

MINUTES

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY 26 JUNE 2013 AT 10.00AM AT LISSUE HOUSE

Present:

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

In attendance:

Mr I Stevenson
Miss S Blain

The Board had held a brief discussion before the Board Meeting without LMC management in attendance.

2013/6/1 Presentation of FQAS Advertising Campaign Evaluation

The Board had attended a presentation by the Industry Development Manager giving an evaluation of the recent FQAS Advertising Campaign. This had been a very useful update and had also indicated areas where LMC is planning to do further work.

2013/6/2 Apologies

None.

2013/6/3 Minutes

The minutes of a meeting held on 28 May 2013 were approved by the Commission, and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr J Noble
Seconded: Mrs M McCormack

2013/6/4 Matters arising

(i) Property – Asset Management Unit (AMU) in SIB

The Chief Executive has received an invitation to DARD Asset Management Plan meeting on 28 June 2013.

(ii) Food NI

Following the last Board Meeting the Chief Executive had advised Food NI of LMC's decision not to provide sponsorship for the World Police and Fire Games.

Since then LMC has provided resources for NI Open Farm Weekend.

(iii) Invest NI

The Chief Executive is still seeking to arrange a meeting with Acting Director of Food and Tourism Mr P McArdle.

(iv) GB/NI Price Differential Project

The Chief Executive reported that at its last meeting the Steering Group felt more work was needed on the draft report. *Withheld Commercially Sensitive.*

Action Point: The Board requested a presentation by the Economist of the draft/final report at the next Board Meeting.

(v) LMC Annual Report and Accounts 2012/2013

The Chief Executive advised that the ARA had been sent to the Minister for approval with a proposed laying date of 5 July 2013.

2013/6/5

Chairman's Report

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

(i) Recruitment of Board Member

The Chairman had circulated a copy of the advertisement for the recruitment of the new Board Member.

(ii) Agri-Food Strategy Board

The Chairman reported that he and the Chief Executive had attended the AFSB event for MLAs and Stakeholders held on 24 June 2013 at the Stormont Hotel. The Board will need to be pro-active as the AFSB report may have short, medium and long-term impact on LMC

Action Point: The Board agreed to invite the Chairman of the AFSB to the September 2013 Board Meeting. The Chief Executive will arrange.

2013/6/6 Chief Executive's Report

(i) LMC Risk Assessment

The Chief Executive updated the Board on a meeting held with DARD Finance & Sponsor Branch representatives. The risk assessment has been completed and returned to DARD.

2013/6/7 *Withheld Commercially Sensitive*

2013/6/8 *Withheld Commercially Sensitive*

2013/6/9 Review of Implementation Issues

The Chairman highlighted the main issues which should be progressed.

2013/6/10 Equal Opportunities Policy – Revised

Action Point: The Board approved the revised Equal Opportunities Policy.

2013/6/11 Notes of Senior Management Team Meetings –29 April & 7 June 2013

Noted.

2013/6/12 Any Other Business

(i) FQAS

Action Point: The Board requested that an analysis of the number and type of queries received by the Farm Liaison Officer should be compiled.

Action Point: The Board requested that confirmation of receipt of email evidence should be provided to farmers.

The Chief Executive will advise the Industry Development Manager.

(ii) CAP Reform

The Board recognised that NI will need to make serious decisions once the CAP reform is agreed. LMC will need to take a position on the potential impact of the CAP reform in consultation with other industry stakeholders.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will circulate a CAP reform summary document to the Board when available. Further Board discussion will be required.

(iii) Press Releases

The Chairman recommended that Board members should be circulated with advance copies of LMC press releases before they are published in the press.

Action Point: The Chief Executive will arrange.

2013/6/13 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next Board Meeting would be held at 10.00am at Lissie House on Wednesday 24th July 2013.

The meeting ended at 1.05pm