and is not intended to address the specific circumstances of any particular individual. It should not be relied upon as professional legal advice, or as a substitute for it.

1. Background

At its meeting on Thursday 8 May 2025, the DSC made a decision to monitor the EU's [Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on plants obtained by certain new genomic techniques and their food and feed, and amending Regulation \(EU\) 2017/625 \(COM\(2023\) 411 final\)](#)

The proposal aims to update the existing regulatory framework established by Regulation (EU) 2017/6254 for plants obtained by novel genomic techniques, such as targeted mutagenesis and cisgenesis, as well as their food and feed products. It was developed in response to an EU Commission study¹ on the status of new genomic techniques under Union law and in light of a EU Court of Justice ruling² which brought greater legal clarity regarding the status of new genomic techniques.

Members will be aware that the UK Government provided an [Explanatory Memorandum](#) on the proposal in August 2023 and both [DAERA](#) and the [Food Standards Agency](#) (FSA) provided an Initial Impact Assessment at the DSC's meeting on Thursday 8 May 2025.

The proposal is following the “ordinary legislative procedure” under the Lisbon Treaty.

2. Quarterly Status Update

On the 24 April 2024 the European Parliament adopted its [first reading position](#) on the proposed regulation while the Council adopted its [mandate for negotiation](#) on 7 March 2025. Informal negotiations (trilogues) between the two institutions started on 6 May 2025, however, the second trilogue, initially scheduled for 30 June 2025, was postponed, and is expected to be rescheduled for late September

¹ SWD (2021) 92 final. [Study on the status of new genomic techniques under Union law and in light of the Court of Justice ruling in Case C-528/16](#). EU Commission Staff Working Document. (EU Commission, 2021)

² Finair Oyj v Keskinäinen Vakuutusyhtiö Fennia. [Case C-258/16](#)

2025. Negotiations will continue in trilogues with the aim of reaching an early second reading agreement on the proposal.

Any resulting compromise would need to be approved by the European Parliament and by the Council. If successful, the Council would adopt the compromise text as its Common position (first reading position) during Q4 of 2025 and the proposal would be sent to the European parliament for approval in November or December 2025. Once adopted, the Regulation would enter into force following its publication in the EU Official Journal.

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