

Northern Ireland Assembly News – June 2021

Ministerial Statement

[North/South Ministerial Council: Inland Waterways](#)

Committee Business

[Nature-Friendly Farming](#) - Members debated and supported an AERA Committee motion: *That this Assembly recognises the vital role that nature-friendly farming must play in tackling the nature and climate emergencies, at the same time as providing a profitable future for the sector; believes that future agricultural policies for Northern Ireland must enable a transition to profitable, sustainable, nature-friendly farming, in order to provide nutritious food, increase farm business resilience and combat the nature and climate emergencies; and welcomes the comments by the Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs that future agricultural policy should ensure an industry that is environmentally sustainable and that displays improved resilience to external shocks.*

Answers to Written Questions

First Minister and deputy First Minister

[Update - PEACE PLUS Programme](#)

Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs

[Independent Environmental Protection Agency](#)

[Protection Against Wildfires](#)

[Protect And Preserve Peatlands and Woodlands](#)

[Northern Ireland Air Quality App](#)

[Marine and Coastal Carbon Stores](#)

[Departmental Communication Plans on Biodiversity and Protected Areas](#)

[Climate Change Bill and Emissions Reduction Target for Agriculture](#)

[Amount of Domestic and Commercial Waste sent to Landfill/ Recycled](#)

[Significant Water Pollution Incidents Caused by Northern Ireland Water](#)

[Landscape Strategy for Northern Ireland](#)

[Funding set aside to implement the forthcoming DAERA Climate Change Bill](#)

[Hedgerow Management for Carbon Sequestration](#)

Minister for Communities

[Future Affordable Warmth Schemes](#)

[Community and Voluntary sector and Full Cost Recovery](#)

[Energy Efficiency within Department, arm's-length bodies, and departmental estate](#)

Minister for the Economy

[Switch to Biofuels](#)

[Future Northern Ireland Sustainable Energy Programme Schemes](#)

[Green Innovation Challenge Fund](#)

Minister of Finance

[Specific Actions to Decarbonise Buildings](#)

[New Social Value Policy](#)

Minister for Infrastructure

[Increasing Protection for Ancient Woodland](#)

[Impact of Review of Renewable Energy Planning](#)

[Annual Investment in Greenways](#)

[Energy Efficiency across Department, arm's-length bodies, and departmental estate](#)

Oral Answers to Questions

Minister of Agriculture, Environment & Rural Affairs

[Illegal Waste Dumping](#)

[Soil Sampling – Pilot Schemes](#)

Minister for the Economy

[Support for Food Tourism](#)

Minister for Infrastructure

[Infrastructure Projects: Climate-proofing](#) (Topical Question 1)

[Planning Policy: Countryside Impact](#) (Topical Question 4)

[Active Travel: Blue-green Fund](#) (Topical Question 5)

Assembly Committee Meetings May 2021

COMMITTEE	DATE	AGENDA
AERA	3 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oral Evidence from DAERA - June Monitoring Round • Briefing: DAERA – Consultation on protection for service animals in NI
	10 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental Briefing: Business Plan 2021-22 • Briefing: Climate Change Bill from the UK Climate Change Committee, the Woodland Trust and the Agri-food and Biosciences Institute
	16 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefing on the Climate Change Bill from NI Environment Link and from Climate NI
	24 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Committee received 3 Oral Evidence sessions on the Climate Change Bill from: Northern Ireland Meat Exporters Association; Dairy Council NI; and the UK Carbon Capture and Storage Research Centre.
Infrastructure	2 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental Briefing: Review Planning Policy and Low Carbon Energy
	9 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Departmental Briefings: Budget – June Monitoring and the other on Commercial Bus Service Permits & Transport Integration
	16 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee discussion on the Committee Inquiry into the Decarbonisation of Road Transport in NI • Briefing from RaISe – Analysis of survey results.
Public Accounts Committee	17 June Watch Again	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Briefings on the Inquiry into Generating Electricity and Ministerial Directions from Renewable Energy from Department for the Economy officials.

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