

**MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON TUESDAY  
27 JANUARY 2020 AT 10.00AM AT 1A LISSUE WALK, LISBURN**

**Present:**

Mr G McGivern (Chairman)  
Mrs O Chesney  
Mr G Maguire  
Mr P McElroy  
Mr H Sinclair

**In attendance:**

Mr I Stevenson  
Miss S Blain

**2020/1/1 Apologies**

An apology had been received from Mr J Lennon.

**2020/1/2 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.

**2020/1/3 Minutes of Commission Meeting Held on 17 December 2019**

The minutes of a meeting, held on 17 December 2019, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr P McElroy

Seconded: Mr G Maguire

**2020/1/4 Matters Arising**

➤ *Withheld – commercially sensitive*

➤ **DAERA/ALB Engagement Event**

The Chief Executive advised that DAERA had postponed the event.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

➤ **Board Member – Extension of Term**

An extension of 6 months to Mr McElroy’s second term as a Board member had been approved by the Minister. This will run until the end of July 2020.

**2020/1/5 Chairman’s Report**

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

➤ **Oxford Farming Conference**

The Chairman and the Chief Executive had attended this event. The science lecture had been given by Professor Alice Stanton from Devenish Nutrition. The conference had been a good opportunity to meet delegates from a wide range of sectors.

**Action Point:** The Chairman agreed to circulate a copy of Professor Stanton’s presentation on ‘Food Quality and Human Health – The Evidence’.

**2020/1/6 Chief Executive’s Report**

The Chief Executive referred Board members to the written report provided with the Board papers and highlighted a number of points:

➤ **Staff Recruitment & Retention**

The Board discussed the briefing paper circulated by the Chief Executive

**Action Point:** The Board agreed submit the 2019/2020 LMC pay remit in line with the Chief Executive’s proposal.

**2020/1/7** *Withheld – commercially sensitive*

**2020/1/6 (contd) Chief Executive’s Report**

➤ **LMC Suckler Beef and Sheep Study**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on current progress of the research project. The timing of the study could not be better with the new NI

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

Executive in place. The project is on course to be completed by end of February 2020.

➤ **Dairy Council Alternative Proposal for a NI Marketing Model**

Details of the alternative proposal had been circulated to the Board.

LMC's two major constituency representative organisations UFU and NIMEA, whilst not adopting the proposal, have agreed that there is merit in exploring it further as a potential option to table to government.

**Action Point:** The Board agreed that LMC will be led by the views of its stakeholders in any further development of the proposal.

➤ **Guild of Agricultural Journalists (GAJ) Visit to LMC**

The Chief Executive advised that LMC is delighted to host a large delegation of over 20 members of the GAJ for their next meeting on 28 Jan 2020. Members will be given an opportunity to learn about what the LMC team is doing to promote NI produce in the domestic markets and overseas.

➤ **Financial Update**

➤ The Chief Executive reported that LMC is largely on track to balance the budget at year end. *Withheld – commercially sensitive.*

**2020/1/8 3 Year LMC Strategy Development 2021-2024**

The Chief Executive advised that a draft business plan for 2020-21 would be presented at the next Board meeting for consideration by Board members. The senior management team felt it would be useful to have further discussions with the Board regarding the development of the next 3 year strategic plan.

**Action Point:** The Board agreed to meet with the senior management team to discuss and develop the future strategic direction of LMC. The Chief Executive will arrange a suitable date and venue.

**2020/1/9 Risk Management**

The ARAC Chairman reported that a business case for the development and launch of new advertising creative had been considered by the ARA Committee members and was approved subject to a few minor tweaks.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman

The Chief Executive raised a couple of issues regarding Lissue House.

**Action Point:** The Board agreed a number of actions relating to Lissue House.

**2020/1/10      Quarterly Business Monitor to December 2019**

Noted.

**2020/1/11      Quarterly Business Section Reports**

Noted.

**2020/1/12      Any Other Business**

None.

**2020/1/13      Date of Next Meetings**

The next meeting of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee will be held on 24 February 2020 at 10am at Lissue Walk immediately followed by a meeting of the Board at 11am.

*The Board meeting ended at 1.00pm.*

Signed \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman