

# EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO THE FARMING FOR THE GENERATIONS SCHEME (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS (NORTHERN IRELAND) 2024

## SR 2024 No. 31

### 1. Introduction

1.1. This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (the Department) to accompany the Statutory Rule (details above) which is laid before the Northern Ireland Assembly.

1.2. The Statutory Rule is made under exercise of the powers conferred by section 5 and 6 Agriculture Act (Northern Ireland) Act 1949(1) and is subject to the negative resolution procedure.

### 2. Purpose

2.1. The purpose of this Statutory Rule is to amend the Farming for the Generations Statutory Rule to remove powers of inspection which on further review have been deemed unnecessary for the Farming for the Generations pilot Scheme.

### 3. Background

3.1 'Farming for the Generations' aims to raise awareness of the need for succession planning within NI Agricultural Businesses and proposes a Succession Planning Facilitation Service which brings together a range of interventions including;

- Planning for succession – incorporating promotion and facilitation of farming in partnership opportunities
- Preparing the Successor - development of the successor; with a particular focus on leadership, environmental and business training
- Leading Succession – provision of support for the lead generation
- Maintaining support for both generations through continued mentoring support for scheme participants.

3.2 The College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE) is responsible for the management of Farming for the Generations, with an appointed agent planned to take the lead in administration and delivery.

### 4. Consultation

4.1. Formal written Consultation on Future Agricultural Policy Proposals for Northern Ireland was carried out in 2020.

### 5. Equality Impact

5.1. The Department considers that the proposed Statutory Rule complies with section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998 and has screened this out of a full equality impact assessment.

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(1) 1949 c.2 (N.I.)

5.2. The scheme design has been developed with relevant stakeholder engagement.

## **6. Regulatory Impact**

6.1. A Regulatory Impact Assessment has been completed for the Farming for the Generations Scheme.

6.2 The scheme design has been developed with relevant stakeholder engagement.

## **7. Financial Implications**

7.1. The Farming for the Generations scheme is due to be funded from HMT's ring-fenced agricultural support budget.

## **8. Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998**

8.1. This Statutory Rule complies with the provisions set out in section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

## **10. Parity or Replicatory Measure**

10.1. The Farming for the Generations Scheme (Amendment) Scheme (Northern Ireland) Regulations 2024 apply to Northern Ireland only. The measure does not replicate, nor is it required to maintain parity with, legislation in other administrations.

## **Additional Information**

11.1. For further information contact Rosemary Agnew, Agricultural Policy division, Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs, [Rosemary.Agnew@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:Rosemary.Agnew@daera-ni.gov.uk).