

## **EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**

### **The Diseases of Animals (2010 Act) (Commencement and Transitional Provisions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2010 S.R. 2010 No. 70 (C. 4)**

#### **1. Introduction**

1.1 This Explanatory Memorandum has been prepared by the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

1.2 The Statutory Rule is made in exercise of the powers conferred on it by Section 22(1) of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 and is not subject to any resolution procedure.

#### **2. Purpose**

2.1 The Diseases of Animals (2010 Act) (Commencement and Transitional Provisions) Order (Northern Ireland) 2010 commences the provisions of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2010.

#### **3. Background**

3.1 The Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2010 amends the Diseases of Animals (Northern Ireland) Order 1981.

3.2 The Act introduces enhanced disease prevention, biosecurity and control measures to protect animal health status.

3.3 The Act enables stricter enforcement checks at ports, compulsory biosecurity measures at all livestock premises and measures to swiftly contain and eradicate disease outbreaks, and will be a powerful tool in the eradication of Brucellosis in the north of Ireland.

3.4 The Act enables tough action against those who deliberately engage in acts which are intended to cause the spread of disease.

3.5 The Act also enables the introduction of policies that reflect the latest developments in research and technology to trace and combat disease.

3.6 The Act ensures that appropriate enforcement powers are available and that the rights of farmers are protected.

#### **4. Consultation**

4.1 A consultation has not been carried out for this Order.

#### **5. Equality Impact**

5.1 In accordance with the Department's obligations under Section 75 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998, the equality implications of the order have been assessed. The Department considers that the order will not result in any equality differentials amongst Section 75 groups.

#### **6. Regulatory Impact**

6.1 A Regulatory Impact Assessment has not been carried out.

#### **7. Financial Implications**

7.1 The Order does not have any financial implications for the Department or stakeholders.

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

8.1 The Order deals with commencement dates for the provisions of the Diseases of Animals Act (Northern Ireland) 2010, and does not have any human rights implications, nor is it incompatible with EU law. The Order is therefore deemed to comply with the requirements of Section 24 of the Northern Ireland Act 1998.

#### **9. EU Implications**

9.1 Not applicable.

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

10.1 There is no impact for Defra or the other devolved administrations, or for the South.

#### **11. Additional Information**

11.1 Not applicable.

#### **12. Contact**

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