

**Christopher Osborne**

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus <Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 12:07  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Chris

That's great, see you then.

Regards

Seamus

**Seamus Hughes**  
Energy Efficiency Branch  
Department of Enterprise, Trade & Investment  
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Belfast, BT4 2JP  
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**From:** Christopher Osborne [mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 11:52  
**To:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

22 July at 10.30am suits best, see you then.

C

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus [mailto:Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 11:48  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Hi Chris

There will be no changes before 1<sup>st</sup> October.

Regards

Seamus

**Seamus Hughes**  
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**From:** Christopher Osborne [<mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com>]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 11:43  
**To:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Many thanks Seamus, 22 or 23 July will suit, but need to double check with Ivor and Tom as to which one suits best and I will get back to you.

One point whilst I am talking to you, a concern raised by one of our members concerns the timescale for introducing the new pricing system. I was led to believe that it would be 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015, but another contact told me it would be introduced sooner. Could you clarify the timescale?

Many thanks again.

C

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus [<mailto:Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 11:39  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Good morning Chris

Stuart and I would be happy to meet with you and your colleagues. Would either Wednesday 22 or Thursday 23 in the morning, say 10.30 am suit you?

Regards

Seamus

**Seamus Hughes**  
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**From:** Christopher Osborne [<mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com>]  
**Sent:** 10 July 2015 07:38  
**To:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Good morning Seamus,

The UFU Poultry Committee met last night and in light of the changes to the NIRHI they have requested a meeting with DETI. Would it be possible to arrange this asap? I am conscious of holidays etc but we are flexible for the next couple of weeks. Would it be possible to look at the week commencing 20 July? The UFU team would consist of myself, Tom Forgrave (Poultry Chair) and Ivor Ferguson (Deputy President).

I look forward to hearing from you.

Chris

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**From:** Hughes, Seamus [<mailto:Seamus.Hughes@detini.gov.uk>]  
**Sent:** 09 July 2015 13:58  
**To:** Christopher Osborne  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Subject:** RE: Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Good afternoon Chris

Thank you for your email.

We have been taking views from Moypark and a range of stakeholders over recent days including what has come forward from UFU and are currently assessing those views and how we might move forward. The potential for a grace period is a difficult one given that we are currently already over budget and this position needs to be addressed urgently. That said we are of course understanding of people who have already made commitments and we will do what we can to assist those in this position so that they are not disadvantaged. In terms of consultation, DETI consulted formally on the phase 2 review of the RHI in late 2013 and this included proposals for cost control. It is the outworking from this consultation that is being taken forward now.

We will keep you informed on developments over the coming weeks.

Regards

Seamus

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**From:** Christopher Osborne [<mailto:christopher@ufuhq.com>]  
**Sent:** 09 July 2015 11:26  
**To:** Hughes, Seamus  
**Cc:** Wightman, Stuart  
**Subject:** Proposed changes to the NIRHI

Good morning Seamus,

I trust you are well.

It has been brought to my attention that changes are due to be introduced for the NIRHI on 1 October 2015. The UFU would have welcomed the opportunity to contribute for the debate on these changes and I am led to believe that a decision is being made before the summer recess and we are disappointed that we were not consulted. In light of the short notice, the UFU are calling upon DETI to consider a grace period for farmers and landowners who are in the planning process or are nearing completion of a renewable heating project.

In addition, I am led to believe that our Poultry Chairman wrote to DETI to set out his concerns and the reply he was blunt and unhelpful, " I am not buying this". In my 10 years of dealing with Northern Ireland government departments I do not recall reading such a dismissive and rude correspondence and our Chairman is entitled to feel aggrieved at this unprofessional attitude.

I look forward to hearing your thoughts.

Chris Osborne  
Senior Policy Officer  
Dairy and Rural Enterprise