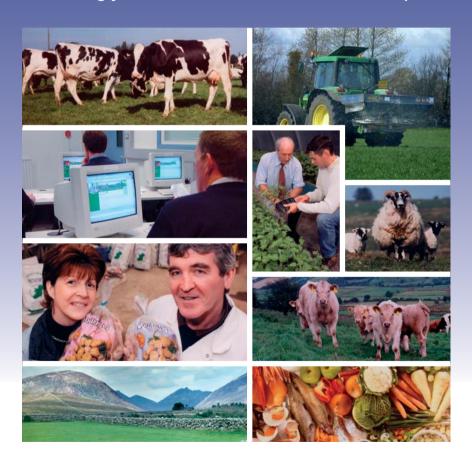
#### **At Your Service**

#### 2006 / 2007 Directory

Connecting you to our services and other contact points





# Nour Local Contact Numbers

#### **Your Local Contact Numbers**

	Telephone number / e-mail
Accountant	
Bank Manager	
Doctor	
Electricity	
Police	
Social Security Office	
Rural Connect Adviser - DARD	
Water Service	

#### **Foreword**

I commend this 2006/2007 edition of the 'At Your Service' booklet to farmers and farm families and to others associated with the agri-food industry.

It provides up to date contact points for the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) and other Government and Public support bodies and complements the DARD and RuralNI internet sites to help you access the information and support you are looking for.

There are challenges in the year ahead. Difficult decisions on how to deal with the Nitrates Directive, the new Single Farm Payment regime, meeting the needs of a competitive market place and the impact of a new Rural Development Programme. DARD staff are available to help you meet these challenges and opportunities.

We are committed to providing you with the best service and have started to develop the new DARD Direct project where services will be coordinated and enquiries resolved at first point of contact. This will be piloted at one DARD Office site this year and then rolled out across the country.

And if you are having problems in finding the information or contacts you need please feel free to contact our Rural Connect staff, based in your local DARD office and they will help you 'connect' to the appropriate service and support.

Pat Toal
Permanent Secretary
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

#### **What is Rural Connect?**

Rural Connect is the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (DARD) signposting service to help farmers and farm families identify funding and support and to provide information.

Rural Connect Advisers work to identify and meet the development needs of farmers and members of farm families linked to the strengthening of the rural economy and the development of the rural area.

Rural Connect aims to provide points of contact for those wishing to access DARD's services as detailed in this booklet. Our main emphasis is to direct farmers and farm families to the education, rural development, rural payments and environmental aspects of DARD's services. We have also included useful contact points for other groups and other Government Department services to complement the information available from DARD.

Farm family members, as individuals or groups, who wish to explore rural development opportunities should also contact their local Rural Connect Adviser who can discuss their idea or project and give advice on possible support.

Contact your Rural Connect Adviser at your local DARD office below.

Centre	Direct telephone number (028)
Antrim/Derry/Londonderry - Ballymena - Ballymoney - Magherafelt	2566 5722 2766 0111 7930 2101
Down/Armagh - Downpatrick - Newry - Armagh	4461 8082 3025 5912 3751 5622
Tyrone/Fermanagh - Omagh - Dungannon - Enniskillen	8225 3405 8775 4786 6634 3101 6634 3102

You may also contact Rural Connect via the e-mail on:

E-mail: rural.connect@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Other Information Points**

DARD Rural Portal Website Address: www.ruralni.gov.uk

RuralNI is the gateway to electronic information and services for Northern Ireland farmers and contains up to date information and services on such topics as livestock, grants and subsidies, APHIS Online, education, rural development and business as well as weather updates, taxing your vehicle and advice on social security to name but a few.

DARD Website Address: www.dardni.gov.uk DARD Helpline: (028) 9052 4999 DARD Freephone Fraudline: 0808 100 2716 DARD Textphone: (028) 9052 4420

The Department has a textphone service to improve communication with those who have hearing impairment.

#### **Ministerial Correspondence**

The Private Office provides the point of contact for the Parliamentary Under Secretary of State with responsibility for Agriculture and Rural Development.

#### **Contact**

Private Office Room 636 Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4610 Fax: (028) 9052 4813

#### **Online NI**

For all information on Government Departments please visit:

www.onlineni.net

#### **Comments/Complaints**

If you are unhappy with the quality of our service, including something we have done or something we have not done, please let us know. We will endeavour to acknowledge all written complaints within three working days and provide a full response to both verbal and written complaints within fifteen working days of receipt.

If it is not possible to provide a full response to you within fifteen working days, we will let you know why and tell you when you can expect a full response.

#### How to make a complaint?

Our complaint procedure is easy to use and you can make a complaint in person, by letter, by facsimile, by e-mail, by telephone or by text-phone. If you have a complaint you should:

- Contact the officer, with whom you were dealing with, or the local office manager.
- 2. If you are not happy with their response write to the senior manager responsible.

You can get more information about how to complain from 'Our Complaints Procedure' leaflet. You can get this leaflet from any of our offices or from the 'Complaints Procedure' section of our website at www.dardni.gov.uk from June 2006.

# Comments/Complaints

#### Contact

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Headquarters Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Rd BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 0100 Helpline: (028) 9052 4999 Textphone: (028) 9052 4420

(Can only be dialled from another text-phone)

Fax: (028) 9052 5015

E-mail: dardhelpline@dardni.gov.uk

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

#### **Freedom of Information**

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 came into force on 1 January 2005. The introduction of the Act is intended to promote a culture of openness and accountability within all public bodies. Additionally it will provide people with a general right to access all types of recorded information held by DARD and other public bodies.

Further information, including how to submit an information request, can be obtained from:

Information Management Branch Room 507 Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road Belfast BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4199 Fax: (028) 9052 4196

E-mail:

dard.informationmanager@dardni.gov.uk

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk



#### **At Your Service**

This booklet provides a guide to the key services available from the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD), as well as from other government departments, local government and other organisations that are useful to farmers and farm families.

#### How to use this booklet

This booklet has been divided into four main sections:

Section 1: Agriculture

Section 2: Other Government Department Services Section 3: Local Government Services and Agencies

Section 4: Services from Other Organisations

Section 1, Agriculture, has been divided into five main sections with specific subjects. The remaining sections are indexed with a list of contents at the front.

Should you have difficulty locating the information you require simply look at the Key Word Search on Page 173, which has been included to help you to reference a particular topic of interest.

We hope that you find this booklet useful, however, should you have any difficulty accessing a particular service or contact, you may wish to use the Rural Connect service which is offered through your local DARD Rural Connect Adviser who will be happy to help you.

The information contained in this booklet is correct at date of publication. The information will also be available on the DARD website on www.dardni.gov.uk

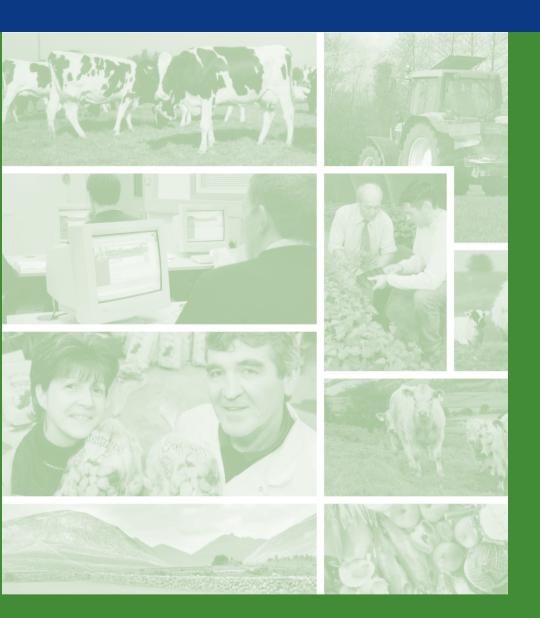
Whilst details of new schemes and services will continue to be announced in the local press, you are strongly advised to check that the information you have is the most recent by contacting the relevant branch or division.

Please note that we would welcome comments about this booklet, and its usefulness, so that it may be improved in future editions – contact Rural Connect on:

Rural Connect Room 562 Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4406 Fax: (028) 9076 5335

E-mail: rural.connect@dardni.gov.uk



### Section 1 - AGRICULTURE

#### Agriculture

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### Farming and Food Business Development

#### **Local DARD Offices - Development Service**

The Development Service is managed from Greenmount Campus, College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) but with locally based Development Advisers covering all enterprises such as beef, sheep, dairy, pigs, crops, horticulture and organic farming. Some 39 Development Advisers are based in 12 local DARD Offices (see contact details below).

They provide support in a wide range of technical and business areas, and are keen to assist in preparing a development plan for the farm business and people involved in the business.

Greenmount based business management specialists and technologists, provide back-up to Development Advisers. They also have a key role in technology transfer including the adoption of appropriate technology on commercial units.

You can contact local Development Advisers in person at your local DARD Office, by phone at the numbers below or you can get further information from Greenmount Campus Tel: (028) 9442 6666, or via the internet sites www.ruralni.gov.uk or www.cafre.ac.uk

## Local DARD offices

#### **Co Antrim**

Greenmount Campus 22 Greenmount Road ANTRIM BT41 4PU

Tel: (028) 9442 6666 Fax: (028) 9442 6777

50-56 The Square BALLYCLARE BT39 9BB

Tel: (028) 9332 2399 Fax: (028) 9335 4218

#### Co Down

Rathkeltair House Market Street DOWNPATRICK BT30 6LZ

Tel: (028) 4461 2211 Fax: (028) 4461 8226

2b Portaferry Road NEWTOWNARDS BT23 3NT

Tel: (028) 9181 3570 Fax: (028) 9182 2106 Crown Buildings John Street BALLYMONEY BT53 6DS

Tel: (028) 2766 0160 Fax: (028) 2766 0103

Glenree House Unit 2, Springhill Road Carnbane Industrial Estate NEWRY BT35 6EF

Tel: (028) 3025 5990 Fax: (028) 3025 5926

#### Co Armagh

2 Newry Road ARMAGH BT60 1EN

Tel: (028) 3751 5659 Fax: (028) 3751 5611

#### Co Derry/Londonderry

4-6 Killane Road LIMAVADY BT49 0DN

Tel: (028) 7776 2521 Tel: (028) 7930 2112 Fax: (028) 7776 8075 Fax: (028) 7930 2067

#### Co Fermanagh

Enniskillen Campus Levaghy ENNISKILLEN BT74 4GF

Tel: (028) 6634 4800 Fax: (028) 6634 4888

#### **Co Tyrone**

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue OMAGH BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 8225 1020 Fax: (028) 8225 3500 Crown Buildings Thomas Street DUNGANNON BT70 1HR

31 Station Road

MAGHERAFFIT

**BT45 5DN** 

Tel: (028) 8775 4777 Fax: (028) 8775 4888

#### **Supply Chain Awareness Programme**

The Supply Chain Awareness Programme addresses the barriers to an open and cohesive agri-food supply chain in Northern Ireland. The programme aims to improve communication between local producers, processors and multiple retailers. This in turn will assist all of the businesses involved to share knowledge, understand each other's problems and develop solutions.

#### An opportunity to:

- get inside your customers' businesses and find out how they see and treat your product;
- open and improve more channels of communication with your customers;
- explore the implications of current and future trends within your market;
- get inside the mind of your ultimate customer the consumer:
- identify the various benefits and methods of working with your supply chain partners;
- explore the costs incurred and value added along your supply chain;
- network, share and benchmark with other producers.

The programme is broken down into three areas as outlined below:

Walk your sector supply chain 1 day of visits

Beyond the farm gate: insights 1/2 day workshop into trends affecting you

In depth focus: supply chain issues  $^{1}/_{2}$  day workshop shaping your sector

#### To book and find out dates for your region contact:

Supply Chain Development Branch Room 516c Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road Belfast BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4808

Website: www.ruralni.gov.uk

E-mail: arron.wright@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Organic Farming**

Organic farming is a systems-based form of production designed to produce food of optimum quality and quantity using sustainable management practices, which minimise damage to the environment and wildlife.

Organic farming methods are highly compatible with changes needed to meet the challenges of decoupling, Single Farm Payments, the Nitrates Directive and Cross-Compliance.

Organic Development Advisers of the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE), offer a FREE Organic Conversion Information Service as well as education, training, development and benchmarking services to prospective, in-conversion and full symbol organic producers.

CAFRE also offers an 'Introduction to Organic Production' 2day course several times a year. It is suitable for farmers and growers who have a limited knowledge of organic production methods, and who are considering converting to organic production.

#### **Organic Farming Scheme**

The Organic Farming Scheme provides payments to farmers converting land to organic production.

#### Contact for more information:

Name: Adrian Saunders Tel: (028) 9442 6765

E-mail: adrian.saunders@dardni.gov.uk
Website: www.ruralni.gov.uk/bussys/organic/

#### **Diversification**

Diversification is a way of branching out from traditional farming activities and taking on a new income-generating enterprise. Examples include:

- Services, manufacturing and crafts;
- Tourism and leisure:
- Specialist crops and livestock;
- Adding value to farm produce.

Farmers and members of the farm family can all be involved in diversification projects.

#### What help is available?

Rural Connect Advisers are available to help farm businesses develop an idea, which can contribute to the sustainability of the farm family. This is done through business planning and training. This training is through the Diversification Challenge Programme delivered by the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE). Rural Connect Advisers also encourage farm families to participate in rural development initiatives and can help identify sources of funding.

Contact your Rural Connect Adviser at your local DARD office below.

Centre	Direct telephone number (028)
Antrim/Derry/Londonderry - Ballymena - Ballymoney - Magherafelt	2566 5722 2766 0111 7930 2101
Down/Armagh - Downpatrick - Newry - Armagh	4461 8082 3025 5912 3751 5622
Tyrone/Fermanagh - Omagh - Dungannon - Enniskillen	8225 3405 8775 4786 6634 3101 6634 3102

You may also contact Rural Connect on:

E-mail: rural.connect@dardni.gov.uk Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

#### **Rivers Agency**

The Rivers Agency provides flood defences, and maintains designated watercourses to alleviate flooding and assist land drainage. It also provides an emergency response in situations where lives or property are at risk of flooding from open or culverted rivers. The area offices will take calls outside normal working hours and will arrange the appropriate inspections and actions.

#### Headquarters

Rivers Agency Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Hydebank 4 Hospital Road **BFI FAST** BT8 8JP

Tel: (028) 9025 3355 Fax: (028) 9025 3455

Area Office	Areas Covered	<b>Contact Details</b>
Armagh	Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon (west), Dungannon and Newry and Mourne	44 Seagoe Industrial Estate CRAIGAVON Co Armagh BT63 5QE Tel: (028) 3839 9111 Fax: (028) 3839 9113
Ballinamallard	Fermanagh	Riversdale Ballinamallard ENNISKILLEN Co Fermanagh BT94 2NA Tel: (028) 6638 8529 Fax: (028) 6638 8972
Coleraine	Ballymoney, Coleraine, Derry/Londonderry, Limavady and Moyle	37 Castleroe Road COLERAINE Co Derry/Londonderry BT51 3RL Tel: (028) 7034 2357 Fax: (028) 7032 0628
Lisburn (Eastern Region)	Antrim, Ards, Ballymena, Belfast, Carrickfergus, Castlereagh, Craigavon (east), Larne, Lisburn, Down and Newtownabbey	Regional Office Ravarnet House Altona Road LISBURN Co Antrim BT27 5QB Tel: (028) 9260 6100 Fax: (028) 9260 6111

Omagh (Western Region) Cookstown, Magherafelt, Omagh and Strabane Regional Office Woodside Avenue Gortin Road

OMAGH Co Tyrone BT79 7BS

Tel: (028) 8225 4900 Fax: (028) 8225 4901

Plant Unit

44 Seagoe Industrial

Estate

CRAIGAVON Co Armagh BT63 5QE

Tel: (028) 3839 9100 Fax: (028) 3839 9112

You may also contact the HELPLINE on (028) 9052 4999 if you are unsure as to which office to contact.

#### **Fisheries Division**

Fisheries Division is responsible for the supervision and protection of sea fisheries, licensing of aquaculture, fish health, the administration of fisheries grant projects and supporting the Foyle, Carlingford and Irish Lights Commission (FCILC).

#### **Fisheries Division**

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Annexe 5 Castle Grounds Stormont Estate **BELFAST BT4 3PW** 

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

#### **Aquaculture Licensing and Fish Health Policy Enquiries:**

Lynne Gardiner Tel: (028) 9052 2424 Fax: (028) 9052 3121

E-mail: lynne.gardiner@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Grants Enquiries:**

Michael McKillen Tel: (028) 9052 0715 Fax: (028) 9052 3121

E-mail: michael.mckillen@dardni.gov.uk

#### Sea Fisheries Inspectorate:

Stephen McComiskey Tel: (028) 9052 2368

Fax: (028) 9052 2394

E-mail: stephen.mccomiskey@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Aquaculture and Fish Health Inspectorate:**

Brian Daly

Tel: (028) 9052 3116 Fax: (028) 9052 2394

E-mail: brian.daly@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Sea Fishing Vessel Licensing:**

Jonathan Campbell

Tel: (028) 9052 2911 Fax: (028) 9052 2394

E-mail: jonathan.campbell@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Learning and Education**

#### **Courses and Training**



The College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE)

provides an extensive range of full-time and part-time people development programmes that develop the technical, business and management skills needed by those employed in or entering the agriculture, horticulture, food, equine and related sectors.

Programmes are delivered in modern and unique facilities that reflect best industry practices and set a high standard for the delivery of education and training programmes.

#### **Examples of full-time and part-time courses include:**

Agriculture – Higher National Diploma/Certificate, National Diploma, National Certificate, NVQ Level 2 & 3, Multiskilling Land based Engineering and Technology – National Diploma, NVQ Level 2 & 3

Agricultural Technology – Honours Degree (in conjunction with QUB)

Communication – Masters, Postgraduate Certificate/ Diploma, Graduate Certificate

Equine Studies – Honours Degree, Foundation Degree/ Certificate in Higher Education, National Diploma/ Certificate, First Diploma

Food Nutrition and Health – Foundation Degree/Certificate in Higher Education, National Diploma/Certificate/Award, First Diploma

Food Technology – Honours Degree, National Diploma/ Certificate/Award, First Diploma

Food Supply Management – Honours Degree Food Studies – Foundation Degree/Certificate in Higher Education Food Product Innovation – Foundation Degree/Certificate in Higher Education

Food Manufacture – Foundation Degree/Certificate in Higher Education

Horticulture – Foundation Degree, Certificate of Higher Education, National Diploma/Certificate/Award, First Diploma

Sportsturf - Advanced National Certificate,

NVQ Level 2 & 3

Floristry - National Certificate/Award

Packaging Technology - Diploma, Certificate, Award

Rural and Countryside Management - Foundation

Degree/Certificate in Higher Education

Environmental - NVQ Level 2

Veterinary Nursing - NVQ Level 2 & 3

Examples of programmes specifically designed to support those working in the industry include:

#### **Challenge Programmes:**

Animal Health Challenge for cattle and sheep farmers
Dairy Herd Fertility Challenge
Grass Challenge for cattle and sheep farmers
Grass Challenge for dairy farmers
Mushroom Challenge
Pig Challenge
Potatoes Challenge
Packaging Challenge for food businesses

#### **Benchmarking:**

Benchmarking is comparing your farm business performance to other similar types of farm.

#### **Short training courses:**

The College offers a comprehensive range of short courses to meet the specific training needs of the various sectors of the agri-food industry.

More details are available on the CAFRE website: www.cafre.ac.uk

For more information on any of the College's programmes please contact one of the campuses:

Enniskillen Campus Levaghy ENNISKILLEN BT74 4GF

Tel: (028) 6634 4853 Fax: (028) 6634 4888

If dialling from RoI: (048) 6634 4853

Greenmount Campus 22 Greenmount Road ANTRIM BT41 4PU

Tel: (028) 9442 6601 Fax: (028) 9442 6606

If dialling from RoI: (048) 9442 6601

Loughry Campus COOKSTOWN BT80 9AA

Tel: (028) 8676 8101 Fax: (028) 8676 1043

If dialling from RoI: (048) 8676 8101

Textphone: (028) 9052 4420 Website: www.cafre.ac.uk E-mail: enquiries@cafre.ac.uk

#### **Student Finance**

Education and Finance Branch is responsible for the administration of financial support to students studying either Further or Higher Education courses within the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) and a range of Postgraduate courses, dependant on meeting eligibility criteria.

What Financial Help is available? (For Academic Year 2006/07)

#### **Further Education:**

- **Tuition fees** for full-time students on further education courses at CAFRE will be paid in full.
- An income assessed Living Expenses Grant is available to students living in Northern Ireland.

#### **Higher Education:**

- Income assessed support towards the cost of Tuition fees.
- An income assessed Higher Education Bursary up to a maximum of £2000 is available for students from lowincome families.
- An income assessed Student Loan is available to cover living expenses, repayable after leaving the course.

#### **Postgraduate Education:**

Each year the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) offers a limited number of postgraduate studentships. These are for either formal courses at postgraduate level or for a period of research leading to a higher degree from a United Kingdom or Republic of Ireland university. Funding is provided for full-time students only.

**Additional grants,** available to students in particular circumstances, include:

- Childcare Grant
- Parents' Learning Allowance
- Child Tax Credit from the Inland Revenue
- Adult Dependants' Grant
- Disabled Students' Allowances
- Care Leavers' Grant

Further information, including a Financial Support Booklet and Application form, is available from:

Education and Finance Branch
Room 555
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB
Tel: (028) 9052 4710

#### **Focus Farms**

Focus Farms offer groups of farmers the opportunity to visit and learn from other farmers who demonstrate good practice in their key areas. This is to encourage shared experiences and an exchange of knowledge. There are currently 78 Focus Farms across Northern Ireland with visits for everyone.

Farm Type	Number of Farms
Arable	4
Beef	23
Dairy	23
Diversification	6
Equine	3
Horticulture	3
Organic	3
Pigs	3
Poultry	2
Sheep	8

#### To book visits contact the Focus Farm Centre at:

#### Ai Services

Ballycraigy 671 Antrim Rd Newtownabbev Co Antrim **BT36 4RL** 

Tel: (028) 9084 0400 Fax: (028) 9084 2640

E-mail: info@focusfarms.co.uk Website: www.focusfarms.co.uk The Focus Farm Programme is funded under the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. This is a distinctive EU Structural Funds programme, which aims to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promote reconciliation. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) is the implementing body for the Focus Farms Programme.

#### Research

The Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute (AFBI) aims to help develop the Northern Ireland agri-food industry through excellence in analytical and diagnostic services, research and technology transfer.

#### **AFBI (Newforge)**

Newforge Lane BELFAST BT9 5PX

Tel: (028) 9025 5209 (Communications Director)

Fax: (028) 9025 5008

Website: www.afbini.gov.uk

Research, analytical services, teaching and advice in:

- crop and animal production and nutrition; food microbiology and chemistry; marine and freshwater fisheries, aquatic environments and the agrienvironment interface;
- plant and environmental protection, plant molecular biology, ecology and land use;
- economics and management of agri-business, environment and rural development; statistical analysis and computing.

#### AFBI (Hillsborough)

Large Park
HILLSBOROUGH
Co Down
BT26 6DR

Tel: (028) 9268 2484 Fax: (028) 9268 9594 Provides research information on:

- more efficient farming systems;
- improving farm animal welfare:
- enhancing the value of agricultural products:
- environmentally friendly methods of agricultural production.

#### AFBI (Loughgall)

Manor House Loughgall **ARMAGH BT61 8JB** 

Tel: (028) 3889 2300 Fax: (028) 3889 2333

Undertakes research on mushrooms; apples; specialist horticultural production and plant protection; short rotation coppice for energy; agroforestry; grass breeding and potato breeding. Laboratory services are also provided in this area.

# AFBI (Crossnacreevy)

50 Houston Road Crossnacreevy Castlereagh **BELFAST** BT6 9SH

Tel: (028) 9054 8000 Fax: (028) 9054 8001

Provides technical information on the certification schemes for cereal and herbage seed. Also produces recommended variety lists for producers for such crops as cereals, grasses, potatoes and maize.

# **AFBI (Stormont)**

Stoney Road BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 5791 Fax: (028) 9052 5773

#### AFBI (Omagh)

43 Beltany Road Coneywarren OMAGH BT78 5NF

Tel: (028) 8224 3337 Fax: (028) 8224 4228

Provides research and development, analytical and diagnostic services, specialist advice and tertiary education in veterinary sciences.

# **Grants and Funding**

# **Single Farm Payment/Subsidies**

From 1st January 2005, the Single Farm Payment Scheme replaced the existing livestock and arable farming subsidy schemes.

The administration of the Single Farm Payment/Subsidy schemes is the responsibility of the Grants and Subsidies organisation which has three main branches:

- a) Grants and Subsidies Inspection
- b) Grants and Subsidies Payments
- c) Grants and Subsidies Policy

# a) Grants and Subsidies Inspection Branch

Responsible for giving advice on claims and carrying out checks and field inspections.

Staff are based in six DARD Offices as well as various suboffices.

Opening times: The main offices are open for personal callers from 9.30am to 12.30pm and 1.00pm to 4.00pm, Monday to Friday. They can be contacted by telephone from 9.00am to 5.00pm. There are limited opening hours in the sub offices.

NB: In order to speed up your enquiry please have your Business Reference/Client Reference number available.

# **Local DARD Offices - Grants and Subsidies Inspection**

# **Co Antrim**

Kilpatrick House 38-54 High Street BALLYMENA BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 3751 5600 Fax: (028) 2566 2838

#### Co Down

Rathkeltair House Market Street DOWNPATRICK BT30 6LZ

Tel: (028) 4461 2211 Fax: (028) 4461 8226

# Co Derry/Londonderry

Crown Buildings Artillery Road COLERAINE BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 7034 1111 Fax: (028) 7034 1140

# **Co Armagh**

2 Newry Road ARMAGH BT60 1EN

Tel: (028) 2566 2800

Fax: (028) 3751 5611

# Co Fermanagh

Innishkeen House Killyhevlin ENNISKILLEN BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6634 3000

# **Co Tyrone**

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue OMAGH BT52 2AJ

Tel: (028) 8225 1020 Fax: (028) 8225 3500

# b) Grants and Subsidies Payments Branch

Responsible for the administration of the Integrated Administration and Control System (IACS) and processing claims and payments for direct support payments. These payments include the Single Farm Payment, Aid for Energy Crops, Protein Crop Premium, the Less Favoured Area Compensatory Allowance (LFACA) and the agri-environment schemes.

NB: In order to speed up your enquiry, please have your Business Reference/Client Reference number available.

# **Grants and Subsidies Payments Branch**

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Orchard House 40 Foyle Street DERRY/LONDONDERRY BT48 6AT

Tel: (028) 7131 9900 Fax: (028) 7131 9800

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk/grantsandsubsidies

# Single Farm Payment/IACS

Room 218, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9900

E-mail: gspd.sfps@dardni.gov.uk

# **Legacy Schemes**

If you have a query relating to a claim under the previous subsidy schemes contact the appropriate number below.

# **Beef Special Premium**

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9924

E-mail: gspd.bsps@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Extensification Premium**

Room 217, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9914

E-mail: gspd.eps@dardni.gov.uk

#### LFA Compensatory Allowances

Room 217, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9947

E-mail: gspd.lfa@dardni.gov.uk

## **Sheep Annual Premium**

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9979

E-mail: gspd.saps@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Sheep Quota**

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9979

E-mail: gspd.saps@dardni.gov.uk

# Slaughter Premium/Veal Calf Slaughter Premium

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9901

E-mail: gspd.sps@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Suckler Cow Premium**

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7129 9096

E-mail: gspd.scps@dardni.gov.uk

#### Suckler Cow Quota

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7131 9885

E-mail: gspd.scps@dardni.gov.uk

#### Weather Aid

Room 216, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7129 9096

E-mail: gspd.atas@dardni.gov.uk

# **Bank Automated Clearing System (BACS)**

Room 9, Orchard House Tel: (028) 7129 9074

#### **Appeals Branch**

Room 9, Orchard House

Tel: (028) 7129 9085

E-mail: subs.appsec@dardni.gov.uk

# c) Grants and Subsidies Policy Branch

Responsible for all policy related matters including legislation.

#### **Grants and Subsidies Policy Branch**

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development **Dundonald House** Upper Newtownards Road BELEAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4595 Fax: (028) 9052 4431

# **Agri-environment Schemes**

Agri-environment schemes aim to enhance biodiversity, landscape and heritage features on the farm. They are the main mechanism the Government uses to encourage farmers and landowners to adopt environmentally friendly practices and contribute to the delivery of the Northern Ireland Biodiversity Strategy.

There are two agri-environment schemes delivered by DARD, Countryside Management Branch:

- **Environmentally Sensitive Area Scheme (ESAS)**
- **Countryside Management Scheme (CMS)**

Participation is voluntary, offering an annual payment in return for integrating positive environmental management into farming practices. They apply to the whole farm, which means that the entire holding must be entered into the scheme.

ESAS and CMS agreements can last for 10 years, with an option to leave after 5 years and participants will be expected to attend locally based scheme workshops. Payments range from £20/ha to over £500/ha and are dependant on farm size, the habitats and archaeological features that occur on the farm and the area/length of optional habitats agreed. In addition payment for enhancement works is available to meet conditions of the scheme and further enhance the farm.

The ESAS is open for applications all year round. Applications to CMS are usually restricted to a four-week period each year. Countryside Management staff, located in the local DARD offices below, are available to offer practical guidance on agri-environment schemes.

Belfast Countryside Management Branch

Annexe D

**Dundonald House** 

**Upper Newtownards Road** 

BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 0922 Fax: (028) 9052 0924

Co Antrim Kilpatrick House

38-54 High Street

BALLYMENA BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 2566 2800 Fax: (028) 2566 2838

Co Armagh 2 Newry Road

ARMAGH BT60 1EN

Tel: (028) 3751 5600 Fax: (028) 3751 5661 Co Derry/ Londonderry 31 Station Road MAGHERAFELT

**BT44 5DN** 

Tel: (028) 7930 2066 Fax: (028) 7930 2067

Co Down

Rathkeltair House Market Street DOWNPATRICK

BT30 6LZ

Tel: (028) 4461 8711 Fax: (028) 4461 8226

Co Fermanagh

Inishkeen House

Killyhevlin ENNISKILLEN

BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6634 3000

Co Tyrone

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue

OMAGH BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 8225 1020 Fax: (028) 8225 3409

Loughry Campus

College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

COOKSTOWN

**BT80 9AA** 

Tel: (028) 8676 8101 Fax: (028) 8676 1043

# **Diversification/Reskilling Funding**

The objective of this measure, called Obtaining Alternative Employment, is to assist farmers and members of farm families explore alternatives to mainstream production or full-time farming.

It will assist them to gain the skills necessary to secure offfarm employment or support for on-farm diversification. Financial assistance will be available for approved reskilling, barrier payments, and on-farm diversification.

These courses are being run in council areas and farmers/members of farm families should contact the promoters directly if they wish to avail of this training and financial assistance.

Obtaining Alternative Employment

Council Areas Covered	Promoter	Contact Details
Antrim, Carrickfergus Lisburn and Newtownabbey	Laganside Rural Development Ltd	Mr Gregg Shannon Tel: (028) 9268 2066 Fax: (028) 9268 8107 E-mail:gshannon@ Ird-ltd.co.uk
Ards, Banbridge, Castlereagh, Down and North Down	Countryside Services Ltd	Ms Sharon Proctor Tel: (028) 8778 9770 Fax: (028) 8778 8200 E-mail: sharon.proctor @countryside services.com E-mail: info@country sideservices.com

Armagh and Craigavon	Laganside Rural Development Ltd	Mr Gregg Shannon Tel: (028) 9268 2066 Fax: (028) 9268 8107 E-mail: gshannon@ Ird-ltd.co.uk
Ballymena, Ballymoney, Larne and Moyle	Countryside Services Ltd	Ms Sharon Proctor Tel: (028) 8778 9770 Fax: (028) 8778 8200 E-mail: sharon.proctor @countryside services.com E-mail: info@country sideservices.com
Coleraine, Derry City and Limavady	Rural Area Partnership in Derry	Mr Philip O'Kane Tel: (028) 7133 7149 Fax: (028) 7133 7146 E-mail: will@rapidni.com
Cookstown and Dungannon	Family Farm Development Ltd	Mr Leslie Craig Tel: (028) 8076 1719 Fax: (028) 8076 1779 E-mail: familyfarm@ btconnect.com
Fermanagh	Fermanagh College	Mr Ciaran McManus Tel: (028) 6634 4309 Tel: (028) 6632 2072 Fax: (028) 6632 6357 E-mail: mcmanusc@ fermanaghcoll.ac.uk

Magherafelt Countryside Ms Sharon Proctor
Services Ltd Tel: (028) 8778 8700

Fax: (028) 8778 8200 E-mail: sharon.proctor

@countryside services.com

E-mail: info@country sideservices.com

Newry and Mourne Newry Miss Siobhan

Institute McManus

Tel: (028) 3026 1071 Fax: (028) 3026 6556 E-mail: mcmanuss@

nkifhe.ac.uk

Omagh and Family Farm Mr Leslie Craig
Strabane Development Ltd Tel: (028) 8076 1719

Fax: (028) 8076 1779 E-mail: familyfarm@ btconnect.com

For further information on this programme contact Rural Connect on:

Tel: (028) 9052 4406

E-mail: rural.connect@dardni.gov.uk

The Obtaining Alternative Employment Programme is funded under the EU Programme for Peace and Reconciliation in Northern Ireland and the Border Region of Ireland. This is a distinctive EU Structural Funds Programme, which aims to reinforce progress towards a peaceful and stable society and promote reconciliation. The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) is the Implementing Body for the Obtaining Alternative Employment Measure.

# **Farm Nutrient Management Scheme**

The aim of this Scheme is to provide financial assistance to farmers who are installing facilities to increase farm nutrient storage capacity for farm manures produced within the farm. This will assist compliance with Action Programme Measures to be implemented under the Nitrates Directive and with the recently introduced Control of Pollution (Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 (SSAFO Regulations).

The grant rate available was 60% on the first £85,000 of eligible expenditure for each agricultural business (i.e. maximum grant payable per farm business is £51,000).

If you have a query regarding your application you should contact your local DARD office:

# **Local DARD Offices – Grants and Subsidies Inspection**

Co Antrim
Kilpatrick House
38-54 High Street
BALLYMENA

BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 2566 2800 Fax: (028) 2566 2838 Co Armagh 2 Newry Road ARMAGH BT60 IEN

Tel: (028) 3751 5600 Fax: (028) 3751 5611 Co Down

Rathkeltair House Market Street DOWNPATRICK

**BT30 6LZ** 

Tel: (028) 4461 2211 Fax: (028) 4461 8226

Co Derry/Londonderry

Crown Buildings Artillery Road COLERAINE BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 7034 1111 Fax: (028) 7034 1140 Co Fermanagh

Innishkeen House

Killyhevlin

ENNISKILLEN

BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6634 3000

Co Tyrone

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue

OMAGH

BT52 2AJ Tel: (028) 8225 1020

Fax: (028) 8225 3500

#### ICT

# 'Increasing Access to Information and Communication Technology'

# **Aim and Eligibility**

The aim of this scheme is to promote the use of innovative Information and Communication Technology (ICT), which may benefit farmers and growers within the Northern Ireland agri-food industry, through the establishment of on-farm pilot projects.

The scheme is open to any farmer, farm family or farmers' group engaged in agriculture within Northern Ireland. One application can be made per farm business.

A list of ICT applications has been drawn up through discussion with technically qualified IT personnel and the industry, for example:

- Data capture using Personal Digital Assistants;
- Precision Farming Systems;
- Process Control using mobile computing.

In addition any farmers or farmers' group can make an application for an item of technology outside the suggested list, which they perceive to be particularly innovative, for consideration by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD).

# **Funding**

Specific selection criteria will be used to select those farmers and businesses most suitable to demonstrate the ICT technology. The maximum level of funding for an individual project will depend on the numbers associated with the project, and it is anticipated that this will be in the range of £700-£1,000 per farmer. All approved ICT applications will be 100% funded and supplied by DARD to scheme participants. Farmers or growers engaged in a project will provide feedback to DARD on their experiences and how ICT technology has benefited them and their business. This scheme is open until September 2006.

For an application form and further details please contact:

Mrs Margaret Sangster, Vision Admin Unit, Greenmount Campus, College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise, 22 Greenmount Road, Antrim BT41 4PU

Tel: (028) 9442 6898 Fax: (028) 9442 6777

E-mail: margaret.sangster@dardni.gov.uk

# **New Entrants Scheme**

The New Entrants Scheme was introduced in Northern Ireland in June 2005. The Scheme provides aid to facilitate the establishment of young farmers (under 40 years of age) who possess adequate skills and competences and who are setting up as head of holding for the first time. It provides financial assistance up to a maximum of £17,000 in the form of an interest rate subsidy.

Applicants will be challenged to submit a business plan showing that the loan will be used for an agricultural purpose. Their plan should also generate new activities or add value to existing activities in their farm business. Scheme participants will be expected to negotiate the terms of their loan with their lending institution.

The Scheme will close on Thursday 5 June 2008 or when all available funds have been committed and the maximum period of interest subsidy will be five years. DARD will assist applicants in the preparation of the business plan and the personal development plan on request.

Application packs are available from:

Grants and Subsidies (Payments) Branch Orchard House 40 Foyle Street Derry/Londonderry BT48 6AT

Tel: (028) 7131 9900

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

For further information contact:

Philip Downey: (028) 7772 1819 or Colin Rea: (028) 9442 6609

# **Forestry Schemes**



The Forest Service is responsible for the management of large areas of forest to produce timber as well as to provide environmental, recreational and educational benefits. The Forest Service also supports the establishment and management of private woodlands through the Woodland Grant Scheme (WGS) and the Farm Woodland Premium Scheme (FWPS). Between 2000 and 2005 farmers and landowners have planted about 2,650 ha (6,600 acres) of new woodland under the WGS and FWPS. These Schemes give you an opportunity to diversify your farm, enhance the landscape, provide a habitat for wildlife, provide shelter and in the longer term produce

# **Woodland Grant Scheme (WGS)**

timber.

The Woodland Grant Scheme will assist you in establishing your new woodland, providing assistance towards initial planting, while also providing assistance for existing woodland, to bring it back into active and sustainable management. Grant rates to establish new woodland vary depending on the species planted and range from £1,200/ha to £1,850/ha for enclosed land.

#### Farm Woodland Premium Scheme (FWPS)

Provided you fulfil the requirements of the WGS you may also be eligible for the FWPS, which provides annual payments for newly established woodland, for 10 or 15 years to compensate for agricultural income foregone. The grant rate depends on the category of land and whether it falls inside or outside the Less Favoured Areas. Payment rates range from £60/ha/year to £300/ha/year.

# Challenge Fund for Short Rotation Coppice (SRC) Energy Crops

This Fund operates as a special grant within the WGS. Short Rotation Coppice (SRC) is a specialised form of forestry plantation and involves growing high yielding trees, in this case willow, at close spacing and harvested at regular intervals. The Challenge Fund is so called as it is competitive and applicants are required to bid for money they need to establish SRC for an energy end use. An application is judged in terms of its value for money in relation to the aims of the Challenge Fund and an assessment panel awards grants to those schemes that best meet the aims of the Challenge. The closing date for applications is the 31st July 2006.

Further information on these schemes can be obtained from the Forest Service.

#### Headquarters

Private Woodlands and Plant Health Branch
Room 23
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9076 5391 Fax: (028) 9052 4380

E-mail: shona.bell@dardni.gov.uk

# **Challenge Fund for Short Rotation Coppice Energy Crops**

Ben Searle Room 22 Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9076 5311 Fax: (028) 9052 4380 Mobile: 07717 732365

E-mail: ben.searle@dardni.gov.uk

#### **Conventional Woodland**

# **Antrim and Derry/Londonderry**

David McMullan
Room 22
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 5498 Fax: (028) 9052 4380 Mobile: 07833 668592

E-mail: david.mcmullan@dardni.gov.uk

Down

Ralph Barron Belvoir Park Forest BELFAST

**BT78 7QT** 

Tel: (028) 9064 7263 Fax: (028) 9064 8772 Mobile: 07799 866715

E-mail: ralph.barron@dardni.gov.uk

# Fermanagh, Tyrone and Armagh

Catriona MacLennan District Forest Office Inishkeen House Killyhevlin ENNISKILLEN Co Fermanagh

BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6632 4753 Mobile: 07833 668573

E-mail: catriona.maclennan@dardni.gov.uk

The website address is www.forestserviceni.gov.uk. The Private Woodlands section includes information booklets and application forms on all the schemes.

# **Rural Development Programme (RDP)**

Rural Development Division is responsible for the administration of the Rural Development Programme for Northern Ireland. The Programme, which runs from 2001-2006, aims to contribute to the economic, environmental, social and cultural well being of the rural community for the benefit of the whole community of Northern Ireland. General enquiries concerning the RDP should be directed to:

# Rural Development Division Corporate Services

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development Dundonald House Upper Newtownards Road BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4886 Fax: (028) 9052 4776

Website: www.rdpni.gov.uk

# **Key Programme Contacts**

# Programme for Building Sustainable Prosperity (PBSP)

Vince McKevitt
Glenree House
Unit 2
Springhill Road
Carnbane Industrial Estate
NEWRY
BT35 6EF

Tel: (028) 3025 3259 Fax: (028) 3025 3255

#### Leader+

Natural Resource Rural Tourism Initiative (NRRTI)

Gareth Evans

**ECOS** Centre

Kernoghan's Lane

Broughshane Road

**BALLYMENA** 

**BT43 7QA** 

Tel: (028) 2563 3810 Fax: (028) 2564 3382

#### Interreg IIIA

Sean Nugent 21 Hospital Road OMAGH

BT79 OAN

Tel: (028) 8225 5701 Fax: (028) 8225 1373

Rural Development Division has local offices based in Newry, Omagh and Ballymena. Contact details are:

# **Rural Development South**

Glenree House Unit 2 Springhill Road Carnbane Industrial Estate NEWRY BT35 6EF

Tel: (028) 3025 3266 Fax: (028) 3025 3255

#### **Rural Development West**

21 Hospital Road OMAGH BT79 OAN

Tel: (028) 8224 7727 Fax: (028) 8225 1373

#### **Rural Development North**

ECOS Centre Kernoghan's Lane Broughshane Road BALLYMENA BT43 7QA

Tel: (028) 2563 3800 Fax: (028) 2564 3382

The Rural Development Division has a number of partners that assist with the implementation of the programme:

#### **Interreg IIIA Partnerships**

Leader+ Action Groups	Page 128
Lough Neagh Strategic Fund	Page 160
Rural Community Network	Page 163
Rural Development Council	Page 163

# **Animal Health and Welfare Local DARD Offices - Veterinary Service**

The Veterinary Service is responsible for animal health and welfare and veterinary aspects of public health. The Veterinary Service has several designated key areas of work which include:

- Brucellosis
- BSF
- Enforcement
- IRM (Identification, Registration and Movement)
- Meat Inspection
- Portal Inspection
- Scrapie
- Tuberculosis

The Divisional Veterinary Offices, located throughout Northern Ireland, can be contacted regarding any of these issues.

For veterinary diagnostic testing see Veterinary Sciences Division under Research, page 36.

#### **Veterinary Service Headquarters**

Room 716

Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

**Dundonald House** 

Upper Newtownards Road

BELFAST

**BT4 3SB** 

Tel: (028) 9052 4580 Fax: (028) 9052 5012

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk/vetservice

Rural portal: www.ruralni.gov.uk

# **Divisional Veterinary Offices**

Co Antrim

Kilpatrick House 38-54 High Street BALLYMENA BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 2566 2862 Fax: (028) 2566 2853 Crown Buildings Pound Street LARNE BT40 1SD

Tel: (028) 2826 3222 Fax: (028) 2826 3220

# Co Armagh

Mall West ARMAGH BT61 9AJ

Tel: (028) 3752 9900 Fax: (028) 3752 9911

#### Co Down

Glenree House Unit 2, Springhill Road Carnbane Industrial Estate NEWRY

BT35 6EF

Tel: (028) 3025 3200 Fax: (028) 3025 3222

# Co Fermanagh

Inishkeen House Killyhevlin ENNISKILLEN BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6634 3043 9 Robert Street NEWTOWNARDS BT23 4DN

Tel: (028) 9182 5825 Fax: (028) 9181 3870

# Co Derry/Londonderry

Crown Buildings **Artillery Road** COLERAINE BT52 2AJ

Tel: (028) 7034 1111 Fax: (028) 7034 1135

#### Co Tyrone

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue **OMAGH BT79 7AQ** 

Tel: (028) 8225 1020 Fax: (028) 8225 3400 Crown Buildings Asylum Road **DERRY/LONDONDERRY BT48 7FB** 

Tel: (028) 7131 9500 Fax: (028) 7137 2489

Crown Buildings **Thomas Street DUNGANNON BT70 1HR** 

Tel: (028) 8775 4777 Fax: (028) 8775 4888

# **APHIS Online**

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (DARD) Animal and Public Health Information System (APHIS) records details of births, deaths, movements and testing results for all cattle in Northern Ireland.

APHIS Online, available through the Rural Portal (www.ruralni.gov.uk) is one of DARD's most important electronic services.

#### APHIS Online allows:

- Farmers to,
  - Register births and deaths over the internet;
  - Download details of animals in their herd including post mortem findings;
  - View individual animal details, including status,
  - Update end of year sheep inventory details.
- Private Vets to,
  - Download test allocations;
  - Upload finished test results.
- Tag manufacturers to,
  - Get tag authorisations on behalf of their farmer customers for new and replacement tags.

# **APHIS Online Helpline**

If you would like further information on APHIS Online, or are having problems accessing the system, you may contact:

APHIS Online Helpline Tel: (028) 9442 6699

# **Regulations and Guidance**

# **Cross-Compliance**

All applicants claiming Single Farm Payment and other direct support payments are required to observe certain conditions known as Cross-Compliance. These Cross-Compliance conditions comprise a range of European laws (known as the Statutory Management Requirements (SMRs)) as well as maintaining the land in Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC). A breach of any of the Cross-Compliance Verifiable Standards may lead to a partial or complete withholding of direct support payments.

# **Statutory Management Requirements**

The SMRs comprise 19 EU Directives and Regulations covering the environment, food safety, animal health and welfare and plant health. The compliance requirement is in respect of specific articles within each Directive or Regulation and is to be implemented in three annual phases beginning in 2005.

From 1 January 2005 farmers were required to comply with domestic legislation in respect of the first eight SMRs that relate to the environment and animal identification and registration. In addition to this a further eight SMRs came into force for Cross-Compliance purposes on 1 January 2006 with the remaining three to follow in 2007.

#### **Further Information**

Details of the Cross-Compliance Verifiable Standards are set out in a booklet entitled 'Cross-Compliance Verifiable Standards 2005 and 2006'. If you require clarification on any of the issues raised in the booklet contact:

# **Department of Agriculture and Rural Development**

Room 558
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 5549

E-mail: gspd.sfps@dardni.gov.uk Website: www.dardni.gov.uk.

# **Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition**

As well as meeting the SMRs all those in receipt of direct agricultural support must keep their land in Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition. The Northern Ireland GAEC measures came into effect from 1 January 2005 and were developed from a framework set out by the European Commission. The NI GAEC requirements cover the following areas:

- Soil Management;
- Supplementary Feeding;
- Overgrazing;
- Undergrazing;
- Field Boundaries;
- Protection of Habitats (Wildlife Areas), Archaeological Sites and Permanent Pasture.

For further information contact Countryside Management Branch staff at your local DARD office.

Co Antrim Kilpatrick House

38-54 High Street BALLYMENA

BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 2566 2800 Fax: (028) 2566 2838

Co Armagh 2 Newry Road

ARMAGH BT60 1EN

Tel: (028) 3751 5600 Fax: (028) 3751 5661

Co Derry/ 31 Station Road Londonderry MAGHERAFELT

BT44 5DN

Tel: (028) 7930 2066 Fax: (028) 7930 2067

Co Down Rathkeltair House

Market Street DOWNPATRICK

**BT30 6LZ** 

Tel: (028) 4461 8711 Fax: (028) 4461 8226

Co Fermanagh Inishkeen House

Killyhevlin

**ENNISKILLEN** 

BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6634 3000

# Co Tyrone

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue OMAGH BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 8225 1020 Fax: (028) 8225 3409

# Workshops

Farmers can also attend training workshops on Good Agricultural and Environmental Condition (GAEC) measures. These are run by the College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) and are delivered locally at various locations throughout Northern Ireland. These workshops include:

- Cross-Compliance and Good Farming Practice;
- Dealing with Farm Wastes;
- Field Boundary Management.

Each workshop lasts approximately two hours and is designed to give farmers practical help and guidance. For further information on training please contact:

# College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

Greenmount Campus 22 Greenmount Road ANTRIM BT41 4PU

Tel: (028) 9442 6874 Fax: (028) 9442 6606

E-mail: enquiries@dardni.gov.uk

# **Nitrates Directive**

'The Protection of Water Against Agricultural Nitrate Pollution Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2004' came into operation in October 2004. The Regulations established the 'Total Territory' of Northern Ireland as the area to which an action programme will apply under the Nitrates Directive.

The Department of the Environment (DOE) and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD) are currently finalising with the European Commission the detail of this Nitrates Directive Action Programme with a view to an implementation date commencing in early 2006.

Information on the Nitrates Directive can be viewed on the DOE Environment and Heritage Service website at www.ehsni.gov.uk

For further information contact DARD Countryside Management Branch staff at your local DARD office below:

Co Antrim Kilpatrick House

38-54 High Street

BALLYMENA BT43 6DT

Tel: (028) 2566 2800 Fax: (028) 2566 2838

Co Armagh 2 Newry Road

ARMAGH BT60 1EN

Tel: (028) 3751 5600 Fax: (028) 3751 5661 Co Derry/ Londonderry 31 Station Road MAGHERAFELT

**BT44 5DN** 

Tel: (028) 7930 2066 Fax: (028) 7930 2067

Co Down

Rathkeltair House Market Street DOWNPATRICK

BT30 6LZ

Tel: (028) 4461 8711 Fax: (028) 4461 8226

Co Fermanagh

Inishkeen House

Killyhevlin

ENNISKILLEN

BT74 4EJ

Tel: (028) 6632 5004 Fax: (028) 6634 3000

Co Tyrone

Sperrin House Sedan Avenue

OMAGH BT79 7AQ

Tel: (028) 8225 1020 Fax: (028) 8225 3409

# **Legislative Inspections**

The European Union (EU) and Government regulate the farming industries through Directives and Regulations.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's (DARD) Quality Assurance Branch (QAB) is responsible for working with the industry to ensure that these legal standards are met or exceeded. QAB also undertakes work on behalf of the Food Standards Agency and the Rural Payments Agency.

QAB carries out inspections in many areas including:

#### **Animal Feeds**

Inspection of approved and registered feed businesses to ensure compliance with the legislative standards in terms of hygiene, operating procedures and record keeping thus helping to maintain the integrity of the feed and food chain.

# **Arable Crops**

Ensuring that seed potato and seed cereal crops meet standards for certification and marketing. Carrying out inspections and sampling to ensure that Northern Ireland remains free of the major quarantine diseases affecting potatoes and cereals and that established pests and diseases are contained.

# **Eggs**

Inspecting farms and packers to ensure that EU quality standards are achieved.

#### **Horticulture**

Ensuring that NI remains free of quarantine pests and diseases and that plant passports are used correctly.

#### Meat

Ensuring that EU carcase classification standards for beef, sheep and pigs are fairly and uniformly implemented throughout the industry and that labelling rules are observed.

# Milk Hygiene

Working with farmers, processors and distributors to ensure that satisfactory hygiene standards are maintained throughout the industry.

Other areas covered include Fertilisers, Bees, Noxious Weeds and Horticultural Marketing Standards for fruit and vegetables.

If you would like to find out more about any of the work of Quality Assurance Branch please contact the Branch Headquarters:

#### **Quality Assurance Branch**

Room 1019 **Dundonald House** Upper Newtownards Road BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 5001 Fax: (028) 9052 4671

E-mail: gab.admin@dardni.gov.uk

# Main Quality Assurance Branch sub-offices:

Kilpatrick House, High Street, Ballymena, **BT43 6DT** Tel: (028) 2566 2800

Fax: (028) 2566 2838

Sperrin House, Sedan Avenue, Omagh, **BT52 2AJ** Tel: (028) 8225 1020

Fax: (028) 8225 3500

Magnet House, 81-93 York Street, Belfast. **BT15 1AD** Tel: (028) 9054 5808

Fax: (028) 9054 5889

# **Cereal and Herbage Seed Certification**

The Cereal and Herbage Seed Certification Schemes ensure that seeds of certain species can only be marketed if they have been certified by the Department. Farmers wishing to sell certified seed must obtain certification from:

# **Environmental Policy Branch**

Room 656
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 4876 Fax: (028) 9052 4059

# **Pesticides Control**

Information regarding controls, which apply to the advertisement, sale, supply, storage and use of pesticides, can be obtained from Environmental Policy Branch.

# **Environmental Policy Branch**

Room 656
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 5026 Fax: (028) 9052 4059

Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

# **Agricultural Wages**

The Agricultural Wages Board for Northern Ireland is a statutory body which determines the minimum gross wages payable, and certain other related entitlements such as holiday and sick pay for agricultural workers in Northern Ireland. For more details or an information leaflet contact:

# The Agricultural Wages Board Secretariat

Room 910
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB

Tel: (028) 9052 0813 Fax: (028) 9052 4266

# **Reclaiming Uncultivated Land**

The Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations came into operation in Northern Ireland in February 2002. The aim is to protect uncultivated land and semi-natural areas that are likely to be of particular environmental importance.

All applicants claiming Single Farm Payment and other direct support payments are required to observe certain conditions known as Cross-Compliance. However, it is a requirement of Cross-Compliance that all semi-natural areas are retained and damage or reclamation is prohibited.

Cross-Compliance reinforces the EIA (Uncultivated Land and Semi-Natural Areas) Regulations. If you wish to carry out an intensive agricultural activity or project such as drainage, cultivation or reseeding on uncultivated land and/or a semi-natural habitat you must apply to:

#### The EIA Team

Environmental Policy Branch
Room 651
Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
Dundonald House
Upper Newtownards Road
BELFAST
BT4 3SB
Tel: (028) 9052 4130

E-mail: eia@dardni.gov.uk Website: www.dardni.gov.uk

# **Infilling Land**

Farmers and landowners should note that anyone wishing to infill land with soil, hard core or other waste material, must apply to:

# The Planning Service

Special Studies Unit Department of the Environment 2nd Floor Millennium House 19-25 Great Victoria Street BELFAST BT2 7BN

Tel: (028) 9041 6892.



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# **Customs and Excise**

HM Customs and Excise is a Government Department with responsibility for collecting revenue each year in VAT, other taxes and customs duties.

Our national enquires help line is open 8am to 8pm Monday to Friday for all general questions.

If you have a question about Customs, Excise, VAT or any of our other taxes or duties, call 0845 010 9000.

# **Department for Social Development**

The Department for Social Development (DSD) has responsibility for urban regeneration, community and voluntary sector development, social legislation, housing, social security benefits, pensions and child support.

# **Department for Social Development**

Lighthouse Building 1 Cromac Place Gasworks Business Park Ormeau Road **Belfast** BT7 2JB

Tel: (028) 9082 9000

Website: www.dsdni.gov.uk

# **Social Security Agency**

The Social Security Agency's (SSA) main business is to:

- assess and pay social security benefits accurately and securely;
- give advice and information about these benefits;
- handle reviews and appeals;
- prevent and detect fraud, prosecute offenders and recover any benefit which has been paid incorrectly;
- recover benefit which has been paid in compensation cases; and
- assess people's financial circumstances if they are applying for legal aid.

The Agency delivers its services to:

- the people of Northern Ireland; with a population of some 1.7 milllion; and
- the people living in three districts within London through back-office services on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions.

For more information on social security benefits contact your local office, see list below:

#### **Belfast North and East Antrim Offices**

Carrickfergus	(028) 9335 1811
Corporation Street	(028) 9025 1411
Larne	(028) 2826 3200
Newtownabbey	(028) 9025 0888
Shankill Road	(028) 9025 1456

## **Belfast West and Lisburn Offices**

Andersonstown	(028) 9054 2700
Falls Road	(028) 9054 2800
Lisburn	(028) 9262 3300
Shaftesbury Square	(028) 9054 5500

## **East Down Office**

Ballynahinch	(028)	9756	0500
Bangor	(028)	9127	9500
Downpatrick	(028)	4461	1300
Holywood Road	(028)	9052	8900
Kilkeel	(028)	4176	1400
Knockbreda	(028)	9054	5600
Newcastle	(028)	4372	1600
Newtownards	(028)	9181	2581

# **North Office**

(028) 9442 6500
(028) 2566 2700
(028) 2766 0100
(028) 7034 1000
(028) 8676 8000
(028) 7776 0500
(028) 7930 2000

# **South Offices**

Armagh	(028) 3752 9777
Banbridge	(028) 4062 0800
Dungannon	(028) 8775 4754
Lurgan	(028) 3831 5600
Newry	(028) 3026 5522
Portadown	(028) 3839 7200

# **West Offices**

Enniskillen	(028) 6634 3333
Foyle	(028) 7131 9500
Lisnagelvin	(028) 7131 9300
Omagh	(028) 8225 4222
Strabane	(028) 7138 1000

# **Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**

The Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure (DCAL) is responsible for the central administration of arts and culture, museums, libraries, sport and leisure visitor amenities, inland waterways and inland fisheries. It also has responsibility for Ordnance Survey, the Public Record Office, language policy, and matters relating to National Lottery distribution, Millennium events and the Northern Ireland Events Company.

# **Department of Culture, Arts and Leisure**

3rd Floor Interpoint 20-24 York Street, BELFAST BT15 1AQ

Tel: (028) 9025 8825, Fax: (028) 9025 8906

E-mail: dcal@dcalni.gov.uk Website: www.dcalni.gov.uk

# Land Registry of Northern Ireland

Lincoln Building 27-45 Great Victoria Street BELFAST BT2 7SL

Tel: (028) 9025 1777 / 1555, Fax: (028) 9025 1659

#### **Ordnance Survey of Northern Ireland**

Colby House Stranmillis Road Malone Lower BELFAST BT9 5BJ

Tel: (028) 9025 5755, Fax: (028) 9025 5700

E-mail: osni@osni.gov.uk Website: www.osni.gov.uk

## **Public Records Office**

66 Balmoral Avenue BELFAST BT9 6NT

Tel: (028) 9025 5905, Fax: (028) 9025 5999

E-mail: proni@dcalni.gov.uk Website: www.proni.gov.uk

# **Department of Education**

Responsible for the provision and administration of education services in Northern Ireland.

#### **Department of Education**

Rathgael House 43 Balloo Road BANGOR Co Down BT19 7PR

Tel: (028) 9127 9279 Fax: (028) 9127 9100 E-mail: mail@deni.gov.uk Website: www.deni.gov.uk

# **Education and Library Boards**

# Belfast Education and Library Board

Academy Street BELFAST BT1 2NQ Tel: (028) 9056 4000 Fax: (028) 9033 1714

# South Eastern Education and Library Board

Grahamsbridge Road DUNDONALD BT16 2HS Tel: (028) 9056 6200

Fax: (028) 9056 6266

# North Eastern Education and Library Board

County Hall Galgorm BALLYMENA BT42 1HN Tel: (028) 2565 3333

Fax: (028) 2564 6071

# Southern Education and Library Board

The Mall 3 Charlemont Place ARMAGH BT61 9AX Tel: (028) 3751 2200 Fax: (028) 3751 2490

# Western Education and Library Board

1 Hospital Road OMAGH BT79 0AW Tel: (028) 8241 1411

Fax: (028) 8241 1400

# **Department for Employment and Learning**

The Department for Employment and Learning is responsible for third level education, training and a range of employment measures, all aimed at giving people the skills, knowledge and opportunities to work.

# **Department for Employment & Learning**

Adelaide House 39/49 Adelaide Street BELFAST BT2 8FD

Tel: (028) 9025 7777 Fax: (028) 9025 7778 E-mail: del@nics.gov.uk Website: www.delni.gov.uk

# **Department of Enterprise, Trade and Investment**

The Department of Enterprise Trade and Industry (DETI) is responsible for economic policy development, energy, tourism, mineral development, health and safety at work, Companies Registry, Insolvency Service, consumer affairs, and labour market and economic statistics services. It also has a role in ensuring the provision of the infrastructure for a modern economy. Economics, financial and personnel management services are provided centrally within the Department.

#### Contact

Netherleigh Massey Avenue BELFAST BT4 2JP

Tel: (028) 9052 9900 Fax: (028) 9052 9550

E-mail: information@detini.gov.uk

Website: www.detini.gov.uk

# **Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland (HSENI)**

The HSENI aims to reduce the risk of death, injury or ill health of those working in agriculture, amongst other industries. As well as carrying out safety checks on farms and enforcing Health and Safety legislation, staff publicise risks and recommend safe systems of work to improve health and safety standards across Northern Ireland. Farm Inspectors, operating throughout Northern Ireland, can

Farm Inspectors, operating throughout Northern Ireland, can be contacted through:

# **Health and Safety Executive for Northern Ireland**

83 Ladas Drive

BELFAST BT6 9FR

Tel: (028) 9024 3249 Fax: (028) 9023 5383

Information and Advice HELPLINE: 0800 032 0121

Textphone: (028) 9054 6896 E-mail: hseni@detini.gov.uk Website: www.hseni.gov.uk

#### Invest Northern Ireland

Invest Northern Ireland offers support for businesses with the potential to trade outside Northern Ireland or on the world market. Invest NI's publication "Look at your business from a



different angle ... and grow" highlights the wide range of support to rural businesses. It is available on: www.investni.com/farmersmay04.pdf. The Start a Business Programme, offered in partnership with the Councils and Enterprise Northern Ireland network is free, available across Northern Ireland and provides support to anyone interested in starting a business.

For more information on support available from Invest NI log onto www.investni.com. For information on the Start A Business Programme contact 0808 127 0000, or log on to www.sabp.co.uk or contact your nearest delivery agency (see pages 134-137).

Your first point of contact with Invest Northern Ireland is usually the local office. Contact your local office listed below:

#### **Eastern Local Office**

Ards, Belfast, Castlereagh, Lisburn, Newtownabbey and North Down Trevor Kerr **Bedford Square** Bedford Street **BELFAST** BT2 7EH

Tel: (028) 9069 8450 Fax: (028) 9049 0490

E-mail: trevor.kerr@investni.com

#### **North Eastern Local Office**

Antrim, Ballymena, Ballymoney, Carrickfergus, Larne and Moyle

Geoff Spence 86 Mill Street

BALLYMENA BT43 5AF Tel: (028) 2566 6704

Fax: (028) 2564 8427

E-mail: geoff.spence@investni.com

#### **North Western Local Office**

Coleraine, Limavady, Derry/Londonderry and Magherafelt

Katherine Spratt

Building 1, Ulster Science and Technology Park

Buncrana Road

DERRY/LONDONDERRY BT48 0JB

Tel: (028) 7130 3173 Fax: (028) 7126 6054

E-mail: katherine.spratt@investni.com

## **Southern Local Office**

Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon, Down and Newry and

Mourne

Paula Powell

Drumalane Mill

The Quays, NEWRY

**BT35 8QF** 

Tel: (028) 3026 2955 Fax: (028) 3026 5358

E-mail: paula.powell@investni.com

#### **Western Local Office**

Fermanagh and Tyrone Ethna McNamee

Kelvin Buildings

47 Kevlin Avenue, OMAGH

**BT78 1ER** 

Tel: (028) 8224 5763 Fax: (028) 8224 4291

E-mail: ethna.mcnamee@investni.com

Invest Northern Ireland also offer assistance for tourism accommodation businesses. To find out more about their activities including funding for tourism accommodation contact:

#### **Tourism Team**

Invest NI Bedford Square Bedford Street BELFAST BT2 7EH

Tel: (028) 9023 9090

E-mail: tourism@investni.com

Website: www.investni.com/tourism

#### **Northern Ireland Tourist Board**

The Northern Ireland Tourist Board (NITB) has responsibility for the development, promotion and marketing of Northern Ireland as a tourist destination. Farmers and farm families considering tourism related projects may contact:

Northern Ireland Tourist Board

St Anne's Court 59 North Street BELFAST BT1 1NB

Tel: (028) 9023 1221 Fax: (028) 9024 0960

Textphone: (028) 9044 1522

E-mail: info@nitb.com Website: www.nitb.com

# **Department for Regional Development**

The Department for Regional Development (DRD) is responsible for strategic planning; transportation strategy; ports and public transport; roads and water policy; providing and maintaining roads; and providing and maintaining water and sewage services.

# **Department for Regional Development**

Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street BELFAST BT1 2GB

Tel: (028) 9054 0540

E-mail: enquiries@drdni.gov.uk Textphone: (028) 9054 0642

#### **Roads Service**

The Roads Service, an agency within the Department for Regional Development, is responsible for public roads, footways, bridges, car parks and street lighting throughout Northern Ireland.

#### **Headquarters:**

Clarence Court 10-18 Adelaide Street BELFAST BT2 8GB Tel: (028) 9054 0540

Fax: (028) 7034 1442

E-mail: roads@drdni.gov.uk Website: www.roadsni.gov.uk Textphone: (028) 9054 0022

# For reporting public road/street faults:

Please give the road/street name.

# For reporting street lighting faults:

Please give the streetlight number and the name of the street and town.

Northern Division

**Divisional Headquarters** 

County Hall

Castlerock Road

**COLERAINE BT51 3HS** 

Co Derry/Londonderry

Tel: (028) 7034 1300 Fax: (028) 7034 1430

After hours: (028) 7035 3202

E-mail: roads.northern@drdni.gov.uk

Council Area Covered Contact Details

Antrim Antrim

Tel: (028) 9442 6500

Ballymena/Larne Ballymena

Tel: (028) 2566 2954

Ballymoney/Moyle Ballymoney

Tel: (028) 2766 2252

Coleraine Coleraine

Tel: (028) 7034 1300

Derry City Derry/Londonderry

Tel: (028) 7132 1600

Limavady Limavady

Tel: (028) 7776 2198

All Northern Division except Derry City

- Street lighting faults Tel: (028) 7034 1300

**Derry City** 

- Street lighting faults Tel: (028) 7132 1600

Southern Division
Divisional Headquarters
Marlborough House
Central Way

**CRAIGAVON BT64 1AD** 

Co Armagh

Tel: (028) 3834 1144 Fax: (028) 3834 1867

After hours: (028) 3752 9500

E-mail: roads.southern@drdni.gov.uk

Council Area Covered Contact Details

Ards Newtownards

Tel: (028) 9181 9328

Armagh Armagh

Tel: (028) 3752 9500

Banbridge Banbridge

Tel: (028) 4066 2466

Craigavon Portadown

Tel: (028) 3833 8521

Down Seaforde

Tel: (028) 4481 2612

Newry and Mourne Newry

Tel: (028) 3025 3333

Strangford Ferry Strangford

Tel: (028) 4488 1637

Street lighting faults Portadown

Tel: (028) 3833 5181

Eastern Division

**Divisional Headquarters** 

Hydebank

4 Hospital Road

BELFÄST BT8 8JL

Tel: (028) 9025 3000 Fax: (028) 9025 3220

After hours: (028) 9025 3000

E-mail: roads.eastern@drdni.gov.uk

Council Area Covered Contact Details

Belfast North Belfast

Tel: (028) 9025 3000

Belfast South Belfast

Tel: (028) 9025 3000

Castlereagh Belfast

Tel: (028) 9025 3000

Lisburn Lisburn

Tel: (028) 9262 6666

Belfast

Newtownabbey and

Carrickfergus Tel: (028) 9025 3000

North Down Bangor

Tel: (028) 9127 9800

Traffic information Belfast

control centre Tel: (028) 9025 3000

Traffic hotline 0845 712 3321

Street lighting faults Belfast

Tel: (028) 9025 3051

Western Division

**Divisional Headquarters** 

County Hall

Drumragh Avenue OMAGH BT79 7AF

Co Tyrone

Tel: (028) 8225 4111 Fax: (028) 8225 4010

After hours: (028) 8224 1999

E-mail: roads.western@drdni.gov.uk

Council Area Covered Contact Details

Cookstown Cookstown

Tel: (028) 8676 2980

Dungannon Dungannon

Tel: (028) 8775 1251

Fermanagh Enniskillen

Tel: (028) 6634 3700

Magherafelt Magherafelt

Tel: (028) 7963 2308

Omagh Omagh

Tel: (028) 8225 4600

Strabane Strabane

Tel: (028) 7138 2982

Street lighting faults Omagh

Tel: (028) 8225 4158

#### **Water Service**

The Water Service, an agency within the Department for Regional Development, is responsible for providing water and sewerage services to the majority of domestic, agricultural, commercial and business customers throughout Northern Ireland.

# **Water Service Headquarters**

Northland House 3 Frederick Street BELFAST BT1 2NR Tel: (028) 9024 4711

Website: www.waterni.gov.uk

For emergencies, fault recording, service requests and general enquiries on your water and sewerage system you should contact customer services on:

Tel: 08457 440088

E-mail: waterline@waterni.gov.uk

Text phone for deaf customers: 08457 023206 For billing queries and accounts: (028) 9032 1500

# For general business calls contact your local office:

Area Contact Details

Ballymena Tel: (028) 2565 3655 Craigavon Tel: (028) 3834 1100 Belfast Tel: (028) 9074 1166 Derry/Londonderry Tel: (028) 7131 2221

To report all visible leaks on roads and footpaths you should contact leakline on:

FREEPHONE 08000 282 011

# **Department of the Environment**

The Department of the Environment (DOE) aims to:

- protect, conserve and enhance the natural environment and built heritage;
- ensure that development takes place in ways, which will contribute to a quality environment and meet economic and social aspirations;
- reduce road casualties: and
- support a system of Local Government which meets the needs of residents and ratepayers.

This is achieved through several agencies namely the Environment and Heritage Service, Driver Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland, the Driver Vehicle Testing Agency and the Planning Service.

#### **Department of the Environment**

Clarence Court 10 - 18 Adelaide Street BELFAST BT2 8GB

Tel: (028) 9054 0540

E-mail: press.office@doeni.gov.uk

Website: www.doeni.gov.uk

# **Environment and Heritage Service**

The Environment and Heritage Service (EHS), an agency within the Department of the Environment (DOE), aims are to protect and conserve Northern Ireland's natural heritage and built environment, to control and regulate pollution and to promote a wider appreciation of the environment and best environmental practices.

# **Natural Heritage**

Headquarters
Commonwealth House
35 Castle Street
BELFAST BT1 1GU

Tel: (028) 9054 6442

#### **Environmental Protection**

Headquarters Calvert House 23 Castle Place BELFAST BT1 1FY

Tel: (028) 9054 6614

# **Built Heritage General Enquiries**

Headquarters
Waterman House
5-33 Hill Street
BELFAST BT1 2LA

Tel: (028) 9054 3034

If you have a problem contacting these services, or are unsure whom to call, please contact:

DOE Headquarters Customer Information: (028) 9054 0540

Website: www.ehsni.gov.uk

Water Pollution Hotline (24 hours): 0800 807 060

## **Driver and Vehicle Licensing Northern Ireland (DVLNI)**

DVLNI aims to assist law enforcement, provide customerfocused services and collect taxes fairly and efficiently and to promote road safety.

# **Driver and Vehicle Licensing HQ**

County Hall
Castlerock Road
COLERAINE

Co Derry/Londonderry

**BT51 3HS** 

Tel: 24hr information line: (028) 9025 0500

E-mail: dvlni@doeni.gov.uk Website: www.dvlni.gov.uk

# **Vehicle Licensing**

Enquiries Tel: (028) 7034 1461
Textphone Tel: (028) 7034 1351
Fax: (028) 7034 1422

Premium Line Tel: 0906 5161 666 Re-licensing: Tel: (028) 7034 1514

# **Driver and Vehicle Testing Agency (DVTA)**

Fees Information Line
Theory Test Bookings
Practical Driver Bookings
Vehicle Test (MOT) Bookings
Minicom
Tel: 08457 581 416
Tel: 0845 600 6700
Tel: 0845 247 2472
Tel: 0845 247 2471
Tel: (028) 9066 5453

Approved Driver

Instructor Queries Tel: (028) 9054 7933

# **Planning Service**

The main aim of the planning system is to decide what kind of development is appropriate, how much is required, where it should be located and what it looks like.

## The Planning Service

Department of the Environment 3rd floor Millennium House 19-25 Great Victoria Street Belfast

BT2 7BN

Tel: (028) 9041 6700 Fax: (028) 9041 6802

E-mail: planning.service.hq@nics.gov.uk

Website: www.planningni.gov.uk

# **Local Planning Offices**

Area Office	Council Areas Covered	Contact Details
Ballymena	Antrim, Ballymena,	County Hall
	Carrickfergus, Larne	182 Galgorm Road
	and Magherafelt	BALLYMENA
		Co Antrim
	Mon - Fri:	BT42 1QF
	9.00am - 5.00pm	Tel: (028) 2565 3333
	•	Fax: (028) 2566 2127
	E-mail:	

divisional.planning.office.ballymena@nics.gov.uk

Area Office	Council Areas Covered	Contact Details
Belfast	Belfast, Castlereagh and Newtownabbey	16 - 22 Bedford Street BELFAST BT2 7FD
	Mon - Wed: 9.30am - 4.30 Thurs: 10.30am - 4.30pm	•
	Fri: 9.30am - 4.30pm E-mail:	Fax: (028) 9025 2828
	divisional.planning.office.b	oelfast@nics.gov.uk
Coleraine	Ballymoney, Coleraine and Moyle	County Hall Castlerock Road COLERAINE
	Mon: 10:00am - 4:30pm	Co Derry/ Londonderry
	Tue - Fri: 9.30am - 4.30pr	•
	E-mail: divisional.planning.office.c	
Craigavon	Armagh, Banbridge, Craigavon and Newry & Mourne	Marlborough House Central Way CRAIGAVON Co Armagh
	Mon - Thur: 9.30am - 4.30pm Fri: 10.00am - 4.30pm E-mail:	BT64 1AD Tel: (028) 3834 1144 Fax: (028) 3834 1065
	divisional.planning.office.craigavon@nics.gov.uk	

Area Office Council Areas Covered Contact Details

Derry/Derry CityOrchard HouseLondonderryand Limavady40 Foyle Street

DERRY/

LONDONDERRY

Co Derry/ Londonderry

Mon: 10.00am - 4.30pm BT48 6AT

Tues - Fri: Tel: (028) 7131 9900 9.30am - 4.30pm Fax: (028) 7131 9777

E-mail: divisional.planning. office.londonderry@nics.gov.uk

Downpatrick Ards, Down, Lisburn and Rathkeltair House

North Down Market Street DOWNPATRICK

Co Down

Mon - Thur: BT30 6LZ

9.30am - 4.30pm Tel: (028) 4461 2211 Fri: 10.00am - 4.30pm Fax: (028) 4461 8196

E-mail:

divisional.planning.office. downpatrick@nics.gov.uk

Enniskillen Fermanagh County Buildings

15 East Bridge Street

ENNISKILLEN

Mon - Tues: Co Fermanagh 9.30am - 4.30pm BT74 7BW

Wed: 10.00am - 4.30pm

Thurs and Fri: Tel: (028) 6634 6555 9.30am - 4.30pm Fax: (028) 6634 6550

E-mail:

divisional.planning.office.enniskillen@nics.gov.uk

# Omagh Cookstown, Dungannon, County Hall

Omagh and Strabane Drumragh Avenue

**OMAGH** 

Mon - Fri: Co Tyrone 9.00am - 5.00pm BT79 7AE

Tel: (028) 8225 4000

Fax: (028) 8225 4011

E-mail:

divisional.planning.office.omagh@nics.gov.uk

# **Housing Executive**

The Housing Executive is Northern Ireland's comprehensive housing authority providing a wide range of housing services, including accommodation, grants and Housing Benefit. These services are delivered through a network of District and Grants Offices. Alternatively the Housing Executive's head office can give general advice and assistance.

# Headquarters

Housing Executive The Housing Centre 2 Adelaide Street BELFAST

Tel: (028) 9024 0588

Website: www.nihe.gov.uk

# **Housing Grants**

One of the services offered by the Housing Executive is the Grant Scheme, which can provide assistance for the improvement and repair of domestic property within the private sector.

There are five main grants available, which you could be entitled to, namely the Renovation Grant, the Replacement Grant, Minor Works Assistance, the Disabled Facilities Grant and the Repairs Grant. For more information on these and your eligibility please contact your local Grants Office (see overleaf) who will send you a Preliminary Enquiry Form. A Preliminary Enquiry Form may also be downloaded from the Housing Executive's website as follows:

www.nihe.gov.uk/publications/forms

# **County Antrim**

Area Office	Council Areas covered	Contact Details	
Ballyclare	Carrickfergus, Larne and Newtownabbey	141 Mill Road Ballyclare BT39 9DZ Tel: (028) 9335 2849 Fax: (028) 9335 2971	
	E-mail: ballyclaregrants@	nihe.gov.uk	
Ballymena	Antrim, Ballymena and Moyle	Twickenham House Mount Street Ballymena BT43 6BP Tel: (028) 2565 3399 Fax: (028) 2564 1319	
	E-mail: ballymenagrants@	E-mail: ballymenagrants@nihe.gov.uk	
Lisburn	Down and Lisburn	4-6 Graham Gardens Lisburn BT28 1AU Tel: (028) 9266 5222 Fax: (028) 9266 6736	
	E-mail: lisburngrants@nih	, ,	
County Armagl	h		
Craigavon	Armagh and Craigavon	Marlborough House Central Way Craigavon BT64 1AD	

Fax: (028) 3834 1264 E-mail: craigavongrants@nihe.gov.uk

Tel: (028) 3834 1188

# Housing Executive

# **County Derry/Londonderry**

Coleraine Ballymoney and Twickenham House

Coleraine Mount Street

> Ballymena **BT43 6BP**

Tel: (028) 2565 3399 Fax: (028) 2564 1319

E-mail: ballymenagrants@nihe.gov.uk

Derry/ Derry, Limavady, Richmond Chambers Londonderry

Magherafelt and Strabane The Diamond

Derry/Londonderry

**BT48 6PE** 

Tel: (028) 7137 2000 Fax: (028)7126 6678

E-mail: derry-londonderrygrants@nihe.gov.uk

**County Down** 

32/36 Great Victoria Belfast North and West Belfast

> Street Belfast BT2 7BA

Tel: (028) 9031 7000 Fax: (028) 9023 1864

E-mail: belfastnwgrants@nihe.gov.uk

**Belfast** South and East Belfast 32/36 Great Victoria

> Street Belfast BT2 7BA

Tel: (028) 9031 7000

Fax: (028) 9023 1864

E-mail: belfastsegrants@nihe.gov.uk

# **County Down**

Newry Banbridge and Newry 35

and Mourne

35-45 Boat Street

Newry

BT34 2DJ

Tel: (028) 3026 7331 Fax: (028) 3026 0688

E-mail: newrygrants@nihe.gov.uk

**Newtownards** A

Ards and Castlereagh

Strangford House 28 Court Street Newtownards BT23 3NX

Tel: (028) 9182 0600 Fax: (028) 9182 2494

E-mail: newtownardsgrants@nihe.gov.uk

# **County Fermanagh**

Enniskillen Fermanagh

Riverview House Head Street Enniskillen BT74 7DA

Tel: (028) 6632 5770 Fax: (028) 6634 2148

E-mail: fermanaghgrants@nihe.gov.uk

# **County Tyrone**

**Omagh** 

Cookstown, Dungannon

and Omagh

McAllister House

Woodside Avenue Mountjoy Road

Omagh BT79 7PB

Tel: (028) 8224 6111 Fax: (028) 8224 9426

E-mail: omaghgrants@nihe.gov.uk

# **Housing Benefit**

Housing Benefit is a scheme that assists people on a low income to meet certain housing costs such as rent and rates; you do not need to be unemployed to claim Housing Benefit. The Housing Executive administers Housing Benefit for all tenants in Northern Ireland; rate rebates for owner-occupiers are available through the Rate Collection Agency.

The rules governing Housing Benefit are complex so it is always advisable to claim to ensure you do not lose out. It is also important that you claim as soon as you think you may be eligible as there are strict rules concerning the dates from which Housing Benefit can be paid. Further information on Housing Benefit can be obtained from any Housing Executive District Office, the Housing Executive's website www.nihe.gov.uk or from the Rate Collection Agency.

# **Rate Collection Agency**

Belfast: (028) 9025 2525 Ballymena: (028) 2566 4700 Derry/Londonderry (028) 7131 9900 Portadown: (028) 3839 6200 Omagh: (028) 8225 4777

Website: www.ratecollectionagencyni.gov.uk

# **Inland Revenue**

For information on Inland Revenue, National Insurance and Working Family Tax Credit issues and your local office

contact:

Inland Revenue Tax Credit Helpline
Beaufort House Dorchester House
31 Wellington Place Great Victoria Street

BELFAST BELFAST BT1 6BH BT2 7WF

Tel: 0845 302 1469 Tel: 0845 603 2000

Textphone: 08456 076078

Website: www.inlandrevenue.gov.uk

# **International Fund for Ireland (IFI)**



## INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR IRELAND

The International Fund for Ireland's mission is to underpin efforts towards peace by promoting economic and social and encouraging contact, dialogue advance reconciliation between unionists and nationalists throughout Ireland. Its work in the area of rural development is part of the Building Foundations dimension of its work and in this may support community based it economic regeneration projects. All projects are required to demonstrate a clear focus on building the foundations for reconciliation and resources will be focused on the most marginalised communities in Northern Ireland and the 6 border counties in the Republic.

Assistance may also be provided towards projects based in rural areas that increase the capacities of local communities to equip them to undertake work that contributes to the Fund's objectives. Projects selected for assistance in Northern Ireland are normally jointly funded by the Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC), which also acts as the Fund's agent for the Programme.

Northern Ireland Rural Development Council 17 Loy Street Cookstown Co Tyrone BT80 8PZ

Tel: (028) 8676 6980 Fax: (028) 8676 6922 E-mail: info@rdc.org.uk

# **Valuation and Lands Agency**

The Valuation and Lands Agency is an Executive Agency of the Department of Finance and Personnel in Northern Ireland.

The Agency has 3 main functions:

- The maintenance of the Valuation List for rating purposes in Northern Ireland and periodically, the preparation of a new Valuation List.
- Provision of a valuation, estate management and property data service to the public sector.
- Advice on all mattes relating to land management and valuation is provided to the Department and Ministers, and through the Central Advisory Unit to property centres throughout the Northern Ireland Public Sector.

The Agency delivers its service currently from a central Headquarters and a network of seven District Offices across Northern Ireland.

District Office	Council Areas Covered	Contact Details	
Ballymena	Ballymena, Ballymoney, Carrickfergus, Larne, Moyle, Newtownabbey  E-mail: ballymena.vla@df	Government Offices George St BALLYMENA BT43 5AP Tel: (028) 2566 0700 Fax: (028) 2566 0711	
	E-mail. ballymena.via@dipm.gov.dk		

**Bangor** Ards, Castlereagh,

North Down Hamilton Road.

Crown Buildings,

Bangor BT20 4I Q

Tel: (028) 9127 9111 Fax: (028) 9147 1644

E-mail: bangor.vla@dfpni.gov.uk

Belfast Belfast Queen's Court

> 56-66 Upper Queen St. Belfast BT1 6FD

Tel: (028) 9025 0700 Fax: (028) 9054 3930

E-mail: belfast.vla@dfpni.gov.uk

Craigavon Armagh, Craigavon, Marlborough House

> Newry and Mourne Central Way

Craigavon **BT64 1AD** 

Tel: (028) 3834 1144 Fax: (028) 3832 0177

E-mail: craigavon.vla@dfpni.gov.uk

Lisburn Antrim, Banbridge, 1 The Sidings,

Down, Lisburn Antrim Road Lisburn

**BT28 3AJ** 

Tel: (028) 9262 3500

Fax: (028) 9262 3555

E-mail: lisburn.vla@dfpni.gov.uk

Londonderry Coleraine.

Derry/Londonderry,

Limavady, Magherafelt,

Strabane

Waterside House. 75 Duke Street,

Londonderry BT28 3AJ

Tel: (028) 7131 9000 Fax: (028) 7131 9087

E-mail: londonderry.vla@dfpni.gov.uk

**Omagh** Cookstown, Dungannon,

Fermanagh, Omagh

Boaz House.

19 Scarffes Entry,

Omagh **BT78 1JG** 

Tel: (028) 8225 4888 Fax: (028) 8225 4880

E-mail: omagh.vla@dfpni.gov.uk

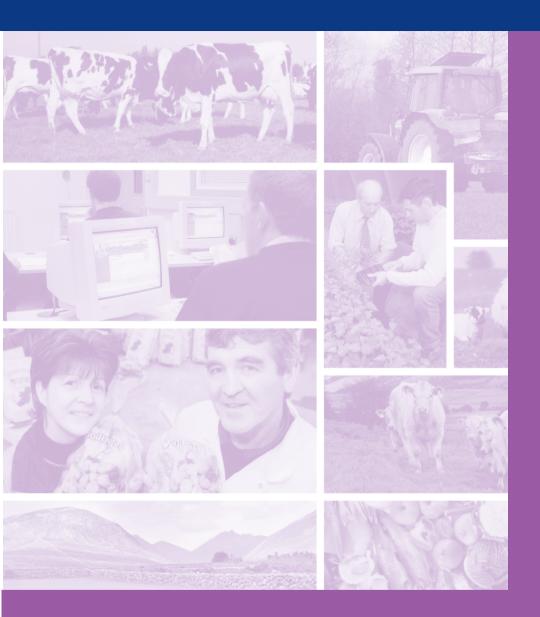
**Central Advisory Unit** Queen's Court,

> 56-66 Upper Queen Street

Belfast BT1 6FD

Tel: (028) 9054 3774 Fax: (028) 9054 3770

E-mail: cau.vla@dfpni.gov.uk Website: http://vla.nics.gov.uk/



# Section 3 LOCAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES AND AGENCIES

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# **District Councils**

Most councils in Northern Ireland presently have an Economic Development Officer in post. Their role is to assist all kinds of businesses and foster economic development in their locality. Environmental Health and Building Control Officers may also be relevant to many farm diversification projects. You may also be able to contact your local councillor through the council office.

# **Antrim Borough Council**

The Steeple
Steeple Road
ANTRIM
Co Antrim
BT41 1BJ

Tel: (028) 9446 3113 Fax: (028) 9446 4469

# **Armagh District Council**

The Palace Demesne ARMAGH Co Armagh BT60 4EL Tel: (028) 3752 9600

Tel: (028) 3752 9600 Fax: (028) 3752 9601

# **Ards Borough Council**

2 Church Street NEWTOWNARDS

Co Down BT23 4AP

Tel: (028) 9182 4000 Fax: (028) 9181 9628

# Ballymena Borough Council

Ardeevin 80 Galgorm Road BALLYMENA Co Antrim BT42 1AB

Tel: 08456 581 581 Fax: (028) 2566 0400

# **Ballymoney District Council Banbridge District**

Riada House 14 Charles Street BALLYMONEY Co Antrim

Tel: (028) 2766 0200 Fax: (028) 2766 0222

# **Belfast City Council**

City Hall **BELFAST** BT1 5GS

**BT53 6DZ** 

Tel: (028) 9032 0202

# Castlereagh Borough Council

1 Bradford Court Upper Galwally Castlereagh BT8 6RB

Tel: (028) 9049 4500 Fax: (028) 9049 4515

Council

Civic Building Downshire Road **BANBRIDGE** Co Down **BT32 3JY** 

Tel: (028) 4066 0600 Fax: (028) 4066 0601

# Carrickfergus Borough

Council

Carrickfergus Museum and

Civic Centre 11 Antrim Street **CARRICKFERGUS** 

Co Antrim **BT38 7DG** 

Tel: (028) 9335 8000 Fax: (028) 9336 6676

# **Coleraine Borough**

Council Cloonavin

66 Portstewart Road

COLERAINE

Co Derry/Londonderry

**BT52 1EY** 

Tel: (028) 7034 7034 Fax: (028) 7034 7026

# **District Councils**

# **Cookstown District Council**

Burn Road COOKSTOWN Co Tyrone BT80 8DT

Tel: (028) 8676 2205 Fax: (028) 8676 4360 **Craigavon Borough** 

Council
Civic Centre
PO Box 66
Lakeview Road
CRAIGAVON
Co Armagh
BT64 1AL

Tel: (028) 3831 2400 Fax: (028) 3831 2444

Dungannon and South Tyrone District Council

Circular Road

**DUNGANNON** 

# **Down District Council**

24 Strangford Road DOWNPATRICK Co Down BT30 6SR Tel: (028) 4461 0800

Fax: (028) 4461 0800

# Co Tyrone BT71 6DT

Tel: (028) 8772 0300 Fax: (028) 8772 0368

# Fermanagh District Council

Town Hall ENNISKILLEN Co Fermanagh BT74 7BA

Tel: (028) 6632 5050 Fax: (028) 6632 2024

# **Larne Borough Council**

Smiley Buildings Victoria Road LARNE Co Antrim BT40 1RU

Tel: (028) 2827 2313 Fax: (028) 2826 0660

# **Limavady Borough Council**

7 Connell Street LIMAVADY Co Derry/Londonderry **BT49 0HA** 

Tel: (028) 7772 2226 Fax: (028) 7772 2010

# **Londonderry Borough** Council

**Derry City Council** 98 Strand Road DERRY/LONDONDERRY **BT48 7NN** 

Tel: (028) 7136 5151 Fax: (028) 7126 4858

# **Moyle District Council**

Sheskburn House 7 Mary Street BALLYCASTLE Co Antrim **BT54 6QH** 

Tel: (028) 2076 2225 Fax: (028) 2076 2515

# **Lisburn City Council**

Lagan Valley Island Island Civic Centre The Island LISBURN **BT27 4RL** 

Tel: (028) 9250 9250 Fax: (028) 9250 9288

# **Magherafelt District** Council

50 Ballyronan Road **MAGHERAFELT** Co Derry/Londonderry BT45 6FN

Tel: (028) 7939 7979 Fax: (028) 7939 7980

# **Newry and Mourne District Council**

Monaghan Row **NEWRY** 

Co Down BT35 8DJ

Tel: (028) 3031 3031 Fax: (028) 3031 3077 Newtownabbey Borough Council

Mossley Mill

**NEWTOWNABBEY** 

Co Antrim BT36 5QA

Tel: (028) 9034 0000

Fax: (028) 9034 0200

# **Omagh District Council**

The Grange Mountjoy Road

OMAGH Co Tyrone BT79 7BL

Tel: (028) 8224 5321 Fax: (028) 8224 3888

# North Down Borough Council

Town Hall The Castle BANGOR Co Down BT20 4BT

Tel: (028) 9127 0371 Fax: (028) 9127 1370

# **Strabane District Council**

47 Derry Road STRABANE Co Tyrone BT82 8DY

Tel: (028) 7138 2204 Fax: (028) 7138 1348

# **Local Councils web address:**

www.northernireland.gov.uk/councils.htm

# **LEADER +**

The aim of the LEADER+ Programme is to increase the economic and employment contribution that very small businesses, including small farms, make to the rural economy by encouraging local partnerships to test out new approaches to micro-business development and, where beneficial, to work in collaboration with similar partnerships in other areas.

LEADER+ is being delivered by 12 LEADER+ Groups. Applicants wishing to obtain funding under the LEADER+ Programme should apply directly to the LEADER+ Group for their area.

# **Coleraine Council Area**

LEADER Group Coleraine Local Action Group for Enterprise Ltd (COLLAGE) 89 Main Street GARVAGH Co Derry/Londonderry BT51 5AB

Tel: (028) 2955 8066 Fax: (028) 2955 8130

E-mail: info@collage-ltd.com Website: www.collage-ltd.com

# **Armagh City and District Council and Craigavon** Council Area

**LEADER Group** 

Craigavon and Armagh

Rural Development

(CARD)

Craigavon Borough Council

Civic Centre Lakeview Road

CRAIGAVON Co Armagh BT64 1AI

Tel: (028) 3831 2588/

3752 9632

Fax: (028) 3831 2488/

3752 9631

E-mail: maria.magennis@craigavon.gov.uk Website: www.craigavonarmaghrural.org

# **Cookstown and Dungannon Council Area**

**LEADER Group** 

East Tyrone Rural Gortalowry House

94 Church Street

COOKSTOWN BT80 8HX

Co Tyrone

Tel/Fax: (028) 8676 4714

E-mail: etr@cookstown.gov.uk

Website: www.easttyronerural.co.uk

# Fermanagh Council Area

LEADER Group

Fermanagh Local Action Group Unit 4A

(FLAG) Tullynagard

Lisnarick Road IRVINESTOWN Co Fermanagh

**BT94 1EY** 

Tel: (028) 6862 1600 Fax: (028) 6862 1992

E-mail: info@fermanaghleader.co.uk Website: www.fermanaghleader.co.uk

# **Magherafelt Council Area**

**LEADER Group** 

Magherafelt Area Partnership 50 Ballyronan Road

(MAP) MAGHERAFELT

Co Derry/Londonderry

**BT45 6EN** 

Tel: (028) 7939 7979 Fax: (028) 7939 7980

E-mail: info@magherafelt-lsp.co.uk Website: www.magherafelt.org

# **Newry and Mourne Council Area**

**LEADER Group** 

Newry and Mourne 74 Hill Street

Local Action Group NEWRY
Co Down

BT34 1BE

Tel: (028) 3026 3177 Fax: (028) 3026 3395

E-mail: micealmccoy@btconnect.com

Website: www.newryandmourneleader.com

# Leader +

# Ballymena, Ballymoney, Larne and Moyle Council Area

**LEADER Group** 

North Antrim Leader Old School House

25 Mill Street Cushendall BALLYMENA Co Antrim BT44 0RR

Tel: (028) 2177 2138 Fax: (028) 2177 2137

E- mail: north-antrim-leader@antrim.net Website: www.northantrimleader.org

# Rural areas of Antrim, Carrickfergus and Newtownabbey

**LEADER Group** 

REAP South Antrim Antrim Borough Council

(Rural Economic Action The Steeple Partnership) ANTRIM Co Antrim

Co Antrim BT41 1BJ

Tel: (028) 9448 1311 Fax: (028) 9442 8059

E-mail: admin@reapsouthantrim.com Website: www.reapsouthantrim.com

# **Limavady Council Area**

LEADER Group Roe Valley Rural Development Ltd

Council Offices 7 Connell Street

LIMAVADY

Co Derry/Londonderry

BT49 0HA

Tel: (028) 7776 0306 Fax: (028) 7772 2010

E-mail: leaderplus@limavady.gov.uk Website: www.roevalleyleaderplus.co.uk Rural areas within Derry/Londonderry City Council -Banagher, Claudy, Corrody, Culmore, Eglinton, Enagh, Fanaghan and New Buildings

**LEADER Group** 

Rural Area Partnership in DerryThe Old School (RAPID) 2 Foreglen Road

**KILLALOO** 

Co Derry/Londonderry

**BT47 3TP** 

Tel: (028) 7133 7149 Fax: (028) 7133 7146

E-mail: info@rapidni.com Website: www.rapidni.com

# Ards, Banbridge and Down Council Area

**LEADER Group** 

The Rural Down Partnership Banbridge District Council

Civic Buildings Downshire Road BANBRIDGE Co Down BT32 3JY

Tel: (028) 4066 0609 Fax: (028) 4066 0601

E-mail: info@ruraldown.org.uk Website: www.ruraldown.org.uk

# **Omagh and Strabane Council Area**

**LEADER Group Contact Details** 

West Tyrone Rural Ltd Omagh Business Complex

Gortrush Industrial Estate

Great Northern Road

OMAGH Co Tyrone BT78 5LU

Tel: (028) 8225 2647 Fax: (028) 8225 2672

E-mail: info@westtyronerural.com Website: www.westtyronerural.com

# **Local Enterprise Agencies**

Enterprise Northern Ireland has a network of Local Enterprise Agencies who support small businesses and community enterprises by providing:

- a one-stop-shop for government small business initiatives:
- professional with advisers extensive business experience:
- low cost loans, grant aid and other business finance;
- support for small businesses acquiring new information technologies;
- programmes supporting business growth and development:
- industrial and office accommodation.

Local Enterprise Agencies are grouped into five areas as below:

# **North Eastern Region**

Acorn the Business Centre **BALLYMONEY** 

Tel: (028) 2766 6133

Antrim Enterprise Agency Ltd ANTRIM

Tel: (028) 9446 7774

Ballymena Business Centre Ltd BALLYMENA

Tel: (028) 2565 8616

Carrickfergus Enterprise Development Agency Ltd **CARRICKFERGUS** 

Tel: (028) 9336 9528

Larne Enterprise Company Ltd LARNE

Tel: (028) 2827 0742

Moyle Enterprise Company Ltd BALLYCASTLE

Tel: (028) 2076 3737

# **Eastern Region**

Ards Business Centre Ltd NEWTOWNARDS Tel: (028) 9181 9787

Castlereagh Enterprises Ltd DUNDONALD

Tel: (028) 9055 7557

East Belfast Enterprise BELFAST

Tel: (028) 9045 5450

Glenwood Enterprises Ltd BELFAST

Tel: (028) 9061 0311

Lisburn Enterprise Organisation Ltd LISBURN

Tel: (028) 9266 1160

Mallusk Enterprise Park Ltd NEWTOWNABBEY

Tel: (028) 9083 8860

North Down Development Organisation Ltd BANGOR

Tel: (028) 9127 1525

West Belfast Development Trust Ltd Work West Enterprise Agency BELFAST

Tel: (028) 9061 0826

# **North Western Region**

Coleraine Enterprise Agency COLERAINE

Tel: (028) 7035 6318

Roe Valley Enterprises Ltd LIMAVADY

Tel: (028) 7776 2323/5655

Workspace (Draperstown) Ltd DRAPERSTOWN Tel: (028) 7962 8113

# **Southern Region**

Armagh Business Centre Ltd ARMAGH

Tel: (028) 3752 5050

Banbridge District Enterprises Ltd BANBRIDGE

Tel: (028) 4066 2260

Craigavon Industrial Development Organisation Ltd PORTADOWN

Tel: (028) 3833 3393

Down Business Centre DOWNPATRICK

Tel: (028) 4461 6416

Newry and Mourne Enterprise Agency NEWRY, Co. Down Tel: (028) 3026 7011

# **Western Region**

Cookstown Enterprise Centre Ltd COOKSTOWN

Tel: (028) 8676 3660

Dungannon Enterprise Centre Ltd DUNGANNON

Tel: (028) 8772 3489

Fermanagh Enterprise Ltd ENNISKILLEN Tel: (028) 6632 7348/3117

Omagh Enterprise Company Ltd OMAGH

Tel: (028) 8224 9494

Strabane Enterprise Agency STRABANE

Tel: (028) 7138 2518

# **Local Strategic Partnerships**

Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP's) are council based partnerships, which have the responsibility for delivering an aspect of PEACE II funding and the co-ordination of local action plans.

# ANTRIM

Antrim Borough Council The Steeple Steeple Road **ANTRIM** 

Co Antrim BT41 1BJ Tel: (028) 9446 3113 Fax: (028) 9446 8059

E-mail: paul.kelly@antrim.gov.uk

Website: www.antrim.gov.uk/partnership

# **ARDS**

Crepe Weavers Industrial Estate 20 Comber Road NEWTOWNARDS Co Down BT23 4RX

Tel: (028) 9182 6913 Fax: (028) 9181 8040

E-mail: info@ardslsp.org.uk

# **ARMAGH**

C/o Armagh District Council

The Palace Demesne

ARMAGH

Co Armagh BT60 4EL

Tel: (028) 3752 9600 Fax: (028) 3752 9601

E-mail: d.ohare@armagh.gov.uk Website: www.armagh.gov.uk

# **BALLYMENA**

Ardeevin

8 Galgorm Road

Ballymena

Co Antrim BT42 1AB

Tel: (028) 2566 0444 Fax: (028) 2566 0400

E-mail: majella.mcalister@ballymena.gov.uk

Website: www.ballymenasp.org

# **BANBRIDGE**

Banbridge District Council

Downshire Road BANBRIDGE

Co Down BT32 3JY

Tel: (028) 4066 0644 Fax: (028) 4066 0601

E-mail: info@bridgepartnership.org.uk Website: www.bridgepartnership.org.uk

# **BALLYMONEY**

**Ballymoney District Council** 

Riada House

14 Charles Street

BALLYMONEY

Co Antrim BT53 6DZ

Tel: (028) 2766 0253/2766 0258

Fax: (028) 2766 3852

E-mail: margaret.drain@ballymoney.gov.uk

Website: www.ballymoney.gov.uk

# **BELFAST**

Belfast City Council

5th Floor

Premier Business Centre

20 Adelaide Street

BELFAST BT2 8GD

Tel: (028) 9032 8532

Fax: (028) 9032 7306 E-mail: info@blsp.org Website: www.blsp.org

# CARRICKFERGUS

**Economic Development** 

Carrickfergus Borough Council

Wilson Endowes Building

15 Lancasterian Street

**CARRICKFERGUS** 

Co Antrim BT38 7AB

Tel: (028) 9335 1438 Fax: (028) 9336 0868

E-mail: alanb.econdev@carrickfergus.org E-mail: alanm.econdev@carrickfergus.org

# **CASTLEREAGH**

**Dundonald Enterprise Park** 

Unit A9

Carrowreagh Road

**DUNDONALD BT16 1QT** 

Tel: (028) 9048 7997 Fax: (028) 9049 7997

E-mail: info@castlereaghpartnershiplsp.co.uk

# **COLERAINE**

Coleraine Borough Strategic Partnership

Cloonavin

66 Portstewart Road

**COLERAINE** 

Co Derry/Londonderry BT52 1RP

Tel: (028) 7034 7051 Fax: (028) 7034 7026

E-mail: cb.sp@colerainebc.gov.uk

# **COOKSTOWN**

Cookstown Local Strategic Partnership

Gortalowry House

94 Church Street

**COOKSTOWN** 

Co Tyrone BT80 8HX

Tel: (028) 8676 4714 Fax: (028) 8676 4714

E-mail: cookstownlsp@btconnect.com

Website: www.cookstown.gov.uk

# **CRAIGAVON**

Craigavon Borough Council

Civic Centre

Lakeview Road

**CRAIGAVON** 

Co Armagh BT64 1AL

Tel: (028) 3831 2571 Fax: (028) 3831 2444

E-mail: francis.rock@craigavon.gov.uk

# **DERRY/LONDONDERRY**

**Exchange House** 

Queens Quay

DERRY/LONDONDERRY

Co Derry/Londonderry BT48 7AS

Tel: (028) 7130 8466 Fax: (028) 7130 8405

E-mail: oonagh.mcgillion@derrycity.gov.uk Website: www.lspderrycitycouncilarea.org.uk

# **DOWN**

1st Floor

Magh-Inis House

8-10 Irish Street

DOWNPATRICK

Co Down BT30 6BP

Tel: (028) 4461 7667 Fax: (028) 4461 9789

E-mail: d.partner@btinternet.com

# **FERMANAGH**

Unit 31

**Enniskillen Business Centre** 

Lackaghboy Industrial Estate

Tempo Road

**ENNISKILLEN** 

Co Fermanagh

**BT74 4RL** 

Tel: (028) 6632 9225 Fax: (028) 6632 9217

E-mail: fermanagh.lsp@btconnect.com

Website: www.femanaghnrrti.co.uk

# **LARNE**

C/o Ledcom

Ledcom Industrial Estate

Bank Road

**LARNE** 

Co Antrim BT40 3AW Tel: (028) 2827 0742

Fax: (028) 2827 5653

E-mail: patriciabrennan@ledcom.org

E-mail: junescullion@ledcom.org

Website: www.larnedp.org

# **LIMAVADY**

Limavady Borough Council

7 Connell Street

LIMAVADY

Co Derry/Londonderry BT49 0HA

Tel: (028) 7776 0306 Fax: (028) 7772 2010

E-mail: paul.beattie@limavady.gov.uk

Website: www.limap.co.uk

# LISBURN

Unit 2

The Sidings Office Park

Antrim Road

LISBURN BT28 3AJ

Tel: (028) 9260 5406 Fax: (028) 9263 4400

E-mail: info@lisburnpartnership.com Website: www.lisburnpartnership.com

# MAGHERAFELT AREA

Magherafelt District Council

50 Ballyronan Road **MAGHERAFELT** 

Co Derry/Londonderry

**BT45 6EN** 

Tel: (028) 7939 7979 Fax: (028) 7939 7980

E-mail: chris.macarney@magherafelt.org

Website: www.magherafelt.org

# MOYLE

Moyle District Council Sheskburn House 7 Mary Street BALLYCASTLE Co Antrim BT54 6QH

Tel: (028) 2076 2225 Fax: (028) 2076 2515

E-mail: moylelsp@moyle-council.org Website: www.moyle-council.org

#### **NEWRY and MOURNE**

European House 16A Canal Quay

**NEWRY** 

Co Down BT35 6BP Tel: (028) 3026 6933 Fax: (028) 3026 6932

E-mail: info@newryandmournelsp.com

#### **NEWTOWNABBEY**

Mossley Hill

**NEWTOWNABBEY** 

Co Antrim BT36 5QA

Tel: (028) 9034 0000 Fax: (028) 9034 0196

E-mail: dhunter@newtownabbey.gov.uk Website: www.newtownabbeylsp.co.uk

#### **NORTH DOWN**

C/o Town Hall

The Castle BANGOR

Co Down BT20 4BT

Tel: (028) 9127 8028 Fax: (028) 9127 1370

E-mail: jan.nixey@northdown.gov.uk Website: www.northdownlsp.com

#### **OMAGH**

2nd Floor

**Tourist Information Centre** 

1 Market Street

**OMAGH** 

Co Tyrone BT78 1EE Tel: (028) 8225 0262

Fax: (028) 8225 0262

E-mail: lsp@omagh.gov.uk

#### SOUTH TYRONE AREA PARTNERSHIP-LSP Ltd

C/o Bank Buildings 26 Market Square

DUNGANNON

Co Tyrone BT70 1AB

Tel: (028) 8772 0315 Tel: (028) 8772 0311 Fax: (028) 8772 8650

E-mail: ursulaquinn@dungannon.gov.uk E-mail: stap.info@dungannon.gov.uk

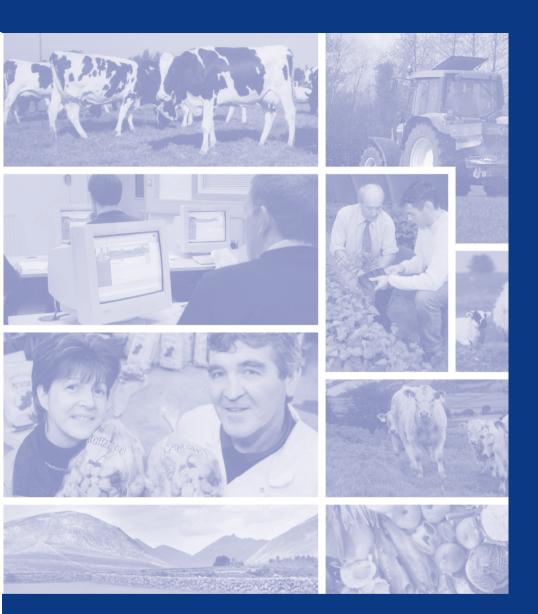
#### **STRABANE**

47 Derry Road **STRABANE** 

Co Tyrone BT82 8DY

Tel: (028) 7138 1309 Fax: (028) 7138 1346

E-mail: slsp@strabanedc.com Website: www.strabanelsp.com



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# **Charities and Voluntary Trusts**

#### **Gibson Trust**

Grants for capital investment are available to farmers and commercial horticultural growers in Antrim and Down. They must be actively working their land, which will normally have been inherited through the family. The farm must have a business of between 1000 and 7500 manhours and farm income must form a significant part of the applicant's total income.

Eligible projects include fixed equipment to increase farm income (including adding value to farm produce); measures to improve animal welfare; measures to reduce pollution; measures to enhance the rural environment or farm diversification.

#### Contact

The Secretary
The Gibson Trust
35 Carnreagh Rd
HILLSBOROUGH
Co Down
BT26 6LJ

#### **Prince's Trust**

If you want to start a new business and are aged 18-30, unemployed, underemployed, underskilled, within or leaving the criminal justice system, leaving care, disabled, parenting alone or facing discrimination then the Prince's Trust may be able to help. The Trust can offer a low interest loan, test marketing grants, business advice and discounted rates for exhibition space.

#### **Contact**

Website: www.princes-trust.org.uk

#### **Shell-Livewire**

Helps 16-30 year olds start and develop their own business and hosts a national competition for new business startups.

#### Contact

Shell-Livewire Hawthorn House

Forth Banks

**NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE NE1 3SG** 

Tel: Lo-call: 0845 757 3252

Tel: 0191 261 5584 Fax: 0191 261 1910

E-mail: shell-livewire@pne.org Website: www.shell-livewire.org

# Vaughan Trust

The present scheme provides aid to the development of agriculture in Fermanagh through such projects as the development of new or improved methods of agriculture; agricultural education and training courses; travel scholarships for young people for education or training purposes and research or other related work beneficial to agriculture in Fermanagh.

#### Contact

Clerk of the Trustees

Vaughan Trust

C/o Enniskillen Campus

College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise

Levaghy

**ENNISKILLEN** 

Co Fermanagh BT74 4GF Freephone: 0800 028 2491

Tel: (028) 6634 4800 Fax: (028) 6634 4888

E-mail: enquiries@dardni.gov.uk

#### Citizens Advice Bureau

The Citizens Advice Bureau offers free general independent advice on a range of issues such as benefits and legal advice.

# **Headquarters**

NI Citizens Advice 11 Upper Cresent **BELFAST** BT7 1NT

Tel: (028) 9023 1120

E-mail: info@citizensadvice.co.uk Website: www.citizensadvice.co.uk

# **County Antrim**

**Area Covered** Contact 10d High Street Antrim

ANTRIM

Tel: (028) 9442 8176

Ballymena 28 Mount Street

BALLYMENA

Tel: (028) 2564 4398

Carrickfergus 65 North Street

**CARRICKFERGUS** 

Tel: (028) 9335 1808

Glengormley 3B Ballyclare Road

**GLENGORMLEY** 

Tel: (028) 9084 4592

Citizens Advice Bureau

Larne Park Lodge

49 Victoria Road

**LARNE** 

Tel: (028) 2826 0379

Lisburn Bridge Community Centre

50 Railway Street

**LISBURN** 

Tel: (028) 9266 2251

**County Armagh** 

Armagh 9 McCrums Court

ARMAGH

Tel: (028) 3752 4041

Lurgan 6 Union Street

**LURGAN** 

Tel: (028) 3832 3571

Portadown 7 Edward Street

**PORTADOWN** 

Tel: (028) 3835 3260

**County Derry/Londonderry** 

Coleraine 24 Lodge Road

COLERAINE

Tel: (028) 7034 4817

Magherafelt 43 Queen's Avenue

**MAGHERAFELT** 

Tel: (028) 7963 4562

**County Down** 

Banbridge Old Town Hall

Scarva Street BANBRIDGE

Tel: (028) 4062 2201

Bangor 1a Springfield Avenue

**BANGOR** 

Tel: (028) 9127 0009

Downpatrick Maghinis House

8-10 Irish Street DOWNPATRICK

Tel: (028) 4461 4110

Holywood Queens Hall

Sullivan Place HOLYWOOD

Tel: (028) 9042 8288

Newcastle Causeway Road

**NEWCASTLE** 

Tel: (028) 4372 3824

Newry and Mourne River House

41c The Mall

NEWRY

Tel: (028) 3026 2934

Newtownards 75 West Street

NEWTOWNARDS

Tel: (028) 9181 9257

**County Fermanagh** 

Fermanagh **Belmore Mews** 

> 2 New Street **ENNISKILLEN**

Tel: (028) 6632 4334

**County Tyrone** 

Cookstown 15a Molesworth Street

**COOKSTOWN** 

Tel: (028) 8676 6126

5-6 Feeny's Lane Dungannon

**DUNGANNON** 

Tel: (028) 8772 5299

Strabane 17 Dock Street

**STRABANE** 

Tel: (028) 7138 2665

# **Electricity**

# **Electricity**

Northern Ireland Electricity (NIE) is responsible for the regulated procurement, transmission, distribution and supply of electricity to homes and businesses in Northern Ireland.

# Headquarters

120 Malone Road BELFAST BT9 5HT

Tel: (028) 9066 1100 Fax: (028) 9066 3579

E-mail: homeenergy@nie.co.uk Business.energy@nie.co.uk Website: www.nie.co.uk

New electricity supply Alterations to lines and equipment Failure of electricity supply 08457 643643
(Available 8.30am to 5.00pm Mon - Fri, except failure of supply which is available 24 hours a day)

Billing and Prices
Ways to Pay
Meter Reading
Moving House
Energy Efficiency Advice
Eco Energy Advice

08457 455455 (Available 8.00am to 8.00pm Mon - Fri, and 9.00am to 1.00pm Sat) Minicom telephone for customers who are deaf 08457 147128 (Available 24 hrs a day)

# **FarmEnergy**

FarmEnergy is a division of NIE providing electrical energy services to the farming community.

#### Contact

Technical Support: 08456 060306 John McCay: (028) 8225 3234

Fax: 02476 696 360

E-mail: john.mccay@nie.co.uk E-mail: farm.energy@nie.co.uk Website: www.farmenergy.com

# **Wayleave Payments**

Queries relating to wayleave rent or payment should be directed to NIE Headquarters (see above).

# **Farming Unions**

To represent and assist the interest of farmers.

# Northern Ireland Agricultural Producers Association (NIAPA)

15 Molesworth Street COOKSTOWN Co Tyrone BT80 8NX

Tel: (028) 8676 5700

E-mail: niapa@hotmail.com

#### **Ulster Farmers' Union (UFU)**

475 Antrim Road BELFAST BT15 3DA

Tel: (028) 9037 0222 Fax: (028) 9037 1231 E-mail: info@ufuhq.com Website: www.ufuni.org

# **Livestock Promotion and Verification Bodies**

#### Livestock and Meat Commission

The Livestock and Meat Commission (LMC) is a Non-Departmental Public Body sponsored by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD). It provides services to the Northern Ireland beef and sheepmeat industry and advises Government of matters relating to the sector. The main functions of LMC relate to the provision of information in regard to markets and market prices to the industry and ensuring that the Northern Ireland industry has the credentials to serve the best-paying markets. The products of the Northern Ireland red meat industry are promoted by LMC through the provision of knowledge and information about matters of diet and nutrition, convenience and versatility as well as the credentials of the industry as a whole. LMC acts as agents for the Rural Payments Agency (previously Intervention Board) within Northern Ireland and provides a classification service to the industry.

#### **Livestock and Meat Commission**

Lissue House 31 Ballinderry Road LISBURN Co Antrim BT28 2SL

Tel: (028) 9263 3000 Fax: (028) 9263 3001 E-mail: info@Imcni.com Website: www.lmcni.com

#### **Northern Ireland Food Chain Certification**

The Northern Ireland Food Chain Certification (NIFCC) is an independent body established by the Northern Ireland agri-food industry. Its current remit is to administer the registration, inspection and certification of participants in the Northern Ireland Beef and Lamb Farm Quality Assurance Scheme, and to ensure that the participants meet the product standards of the schemes.

# **Northern Ireland Food Chain Certification**

Lissue House 31 Ballinderry Road LISBURN Co Antrim BT28 2SL

Tel: (028) 9263 3017 Fax: (028) 9263 3003 E-mail: nifcc@lmcni.com

# **Lough Neagh Strategic Fund**

The Lough Neagh Strategic Fund is a £3.2m funding package under the Programme for Building Sustainable Prosperity (BSP) for a major regeneration initiative for the entire Lough Neagh area.

The Fund will support environmental, economic and social projects, which will assist with the sustainable development and management of the area. The funding themes are:

Strategic Management, Marketing, Water Based Recreation, Land Based Recreation, Agriculture, Minerals and Fish, Water Quality, Landscape, Biodiversity and Life, Work and Influencing Change.

The fund is particularly interested in restoring older landmark buildings, activity tourism, arts and crafts, environmental or biodiversity projects and water-based recreational infrastructure.

Further information on the Lough Neagh Strategic Fund can be obtained from:

#### The Lough Neagh Partnership

The Marina Centre, Unit 3 135A Shore Road Ballyronan MAGHERAFELT BT45 6JA

Tel: (028) 7941 7941 Fax: (028) 7941 7979

E-mail: info@loughneaghpartnership.com Website: www.loughneaghpartnership.com

# **Other Support Organisations**

# **Family Farm Development Ltd**

Family Farm Development (FFD) Limited is a partnership of the main agricultural organisations in Northern Ireland. Its partners are: Ulster Farmers' Union (UFU), Northern Ireland Agricultural Producers Association (NIAPA), Ulster Agricultural Organisation Society (UAOS), Rural Development Council (RDC) and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (DARD). FFD is currently delivering the Farm Family Reskilling and Diversification Programme in Omagh, Strabane, Dungannon and Cookstown District Council Areas and the Young Farmers' Cross-Border Diversification and Networking Programme under the European Union Programme for Peace and Reconciliation.

#### **Family Farm Development Ltd**

Milestone Centre Carrickmore OMAGH Co Tyrone BT79 9AL

Tel: (028) 8076 1719 Fax: (028) 8076 1779

E-mail: familyfarm@btconnect.com

# **Rural College**

The Rural College was established to provide a range of educational and training programmes for local rural development groups and individuals.

The Centre offers a number of accredited courses, in association with institutions such as Queens' University Belfast and the National University of Ireland, Galway.

#### Courses offered:

- Cert/Graduate Diploma/MSc in Rural Development QUB:
- Diploma in Community Development Practice National University of Ireland, Galway;
- Training for development groups (for example, groupwork skills, holding effective meetings, identifying community needs, developing project ideas, fundraising and project management);
- Short programmes on history, heritage and genealogy.

In addition, the Rural College undertakes consultancy work on behalf of community, voluntary and statutory organisations in the areas of community development, action planning, strategic planning and team\_building.

#### Contact

Kate Clifford
The Rural College
Derrynoid Rd
DRAPERSTOWN
Co Derry/Londonderry
BT45 7DW

Tel: (028) 7962 9100 Fax: (028) 7962 7777

E-mail: kate@ruralcollege.co.uk

enquiries@derrynoid.co.uk

#### **Rural Community Network**

Rural Community Network (RCN) is a voluntary organisation established by community groups to provide an effective voice for and support to rural communities, particularly those who are most disadvantaged. Our vision is of vibrant, articulated, inclusive and sustainable rural communities across Northern Ireland contributing to a prosperous, equitable, peaceful and stable society.

Rural Community Network (NI) 38a Oldtown Street COOKSTOWN Co Tyrone BT80 8EF

Tel: (028) 8676 6670 Fax: (028) 8676 6006

E-mail: rcn@ruralcommunitynetwork.org Website: www.ruralcommunitynetwork.org

# **Rural Development Council**

The Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC) is an independent rural organisation that plays a vital role in influencing rural development policy, developing and delivering practical programmes, sharing information and building effective partnerships. The RDC delivers three programmes mainly for the community voluntary sector under the DARD Rural Development Programme, these are:

- Local Regeneration Programme (EU Building Sustainable Prosperity)
- EU Peace II Programme
- Disadvantaged Rural Communities Initiative (International Fund for Ireland)

These programmes offer assistance for rural communities engaging in peace-building, social inclusion, regeneration, economic and environmental projects.

# Northern Ireland Rural Development Council (RDC)

17 Loy Street COOKSTOWN Co Tyrone BT80 8PZ

Tel: (028) 8676 6980 Fax: (028) 8676 6922 E-mail: info@rdc.org.uk Website: www.rdc.org.uk

#### **Ulster Community Investment Trust (UCIT)**

UCIT was established to provide flexible loan finance and free business support to the community enterprise sector. As a registered charity, all profits generated by the trust are recycled for reinvestment into the community enterprise sector.

UCIT welcomes applications from:

- Community organisations wishing to set-up a community enterprise;
- Existing community enterprises, which require additional financing to develop their operations;
- Community enterprises, both large and small, located in rural and urban areas.

UCIT provides loan finance and free business support to community enterprises that:

- are established to create jobs and wealth, but are not established for individual profit;
- serve the needs of communities located in disadvantaged areas, or communities of need or shared interest;
- command widespread support and endorsement in the local community, and/or benefit from being recognised as a community based organisation by an appropriate public body;
- are committed to becoming self-sufficient.

#### Loan Size and term

Lending is flexible and ranges from approximately £25,000 - £500,000. The maximum loan term is normally 15 years.

# Free Support Service

To facilitate your project's success, UCIT provides free support and advice as part of the funding package before, during and after the term of the loan.

#### Interest rates

UCIT's interest rates are competitive and normally based upon the individual circumstances of each applicant.

#### Contact

Ulster Community Investment Trust Limited 13-19 Linenhall Street, BELFAST, BT2 8AA

Tel: (028) 9031 5003 Fax: (028) 9031 5008 E-mail: info@ucitltd.com Website: www.ucitltd.com

# **Regulators**

# **Food Standards Agency**

The Food Standards Agency is an independent food safety watchdog set up by an Act of Parliament in 2000 to protect the public's health and consumer interests in relation to food.

#### **Food Standards Agency**

10 A-C Clarendon Road BELFAST BT1 3SG

Tel: (028) 9041 7700

E-mail: infofsani@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk Website: www.food.gov.uk/northernireland

#### **General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland**

The General Consumer Council for Northern Ireland is a statutory body whose aims are to promote and safeguard the interests of all consumers in Northern Ireland. The Council campaigns on behalf of consumers for the best possible standards of service and protection; undertakes research and data collection; gives advice, information and issues publications. It deals with individual complaints about passenger transport, coal, natural gas and electricity.

#### **General Consumer Council For Northern Ireland**

Elizabeth House 116 Holywood Road BELFAST BT4 1NY

Telephone/Textphone: (028) 9067 2488

Fax: (028) 9065 7701

Complaints Line: 0845 601 6022

E-mail: info@gccni.org.uk Website: www.gccni.gov.uk

Opening Hours: 9am to 5pm Monday to Friday

except for bank and public holidays.

#### **OFCOM**

If you have a complaint or problem about a telecommunications provider you can contact OFCOM (Office of Communications).

#### **OFCOM**

Riverside House 2A Southwark Bridge Road LONDON SE1 9HA

Tel: (020) 7981 3000 Fax: (020) 7981 3333

Helpline: Lo-call: 0845 456 3000 Website: www.ofcom.org.uk

#### **OFREG**

If you have a complaint or problem about NIE, or any other supplier of electricity or gas, you can contact OFREG (Office for the Regulation of Electricity and Gas).

#### **OFREG**

Brookmount Buildings 42 Fountain Street BELFAST BT1 5EE

Tel: 0845 766 0456 E-mail: ofreg@nics.gov.uk

Website: www.ofreg.nics.gov.uk

#### **Ombudsman**

If you feel that a Government department or public body has not dealt with your complaint properly, then the Ombudsman may be able to help and put things right if need be.

#### The Ombudsman

Freepost BEL 1478 BELFAST BT1 6BR

Freephone: 0800 34 34 34

E-mail: ombudsman@ni-ombudsman.org.uk

Website: www.ni-ombudsman.org.uk

# egulators

# **Rural Support**

Rural life and farming in Northern Ireland is changing. The question is what help is available to those people affected by the change? Rural Support is there to help!



Rural Support will help you find sources of practical help, or provide a listening ear if you just want to talk to someone about your concerns and those of your family.

The service is confidential and guarantees anonymity. Volunteers are trained and provide a professional service with all enquiries and referrals followed up.

Have you any issues you need to address? Do you want to talk to someone?

If so:

# Call the Rural Support Helpline

0845 606 7607 9.00 am to 1.00 pm and 6.00 pm to 10.00 pm 7 days per week.

Website: www.ruralsupport.org.uk

# Volunteering

Would you like to help by becoming a Rural Support Volunteer? If so, please contact us on: (028) 8676 0040.

# **Telephone Line Provider**

Residential customers can contact BT on the following number, which will connect you to an automated service, which will direct you to the person or service best able to deal with your enquiry.

# To report a fault

Call free\* 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week on: 0800 800 151 \*Calls to 0800 numbers may not be free from some mobile phones.

# **Key Word Search**

If you have difficulty finding a particular topic, please contact your local Rural Connect Adviser who will be happy to assist you - see back cover.

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Farmers and farm families can contact their local Rural Connect Adviser who can help you access DARD services and other useful contacts points.

**Antrim and Derry/Londonderry** 

Ballymena (028) 2566 5722 Ballymoney (028) 2766 0111 Magherafelt (028) 7930 2101 **Down and Armagh** 

Downpatrick (028) 4461 8082 Newry (028) 3025 3316 Armagh (028) 3751 5622

**Tyrone and Fermanagh** 

Omagh (028) 8225 3405 Dungannon (028) 8775 4786 Enniskillen (028) 6634 3101

(028) 6634 3102

Headquarters

Belfast (028) 9052 4406

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www.dardni.gov.uk

AN ROINN

Talmhaíochta agus Forbartha Tuaithe

MÄNNYSTRIE O

Fairms an Kintra Fordèrin

