STANDING ORDERS OF THE NATIONAL FARMERS' UNION

Approved as follows:

(Parts 1-6, 8 and 13) by Council on 26 June 2023 and 24 June 2024

(Parts 7, 9-12 and 14) by NFU Governance Board on 5 July 2023, 15 November 2023 and 10 June 2024

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Part 1: Introduction

These Standing Orders are agreed and published from time to time by the NFU in accordance with the Constitution of the NFU. The purpose of the Standing Orders is to provide additional rules of procedure for a number of the NFU's bodies, boards and committees, where this procedure is not set out in the Constitution or the Rules, and to provide additional regulations in relation to certain aspects of the NFU's business.

To enable the Standing Orders to be used effectively by the various bodies to whom they relate, the Standing Orders are divided into the following parts:

Part 2 of the Standing Orders sets out the terms of reference for the Governance Board.

Part 3 of the Standing Orders sets out the terms of reference for the Food, Farming and Environment Board.

Part 4 sets out the terms of reference for the National Commodity Boards, in accordance with paragraph 15.3 of the Constitution.

Part 5 sets out the terms of reference for the Regional Boards, in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Constitution.

Part 6 sets out the terms of reference for the following bodies, in accordance with the paragraphs of the Constitution set out below:

- NFU Cymru Commodity Boards, in accordance with paragraph 15.2 of the Constitution
- Regional Commodity Boards, in accordance with paragraph 15.1 of the Constitution
- Welsh Council, in accordance with paragraph 13 of the Constitution

(the **Relevant Boards**)

Part 7 of the Standing Orders sets out the terms of reference for County Committees, including membership, appointment of alternates and chairs, quorum and annual general meetings.

Part 8 of the Standing Orders sets out the terms of reference for the Audit and Remuneration Committee.

Part 9 of the Standing Orders sets out provisions for establishment of Communities.

Part 10 of the Standing Orders sets out provisions for establishment of Uplands Groups.

Part 11 of the Standing Orders set out procedures relating to National Officeholder elections, including hustings and the election process.

Part 12 of the Standing Orders sets out procedures for resolutions and motions at meetings, including the protocol for the use of resolutions and dealing with amendments to formal motions.

Part 13 of the Standing Orders sets out different types of membership within membership categories and the eligibility of persons for admission to each class of membership, in accordance with rule 11 of the Rules.

Part 14 of the Standing Orders set out other general provisions.

The Parts of the Standing Orders are approved as follows:

Standing Order Section	Approval Body	Date of Last Approval
1: Introduction	Council	24 June 2024
2: ToR GB	Council	26 June 2023
3: ToR FFE Board	Council	26 June 2023
4: ToR NCBs	Council	24 June 2024
5: ToR Regional Boards	Council	24 June 2024
6: ToR Relevant Bodies	Council	24] June 2024
7: ToR County Committees	Governance Board	5 July 2023
8: ToR Audit Committee	Council	24 June 2024
9: Communities	Governance Board	5 July 2023
10: Uplands Groups	Governance Board	15 November 2023
11: National Officeholder Elections	Governance Board	10 June 2024
12: Resolutions and Motions at Meetings	Governance Board	5 July 2023
13: Members	Council	26 June 2023
14:General	Governance Board	5 July 2023

Definitions set out in the Constitution and Rules shall apply to these Standing Orders, unless the context otherwise requires.

To the extent that there is any inconsistency between the terms of the Constitution and Rules of the NFU and these Standing Orders, the terms of the Constitution and Rules shall prevail.

Part 2: Terms of Reference for the Governance Board

1. Remit

The Governance Board has responsibility to undertake the following on behalf of Council:

1.1. The NFU's financial strategy, including the annual budget and the longer term forecasts;

1.2. Managing the resources of the NFU; including its financial and property investments;

1.3. Managing membership recruitment & retention performance;

1.4. Setting the NFU's annual business plan;

1.5. Identify risks to the NFU and the measures to mitigate them;

1.6. Deciding the management and funding of NFU national legal cases, other than those managed by the Legal Board;

1.7. Ratification (or rejection) of nominations to the NFU Legal Board;

1.8. Ratification (or rejection) of nominations for an independent expert on to the NFU Audit Committee;

1.9. The governance of the NFU and its subsidiaries;

1.10. Represent the Employer in relation to the NFU Staff Pension Scheme;

1.11. Making NFU organisational appointments to external bodies;

1.12. At its own discretion will receive reports and presentations from external advisors such as fund managers, property advisors or auditors;

1.13. Receive representations from external bodies and approving donations or contributions as appropriate;

1.14. Receive reports from Directors and other senior staff;

1.15. Control major strategic projects such as bovine TB and Foot and Mouth Disease;

1.16. Adopt (and amend) the Disciplinary Process as will apply to the investigation of conduct in breach of the NFU Code of Conduct as it applies to elected, appointed or nominated representatives of the NFU and to consider any matters arising pursuant to that Disciplinary Process.

2. Meetings

2.1. The Governance Board shall determine its own schedule of meetings provided that it must meet at least 6 times and, save in exceptional circumstances, not more than 10 times in a year.

3. Election of elected members

3.1. Nominations for the election of a National Commodity Board chair or a Regional Board chair to the Governance Board must be received in advance and supported by a short personal statement. Procedures and deadlines for this will be advised by the Secretary from time to time.

3.2. In the case of insufficient advance nominations only, further nominations of National Commodity Board chair or a Regional Board chair may be taken from the floor of the relevant meeting of Council.

4. Quorum

4.1. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of the Governance Board is five members for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

4.2. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

4.3. The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

4.4. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

5. Members and Alternates

5.1. Alternates are not permitted.

5.2. Governance Board members will be expected to be company directors of The National Farmers Union Trust Company Limited (Trust Corporation).

6. Interests of Members

6.1. If a member of the Governance Board is interested in any contract or arrangement with the NFU (other than a contract or arrangement generally applicable to the membership) either directly or indirectly, they must notify the secretary of the Governance Board on appointment to the Governance Board, or immediately on acquiring such an interest, whichever is the earlier. Such member may be counted in the quorum but may not vote in relation to any such contract or arrangement.

7. Notice of Meetings

7.1. All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the Governance Board for the time being entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

7.2. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

7.3. The notice and any other communications relating to any meeting which any member of the Governance Board is entitled to receive shall be given to all such members.

7.4. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

8. Electronic Participation

8.1. Any meeting of the Governance Board may be held by suitable electronic means and any member of such Board may attend a meeting of the Governance Board by suitable electronic means, in either case at the discretion of the chair of the Governance Board. For these purposes 'suitable electronic means' includes holding or participating in a meeting by way of video conference, online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody so participating to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any matter.

8.2. Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair of the Governance Board is.

9. Sub-Committees

9.1. The Governance Board may delegate to any sub-committee any of their powers or functions or the implementation of their decisions on such terms as the Governance board thinks fit. This may include the delegation to a sub-committee to be constituted as a Disciplinary Committee or Appeals Committee to consider matters arising under

the NFU Code of Conduct in accordance with the Disciplinary Process (from time to time in force).

9.2. The Governance Board may determine the composition of any sub-committee entirely at its own discretion save that it must comprise a majority of members of the Governance Board.

9.3. Meetings of any sub-committee shall be governed by these terms of reference insofar as they are applicable and are not superseded by any regulations made by the Governance Board.

10. Minutes and Reporting

10.1. The Governance Board shall keep minutes, in books kept for the purpose, of the proceedings at meetings of the respective boards. Minutes shall be approved by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

10.2. The work of the Governance Board is strictly confidential. However, the Governance Board will report on its work to Council at quarterly Council meetings.

Part 3: Terms of Reference for the Food, Farming and Environment (FFE) Board

1. Remit

The FFE Board has responsibility to undertake the following on behalf of Council:

1.1. To determine the NFU's policy priorities, addressing multi-sector issues and setting its work programme;

1.2. To determine the NFU's policies that enable UK farmers and growers to be more competitive, productive and sustainable, delivering a greater share of the UK and global food, fibre and renewable energy in ways that enhance farming's environmental contribution;

1.3. To determine NFU's national policy position spanning sectors and issues and will regularly set and monitor the NFU's policy and political priorities;

1.4. To commission relevant and necessary activities including establishing Communities, task and finish groups, consultations or surveys to understand NFU members' views;

1.5. To review and approve consultations and policy developments considered by any Communities established in accordance with Part 9; and

1.6. To consider such issues or papers as may be referred to it from time to time by any NFU board, the Council or any NFU region.

2. Meetings

2.1. The FFE Board shall determine its own schedule of meetings provided that it must meet at least 6 times and, save in exceptional circumstances, not more than 10 times in a year.

2.2. The FFE Board chair may invite such persons, including Regional Environment Leads or the Chair of Legal Board, as they see necessary to properly inform the deliberations of the FFE Board from time to time. Such invitees would have no right to vote at meetings.

3. Quorum

3.1. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of the FFE Board is five members for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

3.2. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

3.3. The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

3.4. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

4. Alternates

4.1. The alternate should ordinarily be the vice chair of the relevant commodity board.

5. Interests of Members

5.1. If a member of the FFE Board is interested in any contract or arrangement with the NFU (other than a contract or arrangement generally applicable to the membership) either directly or indirectly, they must notify the secretary of the FFE Board on appointment to the FFE Board, or immediately on acquiring such an interest, whichever is the earlier. Such member may be counted in the quorum but may not vote in relation to any such contract or arrangement.

6. Notice of Meetings

6.1. All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the FFE Board for the time being entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

6.2. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

6.3. The notice and any other communications relating to any meeting which any member of the FFE Board is entitled to receive shall be given to all such members.

6.4. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

7. Electronic Participation

7.1. Any meeting of the FFE Board may be held by suitable electronic means and any member of such Board may attend a meeting of the FFE Board by suitable electronic means, in either case at the discretion of the chair of the FFE Board. For these purposes 'suitable electronic means' includes holding or participating in a meeting by way of video conference, online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody so participating to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any matter.

7.2. Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair of the FFE Board is.

8. Minutes

8.1. The FFE Board shall keep minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the respective boards. Minutes shall be approved by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

Part 4: Terms of Reference for National Commodity Boards

1 Quorum

1.1 No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of a National Commodity Board is one third of the members of the National Commodity Board (or their alternates) for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

1.2 If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

1.3 The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

1.4 A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

2. Notice of Meetings

2.1. All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the National Commodity Board for the time being entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

2.2. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

2.3. The notice and any other communications relating to any meeting which any National Commodity Board member is entitled to receive shall be given to all such members.

2.4. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

3. Minutes

3.1. The National Commodity Board shall keep minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the respective boards. Minutes shall be signed by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

3.2. The Council, Governance Board or FFE Board may, on submission of a written request to the secretariat of the National Commodity Board request a copy of the minutes of any meeting of the National Commodity Board from time to time.

3.3. The National Commodity Board may publish the minutes of its meetings.

4. Participation in meetings

4.1. Members of a National Commodity Board may take part in a meeting of the National Commodity Board by being present in person or by alternate or by attendance electronically in person or by alternate. Participation electronically shall be at the discretion of the chair of the National Commodity Board and shall be by video conference, or online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any resolution.

4.2. Subject to the approval of the chair of the National Commodity Board any meeting of the National Commodity Board may take place exclusively via electronic means or may allow National Commodity Board members to decide whether they will attend a physical meeting in person, or attend the same meeting using electronic means, provided that the manner of holding the meeting and the options for taking part are made clear to all National Commodity Board members and all such members are able to take part in the meeting and exercise their right to vote on any resolution, however they may choose to participate.

4.3. Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair is unless the National Commodity Board members decide otherwise.

5. Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the National Commodity Boards

5.1. Subject to paragraph 12 of this Part 4, the chair and vice-chair of each National Commodity Board shall be elected by the members of each such board at the first meeting of each board following the Annual General Meeting on a biennial basis, and shall hold office for a period of two years until the beginning of the first meeting of each board two calendar years after appointment.

5.2. A member of a National Commodity Board shall be eligible for election as chair or vice-chair of that National Commodity Board in accordance with paragraph

15.4 of the Constitution, whereby any member of the relevant National Commodity Board may be appointed as its chair and vice-chair.

5.2. Save with the consent of the Governance Board no person shall act as a chair of any Commodity Board while they hold office as chair of any other Commodity Board.

5.3. Subject to the Transitional Arrangements, no chair or vice chair of any National Commodity Board who has served in that capacity for two successive terms shall be re-elected unless they obtain seventy five per cent of the votes cast by the members of the National Commodity Board present and voting when the vote is taken. Where the number of members of the Relevant Board present and voting when the vote is taken is fewer than 20, the chair or vice-chair shall be re-elected if they obtain sixty per cent of the votes cast by said members.

5.4. Subject to the Transitional Arrangements, no chair or vice chair of any National Commodity Board may hold that post for a consecutive period of more than six years, but may be re-elected to that post after an interval of at least four years has passed since the date on which they ceased to hold office.

5.5. An Officeholder, Director, Regional Director, Director of NFU Cymru or Secretary (or such delegate as any of them may appoint) shall be present at each of the first meetings of the National Commodity Board following the Annual General Meeting to take the chair for the election of the board chair. No alternate may vote on the election of the board chair.

5.6. Nominations for the post of chair and vice chair shall be in writing and must be received and circulated to the Board seven days before the election.

5.7. If only one person is nominated and is not required to obtain seventy five per cent (rounded down) (or sixty per cent (in accordance with 5.4 above) that person shall be declared elected. If they fail to obtain seventy five per cent of the vote (or sixty per cent of the vote as per 5.4 above) they shall not be elected.

5.8. If more than one person is nominated for election and all but one person withdraws, the National Commodity Board shall be given the opportunity to make further nominations. If no further nominations are received the sole candidate shall be deemed elected unopposed. If further nominations are made the ballot shall take place in the normal way. If after further nominations there is more than one candidate for election the ballot shall take place in accordance with the procedures in standing orders 5.9 to 5.13.

5.9. Where none of the candidates for election requires a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as per 5.4 above), one candidate to be elected must obtain, if necessary by a process of elimination in successive ballots, a simple majority over all other candidates. If more than one ballot is required the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated in each ballot together with any other candidate whose votes when added to those of the

candidate with the lowest number of votes are less than those for the candidate with the next highest number of votes.

5.10. If two candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes and their votes when added together exceed those of the candidate with the next highest number of votes than a separate ballot between them shall be held to eliminate one candidate.

5.11. Where one of the candidates requires a special majority the ballot shall proceed in accordance with standing orders 5.9 and 5.10. The requirement for a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable) shall not apply in successive ballots until the final ballot when the number of candidates is reduced to two and only if one of them requires a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable).

5.12. If in a final ballot in accordance with standing order 5.11 a candidate fails to obtain a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable) they shall not be elected and are not eligible for re-nomination. New nominations shall be sought from the floor of the meeting and a second election in accordance with standing orders 5.8, 5.9 and 5.10.

5.13. If a first ballot results in a tie a second ballot shall be held immediately. If the second ballot results in a tie, within 10 working days the secretary of the National Commodity Board shall conduct a ballot by suitable electronic means of the members of that board who are eligible to vote, in respect of the tied candidates only. If following the ballot the votes between the candidates are still tied, the election shall be decided by the toss of a coin in the presence of the Regional Director or the Secretary.

6. Interests of Members

If a member of a National Commodity Board is interested in any contract or arrangement with the NFU (other than a contract or arrangement generally applicable to the membership) either directly or indirectly, they must notify the secretary of the National Commodity Board on appointment to the National Commodity Board, or immediately on acquiring such an interest, whichever is the earlier. Such member may be counted in the quorum but may not vote in relation to any such contract or arrangement.

7. Appointing alternates to a National Commodity Board

7.1. If a member of any National Commodity Board is unable to attend a meeting for a good reason a suitably qualified alternate may be appointed in accordance with standing order 7.3 to attend and, subject to standing order 7.2, vote on their behalf provided that prior notice is given to the secretary of the meeting, and the sending of the alternate, and the name of the alternate, is approved in advance of the meeting by the chair of the meeting. An alternate is to be counted in the quorum at the meeting.

7.2. An alternate is not permitted to vote in the election of the chair of any National Commodity Board.

7.3. Where a person is a member of a National Commodity Board through election or appointment onto that board by a nominating body, or ex officio by holding a particular role, the nominating body or body that appointed them to that particular role shall appoint that person's alternate. In all other cases, an alternate shall be selected by the member themselves.

8. Chair's Powers

8.1. To expedite the business of any National Commodity Board the chair may change the order of precedence from that on the agenda.

8.2. The chair may, from time to time invite other members of the NFU, or other suitably qualified person to attend and speak at meetings of the National Commodity Board. Any person so invited shall not have a vote on any motion or discussion.

8.3. The chair of the National Commodity Board shall have a casting or second vote on that board which they may use in the event of a drawn vote or ballot. In the case of a drawn vote on an amendment in which the chair declines to use their vote, the amendment fails and the original motion becomes the business under debate. A substantive motion similarly fails if the chair declines to use their second vote. The chair may use their casting vote either for or against the motion regardless of whether or not they voted originally or on which side they used their original vote.

8.4. Any person entitled to speak shall address the chair only on the matter under discussion.

8.5. The chair of the National Commodity Board may direct any person to stop speaking in the case of any breach of order, continued irrelevance, repetition, or unbecoming language. In the case of persistent disregard of the chair's authority, the chair may order that person to leave the meeting or suspend the sitting.

9. Representative Role of the Chair of the National Commodity Boards

9.1. The chair of the relevant National Commodity Board should represent the NFU at COPA or its equivalent (if and in whatever manner NFU shall be invited to attend COPA). However, the relevant National Commodity Board may recommend that another of their members takes on the role. This must be ratified by the Governance Board.

10. Election of second representative from each region

10.1. National Commodity Boards established pursuant to paragraph 15.3.1 of the Constitution may have a second representative from each region pursuant to paragraph 15.3.2.2, being up to five members appointed in relation to each region and NFU Cymru, appointed for terms of two years subject to standing order 10.6.

10.2. Vacancies shall be advertised to the entire NFU membership and individuals seeking appointment must be fully paid up members of the NFU and should be active within the relevant sector and region, explaining why they have the skills/interests to fill the position that is available.

10.3. A National Commodity Board member must have not less than 20 nominations from Farmer & Grower Members within that region or Wales (as applicable), before they may be appointed. Upon receiving the required number of nominations they shall notify the Regional Director with copies of such nominations.

10.4. The nomination of any individual pursuant to standing order 10.2 shall be considered and, if thought fit, approved by the Regional Commodity Chair, Regional Board Chair and Regional Director (acting by majority). Where there is more than one candidate with 20 or more nominations the appointment shall be determined by the Regional Commodity Chair, Regional Board Chair and Regional Director.

10.5. In considering whether to appoint a nominated individual, the Regional Commodity Chair, Regional Board Chair and Regional Director shall consider the range of skills and expertise on the applicable National Commodity Board, as well as the desire for geographical diversity within the representation of each region.

10.6. Any individual who has been appointed pursuant to standing order 10.1 may seek re-appointment to the relevant National Commodity Board, but shall not hold office as a member of the relevant National Commodity Board for a consecutive period of more than six years, but may be re-elected to that post after an interval of at least four years has passed since the date on which they ceased to hold office.

11. Appointment of Appointed National Commodity Board Members

11.1. National Commodity Boards established pursuant to paragraph 15.3.1 of the Constitution may have up to four appointed members (subject to standing order 11.2), appointed for terms of two years subject to standing order 11.11. Further members can be appointed in exceptional cases subject to the approval of the Governance Board.

11.2. Each National Commodity Board established in accordance with paragraph 15.3.1 of the Constitution shall comprise not more than 13 individuals from

those elected or appointed under paragraphs 15.3.2.1, 15.3.2.2, 15.3.2.3 and 15.3.2.4 of the Constitution (but, for the avoidance of doubt, excluding any additional members pursuant to paragraph 15.3.2.5). Accordingly:

11.2.1. where a National Commodity Board has 10 members from across NFU's regions pursuant to paragraphs 15.3.2.1 and 15.3.2.2 (having regard to the assessment of skills required on that National Commodity Board), the maximum permitted number of Appointed National Commodity Board members shall be three ; or

11.2.2. where a National Commodity Board has 11 members from across NFU's regions pursuant to paragraphs 15.3.2.1, 15.3.2.2 and 15.3.2.3 (having regard to the assessment of skills required on that National Commodity Board), the maximum permitted number of Appointed National Commodity Board members shall be two.

11.3. Vacancies shall be advertised to the entire NFU membership and individuals seeking appointment must be fully paid up members of the NFU and should be active within the relevant sector, explaining why they have the skills/interests to fill the positions that are available.

11.4. A selection panel consisting of a National Officeholder, the chair of the relevant National Commodity Board and the relevant Chief Adviser will consider all applications received and decide on the appointments. Interviews of prospective candidates may be required as a part of this process. The Head of Food and Farming will oversee the whole process ensuring that there is consistency of appointment process between the three National Commodity Boards, which have Appointed National Commodity Board Members. The appointment process should take place after the first meeting of the relevant National Commodity Board following the NFU AGM in the relevant year. On appointment such appointed members will automatically become members of their relevant Regional Commodity Board.

11.5. In assessing candidates and determining appointments to a National Commodity Board, the selection panel shall have regard to any gaps in the skills or expertise of the core membership of that National Commodity Board, considering in particular:

11.5.1. The geographical balance of the National Commodity Board;

11.5.2. The representation of tenant, next generation, organic and/or environmental interests;

11.5.3. The commitment of the NFU to have a young farmer on each National Commodity Board; and

11.5.4. whether the National Commodity Board has the skill set needed to pursue its strategic goals considering the skills assessment that has been undertaken of the National Commodity Board.

11.6. Appointed members of National Commodity Boards will serve a two year term of office and will retire at the first meeting following the second NFU AGM following their appointment.

11.7. Subject to standing order 11.8, appointed members of National Commodity Boards shall be entitled to vote at meetings of the relevant National Commodity Board.

11.8. Appointed National Commodity Board Members shall not be entitled to vote on the appointment of the chair or vice chair of the National Commodity Board on which they sit, nor shall they be entitled to stand for the post of chair or vice chair of the National Commodity Board on which they sit.

11.9. Any appointed member shall sit on the Regional Commodity Board for that commodity within the region in which they have their main farming business, and report to the members on the Regional Commodity Board the decisions of the National Commodity Board.

11.10. In the event of a casual vacancy amongst the Appointed Commodity Board Members, the selection panel may appoint an additional appointed member to serve in the place of the member who has stepped down, but such person shall only serve until the end of the original appointed member's term of office, at which stage the replacement will step down.

11.11. Subject to the Transitional Arrangements, any individuals who have served as appointed members may seek re-appointment to the relevant National Commodity Board or seek election as an elected member of the relevant National Commodity Board, but shall not hold office as a member of the relevant National Commodity Board for a consecutive period of more than six years, but may be re-elected to that post after an interval of at least four years has passed since the date on which they ceased to hold office.

12. Removal of National Commodity Board members

12.1. In additional to the provisions relating to removal set out in paragraph 21.3 of the Constitution, any National Commodity Board member who has been absent without permission from more than 50% of the National Commodity Board meetings over a rolling 12 month period will be removed upon a vote by the other members of the National Commodity Board.

13. Regional Commodity Board Deputising for the Chair

13.1. Where the chair of a National Commodity Board has delegated activities associated with chairing the Regional Commodity Board to their vice chair in

accordance with paragraph 15.1.7 of the Constitution, that vice chair shall become a member of the National Commodity Board (and the permitted number of members of that National Commodity Board appointed pursuant to paragraph 15.3.3 of the Constitution shall, if necessary to comply with paragraph 15.3.6 of the Constitution, be reduced accordingly). The vice chair may attend and speak at a meeting of the National Commodity Board but may not vote on the appointment of the chair or vice chair of the National Commodity, but may vote on any other matter of the relevant National Commodity Board.

14. Sub-Committees

14.1. A National Commodity Board may from time to time establish one or more sub-committees to consider particular topics or specialisms within the remit of that National Commodity Board. Each sub-committee will be governed by terms of reference approved from time to time by its establishing National Commodity Board, setting out the remit, membership meeting and reporting arrangements to the National Commodity Board.

15. Horticulture National Commodity Board

15.1. Notwithstanding the generality of standing order 14.1, the Horticulture National Commodity Board shall establish and maintain a sub-committee named the potato policy group, which shall be subject to terms of reference approved by the Horticulture National Commodity Board in accordance with standing order 14.1.

15.2. The chair of the potato policy group appointed from time to time in accordance with that sub-committee's terms of reference shall be ex officio a vice chair of the Horticulture Commodity Board.

15.3. In addition to the chair of the potato policy group being an ex-officio vice chair of the Horticulture Commodity Board, the Horticulture Commodity Board shall also elect a second vice chair in accordance with the usual provisions set out in paragraph 5 of this Part. Accordingly, references in this Part to vice chair shall, in the case of the Horticulture Commodity Board, be read as vice chairs as the context requires.

15.4. In the event that the chair of the Horticulture Commodity Board is not present at a meeting, then the vice chair selected by the chair shall chair the meeting in their absence. In the event that the chair has not made such selection, then the vice chairs will determine between them who should chair the meeting.

Part 5: Terms of Reference for Regional Boards

1 Remit

1.1 The Regional Boards shall support the work of the NFU by undertaking the following within their region:

1.1.1 offer guidance and support to the Regional Director and broader regional, county and group secretary teams;

1.1.2 offer guidance and support in the delivery of the regional strategy, county plans and local plans;

1.1.3 review and provide feedback on management data such as membership performance statistics;

1.1.4 attend to regional policy issues that are outside the remit of (regional and national) Commodity Boards and NFU Communities, except where this is a specific regional interest;

1.1.5 consider whether any matter could helpfully be considered by an NFU Community and to advise the FFE Board accordingly;

1.1.6 offer guidance and support in developing effective lobbying and campaigning initiatives within the region;

1.1.7 oversee the effective operation of the County Committee structure within the region;

1.1.8 oversee the effective operation of Regional Commodity Boards; and

1.1.9 receive and consider then respond to, act upon or if necessary, submit to Council resolutions of NFU County meetings within the region.

1.2 In their conduct and their work, Regional Board members shall:

1.2.1 be advocates and champions of the NFU, its work and its people;

1.2.2 encourage and promote inclusive behaviour amongst fellow members and support the organisation in promoting diversity and equality for its members and staff; and

1.2.3 read and adhere to NFU's Code of Conduct.

2 Membership

2.1 Membership of the Regional Boards shall be determined in accordance with paragraph 12 of the Constitution.

2.2 No other person may attend, save with the express consent of the Chair.

3 Quorum

3.1 No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of a Regional Board (the **Board**) is one third of the members of the Board (or their alternates) for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

3.2 If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

3.3 The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

3.4 A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

4 Meetings

4.1 The Board will meet a minimum of four times a year, in advance of each Council meeting.

4.2 All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the Board for the time being entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

4.3 The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

4.4 The notice and any other communications relating to any meeting which any Board member is entitled to receive shall be given to all such members.

4.5 The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

5 Minutes

5.1 The Board shall keep minutes, in books kept for the purpose, of the proceedings at meetings of the respective boards. Minutes shall be signed by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

5.2 The Governance Board may, on submission of a written request to the secretariat of the Board request a copy of the minutes of any meeting of the Board from time to time.

6 Participation in meetings

6.1 Members of a Board may take part in a meeting of the Board by being present in person or by alternate or by attendance electronically in person or by alternate. Participation electronically shall be at the discretion of the chair of the Board and shall be by video conference, or online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any resolution.

6.2 Subject to the approval of the chair of the Board any meeting of the Board may take place exclusively via electronic means or may allow Board members to decide whether they will attend a physical meeting in person, or attend the same meeting using electronic means, provided that the manner of holding the meeting and the options for taking part are made clear to all Board members and all such members are able to take part in the meeting and exercise their right to vote on any resolution, however they may choose to participate.

6.3 Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair is unless the Board members decide otherwise.

7 Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Boards

7.1 The chair and vice-chair of each Board shall be elected by the members of each such board at the first meeting of each board following the Annual General Meeting on a biennial basis and shall hold office for a period of two years until the beginning of the first meeting of each board two calendar years after appointment.

7.2 A member of a Board shall be eligible for election as chair or vice-chair of that Board pursuant to standing order 7.1 in accordance with paragraph 12.3 of

the Constitution, which requires that the chair and vice-chair must be a Council Representative or County Chair on that Regional Board.

7.3 Subject to the Transitional Arrangements, no chair or vice chair of any Board who has served in that capacity for two successive terms shall be re-elected unless they obtain seventy-five per cent of the votes cast by the members of the Board present and voting when the vote is taken. Where the number of members of the Board present and voting when the vote is taken is fewer than 20, the chair or vice-chair shall be re-elected if they obtain sixty per cent of the votes cast by said members.

7.4 Subject to the Transitional Arrangements and paragraph 15.1.7 of the Rules, no chair or vice chair of any Relevant Board may hold that post for a consecutive period of more than six years, but may be re-elected to that post after an interval of at least four years has passed since the end of their previous term.

7.5 An Officeholder, Director, Regional Director, Director of NFU Cymru or Secretary (or such delegate as any of them may appoint) shall be present at each of the first meetings of the Board following the Annual General Meeting to take the chair for the election of the board chair. No alternate may vote on the election of the board chair.

7.6 Nominations for the post of chair and vice chair shall be in writing.

7.7 If only one person is nominated and is not required by standing order 7.4. to obtain seventy five per cent (rounded down) (or sixty per cent in accordance with 7.4 above) that person shall be declared elected. If they fail to obtain seventy five per cent of the vote (or sixty per cent of the vote as per 7.4 above) they shall not be elected.

7.8 If more than one person is nominated for election and all but one person withdraws, the Board shall be given the opportunity to make further nominations. If no further nominations are received the sole candidate shall be deemed elected unopposed. If further nominations are made the ballot shall take place in the normal way. If after further nominations there is more than one candidate for election the ballot shall take place in accordance with the procedures in standing orders 7.9 to 7.13.

7.9 Where none of the candidates for election requires a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as per 7.4 above), one candidate to be elected must obtain, if necessary by a process of elimination in successive ballots, a simple majority over all other candidates. If more than one ballot is required the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated in each ballot together with any other candidate whose votes when added to those of the candidate with the lowest number of votes are less than those for the candidate with the next highest number of votes.

7.10 If two candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes and their votes when added together exceed those of the candidate with the next highest number of votes than a separate ballot between them shall be held to eliminate one candidate.

7.11 Where one of the candidates requires a special majority the ballot shall proceed in accordance with standing orders 7.9 and 7.10. The requirement for a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable) shall not apply in successive ballots until the final ballot when the number of candidates is reduced to two and only if one of them requires a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable).

7.12 If in a final ballot in accordance with standing order 7.11 a candidate fails to obtain a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable) they shall not be elected and are not eligible for re-nomination. New nominations shall be sought from the floor of the meeting and a second election in accordance with standing orders 7.8, 7.9 and 7.10.

7.13 If a first ballot results in a tie a second ballot shall be held immediately. If the second ballot results in a tie, within 10 working days the secretary of the Board shall conduct a postal ballot of the members of that board who are eligible to vote, in respect of the tied candidates only. If following the postal ballot the votes between the candidates are still tied, the election shall be decided by the toss of a coin in the presence of the Regional Director or the Secretary.

8 Interests of Members

If a member of a Board is interested in any contract or arrangement with the NFU (other than a contract or arrangement generally applicable to the membership) either directly or indirectly, they must notify the secretary of the Board on appointment to the Board, or immediately on acquiring such an interest, whichever is the earlier. Such member may be counted in the quorum but may not vote in relation to any such contract or arrangement.

9 Appointing alternates to the Board

9.1 If a member of any Board is unable to attend a meeting for a good reason a suitably qualified alternate may be appointed in accordance with standing order 9.3 to attend and, subject to standing order 9.2, vote on their behalf provided that prior notice is given to the secretary of the meeting, and the sending of the alternate, and the name of the alternate, is approved in advance of the meeting by the chair of the meeting. An alternate is to be counted in the quorum at the meeting.

9.2 An alternate is not permitted to vote in the election of the chair of any Board.

9.3 Where a person is a member of a Board through election or appointment onto that board by a nominating body, or ex officio by holding a particular role, the

nominating body or body that appointed them to that particular role shall appoint that person's alternate. In all other cases, an alternate shall be selected by the member themselves.

10 Chair's Powers

10.1 To expedite the business of any Board the chair may change the order of precedence from that on the agenda.

10.2 The chair may, from time to time invite other members of the NFU, or other suitably qualified person to attend and speak at meetings of the Board. Any person so invited shall not have a vote on any motion or discussion.

10.3 The chair of the Board shall have a casting or second vote on that board which they may use in the event of a drawn vote or ballot. In the case of a drawn vote on an amendment in which the chair declines to use their vote, the amendment fails and the original motion becomes the business under debate. A substantive motion similarly fails if the chair declines to use their second vote. The chair may use their casting vote either for or against the motion regardless of whether or not they voted originally or on which side they used their original vote.

10.4 Any person entitled to speak shall address the chair only on the matter under discussion.

10.5 The chair of the Board may direct any person to stop speaking in the case of any breach of order, continued irrelevance, repetition, or unbecoming language. In the case of persistent disregard of the chair's authority, the chair may order that person to leave the meeting or suspend the sitting.

11 Appointment of Regional Environment Leads

11.1 Each Regional Board may appoint from amongst their number a representative to act as the Regional Environment Lead who shall have a particular interest in environmental matters relevant to the region and its members.

11.2 The role of the Regional Environment Leads will be as set out by the FFE Board from time to time.

11.3 In the event that no member of the Regional Board wishes to or is able to act as the Regional Environment Lead, then the Regional Board shall instead follow the process set out below to appoint a Regional Environment Lead for that region.

11.3.1 The vacancy shall be advertised to the entire NFU membership of the region and individuals seeking appointment must be fully paid up members of the NFU and should be active within the relevant region, and have suitable environmental expertise.

11.3.2 Any candidate must have not less than 20 nominations from Farmer & Grower Members within that region, before they may be appointed. Upon receiving the required number of nominations they shall notify the Regional Director with copies of such nominations.

11.3.3 Where there is more than one candidate with 20 or more nominations the Regional Board shall vote on who shall be elected to such post.

11.4 Any individual appointed as the Regional Environment Lead pursuant to the process set out in paragraph 11.3 above shall not be a member of the Regional Board but shall attend as a co-optee (not having the right to vote).

Part 6: Terms of Reference for NFU Cymru Commodity Boards, Regional Commodity Boards and Welsh Council

In this Part 6 each of the NFU Cymru Commodity Boards, Regional Commodity Boards and Welsh Council are referred to as a "Relevant Board", for ease of reference.

1. Quorum

1.1 No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of a Relevant Board is one third of the members of the Relevant Board (or their alternates) for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

1.2 If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

1.3 The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

1.4 A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

2. Notice of Meetings

2.1. All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the Relevant Board for the time being entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

2.2. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

2.3. The notice and any other communications relating to any meeting which any Relevant Board member is entitled to receive shall be given to all such members.

2.4. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

3. Minutes

3.1. The Relevant Board shall keep minutes, in books kept for the purpose, of the proceedings at meetings of the respective boards. Minutes shall be signed by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

3.2. The Governance Board may, on submission of a written request to the secretariat of the Relevant Board request a copy of the minutes of any meeting of the Relevant Board from time to time.

4. Participation in meetings

4.1. Members of a Relevant Board may take part in a meeting of the Relevant Board by being present in person or by alternate or by attendance electronically in person or by alternate. Participation electronically shall be at the discretion of the chair of the Relevant Board and shall be by video conference, or online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any resolution.

4.2. Subject to the approval of the chair of the Relevant Board any meeting of the Relevant Board may take place exclusively via electronic means or may allow Relevant Board members to decide whether they will attend a physical meeting in person, or attend the same meeting using electronic means, provided that the manner of holding the meeting and the options for taking part are made clear to all Relevant Board members and all such members are able to take part in the meeting and exercise their right to vote on any resolution, however they may choose to participate.

4.3. Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair is unless the Relevant Board members decide otherwise.

5. Election of Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the Relevant Boards

5.1. The chair and vice-chair of each Relevant Board shall be elected by the members of each such board at the first meeting of each board following the Annual General Meeting on a biennial basis, with the exception of Welsh Council whose chair is elected at the Welsh Council's AGM in December prior to the national AGM. And shall hold office for a period of two years until the beginning of the first meeting of each board two calendar years after appointment.

5.2. A member of a Relevant Board shall be eligible for election as chair or vice-chair of that Relevant Board in accordance with standing order 5.1 as follows:

5.2.1. NFU Cymru Commodity Boards: any member of the relevant NFU Cymru Commodity Board may be appointed as its chair and vice chair.

5.2.2. Regional Commodity Boards: in accordance with paragraph 15.1.4 of the Constitution, any member of the relevant Regional Commodity Board may be appointed as its chair and vice-chair.

5.2.3. Welsh Council: any member of the Welsh Council shall be eligible for election as chair and vice-chair.

5.3. Save with the consent of the Governance Board no person shall act as a chair of any Commodity Board while they hold office as chair of any other Commodity Board.

5.4. Subject to the Transitional Arrangements, no chair or vice chair of any Relevant Board who has served in that capacity for two successive terms shall be re-elected unless they obtain seventy five per cent of the votes cast by the members of the Relevant Board present and voting when the vote is taken. Where the number of members of the Relevant Board present and voting when the vote is taken is fewer than 20, the chair or vice-chair shall be re-elected if they obtain sixty per cent of the votes cast by said members.

5.5. Subject to the Transitional Arrangements and paragraph 15.1.7 of the Rules, no chair or vice chair of any Relevant Board may hold that post for a consecutive period of more than six years, but may be re-elected to that post after an interval of at least four years has passed since the end of their previous term.

5.6. An Officeholder, Director, Regional Director, Director of NFU Cymru or Secretary (or such delegate as any of them may appoint) shall be present at each of the first meetings of the Relevant Board following the Annual General Meeting to take the chair for the election of the board chair. No alternate may vote on the election of the board chair.

5.7. Nominations for the post of chair and vice chair shall be in writing.

5.8. If only one person is nominated and is not required by standing order 5.4. to obtain seventy five per cent (rounded down) (or sixty per cent (in accordance with 5.4 above) that person shall be declared elected. If they fail to obtain seventy five per cent of the vote (or sixty per cent of the vote as per 5.4 above) they shall not be elected.

5.9. If more than one person is nominated for election and all but one person withdraws, the Relevant Board shall be given the opportunity to make further nominations. If no further nominations are received the sole candidate shall be deemed elected unopposed. If further nominations are made the ballot shall take place in the normal way. If after further nominations there is more than

one candidate for election the ballot shall take place in accordance with the procedures in standing orders 5.9 to 5.13.

5.10. Where none of the candidates for election requires a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as per 5.4 above), one candidate to be elected must obtain, if necessary by a process of elimination in successive ballots, a simple majority over all other candidates. If more than one ballot is required the candidate with the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated in each ballot together with any other candidate whose votes when added to those of the candidate with the lowest number of votes are less than those for the candidate with the next highest number of votes.

5.11. If two candidates are tied on the lowest number of votes and their votes when added together exceed those of the candidate with the next highest number of votes than a separate ballot between them shall be held to eliminate one candidate.

5.12. Where one of the candidates requires a special majority the ballot shall proceed in accordance with standing orders 5.9 and 5.10. The requirement for a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable) shall not apply in successive ballots until the final ballot when the number of candidates is reduced to two and only if one of them requires a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable).

5.13. If in a final ballot in accordance with standing order 5.11 a candidate fails to obtain a majority of seventy five per cent (or sixty per cent as applicable) they shall not be elected and are not eligible for re-nomination. New nominations shall be sought from the floor of the meeting and a second election in accordance with standing orders 5.8, 5.9 and 5.10.

5.14. If a first ballot results in a tie a second ballot shall be held immediately. If the second ballot results in a tie, within 10 working days the secretary of the Relevant Board shall conduct a postal ballot of the members of that board who are eligible to vote, in respect of the tied candidates only. If following the postal ballot the votes between the candidates are still tied, the election shall be decided by the toss of a coin in the presence of the Regional Director or the Secretary.

6. Interests of Members

If a member of a Relevant Board is interested in any contract or arrangement with the NFU (other than a contract or arrangement generally applicable to the membership) either directly or indirectly, they must notify the secretary of the Relevant Board on appointment to the Relevant Board, or immediately on acquiring such an interest, whichever is the earlier. Such member may be counted in the quorum but may not vote in relation to any such contract or arrangement.

7. Appointing alternates to a Relevant Board

7.1. If a member of any Relevant Board is unable to attend a meeting for a good reason a suitably qualified alternate may be appointed in accordance with standing order 7.3 to attend and, subject to standing order 7.2, vote on their behalf provided that prior notice is given to the secretary of the meeting, and the sending of the alternate, and the name of the alternate, is approved in advance of the meeting by the chair of the meeting. An alternate is to be counted in the quorum at the meeting.

7.2. An alternate is not permitted to vote in the election of the chair of any Relevant Board.

7.3. Where a person is a member of a Relevant Board through election or appointment onto that board by a nominating body, or ex officio by holding a particular role, the nominating body or body that appointed them to that particular role shall appoint that person's alternate. In all other cases, an alternate shall be selected by the member themselves.

8. Chair's Powers

8.1. To expedite the business of any Relevant Board the chair may change the order of precedence from that on the agenda.

8.2. The chair may, from time to time invite other members of the NFU, or other suitably qualified person to attend and speak at meetings of the Relevant Board. Any person so invited shall not have a vote on any motion or discussion.

8.3. The chair of the Relevant Board shall have a casting or second vote on that board which they may use in the event of a drawn vote or ballot. In the case of a drawn vote on an amendment in which the chair declines to use their vote, the amendment fails and the original motion becomes the business under debate. A substantive motion similarly fails if the chair declines to use their second vote. The chair may use their casting vote either for or against the motion regardless of whether or not they voted originally or on which side they used their original vote.

8.4. Any person entitled to speak shall address the chair only on the matter under discussion.

8.5. The chair of the Relevant Board may direct any person to stop speaking in the case of any breach of order, continued irrelevance, repetition, or unbecoming language. In the case of persistent disregard of the chair's authority, the chair may order that person to leave the meeting or suspend the sitting.

9. Regional Commodity Board chair elected as National Commodity Board chair

9.1. In accordance with paragraph 15.1.7 of the Constitution, the chair of a Regional Commodity Board may delegate to the vice chair of that Regional Commodity Board the tasks associated with chairing the Regional Commodity Board where the chair has been elected as chair of the National Commodity Board on which they sit by virtue of being chair of the Regional Commodity Board.

9.2. Deputising in this way will not deem the vice chair to have become chair of the Regional Commodity Board, but will enable the chair of the National Commodity Board to focus on national concerns whilst also ensuring that concerns and priorities are addressed at a regional level.

Part 7: Terms of Reference for County Committees

1. Appointment of County Chair and Deputy County Chair

1.1. Subject to standing order 1.2, the chair and deputy chair of each County Committee shall be the County Chair or Deputy Chair (as applicable) of that county as elected by the members from the county at the county's AGM prior to the national AGM in accordance with the Constitution and Rules, and that person shall take the office of County Chair or Deputy Chair (as applicable) at the first meeting of their County Committee following the national Annual General Meeting that takes place immediately following the election.

1.2. If the County Chair is not available to chair a meeting of the County Committee the Deputy Chair of the County shall take the chair for the meeting. If that person is not available the meeting shall be chaired by a member of the committee elected by those in attendance.

1.3. Subject to the Transitional Arrangements and paragraph 6.3 of the Rules, the County Chair and Deputy Chair shall be elected for a term of two years. This term may be renewed once, if agreed by the County. No person may be elected as County Chair or Deputy Chair unless an interval of at least four years has passed since the date on which they ceased to hold office.

2. Membership of the County Committee and Welsh County Committee

2.1. The following shall be ex officio members of the County Committee or Welsh County Committee (as appropriate): the County Chair, Deputy Chair and Council Representative for that County, the Honorary Treasurer for the County, all members residing in the County who serve on a Regional Commodity Board or NFU Cymru Commodity Board, Welsh Council, NFU Cymru delegate to National Commodity Boards, Regional Tenants Group or the national Legal Board, all Local Branch Chairs and Vice-Chairs in that County.

2.2. The County Committee may co-opt other members of the NFU as members of the Committee as may be desirable to bring in additional expertise or knowledge, or to strengthen links with other bodies. Unless the Committee decides otherwise, co-opted members shall not have voting rights, though in all other respects they shall be full members of the Committee.

2.3. The County Committee shall consider co-option of members at its first meeting following the Annual General Meeting of the NFU in any year, and at that time may renew existing co-options or approve new ones or both.

2.4. The NFU's Group Secretaries for that county shall not be members of the County Committee but may attend its meetings as observers.

3. County Committee Quorum

3.1. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of a County Committee is one quarter of the members of the County Committee (or their alternates) for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

3.2. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

3.3. The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

3.4. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

4. County Committee Alternates

If a member of any County Committee is unable to attend a meeting for a good reason they may appoint a suitably qualified alternate to attend and vote on their behalf provided that prior notice is given to the secretary of the meeting, and the sending of the alternate, and the name of the alternate, is approved in advance of the meeting by the chair of the meeting. An alternate is to be counted in the quorum at the meeting.

5. Annual General Meeting of the County

5.1. The following business shall be conducted at the Annual General Meeting of the County:

5.1.1. The election of members to each of the Regional Commodity Boards of the region in which the county is situated or Welsh Council. Each representative to serve for a total of two (2) year terms so that the County has a total of two representatives on each board;

5.1.2. The election in alternate years of representatives to serve on the Regional Tenants Group if appropriate;

5.1.3. The election in alternate years of a Deputy Chair to serve for the following two years;

5.1.4. A report from the Regional Director, Director of NFU Cymru, County Adviser or other relevant member of staff on membership and subscriptions;

5.1.5. Where one of the County's representatives on the Regional Combinable Crops, Dairy or Livestock Board is also a member of the National Board for that sector, the County shall be entitled to elect an additional representative to sit on that Regional or NFU Cymru Commodity (as applicable) Board for so long as that person is a member of the National Commodity Board; and

5.1.6. Any other relevant business.

5.2. Farmer & Grower Members and Farmer & Grower Member Organisations, in each case residing in the County, are eligible to vote.

5.3. The Annual General Meeting of a County may be held by suitable electronic means at the sole discretion of the Regional Director. For this purpose 'suitable electronic means' includes holding or participating in a general meeting by way of video conference, online broadcast or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody so participating to take part in the meeting.

5.4. Taking part in an Annual General Meeting of a County by suitable electronic means will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the Chair is.

5.5. In the event that the Regional Director determines that an Annual General Meeting of a County should be held by suitable electronic means, a member (or their duly appointed alternate) will not have the right to attend the meeting physically in person and the Regional Director shall determine the most effective means of enabling members' participation in the meeting.

Part 8: Terms of Reference for the Audit and Remuneration Committee

1. Remit

The Audit and Remuneration Committee (**Committee**) has responsibility to undertake the following on behalf of Council:

1.1. To review of the NFU's internal financial controls and procedures;

1.2. To review quarterly and year-end financial results of the NFU;

1.3. To receive the auditor's audit findings report;

1.4. To consider auditor independence and objectivity;

1.5. To monitor other consultancy services provided by the auditor;

1.6. To review the NFU's investment strategy;

1.7. To review the NFU Risk Register, ensuring that risks are being effectively managed;

1.8. To set the honoraria of those entitled to the same in accordance with the Constitution;

1.9. To determine the subscription income for each voting county for the purposes of weighted voting in accordance with the Rules;

1.10. To perform a role of scrutiny and review for the NFU, including the Legal Assistance Scheme, and NFU Services Ltd;

1.11. To consider and deal with any in such manner as they may determine appropriate any dispute with regard to an individual's expenses that cannot be resolved at Director level.

2. Meetings

2.1. The Committee shall determine its own schedule of meetings and shall normally meet four times a year to coincide with NFU Council meetings.

3. Membership

3.1. The membership of the Committee shall be as specified in the constitution, being five Council members elected biennially by Council (not being members of the Governance Board, FFE Board, Legal Board or the Young Farmers' Club or agricultural association representatives on Council.

3.2. The Committee may co-opt an additional member from outside Council who has significant and relevant financial qualifications and experience and need not be a member of the NFU.

3.3. The additional member shall be appointed by the Chair of the Audit Committee and the Chair of the Governance Board after taking appropriate advice. The appointment must be submitted to the Governance Board for ratification.

3.4. The following will be taken into consideration when co-opting an additional member:

3.4.1. Professional qualifications – e.g. FCA, FCCA, etc.

3.4.2. Experience in the voluntary sector.

3.4.3. Experience of a complex organisation of similar scale to the NFU.

3.5. Alternates are not permitted.

4. Quorum

4.1. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of the Committee is three members for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person.

4.2. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

4.3. The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

4.4. A resolution put to the vote of a meeting shall be decided on a show of hands unless before the show of hands a secret ballot is duly demanded by a majority of the members present.

5. Interests of Members

5.1. If a member of the Committee is interested in any contract or arrangement with the NFU (other than a contract or arrangement generally applicable to the membership) either directly or indirectly, they must notify the secretary of the Committee on appointment to the Committee, or immediately on acquiring such

an interest, whichever is the earlier. Such member may be counted in the quorum but may not vote in relation to any such contract or arrangement.

6. Notice of Meetings

6.1. All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the Committee for the time being entitled to attend and vote at such meeting.

6.2. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

6.3. The notice and any other communications relating to any meeting which any member of the Committee is entitled to receive shall be given to all such members.

6.4. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

7. Electronic Participations

7.1. Any meeting of the Committee may be held by suitable electronic means and any member may attend a meeting of the Committee by suitable electronic means, in either case at the discretion of the chair of the Committee. For these purposes 'suitable electronic means' includes holding or participating in a meeting by way of video conference, online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody so participating to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any matter.

7.2. Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair of the Committee is.

8. Minutes

8.1. The Committee shall keep minutes of the proceedings at meetings of the Committee. Minutes shall be approved by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

Part 9: Communities

1. Establishment of Communities

1.1. Where the FFE Board from time to time establishes a Community in accordance with the FFE Board's terms of reference, the provisions of this Part 9 of the Standing Orders will apply.

1.2. For the avoidance of doubt, the Communities shall be advisory only and shall not be delegated any authority to take decisions on behalf of the FFE Board.

9. Purpose of Communities

9.1. The function of each Community is to engage with members and discuss and review policy on key cross-cutting issues in farming and provide information and recommendations to the FFE Board.

10. Organisation of Communities

10.1. Each Community shall be established by the FFE Board and governed by terms of reference approved and updated from time to time by the FFE Board which will set out how the Community will meet and fulfil its functions.

Part 10: NFU Uplands Groups

1. Establishment of Uplands Groups

1.1. The North region and the South region shall each establish and run an Uplands Group. Such groups shall have the scope of work as shall be set out from time to time by the FFE Board.

1.2. For the avoidance of doubt, the Uplands Groups shall be advisory, without any delegated authority to take decisions on behalf of the NFU

2. Purpose of Uplands Groups

2.1. The function of each Uplands Group is to engage with and represent members engaged in uplands farming, providing information and recommendations to the FFE Board.

2.2. The Uplands Groups report directly to the FFE Board. The chair of each Group shall sit on the commodity board that is applicable to their knowledge and expertise.

2.3. The Chairs of the North and South Uplands Groups may attend meetings of their relevant Regional Commodity Boards, on which they shall have voting rights.

2.4. The Chairs will be called as spokespeople for the NFU, when required.

3. Membership of the Uplands Groups

3.1. County Committees from the following counties may elect a representative to participate in the Uplands Groups as follows:

- **North Region Uplands Group**
  Northumberland
  Cumbria
  North Riding and Durham
  Yorkshire West Riding
  York East
  Derbyshire
  Staffordshire

- **South Region Uplands Group**
  Shropshire
  Herefordshire
  Somerset
  Devon
  Cornwall

3.2. Uplands Group members must be members of the NFU.

4. Election of Chairs of the NFU Uplands Groups

4.1. The members of each Uplands Group shall elect a Chair at the first meeting of each group following the Annual General Meeting on a biennial basis. The Chair shall hold office for a period of two years until the beginning of the first meeting of each board two calendar years after appointment.

4.2. Save with the consent of the Governance Board no person shall act as a chair of any NFU Uplands Group while they hold office as chair of any other NFU Uplands Group.

4.3. No chair of any Uplands Group who has served in that capacity for two successive terms shall be re-elected unless they obtain sixty per cent of the votes cast by said members.

4.4. No chair or vice chair of any Uplands Group may hold that post for a consecutive period of more than six years but may be re-elected to that post after an interval of at least four years has passed since the end of their previous term.

4.5. A Regional Board Chair or Regional Director (or such delegate as any of them may appoint) shall be present at each of the first meetings of the Relevant Board following the Annual General Meeting to take the chair for the election of the board chair. No alternate may vote on the election of the board chair.

5. Quorum for Uplands Groups

5.1. No business shall be transacted at any meeting unless a quorum is present. The quorum for a meeting of an Upland Group is one third of the members of the Upland Group for the time being entitled to vote upon the business to be transacted being present in person. “In person” shall include those participating virtually, as provided by Standing Order 9.2 (below).

5.2. If such a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, or if during a meeting such a quorum ceases to be present, the meeting shall stand adjourned to the same day in the next week at the same time and place or to such time and place as the chair may determine, and if at the adjourned meeting a quorum is not present within half an hour from the time appointed for the meeting, the meeting shall be dissolved.

5.3. The chair may, with the consent of a meeting at which a quorum is present (and shall if so directed by the meeting), adjourn the meeting from time to time and from place to place, but no business shall be transacted at an adjourned meeting other than business which might properly have been transacted at the meeting had the adjournment not taken place.

6. Minutes

6.1. The Groups shall keep minutes, in a file (electronic or paper) kept for the purpose, of the proceedings at meetings of the Groups. Minutes shall be signed by the chair at the next meeting and as such shall be a conclusive record of the proceedings.

6.2. The FFE Board may request a copy of the minutes of any meeting of the Groups from time to time.

7. Interests of Members

If a member of the Uplands Group is interested in any contract or arrangement which may be construed as a conflict of interest, that member should notify the relevant Uplands Group Chair at the start of the meeting and declare that interest to the meeting before participating in any discussion relating to that issue or agenda item.

8. Notice of Meetings

8.1. All meetings shall be called by at least 10 clear days' notice but a meeting may be called by shorter notice if it is so agreed prior to or at the meeting by one-third of the members of the Uplands Group.

8.2. The notice shall specify the time and place of the meeting and the general nature of the business to be transacted.

8.3. The accidental omission to give notice of a meeting to, or the non-receipt of notice of a meeting by, any person entitled to receive notice shall not invalidate the proceedings at that meeting.

9. Electronic Participation in Upland Group meetings

9.1. Any meeting of an Upland Group may be held by suitable electronic means and any member of the Upland Group may attend a meeting of the Upland Group by suitable electronic means, in either case at the discretion of the Upland Group's chair. For these purposes 'suitable electronic means' includes holding or participating in a meeting by way of video conference, online meeting facility or conference telephone or similar equipment designed to allow everybody so participating to take part in the meeting and to exercise their right to vote on any matter.

9.2. Taking part in this way will be treated as being present in person at the meeting. Meetings will be treated as taking place where the largest group of the participants are or, if there is no such group, where the chair of the Upland Group is.

10. Organisation of the Uplands Groups

The Uplands Groups shall be organised and governed by terms of reference approved and updated from time to time by the Governance Board.

11. Meeting Frequency

Each Upland Group will meet a minimum of two times a year and shall agree a schedule of meetings at the beginning of each year.

12. Expenses

Members of Upland Groups will receive the appropriate financial loss allowance (as determined by the Audit and Remuneration Committee) for each meeting, and travel expenses.

Part 11: National Officeholder Elections

1. Hustings

1.1. These rules on hustings are made pursuant to rule 8.4 of the NFU's Rules.

1.2. Each region/NFU Cymru will arrange a husting which any interested member of the NFU may attend, including Council Members who will vote in the election of the officeholders.

1.3. The dates of the hustings will be published in the time nominations are sought and all nominees, including existing officeholders, are eligible to attend.

1.4. The hustings will only be held if an officeholder post is contested.

1.5. In order that all the nominees shall be treated equally, travelling expenses and reasonable accommodation expenses in the event of an overnight stay being necessary, will be paid.

1.6. All candidates must receive fair and equal treatment at the hustings itself and in any publicity material advertising/promoting the hustings.

1.7. The chair of the hustings should attempt to create a welcoming and friendly atmosphere at the meeting.

1.8. The hustings should ideally be chaired by the chair of the Regional Board or the President of NFU Cymru. If the Board Chair or President of NFU Cymru is standing for National Office or does not wish to chair the meeting then the Regional Director/Director of NFU Cymru should chair the meeting.

1.9. The running order will normally be Vice President, Deputy President and then President.

1.10. Running order for addressing the meeting will be decided by drawing lots ahead of the meeting.

1.11. Candidates standing for more than one position will only address the meeting once.

1.12. Each candidate will be asked to address the meeting for 3 minutes and then take questions from the floor for 7 minutes (subject to change depending on the number of candidates and time available).

1.13. Timing warnings should be unobtrusive and candidates should be briefed on the arrangements at the start of the meeting.

1.14. Candidates will not be present when other candidates are addressing the meeting and taking questions.

1.15. Late arrivals at the hustings should not be allowed to enter the room when a candidate is addressing the meeting.

1.16. In choosing venues for hustings suitable waiting areas for candidates should be considered.

1.17. Appropriate refreshments (dependant on time of day) should be made available for candidates.

1.18. Biographies of candidates should be made available to those attending at the hustings at the start of the meeting.

1.19. Press may attend a hustings event at the discretion of the chair of the Regional Board or the President of NFU Cymru (as applicable).

1.20. Hustings may be recorded for the purpose of making this available for members to watch online.

2. Elections

During the period between the publication of nominations of the National Officeholder positions, the following code of conduct will apply:

2.1. Current Officeholders

2.1.1. Current officeholders who have submitted their nominations for re-election to their current post or to another officeholder post should not use their current position to gain an unfair advantage over other nominees who are not officeholders.

2.1.2. It is recognised that during the period of the election, the officeholders must continue to carry out their role, including attending public meetings of the NFU, meetings on behalf of the NFU, media work, and membership communications.

2.1.3. Current officeholders should not use their position to gain advantage, e.g. sending out mailings from the NFU or on NFU paper or using the administrative services of the NFU.

2.1.4. Existing officeholders may refer to their experience and successes as an officeholder during the election campaign but they should not undertake official NFU speaking engagements solely for the purpose of electioneering; any speaking engagements should be undertaken on or on behalf of the NFU in their existing capacity as officeholders.

2.1.5. Further advice can be sought from the Director General or Secretary if needed.

2.2. **All Nominees**

2.2.1. The list and contact details of Council Members in post at the time the nominations are announced, together with those of the new Council Members when they are elected prior to the National Officeholder elections, will be made available to all nominees, including the National Officeholders.

2.2.2. It is open to all nominees for the posts of National Officeholders to contact the members of Council, both collectively and individually.

2.2.3. The personal statements of all nominees will be posted on the member site on NFU Online and will be mailed to all members of Council with the right to vote in National Officeholder elections.

Part 12: Resolutions and Motions at Meetings

1. Protocol for the use of Resolutions

Resolutions are a longstanding and valued way for NFU members to influence the decision-making of the NFU. To ensure all Resolutions are considered in a fair and transparent way, the following protocol should be followed:

1.1. Resolutions to Council must come through the relevant Regional Board, National Commodity Board or FFE Board.

1.2. All Resolutions must clearly state any required action.

1.3. Resolutions which endorse NFU policy will be noted. Resolutions in agreement with NFU policy should not require discussion in meetings unless at the discretion of the chair.

1.4. All Resolutions discussed at Council and any outcomes will be recorded in the Resolution Register which is available on NFU Online.

1.5. Upon receipt of a Resolution the staff member with responsibility for the relevant board or NFU Council will:

1.5.1. Confirm receipt with the originator;

1.5.2. Inform the originator of the date of the meeting at which the Resolution will be discussed;

1.5.3. Inform the originator of the progress of the Resolution, i.e. the outcome of the Resolution or, where the Resolution has been forwarded onto another Board, which Board it has been forwarded to, contact details of that Board Secretary and the date of the next scheduled meeting.

1.5.4. The outcome of the discussion must be reported back to the originator by the relevant Advisor or staff member within 14 days of the Resolution being considered.

1.6. **Resolutions from National Commodity Boards**

Given the membership of FFE Board there should be no need for resolutions to be forwarded to FFE Board from National Commodity Boards.

1.7. **Resolutions from Regional Boards/Welsh Council**

Where these relate to specific commodity issues they should be directed to the relevant National Commodity Board(s). For cross cutting issues, resolutions then should go to the FFE Board.

1.8. Resolutions from NFU sub Regional groups should be first discussed and endorsed by the relevant Regional Board or Welsh Council.

1.9. Resolutions for Council can be discussed at FFE Board or Governance Board where an earlier response is needed.

2. Dealing with amendments to Formal Motions

2.1. All amendments to original motions shall be considered and voted on in the reverse order to that in which they were presented.

2.2. If an amendment is carried it shall supersede the original motion and any other amendment, which has not been disposed of, and become the substantive motion with no further amendments being allowed.

2.3. Any member may formally second an amendment reserving his comments for later in the debate.

2.4. Any member who has spoken to the original motion may not speak to an amendment which has been moved, unless that amendment becomes the substantive motion.

2.5. The mover of the original motion, which has been amended, shall have the right of reply to close the debate. No such right shall be given to the mover of an amendment unless that amendment becomes the substantive motion and the debate continues.

2.6. The motion shall be put from the chair following the proposer's reply.

2.7. A direct negative is not an amendment.

Part 13: Members

1. Voting members

1.1. An individual shall be eligible to be a Farmer & Grower Member if they are a farmer and/or grower engaged as a farmer and/or grower and who is not in arrears of any subscription laid down from time to time by Council.

1.2. A body corporate, firm of partners or other body of persons whether incorporated or otherwise shall be eligible to be a Farmer & Grower Member Organisation if it is engaged in farming and/or growing and is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.

2. Non-voting members

2.1. The following classes of member shall be non-voting members and shall be eligible for admission to this class of membership if the following conditions are met:

Class of member	Description
Retired Member	An individual who, at the time of their retirement from farming and/or growing, was a Farmer & Grower Member or a representative of a Farmer & Grower Member Organisation whose subscriptions (subject to the below) had been fully paid at that time, and on retirement successfully applied to be a retired member of the NFU, and who is not in arrears of any subscription laid down from time to time by Council. In its absolute discretion, the NFU may decide an individual is eligible to become a Retired Member notwithstanding that their subscription as a Farmer & Grower Member or Farmer & Grower Member Organisation (as applicable) had lapsed at the date of their applying to become a Retired Member.
Student and Young Farmer Member	An individual who is aged 26 and under, or being over that age is in full time education who is engaged in farming and/or growing or who otherwise has an interest in farming and/or growing, and who is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.
Family Subscriber	A 'related person' of a Farmer & Grower Member or representative of a Farmer & Grower Member Organisation who has been nominated by the Farmer & Grower Member or representative of a Farmer & Grower Member Organisation, and who is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.

Class of member	Description
	In this case, 'related person' means either a family member, or an individual that is part of the same farming and/or growing business.
Associate Member	An individual who is interested in agriculture, horticulture the countryside or the environment who is not eligible to be a voting member and who is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.
NFU Corporate Membership	A body corporate, organisation or business that is interested in agriculture, horticulture the countryside or the environment and is not eligible to be a Farmer & Grower Member Organisation and that is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.
Honorary Member	An individual who, whether or not otherwise qualified for membership, have rendered outstanding service to farming or to the NFU, may be admitted to honorary membership.
NFU Pro (individual)	Any member of the public who applies to join NFU Pro as an individual and who is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.
NFU Pro (business)	Any organisation or group or individuals that apply to join NFU Pro as a business and that is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.
Countryside Member	Any member of the public who applies to be affiliated with the NFU through this category and who is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council.

3. Non-membership categories

3.1. In accordance with paragraph 7.8.2 of the Constitution the following classes of person shall be in receipt of services of the NFU and shall be eligible to receive such services if the following conditions are met:

Class of person	Eligibility criteria
BF&G Subscriber	An individual who receives the BF&G magazine on a regular basis and is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council. This class of subscription is closed to new joiners.
NFU Poultry magazine recipient	An individual who receives the NFU Poultry magazine on a regular basis and is not in arrears of any subscriptions laid down from time to time by Council. This class of subscription is closed to new joiners.

Part 14: General

1. Irregularities

The validity of the proceedings at any meeting shall not be affected by an irregularity in the convening of the meeting or in the conduct of the meeting but in the event of a complaint the decision of the chair of the meeting shall be final.