

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON THURSDAY 18 OCTOBER 2007 AT 10.00AM AT LISSUE HOUSE.

Present

Mr O Brennan (Chairman)
Mrs P Kane
Mr G McCollum
Mr N McLaughlin
Mr J McGaughey
Mr R Watson

In attendance

Mr D Rutledge
Miss S Blain
Dr M Tempest

2007/10/1 Apology

Apologies for non-attendance had been received from Mr C Tweedie

2007/10/2 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 19 September 2007, taken as read, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr G McCollum
Seconded: Mr R Watson

2007/10/03 Matters Arising

I. FVO Report

The Technical Director reported that Commissioner Kyprianou was delaying publication of the report until he had made his decision. Indications were that this would be by the end of the year.

Action Point: The Board agreed to ask NI MEP's to pursue this through the European parliament and copy correspondence to Minister and Chair of Agriculture Committee. The Chief Executive will draft correspondence for Board approval.

Action Point: The Board also agreed that the Chairman would table the issue at the next Task Force meeting.

II. VRC Report

The Technical Director circulated a draft letter to the Chairman of VRC regarding its recent report and the lack of funding available for testing.

Action Point: Following some minor amendments to the draft the Board approved the letter for signature by the Technical Director.

III. Invest NI

The Chief Executive reported on the Invest NI reception at Anuga and his concern at the announcement regarding “Good Food is in Our Nature”. He had expressed his concerns informally to the Chairman of Invest NI at the event.

Action Point: The Board reviewed a draft letter to the Chairman of Invest NI reiterating LMC’s concerns. The Board approved the letter for signature by the Chief Executive.

CORE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NOTING

2007/10/04 Marketing Report

The report was noted.

I. Anuga

The Board congratulated all staff involved in the excellent stand at Anuga.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will communicate the Board’s comments to the marketing department and arrange for the rest of the organisation to be informed about the Anuga event.

II. Marketing Manager

Action Point: The Board agreed to invite the Marketing Manager to future Board Meetings.

2007/10/5 Technical Report

The report was noted.

I. Veterinary Advisor

Action Point: The Board requested that the Veterinary Advisor attend a future Board meeting at which any veterinary issues can be addressed. The Chief Executive will arrange.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AND APPROVAL

2007/10/6 *[WITHHELD – COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE]*

2007/10/7 **Electronic Identification**

The Board discussed the ‘user requirements’ document.

Action Point: The Board asked the Technical Director to clarify the need to remove old tags before inserting new ones, and whether an animal could be removed from lairage if electronic details do not match up.

2007/10/8 **Quarterly Business Monitor**

The business monitor was noted.

2007/10/9 **Open Day**

The Board reviewed the report on the Open Day.

Action Point: The Board requested that LMC redo the initial survey which led to the instigation of an open day, in order to evaluate its success in communicating with LMC’s stakeholders. The executive team will arrange.

FURTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NOTING

2007/10/10 **OCDS Causalities**

The Board noted the response received from Dr McKibben (DARD)

2007/10/11 **Notes from Executive Committee Meeting on 14 September 2007**

[WITHHELD – COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE]

[WITHHELD – COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE]

2007/10/12 Reports

The following reports were noted:
Classification Services
Agency Services
Financial Report

OTHER BUSINESS

2007/10/13 Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed that the date of the next meeting of the Commission would be on 21 November 2007 at 9.30am.

2007/10/14 Any Other Business

I. Review Strategic Plan

Action Point: The Board agree to hold a review of the strategic plan immediately following the next Board meeting.

II. DARD Attendance

The Chief Executive reported that Mr J Speers (DARD) will attend the next Board meeting.

III. Christmas Dinner

Action Point: The Board agree to host a staff Christmas lunch on 19 December 2007.