

**MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON
MONDAY 25 OCTOBER 2021 AT 10.30AM BY MS TEAMS**

Present:

Mr G McGivern (Chairman)
Mrs O Chesney
Mr J Lennon
Mr G Maguire
Mr H Sinclair
Mr J Stewart

In attendance:

Mr I Stevenson
Miss S Blain

2021/8/1 Apologies

None.

2021/8/2 Declaration of Interests Pertaining to Agenda Items for Discussion

The Board agreed that none of the agenda items required any Board members to abstain from discussions.

**Compliance with the Management Statement & Financial Memorandum,
Sponsor Manual and Managing Public Money NI**

Confirmed.

2021/8/3 Minutes of Commission Meeting Held on 26 July 2021

The minutes of a meeting, held on 26 July 2021, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr J Lennon
Seconded: Mr H Sinclair

Signed _____
Chairman

2021/8/4 Matters Arising

- **Conflict of Interest Forms**

Action Point: The Chief Executive will email any Board members who have yet to forward completed Conflict of Interest forms.

- **Board Succession**

The Chief Executive advised there had not been any further correspondence from DAERA regarding LMC's proposals regarding Board succession.

2021/8/5 Correspondence

The Board noted LMC's responses to AERA Committee's call for evidence on Climate Change No.2 Bill and also the TB Consultation.

2021/8/6 Chairman's Report

- **Balmoral Show-**

The Chairman thanked all the Board members who made themselves available to attend Balmoral Show. Visitor numbers met expectations. The Chairman commended the LMC team on the excellent stand which had proved attractive to visitors.

- **Virtual NIFDA Conference-** The Chairman had attended the virtual conference "Fresh Thinking for Future Growth". There had been a varied number of presentations.

- **Meeting with UFU** – The Board had had a positive meeting with UFU. The UFU was generally supportive of the concept for a sustainability/marketing body but had yet to formalise an official UFU policy position. They envisaged it having a wider remit that just red meat and dairy and if it is recommended in the Kendall Review it was important for industry to take ownership and make it happen reasonably quickly.

Action Point: The Chairman and Chief Executive will set up a meeting with NIMEA representatives.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will arrange a call with Dr Jonathan Birnie.

Signed _____
Chairman

Action Point: The Chief Executive will agree a tentative date with UFU and NIMEA to discuss the Kendall report.

2021/8/7 Chief Executive's Report

In advance of the meeting the Chief Executive had circulated a report relating to this section of the meeting.

- **Covid-19**

LMC continues to follow the Covid-19 pandemic guide to the coronavirus restrictions in Northern Ireland and the public health advice which states that in relation to work “you should work from home if that is possible”.

- *Withheld – Commercially Sensitive*

- **PGI for Irish Grass Fed Beef**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on the latest progress of the PGI application by Bord Bia. He outlined the broad steps that will be needed for Northern Ireland's inclusion in the application and confirmed that work is on-going at pace.

- **NIFCC Owners Representatives**

The Board agreed to nominate Mrs Chesney and Mr Stewart as the owners representatives from LMC to attend the NIFCC AGM on 5 November 2021.

- *Withheld – Commercially Sensitive*

- **BSE**

The Chief Executive provided an update on a recent case of BSE confirmed on a farm in Somerset, England. While the case does not affect the UK's ability to export beef to other countries it is obliged under international commitments to inform trading partners.

- **FQAS Board Meeting**

A copy of draft minutes of a meeting held on 16 September 2021 had been provided for information to the Board.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will check with DAERA on the progress of Certification Services Business Case.

Signed _____
Chairman

- **Livestock Genetics**

Action Point: The Board agreed in principle to provide financial support to help set up NewCo as a legal entity in order to receive government funding for the Livestock Genetics Improvement initiative. The financial support will be subject to affordability and also time limited.

2021/8/8 Risk Management/Health & Safety

- **Draft Internal Audit Review Terms of Reference for LMC for 2021/22**

Action Point: The ARAC Committee members approved the draft Internal Audit ToR for 2021/22.

- **Internal Business Cases**

The ARAC Committee had approved two internal business cases:
 -Development Support and Maintenance of the LMC Website (value £67k)
 -LMC Media Campaign (value £150k)

Action Point: The Board noted and confirmed approval of the business cases.

2021/8/9 Updated Policies and Procedures for Consideration and Approval

The following LMC policy had been updated:

- LMC Procurement Policy

Action Point: The Board approved the updated policy.

2021/8/10 LMC Business Monitor to end of Quarter 2 – for review and noting.

Noted.

2021/8/11 LMC Quarterly Section Reports for review and noting

Noted.

Signed _____
 Chairman

2021/8/12 Any Other Business

PGI Steering Group Report

Action Point: The Chief Executive will forward a copy of the PGI Steering Group report to Board members.

2021/8/13 Date of Next Meetings

A joint DAERA and LMC Board meeting will be held on Thursday 25 November 2021 at 2.00pm on Webex.

The next LMC Board meeting will be held on Thursday 25 November 2021 at 4pm on Microsoft Teams.

The Board meeting ended at 12.50pm

Signed _____
Chairman