

Report on	Quality Schemes (Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs) Regulations 2018 - Authorised Officers
Date of Meeting	8 th October 2019
Reporting Officer	Mark Kelso, Director of Public Health and Infrastructure

Is this report restricted for confidential business?	Yes	
If 'Yes', confirm below the exempt information category relied upon	No	X

1.0	Purpose of Report
1.1	To inform Members of designation of Mid Ulster District Council as the competent authority for the Quality Schemes (Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs) Regulations 2018.
2.0	Background
2.1	Council is in receipt of correspondence from Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs to ensure that the provisions within the Quality Schemes (Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs) Regulations 2018 and the associated EU Regulations are enforced by the relevant competent authorities (see Appendix 1).
3.0	Main Report
3.1	On 1 st January 2019 the Quality Schemes (Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs) Regulations 2018 came into force. These Regulations introduce new powers and penalties for specifically referenced products protected by EU Regulation.
3.2	The regulations provide for the protection of certain specific trade names and prevent the mislabelling of similar products by third parties e.g. Lough Neagh Pollan.
3.3	The enforcement protocols within the regulations allow for noncompliance notices to be issued which can result in maximum fines of up to £40,000 where breach of regulations has been determined. The regulations also contain arrangements for application and verification procedures for product designation.
3.4	The regulations will be enforced through Environmental Health regulatory services.
4.0	Other Considerations
4.1	Financial, Human Resources & Risk Implications
	Financial: None
	Human: None

	Risk Management: None
4.2	Screening & Impact Assessments
	Equality & Good Relations Implications: None
	Rural Needs Implications: None
5.0	Recommendation(s)
5.1	That Members note the above and Mid Ulster District Council's appointment as the competent authority for the Quality Schemes (Agricultural Products and Foodstuffs) Regulations 2018 and the authorisation of Environmental Health officers for this purpose.
6.0	Documents Attached & References
6.1	Correspondence from the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs
6.2	Guidance on the Protected Food Name Scheme, August 2019