

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY 19
SEPTEMBER 2007 AT 10.00AM AT LISSUE HOUSE.**

Present

Mr J McGaughey (Acting Chairman)
Mr G McCollum
Mr N McLaughlin
Mr J McGaughey
Mr C Tweedie
Mr R Watson

In attendance

Mr D Rutledge
Miss S Blain
Dr M Tempest

2007/09/1 Apology and welcome

Apologies for non-attendance had been received from Mr O Brennan and Mrs P Kane

Mr D Gray joined the meeting at 10.10am

2007/09/2 Audit Committee

The Chairman of the audit committee reported to the Board on matters discussed at the recent audit committee meeting.

Action Point: The Board approved the adoption of the revised terms of reference for the audit committee.

Proposed: Mr R Watson

Seconded: Mr N McLaughlin

Action Point: The Board agreed to maintain the current timetable for the preparation of annual accounts and external audit.

Mr D Gray left the meeting at 10:30am.

2007/09/3 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 August 2007, taken as read, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr N McLaughlin

Seconded: Mr G McCollum

2007/09/04 Matters Arising

None

CORE ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NOTING

2007/09/05 Marketing Report

The report was noted.

a) Anuga

The Chief Executive reported that Invest NI was hosting an additional event on the Tuesday evening at Anuga.

b) Invest NI

The Board was keen to encourage Invest NI's financial involvement in trade missions involving the NI red meat industry.

2007/09/6 Technical Report

The report was noted.

ITEMS FOR ACTION AND APPROVAL

2007/09/7 *[WITHHELD – COMMERCIALY SENSITIVE]*

2007/09/8 Electronic Identification

The Chief Executive reported that industry representatives had asked LMC to lead the process towards electronic identification.

Action Point: The Board agreed that LMC should support this initiative and facilitate the process.

2007/09/9 RPA Casualties

Action Point: The Board agreed that the Chief Executive should formally write to DARD highlighting LMC's concerns regarding the suspected fraudulent presentation of casualty animals.

2007/09/10 Risk Register

The draft risk register will be considered at the next audit committee meeting.

Action Point: The Board approved the content of the revised draft risk register.

Mr G McCollum left the meeting at 1pm.

2007/09/11 Equality-Disability Action Plan

Action Point: The Board approved the document for signature by the Chairman and Chief Executive.

FURTHER ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND NOTING

2007/09/12 FSA Letter

Further correspondence from FSA had been circulated to the Board.

Action Point: The Board asked the Technical Director to establish when the next FVO report was due to be published.

Action Point: The Board asked the Chief Executive to draft a letter to DEFRA regarding the recent VMD report and the lack of funding available for testing. The draft letter should be included in Board papers for the next meeting.

2007/09/13 Reports

The following reports were noted:

Classification Services
Agency Services
Cattle and Sheep Marketings
Equality Commission Annual Report

OTHER BUSINESS

2007/09/14 Date of Next Meeting

Confirmed that the date of the next meeting of the Commission would be on 18th October 2007 at 10am.

2007/09/15 Any Other Business

The Board viewed a draft FSIP advert for the 'Good Food is In Our Nature' Campaign. The Chief Executive advised that the advert would be launched from January 2008.

The meeting ended at 1.35pm