



Subject:	Revised Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs (DAERA) on Epizootic Disease
Date:	11 June 2024
Reporting Officer:	Siobhan Toland, Operational Director, City and Neighbourhood Services
Contact Officer:	Nikki Devlin-Webb, Emergency Planning Officer

Is this report restricted?	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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1.0 Purpose of Report	
1.1	The purpose of this report is to update Members on revisions to the open-ended Memorandum of Understanding with DAERA in relation to Epizootic Disease and available Council resources as outlined in Appendix A. The MoU had originally been approved at People and Communities Committee in June 2017.
2.0 Recommendations	
2.1	People and Communities Committee is asked to: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Note the revisions within the Memorandum of Understanding2. Note the updated resources in Appendix A3. Agree to continue with the open-ended MoU4. Agree Operational Director, City and Neighbourhood Services signs agreement5. Note DAERA have delivered Epizootic training which officers attended on 22 May
3.0 Main report	
3.1	Epizootic Disease means an epidemic of disease affecting animals including, but not restricted to, Foot and Mouth, Newcastle Disease, Avian Influenza, Swine Fever, and Rabies.
3.2	An open-ended mutual aid arrangement exists between all district Councils and DAERA in relation to Epizootic Disease, approved by Council in 2017. The MoU is not binding, and resources would only be provided on a full cost recovery basis.
3.3	The MoU has recently been reviewed by DAERA and updated; district councils have been asked to sign the updated version.
3.4	In addition to this, to reflect the structures within City and Neighbourhood Services and available resources, Appendix A has been reviewed and revised by BCC officers.
4.0 Financial & Resource Implications	

4.1	Council resources would only be provided on a full cost recovery basis from DAERA.
5.0	Equality or Good Relations Implications / Rural Needs Assessment
5.1	There are no Equality or Good Relations Implications or Rural Needs Assessment requirement to the report.
6.0	Appendices
	Appendix 1 - Revised Memorandum of Understanding Appendix 2 – Annex A - Council resources