

Catherine Fisher
Director of Windsor Framework
Implementation Directorate



Department of
**Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs**

An Roinn

**Talmhaíochta, Comhshaoil
agus Gnóthaí Tuaithe**

Department o'

**Fairmin, Environment
an' Kintra Matthers**

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Your Reference: DSC 85/26

3 August 2026

Dear Marie,

COM/2024/577 - Proposal amending Regulations (EU) No 1308/2013, (EU) 2021/2115 and (EU) 2021/2116 as regards the strengthening of the position of farmers in the food supply chain

Thank you for your letter of 5 June 2026 regarding COM/2024/577 and for conveying the views expressed by Members of the Windsor Framework Democratic Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on 4 June.

I note the Committee's concerns regarding the level of information provided in DAERA's previous response, including the absence of specific data in some cases and the position on stakeholder engagement.

Following the publication of Regulation 2026/1739 in the EU Official Journal on 29th July, and per the Committee's request of 30th July, please now find enclosed a Revised Assessment of Impact on this Regulation for Members' attention. I trust that the information within this Assessment addresses Members' concerns, however DAERA officials will endeavour to provide further information as necessary, as part of their oral testimony to Committee on Thursday 6th August.

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In relation to engagement on this specific Regulation, DAERA can confirm it engaged with both Defra and Food Standards Agency colleagues on this text whilst it was still at Proposal stage. This engagement will now recommence following publication of the final, agreed Regulation.

As outlined in the accompanying Revised Assessment of Impact, DAERA will also now commence engagement with relevant stakeholders on this Regulation, including farming, food and retail interests.

More generally, I would like to assure Members that DAERA recognises the importance of providing robust and comprehensive information to the Committee, and the Department always strives to do so when this is available. To this end, the Department is currently considering how it can more pro-actively engage with stakeholders who may have an interest in, or whom may be affected by proposed EU Regulations that may apply in Northern Ireland under the Windsor Framework.

We will revert to Committee with more details on this in due course.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C Fisher'.

CATHERINE FISHER
Director of Windsor Framework Implementation Directorate