

1977 No. 84

AGRICULTURE

**Livestock Production and Marketing (Assistance) Scheme
(Northern Ireland) 1977**

Made 28th March 1977

Coming into operation 28th March 1977

The Department of Agriculture, in exercise of the powers conferred by section 1 of the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) Act (Northern Ireland) 1954(a) as amended by the Agriculture (Temporary Assistance) (Amendment) Act (Northern Ireland) 1957(b) and now vested in it(c) and of every other power enabling it in that behalf after consulting with such bodies of persons as appear to it to represent the interests of farmers engaged in the production of livestock and with the approval of the Department of Finance(c) hereby makes the following Scheme:

Citation and commencement

1. This Scheme may be cited as the Livestock Production and Marketing (Assistance) Scheme (Northern Ireland) 1977 and shall come into operation on 28th March 1977.

Interpretation

2. In this Scheme—

“the Department” means the Department of Agriculture;

“livestock” means cattle and sheep;

“producer” means a farmer producing produce in Northern Ireland;

“the Society” means Ulster Farmers Investments Limited registered under the Industrial and Provident Societies Act (Northern Ireland) 1969(d).

Payments

3. For the purpose of assisting farmers engaged in the production of livestock and improving the quality, production and marketing of livestock and livestock products the Department may at its discretion, subject to and in accordance with the provisions of this Scheme, make payments to the Society.

Purposes of payments

4.—(1) Payments under Article 3—

(a) may amount to the whole or any part of expenditure incurred by the Society (whether before or after the coming into operation of this Scheme) for purposes approved by the Department being purposes which the Department considers are likely to improve the quality production or marketing of livestock or livestock products; and

(b) may be made subject to such conditions as the Department may with the approval of the Department of Finance determine.

(a) 1954 c. 31 (N.I.)

(b) 1957 c. 3 (N.I.)

(c) See 1973 c. 36 Sch. 5 para. 7(1) and 1974 c. 28 Sch. 1 para. 2(1) and (2)

(d) 1969 c. 24 (N.I.)

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of sub-paragraph (a) of paragraph (1) the purposes which may be approved by the Department under that sub-paragraph include—

- (a) the acquisition of undertakings or shares in undertakings carrying on the business of meat plants and the development of those undertakings;
- (b) the provision of marketing services;
- (c) ensuring the provision of or assisting or improving the provision of facilities for sale of livestock and livestock products, whether by the acquisition of undertakings or shares in undertakings providing such facilities or otherwise;
- (d) providing or ensuring the provision of or assisting or improving the provision of lairage facilities by the acquisition of undertakings or shares in undertakings providing such facilities or otherwise;
- (e) research into and development of methods of production and marketing of livestock and livestock products.

Limit of payments

5.—(1) The aggregate amount of the payments made under this Scheme at any time shall not exceed the least of the following amounts—

- (a) one and one half times the total amount subscribed at that time by producers for fully paid-up ordinary shares in the Society; or
- (b) 60% of the expenditure incurred at that time by the Society on purposes approved under Article 4; or
- (c) £900,000.

(2) No payments may be made under this Scheme after 31st March 1978.

Recovery of payments

6. If the Society fails to observe any condition imposed under Article 4(1)(b) it shall repay to the Department the whole or such part of any sums paid to it under this Scheme as the Department may subject to the agreement of the Department of Finance determine and any sums so repayable shall be recoverable by the Department from the Society as a civil debt.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Agriculture for Northern Ireland on 28th March 1977.

(L.S.)

J. A. Young
Permanent Secretary

The Department of Finance hereby approves the foregoing Scheme.

Sealed with the Official Seal of the Department of Finance for Northern Ireland on 28th March 1977.

(L.S.)

W. E. Bell
Permanent Secretary

EXPLANATORY NOTE.

(This note is not part of the Scheme but is intended to indicate its general purport.)

This Scheme provides for payments to Ulster Farmers Investments Limited to meet expenditure for the purpose of improving the quality production or marketing of livestock and livestock products. Payments are subject to certain limits and no payments can be made after 31st March 1978.