

MINUTES

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON WEDNESDAY 23rd October 2013 AT 11.30AM AT LISSUE HOUSE

Present:

Mr P O'Rourke (Chairman)
Mrs M McCormack
Mr K Sharkey
Mr I Mark
Mr J Noble

In attendance:

Mr I Stevenson
Miss S Blain

2013/9/1 Apologies

An apology was received from Mr P O'Neill

2013/9/2 Minutes

The minutes of a Meeting held on 26 September 2013 were approved by the Commission, and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr J Noble
Seconded: Mr K Sharkey

2013/9/3 Matters arising

Withheld – Commercially Sensitive

(ii) DARD/LMC Joint Event

The DARD Minister has agreed to a short meeting with the LMC Board prior to the event.

Action Point: The Board will agree in advance, topics for discussion.

(iii) GB/NI Price Differential Project

The Chief Executive updated the Board on the progress of the project. The final report should be available in the next two to three weeks with a planned launch date before the DARD/LMC event on 27th November 2013 (providing outstanding data has been acquired, and the project steering group is content to sign-off).

Action Point: The Board agreed that the launch should be at Lissue House with key stakeholders, and the Agri-press invited. Oxford Economics will also provide a representative for the launch.

(iv) Red Meat Levies

The Chief Executive has sent the agreed response to the Minister of State for Agriculture and Food. There has been no further feedback regarding the first meeting of the AHDB forum.

(v) Live Export Levy

Action Point: The Board agreed to defer a decision until the next Board Meeting.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will ask DARD for guidance on activities which may be funded by a live export levy.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will seek to quantify the cost of DARD implementing export certificates.

(vi) Management Accounts

Action Point: The Board agreed to advise DARD of forecasted easements for year ended March 2014.

2013/9/4

Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on meetings he had attended since the last Board Meeting.

(i) Anuga 2013

The Chairman reported that he and the Chief Executive had very useful meetings and discussions on current issues, while attending Anuga 2013. A meeting with Mr O Patterson, Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs highlighted an action plan within Government for a major economic drive for food exports. A further meeting will be held in January 2014 to evaluate progress on export matters discussed at a red meat industry round table meeting on Sunday 6th October at Anuga.

Withheld – Commercially Sensitive

2013/9/5

Chief Executive's Report

(i) Meeting with HCC – 13th September 2013

Notes of a meeting held with HCC had been circulated to the Board.

(ii) NIFCC Board Representative

Action Point: The Board agreed not to exercise LMC's option to propose a LMC Director to the NIFCC Board at the NIFCC AGM on 25th October 2013.

2013/9/6 Audit Committee Meeting 23 October 2013

Mr J Noble (Audit Committee Chairman) updated the Board on the recent Audit Committee Meeting.

External Audit's final Report to Those Charged with Governance 2012/13 had been agreed, and Internal Audit 2013/14 is due to start week commencing 25 November 2013.

A new risk register had been discussed by the Audit Committee, and subject to a few amendments, would be presented to the Board for approval.

2013/9/7 Business Monitor (6 months to end of September 2013)

The Chief Executive highlighted the main activities in Quarter 2

Action Point: The Chief Executive will forward the Business Monitor to the DARD Sponsor Branch.

Mr I Mark raised the issue of Electronic Sheep Tagging (EID), and the very poor output information received from meat plants.

The Chief Executive that sheep producer groups have also approached LMC about this issue

Action Point: The Chief Executive will initiate staff engagement with processors to see if LMC can assist in helping to take this matter forward.

2013/9/8 Quarterly Reports from Business Sections

The reports had been circulated to the Board and were noted.

Managers were encouraged to directly address the Board on any issues that they felt needed further discussion.

2013/9/9 Senior Management Team Meeting Minutes – 7 August 2013

Noted.

2013/9/10 Any Other Business

(i) NIFCC Contract

The Chief Executive advised the Board that LMC and the FQAS Board has agreed the terms of a one year extension with NIFCC for the provision of certification services.

2013/9/11 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Board Meeting would be held at 1.30pm at Greenmount Campus on Wednesday 27th November 2013.

The meeting ended at 2.45pm