

I believe the LIPSA should remain in a form as close as possible to the existing scheme. LIPSA is still an important component of farm profit for many beef and sheep enterprises. The current system is cheap and easy to administer while delivering good environmental outcomes.

a. LIPSA should not disappear into the black hole of the RDP. Too much money is being currently taken from farmers via modulation and distributed to questionable schemes via the RDP. Money was supposed to come to support local agri-business via 'Council clusters' - in my area Ballymena Ballymoney, Moyle and Larne. I attended as a stakeholder - the last meeting on 19 April 2008 was cancelled and has not been re-scheduled. The scheme (RDP) started in 2007 - yet how much money has been distributed

5. No Agri Extension Schemes are of questionable benefit. Many landowners in hill areas are getting thousands of pounds and doing nothing different - nothing to benefit either the habitat or the wildlife.



6. Yes there should be a LEADER
In an area where food production is more based
'lowly farming' i.e. dairy farms where cows are
reared outside and intensive hill beef systems where
animals are fed like pigs, - there is a case for
promoting a farming system that delivers good food
produced in an environmentally friendly fashion i.e.
carbon neutral, while promoting conditions in the
upland that favour many different plants that are
there because of poorer land management i.e.
cows on the uplands control moths and bracken
and their hoofprints encourage orchids.
The DA should be included because they too suffer
natural handicaps i.e. high altitude - shales growing
slow, poor soils, more waterlogged soil days.

6.2 (a) Yes

6.2 (b) The only cattle suitable for support are
extensive systems where the stock actually
graze the uplands.

6.2 (c) The minimum stocking density is far too
low. At the current level most upland areas
are badly undergrazed.

The maximum S.D. should also be noted.

6.2 (d) An environmental option within LEADER would
be desirable. The uplands must be kept in
good shape - not abandoned - a bonus for
controlling bracken (and Equine disease) and moths
by grazing with horses

1. I feel within the Department there has been a lack of enthusiasm / support for the current system. I feel it delivers well on all accounts - easy to produce, cheap, good environmental outcomes.

The EU is currently 5 yrs behind the times. The days of food surpluses are over. Production needs to be encouraged not controlled / reduced.

Food has to be produced in a sustainable fashion not by chopping down rainforest and transporting it the way round the world.

2. Not all of them.

Socioeconomic issues have been explained.

Food production is one of the most important problems facing the world.

Food needs to be produced where water is plentiful - N.I. is uniquely placed!

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1. I feel within the Department there has been a lack of enthusiasm/support for the current system. I feel it delivers well on all accounts – easy to police,, cheap, good environmental outcomes.
The EU is currently 5 yrs behind the times. The days of food surpluses are over. Production needs to be encouraged, not controlled/reduced.
Food has to be produced in a sustainable fashion not by chopping down rain forests and transporting it half way round the world.
2. No - all of them.
Socioeconomic issues have been ignored.
Food production is one of the most important problems facing the world
Food needs to be produced where water is plentiful – NI is uniquely placed !
3. I believe that LFACA should remain in a farm as close as possible to the existing scheme. LFACA is still an important component of farm profit for many beef and sheep enterprises. The current system is cheap and easy to administer while delivering good environmental outcomes.
4. LFACA should not disappear into the black hole of the RDP. Too much money is being currently taken from farmers via modulation and distributed to questionable schemes via the RDP. Money was supposed to come to support local agri-businesses via “council clusters” – in my area Ballymena, Ballymoney, Moyle and Larne. I attended as a stakeholder - the last meeting was cancelled and has not been re-scheduled. The Scheme (RDP) started in 2007 – yet how much money has been distributed.
5. No. Agri-Environment Schemes are of questionable benefit. Many landowners in hill areas are getting thousands of pounds and doing nothing different – nothing to benefit either the habitat or the wildlife.
6. Yes there should be a LFACA. In an area when food production is moving towards “factory farming” i.e. dairy farms where cows are never outside and intensive bull beef systems where animals are fed like pigs - there is a case for promoting a farming system that delivers good food produced in an environmentally friendly fashion i.e. carbon neutral, while promoting conditions in the upland that favour many different plants that are there because of previous(?)

land management i.e. cows on the uplands control mollinia and bracken and their hoofprints encourage orchids.

The DA should be included because they too suffer natural handicaps i.e. high altitude, shorter growing season, poorer soils, more waterlogged soil days.

6a (ii) Yes

6a (iii) The only cattle suitable for support are extensive systems where the stock actually graze the uplands

6a (iv) The minimum stocking density is far too low. At the current level most upland areas are badly under grazed.

6a (v) An environmental option within LFA would be desirable. The uplands must be kept in good shape – not abandoned- a bonus for controlling bracken(and Lyme disease) and mollinia by grazing with bovines