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## EXPLANATORY NOTE

*(This note is not part of the Order)*

This Order brings into operation the provisions of the Agriculture (Northern Ireland) Order 2004 (“the 2004 Order”) with the exception of Part I, Article 8 and Schedule 2, Part III, Article 12, Paragraphs 1, 2 and 3 of Schedule 3 and Article 10(2) so far as relating thereto, Article 13 and Schedule 4 so far as relating to the Queen’s University of Belfast Act (Northern Ireland) 1928, and the Horticulture Act (Northern Ireland) 1966 (all of which provisions were brought into operation on the 16th January 2005 by virtue of Article 1(2) of the 2004 Order).

The 2004 Order provides for the establishment, with effect from 1st April 2006, of a new body corporate, the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute which carries out scientific work in the fields of agriculture, animal health and welfare, food, fisheries, forestry, the natural environment, and rural development and enterprise (Article 3(2) of the 2004 Order).

The provisions brought into operation:

- set out the functions, work, powers and other practical arrangements relating to the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute, (Part II, Part IV, Schedules 1 and 3 (in so far as not previously in operation by virtue of Article 1(2)(e));
- provide for the dissolution of the Agricultural Research Institute of Northern Ireland and the transfer of its staff, property, rights and liabilities to the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute, (Article 10, Schedule 3 in so far as not brought into operation previously by Article 1(2)(e));
- provide for the repeal of the Agricultural Research Station Acts (Northern Ireland) 1927 and 1931 and minor consequential amendments to Commissioner for Complaints and Freedom of Information legislation, (Article 13, Schedule 1 paragraphs 20 and 21).