**A REPORT ON DECISIONS TAKEN DURING JUNE 2019 BY NORTHERN IRELAND DEPARTMENTS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE GUIDANCE ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR NORTHERN IRELAND UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF THE NORTHERN IRELAND (EXECUTIVE FORMATION AND EXERCISE OF FUNCTIONS) ACT 2018**

On 5 November 2018 the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, in accordance with section 3(2) of the Northern Ireland (Executive Formation and Exercise of Functions) Act 2018, published guidance about the exercise of the functions of Northern Ireland departments during the period for Executive Formation. This guidance requires Northern Ireland departments to prepare a monthly summary report of decisions taken by senior officials using the guidance and to share this with the Secretary of State, who will in turn promptly make it available to Parliament and to the Northern Ireland political parties.

This Summary Report has been prepared by the Executive Office and provides information on the decisions taken by Northern Ireland departments in June 2019.

|  |
| --- |
| **Decisions Taken by Northern Ireland Departments: June 2019**  |
| **Department** | **Description**  |
| **Department** **of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs**  | A decision was taken to approve the publication of the Marine Science Co-ordination Committee (MSCC) “UK Marine Science for Sustainable and Productive Seas” Road Map, and the inclusion of DAERA in the list of Marine Science Co-ordinating Committee members. |
| A decision was taken to publish a consultation on proposals for a new bovine numbering regime, to facilitate electronic identification (EID) and ensure compliance with the International Committee for Animal Recording (ICAR) and International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO) standards. |
| **Department** **For****Communities** | A decision was taken to activate a Scheme of Emergency Financial Assistance to support households which had suffered from flooding.  This is consistent with the previous decisions of Ministers with responsibility for Local Government. |
|  | The following decisions were taken in relation to public appointments: * To extend the appointments of the Chair and six trustees of the Board of National Museums NI for a six month period to 31 December 2019;
* To appoint three members to the Board of Libraries NI for terms of up to four years starting on 1 July 2019;

 * To initiate a public appointment competition for Councillor members of the Board of Libraries NI; and

 * To endorse the decision of the Permanent Secretary of the Department for the Economy to exercise the power to appoint and reappoint Board members of Northern Ireland Screen.
 |
|  |
| **Department** **for the Economy** | A decision was taken that EU students part way through their higher education courses, or starting in the 2020/21 academic year, will have guaranteed ‘home fee’ status for the duration of their courses in Northern Ireland. |
|  | The following decisions were taken in relation to public appointments:* To re-appoint twenty members across the six Further Education College Governing Bodies in Northern Ireland to serve a second term from 1 August 2019 for four years; and
* To re-appoint all eleven members of the Construction Industry Training Board for Northern Ireland for a further three year term: three from 1 June 2019 and eight, including the Chair, from 1 July 2019.
 |
| **Department of****Education** | Four decisions were taken on published Development Proposals for changes to the design of education provision. Three of the Proposals were approved and one not approved. The approved proposals were for: the closure of a small, unsustainable, rural primary school (Lisfearty Primary School) in the Dungannon area; an increase to the approved admission and enrolment numbers at Aughnacloy Primary School to meet current and anticipated demand for places; and a decision to “right-size” Killyleagh Integrated Primary School by decreasing its approved admission and enrolment numbers. A Proposal to establish a statutory nursery unit at Gaelscoil na mBeann, an Irish-medium primary school in Kilkeel, was not approved.  |
|  | A decision was taken to grant additional places outside of the Temporary Variation policy to reduce the number of unplaced children in the Limavady area. |
| **Department of Finance** | A decision was taken to implement the NICS 2018 pay award.  |
| **Department of Health** | A decision was taken to make the Pharmaceutical Services (Amendments Relating to Serious Shortage Protocols) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2019. The Regulations amend the Pharmaceutical Services Regulations (Northern Ireland) 1997 which govern the arrangements for the provision of pharmaceutical services under the Health and Personal Social Services (Northern Ireland) Order 1972, and make provision in relation to serious shortage protocols (SSPs). SSPs allow the Department to put in place alternative arrangements for supply, where a drug or appliance is ordered on prescription but there is, or may in the future be, a serious shortage of the drug or appliance.  |
|  | A decision was taken, in line with advice from the Food Standards Agency, to introduce improved allergen labelling provisions contained within the Food Information Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2014, for food which is prepacked for direct sale. It is intended that the subordinate legislation will be introduced by the FSA in due course and will come into force by the summer of 2021.  |
|  | The following decisions were taken in relation to public appointments: * To extend for 12 months from 30 June 2019 the first term of appointment of the Non-Executive Chair of the Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service; and
* To re-appoint, for up to maximum of 4 years, two Public Health Agency (PHA) Non-Executive Directors. These reappointments are required in order to ensure that the quorum could be met and that the governance and accountability of the organisation is not compromised.
 |
| **Department for** **Infrastructure** | The following decisions were taken in relation to public appointments:* To extend the appointments of five current non-executive Board members of NI Water for a period of 6 months from 31 July 2019; and
* To extend the appointments of two councillor members of Londonderry Port and Harbour Commissioners and one councillor member of the Warrenpoint Harbour Authority until 29 February 2020 to secure the continuation of good governance at the ports.
 |
|  | Decisions were taken to make eight Traffic Regulation Orders (Statutory Rules): The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Antrim) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Parking Places on Roads and Waiting Restrictions (Cookstown) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Parking Places, Loading Bay and Waiting Restrictions (Downpatrick) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Waiting Restrictions (Lisburn) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Parking Places on Roads, Loading Bay and Waiting Restrictions (Newcastle) (Amendment No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Taxis (Ballynahinch) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Prohibition of Waiting (Schools) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; and The Roads (Speed Limit) (No. 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019.  |
|  | Decisions were taken to make three Statutory Rules to introduce waiting restrictions and a coach bay/taxi stand on Bridge Street, Bangor: The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Bangor) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; The Parking Places on Roads (Coaches) (Bangor) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019; and The Taxis (Bangor) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019.  |
|  | A decision was taken to make an Abandonment Order under Article 68 of the Roads (Northern Ireland) Order 1993 to remove a length of Charlestown Road, Portadown from the public road network.  |
|  | A decision was taken to make The Road Races (Down Rally) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019) to close roads for the Down Rally. The Order was made on 28 June 2019 and will authorise the closing of specified public roads, permit their use for road racing on the days and during the times specified, and specify conditions which apply in respect of the road closures. |
| **Department of****Justice** | A decision was taken to approve the Civil Legal Services (Remuneration) (Amendment) Order (Northern Ireland) 2019.  |
|  | A decision was taken to approve the Magistrates’ Courts and County Courts Appeals (Criminal Legal Aid) (Costs) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2019; and the Legal Aid for Crown Court Proceedings (Costs) (Amendment) Rules (Northern Ireland) 2019. |
|  | A decision was taken to appoint a Board member to the Northern Ireland Police Fund. |

**THE EXECUTIVE OFFICE**

**AUGUST 2019**