



OFFICIAL DAERA MINUTES

MEETING TITLE	NAP 4 Review Working Group
DIVISION/BRANCH REFERENCE	EFB / NEPD with WMU and CAFRE
VENUE	MS TEAMS
DATE/TIME	10/1/2024 at 14.00 – 16.30
LIST OF ATTENDEES	[REDACTED] (Chair); [REDACTED]; [REDACTED]; [REDACTED] (minutes); [REDACTED];
APOLOGIES	[REDACTED]
KEY POINTS DISCUSSED	<p>1. Welcome, Minutes & Actions</p> <p>Minutes from the meeting on 13/12/2023 were agreed.</p> <p>AP 1, 2 3, 4 & 6: These actions from previous meeting have been completed.</p> <p>AP 5: Ongoing investigation into using legislative powers to enforce breaches within the NAP regulations – see action point 1.</p> <p>AP 7: Ongoing – see action point 2</p> <p>2. Slurry Storage Capacity</p> <p>FBIS inspections would suggest that there is a shortage of slurry storage capacity on some dairy farms. Washings and dirty water from silos can take up significant capacity in dairy farm's slurry storage.</p> <p>Some Beef farms which have reduced cattle numbers have spare storage capacity and could store some excess slurry from dairy farms.</p> <p>Some farms have increased cattle number without improving existing slurry storage, which could lead to them spreading slurry in unsuitable conditions.</p> <p>3. Consideration of WMU List of proposed changes to existing Measures</p> <p>Idea of appropriate person being held responsible for appropriate offence.</p> <p>Discussed the possibility of introducing fixed penalties for farmers/contractors who breach NAP regulations. This is likely to require ministerial and DOJ approval to implement. Also discussed the potential for a licencing system for slurry contractors,</p>



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similar to pesticide operators who require training and a certificate of competence.

Agreed that the Spreadsheet will be updated as each item is reviewed, and decisions recorded.

4. Greater use of data for control/verification of 170kg N limit

Explored the ROIs process to control the N limit on farms. The ROI send a letter to all farms over 170kg N limit outlining the penalty they will face.

This would require IT Systems to support information gathering and controls – recommendation has been made to Future Agriculture Policy Team.

5. Phosphorus Efficiency and reduction Road Map

Must stop use of chemical P where practical. Explored the idea of making it an offence to sell and possess.

Concentrate feed inputs and hence manure is the biggest contributor to P surplus.

Potential for logging of manure exports to be expanded to cover ADs to be explored.

6. Update on SEA/HRA procurement

Tender exercise opened 8/1/24. Closing date 22/1/24.

Aim to appoint a contractor by early February.

A small SEA/HRA working group will be established to liaise with the contractor and supply information to them.

ACTION POINTS/OFFICIAL RESPONSIBLE/TARGET DATE:

Action point 1: [REDACTED] to look at the legislative powers to enforce breaches within the NAP Regulations.

Action point 2: [REDACTED] to set up a meeting with AD Policy and get a point of contact for AD regulations.

Action point 3: [REDACTED] agreed to save original scientific rationale for the NAP into RWG container and to share link with group members.

Action point 4: [REDACTED] to share handout from Soils conference field trip to Upper Bann.

Action point 5: [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] to consider WMU spreadsheet for legislative amendments and changes that can be implemented having now been discussed.



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Minutes written by: [REDACTED]		Date: 17.1.2024
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