

**MINUTES OF A REMOTE MEETING OF THE COMMISSION HELD ON MONDAY 26  
APRIL 2021 AT 10.00AM BY MS TEAMS**

**Present:**

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

**In attendance:**

Mr I Stevenson  
Miss S Blain

**2021/4/1 Apologies**

None.

**2021/4/2 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.

**2021/4/3 Minutes of Commission Meeting Held on 22 March 2021**

The minutes of a meeting, held on 22 March 2021, were approved by the Commission and signed by the Chairman.

Proposed: Mr J Lennon  
Seconded: Mrs O Chesney

**2021/4/4 Matters Arising**

- **LMC Policies Review Schedule**

The Chief Executive had circulated the LMC Policies Review Schedule to the Board.

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

**Action Point:** The Board agreed to continue the 3 yearly review of policies unless there was a statutory or regulatory requirement to review a policy earlier.

- **ARAC Minutes 24 March 2021**

A copy of the minutes of the ARAC meeting held on 24 March 2021 had been circulated to the Board.

The ARAC Chairman advised the final Internal Audit Report 2020-2021 had recorded a “satisfactory” opinion and that the External Audit Strategy 2020-2021 had been approved. This audit is due to commence on 4 May 2021.

## 2021/4/5 Chairman’s Report

The Chairman updated the Board on a number of current issues affecting LMC and the red meat industry and his participation in a series of meetings and events since the last meeting of the Board.

- Partnership Meeting with DAERA – This was really a rebooting of the discussions which had been delayed by Covid pandemic.
- LMC Staffing – The Board discussed the current structure and how to reduce the pressure on the staff.

**Action Point:** The Board agreed that the Chief Executive can recruit for a new position to relieve the pressure in the Industry Development Manager’s role.

**Action Point:** The Board also agreed to give the Chairman and Chief Executive flexibility to decide how to provide an acknowledgement to staff for their continued contribution to LMC.

## 2021/4/6 Chief Executive’s Report

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

- **Business Plan 2021-22**

The Chief Executive reported that new FQAS membership and throughput fees have been agreed with the industry. A new business plan and budget is being developed to incorporate the new fee rates.

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

**Action Point:** A draft business plan and budget will be available for the next Board meeting.

- **Livestock Genetics**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on a recent meeting of the working group to consider an Outline Business Case for the project. The consensus is that DAERA is keen to move it forward this year.

- **Grass Fed Beef & PGI Update**

The Chief Executive updated the Board on the discussions held separately with Bord Bia and DEFRA.

- **Staffing Situation**

See 2021/4/5 Chairman's Report.

- *Withheld – Commercially Sensitive*

**2021/4/7 FQAS Industry Board Update**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2021 had been circulated to the Board.

**2021/4/8 Climate Change Bill/s Update**

The UFU paper which provided a comparison between the two proposed climate Change bills had been circulated to Board members. The Board agreed that it was an excellent document and it was good to see that the red meat and wider agri-food industry was pulling together on this important issue. There is a fear that the decision to progress with the Private Members Climate Change Bill at the Assembly will be political and not evidence based.

**2021/4/9 LMC Board Self-Assessment 2020-21**

The Board completed the self-assessment document at the meeting.

**2021/4/10 Risk Management/Health & Safety**

Nothing to report.

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

**2021/4/11 Quarterly Business Monitor to year-end 31 March 2021**

The Board stated that it was excellent to be able to formally record that all the business plan outcomes had been achieved during such a difficult year.

**2021/4/12 Quarterly Section Reports**

Noted

**2021/4/13 Any Other Business****LMC Strategic Plan 2021 – 2024**

The Board noted the updates made to the draft Strategic Plan after the last meeting and agreed that there was no need to further consult with stakeholders on the plan which could now be formally submitted to DAERA for approval.

**2021/4/14 Date of Next Meeting**

The next Board meeting will be held on Monday 24 May 2021 at 10.00am on Microsoft Teams.

*The Board meeting ended at 12.30pm*

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