

**EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM TO**  
**THE FOOD AND FARMING (AMENDMENT) (EU EXIT) REGULATIONS 2019**  
**2019 No. [XXXX]**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This explanatory memorandum has been prepared by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (“Defra”) and is laid before Parliament by Act.
- 1.2 This memorandum contains information for the Sifting Committees.

**2. Purpose of the instrument**

- 2.1 This cross-cutting instrument makes a range of minor amendments to EU legislation on wine and spirit drinks that were settled in the EU too late to be included in earlier negative instruments.
- 2.2 This instrument also makes minor amendments to previously laid EU Exit instruments to make corrections, specifically:
- The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (England) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/88)
  - The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/90)
  - The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/190)
  - The Common Agricultural Policy (Direct Payments to Farmers) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/207)
  - The Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/208).
- 2.3 These amendments are being made to ensure that the most up to date regulations will continue to operate effectively after the UK leaves the EU.

***Explanations***

***What did any relevant EU law do before exit day?***

- 2.4 The EU legislation concerns: GMOs, wine, spirit drink and direct payments. See section 7 and the table in Annex B for further information on how the EU legislation mentioned in section 2.1 was implemented.

### Why is it being changed?

- 2.5 This instrument does not make changes to policy. It consists of mostly technical changes to maintain the operability of the relevant legislation in the context of the UK having left the European Union and thus being a ‘third country’ in respect of the EU.
- 2.6 The Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 were made on 3<sup>1st</sup> January 2019, and laid before Parliament on 1<sup>1th</sup> February 2019. However, they did not take account of amendments made to articles 43 to 45 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 639/2014 by Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) 2018/1784. These amendments came into force in the EU on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2018, and should have been taken into account by the Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019. The amendments made by this instrument in regulation 15 correct Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (SI 2019/208) to ensure UK law is up to date at the point of EU exit.
- 2.7 This instrument amends The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (England) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/88) and The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/190) to account for both the movement of GMOs out of the UK, as well as those in transit through the UK. Previously these instruments addressed only movement from the UK.

### What will it now do?

- 2.8 The instrument will, as far as possible, provide that retained EU law has the same effect as current legislation, ensuring that consumers and businesses are able, after exit day, to provide and make use of the same information, presented in the same way as before.

## **3. Matters of special interest to Parliament**

### *Matters of special interest to the Joint Committee on Statutory Instruments*

- 3.1 This instrument is being laid for sifting by the Sifting Committees under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018.

### *Matters relevant to Standing Orders Nos. 83P and 83T of the Standing Orders of the House of Commons relating to Public Business (English Votes for English Laws)*

- 3.2 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure there are no matters relevant to Standing Orders Nos. 83P and 83T of the Standing Orders of the House of Commons relating to Public Business at this stage.

## **4. Extent and Territorial Application**

- 4.1 The territorial extent of this instrument is the United Kingdom, except for regulations 9 and 11, where the territorial extent is England and Wales, and regulations 10 and 13, where the territorial extent is Northern Ireland.
- 4.2 The territorial application of this instrument is the United Kingdom, except for regulations 9 and 11, where the territorial application is England, and regulations 10 and 13, where the territorial application is Northern Ireland.

## **5. European Convention on Human Rights**

- 5.1 As the instrument is subject to negative resolution procedure and does not amend primary legislation, no statement is required.

## **6. Legislative Context**

- 6.1 This instrument is made in exercise of powers conferred by section 8(1) of, and paragraph 21 of Schedule 7 to, the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. Section 8(1) of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act provides that a Minister of the Crown may by regulations make such provisions as the Minister considers appropriate to prevent, remedy or mitigate any failure of retained EU law to operate effectively or any other deficiency in retained EU law arising from the withdrawal of the UK from the EU.
- 6.2 In respect of GMOs, four other instruments have been made, or are in the process of being made, under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018; the amendments within this instrument are minor supplementary changes. Further detail in relation to the three negative instruments which have been made is provided in Annex B. In addition, the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations have been laid in draft recently, which contain provisions relating to the transfer of functions from EU institutions to the appropriate UK authorities.
- 6.3 In relation to wine and spirit drinks, three instruments are in the process of being made under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018. The Food (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations have been laid for sifting. In addition, the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations and the Food, Drinks, Veterinary Medicines and Residues (Amendments etc.) (EU Exit) Regulations have been laid in draft recently. The amendments within this instrument contain further amendments to retained EU legislation.
- 6.4 In respect of Direct Payments, two instruments have already been made under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018; the amendments within this instrument make a correction to account for an amending EU Regulation which came to light after those instruments had been approved for making by the Sifting Committees. Further detail in relation to those two instruments is provided in Annex B. In addition, the Agriculture (Legislative Functions) (EU Exit) (No 2) Regulations have been laid in draft recently, which contain provisions relating to the transfer of functions from EU institutions to the appropriate UK authorities.

## **7. Policy background**

### *What is being done and why?*

- 7.1 This instrument makes amendments to the legislation set out at Annex B, for the reasons set out there. These changes will ensure the continued operability of the existing legislation including the replacement of references to the EU or to Member States. Where administrative powers are currently vested in the Commission they are transferred to the UK authorities.

## **8. European Union (Withdrawal) Act/Withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union**

- 8.1 This instrument is being made using the power in section 8 of the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 in order to address failures of retained EU law to operate

effectively or other deficiencies arising from the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the EU. The instrument is also made under the power in paragraph 21 of Schedule 7 to that Act. In accordance with the requirements of that Act, the Minister has made the relevant statements as detailed in Part 2 of the Annex to this Explanatory Memorandum.

## **9. Consolidation**

9.1 Defra does not intend to consolidate the relevant legislation at this time.

## **10. Consultation outcome**

10.1 This instrument itself was not subject to consultation because its purpose is solely to enable the current policy framework for legislative functions relating to: GMOs, wine, spirit drink and Direct Payments to remain unchanged by the withdrawal of the UK from the EU.

10.2 However, Defra has engaged with the Devolved Administrations and stakeholder umbrella organisations as set out at Annex C. As regards Part 2, there has been more general consultation covering the provisions included in this instrument.

10.3 This instrument, and the policy reflected within it, has been developed in collaboration with officials in the Scottish and Welsh Devolved Governments and the Department of Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs in Northern Ireland.

## **11. Guidance**

11.1 Defra is not producing any specific guidance on this instrument, as it only makes technical amendments to deficiencies in retained EU legislation arising from the UK's withdrawal from the EU.

11.2 The Government has published Technical Notices on the GOV.UK website to help people prepare for EU Exit. These provide relevant background information to the GMOs, and Direct Payments content of this instrument. They are:

- “Developing genetically modified organisms if there’s no Brexit deal”
- “Farm Payments if there’s no Brexit deal”
- “Receiving rural development funding if there’s no Brexit deal”

## **12. Impact**

12.1 There is no significant impact on business, charities, voluntary bodies or the public sector. UK public authorities and eligible beneficiaries will continue to receive Direct Payments funding as they had done before EU Exit. The impact of these new arrangements will be dependent on how these powers are exercised in the future, after EU Exit, which is outside of the scope of this instrument.

12.2 An Impact Assessment has not been prepared for this instrument as its purpose is to maintain existing regulatory standards and so there is expected to be minimal impact on business.

## **13. Regulating small business**

13.1 The legislation applies to activities that are undertaken by small businesses.

13.2 No disproportionate impacts are expected to impact small and micro businesses.

#### **14. Monitoring & review**

- 14.1 As this instrument is made under the powers in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018, no review clause is required. Defra and its agencies will, however, monitor and review the impact of the instruments as part of its standard policy-making procedures, and will ensure that the provisions are adhered to.

#### **15. Contact**

- 15.1 Christopher Hunt at Defra: Telephone: 020 7895 5729 or email: [christopher.hunt@defra.gov.uk](mailto:christopher.hunt@defra.gov.uk) can be contacted with any queries regarding the instrument.
- 15.2 Ananda Guha, Deputy Director for Exports and EU Exit at Defra, can confirm that this Explanatory Memorandum meets the required standard.
- 15.3 George Eustice MP, Minister of State at the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs at Defra can confirm that this Explanatory Memorandum meets the required standard.

# Annex A

## Statements under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018

### Part 1

#### Table of Statements under the 2018 Act

This table sets out the statements that may be required under the 2018 Act.

Statement	Where the requirement sits	To whom it applies	What it requires
Sifting	Paragraphs 3(3), 3(7) and 17(3) and 17(7) of Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 8(1), 9 and 23(1) to make a Negative SI	Explain why the instrument should be subject to the negative procedure and, if applicable, why they disagree with the recommendation(s) of the SLSC/Sifting Committees
Appropriateness	Sub-paragraph (2) of paragraph 28, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 8(1), 9 and 23(1) or jointly exercising powers in Schedule 2	A statement that the SI does no more than is appropriate.
Good Reasons	Sub-paragraph (3) of paragraph 28, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 8(1), 9 and 23(1) or jointly exercising powers in Schedule 2	Explain the good reasons for making the instrument and that what is being done is a reasonable course of action.
Equalities	Sub-paragraphs (4) and (5) of paragraph 28, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 8(1), 9 and 23(1) or jointly exercising powers in Schedule 2	Explain what, if any, amendment, repeals or revocations are being made to the Equalities Acts 2006 and 2010 and legislation made under them.  State that the Minister has had due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination and other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
Explanations	Sub-paragraph (6) of paragraph 28, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 8(1), 9 and 23(1) or jointly exercising powers in Schedule 2 In addition to the statutory obligation the Government has made a political commitment to include these statements alongside all EUWA SIs	Explain the instrument, identify the relevant law before exit day, explain the instrument's effect on retained EU law and give information about the purpose of the instrument, e.g., whether minor or technical changes only are intended to the EU retained law.
Criminal offences	Sub-paragraphs (3) and (7) of paragraph 28, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 8(1), 9, and	Set out the 'good reasons' for creating a criminal offence, and the penalty attached.

		23(1) or jointly exercising powers in Schedule 2 to create a criminal offence	
Sub-delegation	Paragraph 30, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown exercising sections 10(1), 12 and part 1 of Schedule 4 to create a legislative power exercisable not by a Minister of the Crown or a Devolved Authority by Statutory Instrument.	State why it is appropriate to create such a sub-delegated power.
Urgency	Paragraph 34, Schedule 7	Ministers of the Crown using the urgent procedure in paragraphs 4 or 14, Schedule 7.	Statement of the reasons for the Minister's opinion that the SI is urgent.
Explanations where amending regulations under 2(2) ECA 1972	Paragraph 13, Schedule 8	Anybody making an SI after exit day under powers outside the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 which modifies subordinate legislation made under s. 2(2) ECA	Statement explaining the good reasons for modifying the instrument made under s. 2(2) ECA, identifying the relevant law before exit day, and explaining the instrument's effect on retained EU law.
Scrutiny statement where amending regulations under 2(2) ECA 1972	Paragraph 16, Schedule 8	Anybody making an SI after exit day under powers outside the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018 which modifies subordinate legislation made under s. 2(2) ECA	Statement setting out: a) the steps which the relevant authority has taken to make the draft instrument published in accordance with paragraph 16(2), Schedule 8 available to each House of Parliament, b) containing information about the relevant authority's response to— (i) any recommendations made by a committee of either House of Parliament about the published draft instrument, and (ii) any other representations made to the relevant authority about the published draft instrument, and, c) any other information that the relevant authority considers appropriate in relation to the scrutiny of the instrument or draft instrument which is to be laid.

## Part 2

### Statements required when using enabling powers under the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018

#### 1. Sifting statement(s)

- 1.1 The Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, George Eustice MP, has made the following statement regarding use of legislative powers in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018:

“In my view the Food and Farming (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 should be subject to annulment in pursuance of a resolution of either House of Parliament (i.e. the negative procedure)”.

- 1.2 This is the case because the instrument contains changes not affecting current standards or procedures and as such would normally not be expected to be debated in Parliament

#### 2. Appropriateness statement

- 2.1 The Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, George Eustice MP, has made the following statement regarding use of legislative powers in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018:

“In my view the Food and Farming (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 does no more than is appropriate”.

- 2.2 This is the case because the instrument provides for the continued effective functioning of the policy regimes described in section 2.1 and in Annex B of this explanatory memorandum, after the UK has withdrawn from the EU.

#### 3. Good reasons

- 3.1 The Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, George Eustice MP, has made the following statement regarding use of legislative powers in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018:

“In my view there are good reasons for the provisions in this instrument, and I have concluded they are a reasonable course of action”.

- 3.2 These are that without this instrument, certain retained EU law will not work properly, and the amendments made by this instrument will address those deficiencies.

#### 4. Equalities

- 4.1 The Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, George Eustice MP, has made the following statement:

“The instrument does not amend, repeal or revoke a provision or provisions in the Equality Act 2006 or the Equality Act 2010 or subordinate legislation made under those Acts.”



4.2 The Minister of State for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, George Eustice MP, has made the following statement regarding use of legislative powers in the European Union (Withdrawal) Act 2018:

“In relation to the instrument, I, George Eustice MP, have had due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010.”

## **5. Explanations**

5.1 The explanations statement has been made in section 2 of the main body of this Explanatory Memorandum.

# Annex B

Further detail of the amendments made by this Statutory Instrument as set out in the main body of this explanatory memorandum

**1. Further detail on domestic and EU regulations amended by this instrument.**

2. This instrument makes changes to EU and domestic regulations for four autonomous policy regimes: Genetically Modified Organisms, Wine, Spirit Drinks, Direct Payments (Common Agricultural Policy).

3. The regulations being amended are:

<u>Genetically Modified Organisms</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Regulations 2002 (S.I. 2002/2443)</li> <li>• The Genetically Modified Organisms (Deliberate Release) Regulations (Northern Ireland) 2003 (S.R. 2003 No 167)</li> <li>• The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (England) (EU Exit) 2019 (S.I. 2019/88)</li> <li>• The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/90)</li> <li>• The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/190).</li> </ul>	<p>No change is being made to policy. This instrument provides the continued ability to ensure environmental protection in the UK when it leaves the EU. For example, decisions to market genetically modified organisms are currently taken at the EU level. On exit from the EU, the decisions will be made by each of the territories of the UK. The decisions will be made on terms that mirror those in the EU. As there is no change in policy there is no impact on businesses. The minor and technical changes made by the instrument are necessary to ensure that retained EU legislation described above will continue to operate effectively after EU exit. These changes include amending references to the EU and EU institutions to UK equivalents.</p> <p>This instrument includes provisions on decisions on applications for consent to market (release) GMOs to ensure that the UK remains consistent with EU regulations; this is an addition to The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (England) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/88). The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (Northern Ireland) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/190) is amended for the same reason. The Genetically Modified Organisms (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/90) is amended to account for the both the movement of GMOs out of the UK, as well as those in transit through the UK. Previously this instrument addressed only movement from the UK</p> <p>The instrument applies to decisions which are a transferred matter for Northern Ireland under the Northern Ireland Act 1998. The UK Government has been considering how to ensure a</p>

	<p>functioning statute book across the UK, including Northern Ireland, for exit day in the absence of the Northern Ireland Executive. UK Ministers have, therefore, decided that in the interests of legal certainty in Northern Ireland, the UK Government will take through the necessary legislation at Westminster, in close consultation with the Northern Ireland departments.</p> <p>Decisions on the release and marketing of genetically modified organisms are a devolved matter in Scotland and Wales, and a transferred matter in Northern Ireland. It has been agreed that the Secretary of State will be empowered to make regulations with regard to this for the United Kingdom with the consent of the Devolved Administrations.</p>
<u>Wine</u>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation 606/2009 of 10 July 2009 laying down certain detailed rules for implementing Council Regulation (EC) No 479/2008 as regards the categories of grapevine products, oenological practices and the applicable restrictions</li> </ul>	<p>No change is being made to policy. This regulation sets out detailed rules on how wines should be produced for marketing in the UK and any specific restrictions that should apply. It helps to ensure producers are clear on how wine can be produced and that those wines, when marketed, meet consumer expectations.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Delegated Regulation 2019/33 of 17 October 2018 supplementing Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards applications for protection of designations of origin, geographical indications and traditional terms in the wine sector, the objection procedure, restrictions of use, amendments to product specifications, cancellation of protection, and labelling and presentation</li> </ul>	<p>No change is being made to policy. This regulation sets out rules outlining administration and application requirements for a scheme of quality and marketing standards in the wine sector based on its geographical location of production and attributable standards. A geographically based quality system has a long tradition in the wine sector and drives many consumer purchases and is therefore also an important marketing tool for producers. The regulation will set out the specific labelling arrangements that are applicable to wines marketed in the UK.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implementing Regulation (EU) 2019/34 of 17 October 2018 laying down rules for the</li> </ul>	<p>No change has been made to policy. This regulation sets out administrative provisions concerning application and handling requirements for a scheme of quality marketing standards</p>

<p>application of Regulation (EU) No 1308/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards applications for protection of designations of origin, geographical indications and traditional terms in the wine sector, the objection procedure, amendments to product specifications, the register of protected names, cancellation of protection and use of symbols, and of Regulation (EU) No 1306/2013 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards an appropriate system of checks</p>	<p>in the wine sector based on its geographical location of production and production standards. A geographically based quality system has a long tradition in the wine sector and drives many consumer purchases and is therefore also an important marketing tool for producers.</p>
<p><u>Spirit Drink</u></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regulation (EC) No. 110/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the definition, description, presentation, labelling and protection of Geographical Indications for Spirit Drinks and Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) No 716/2013 laying down rules for the application of Regulation (EC) No 110/2008.</li> </ul>	<p>No change is being made to amend the regulation, definition and protection of spirit drinks as a direct result of EU exit other than for operability, i.e. the procedures for geographical indications and other specifications which will be ‘domesticated’ for UK use so that they are functional in the UK. There are no plans to change the definition of the various spirit drink categories.</p> <p>This SI prevents established EU27 Spirit Drink Geographical Indications being automatically recognised as protected GIs in the United Kingdom after EU Exit. Currently, these are listed in Annex 3 of Regulation 110/2008. The SI amends the Annex so that only UK GIs are listed in the Annex.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission Regulation (EC) No 2870/2000 laying down Community reference methods for the analysis of spirits drinks</li> </ul>	<p>No change is being made to policy, amendments are being made to ensure operability only.</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission Regulation (EC) No. 936/2009 on mutual recognition of spirit drinks with third countries</li> </ul>	<p>This regulation recognises two United States, and two Mexican spirits in the EU and UK. Both the US and Mexico protect Scotch Whisky and Irish Whiskey reciprocally (these UK Spirit Drink geographical indications are not actually listed or referred to, or in any way covered in this regulation).</p> <p>On Thursday 31st January 2019 the “Agreement between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America on the mutual recognition of certain distilled spirits/spirit drinks”, was signed.</p> <p>This amendment only relates to the US spirits/spirit drinks agreement. Negotiations are ongoing regarding the Mexican spirit drinks agreement, and if concluded, this would go into a later SI.</p>
<p><u>Direct Payments</u></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Common Agricultural Policy (Direct Payments to Farmers) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/207)</li> <li>The Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/208)</li> </ul>	<p>No change is being made to policy. This instrument provides the continued ability of each of the territories of the UK to distinguish between permanent grassland classified as environmentally sensitive and that classified as not environmentally sensitive; to allow cutting or grazing on buffer strips and field margins as well as on strips of eligible hectares along forest edges without production, provided that the strip remains distinguishable from adjacent agricultural land; to calculate and maintain the ratio of permanent grassland; and to administer criteria relating to ecological focus areas. These are rules under the Common Agricultural Policy’s greening rules, as implemented by each of the territories of the UK in accordance with EU regulations. On exit from the EU, each of the territories of the UK shall continue to enforce those rules in same way.</p> <p>Some of these changes address amendments made to EU law by Regulation (EU) 2018/1784. This amends articles 43 to 45 of Commission Delegated Regulation (EU) No. 639/2014. The amendments made by 2018/1784 were not taken into account by the Common Agricultural Policy (Rules for Direct Payments) (Amendment) (EU Exit) Regulations 2019 (S.I. 2019/208). Regulation 15 of this instrument therefore amends S.I. 2019/208, and more specifically corrects regulation 6(6)(b)(ii), (7)(a)(ii), (8)(a)(ii) and (j)(ii) and inserts a new paragraph (8)(ga) to ensure retained EU law in the UK will be up to date and will continue to function smoothly at EU Exit.</p>

	As there is no change in policy there is no impact on businesses. The above minor and technical changes made by the instrument are necessary to ensure that retained EU legislation described above will continue to operate effectively after EU Exit.
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## Annex C

Further detail of the consultation undertaken in relation to the policy regimes covered by this instrument

1. Further detail on the engagement undertaken by Defra with the Devolved Administrations and sector specific bodies:

<u>Genetically Modified Organisms</u>
Defra has engaged with parties with an interest in GMOs, such as umbrella industry organisations representing companies active in agricultural bio-technology; establishments interested in research in GMOs; Non-Government Organisations; and a selection of environmental campaigning communities, and has shared the proposals in this instrument with them. No significant concerns were raised.
<u>Wine</u>
Defra has engaged with the Devolved Administrations in the detailed drafting of this regulation and the provisions it contains. We have also made key industry and producer stakeholders aware of our general plans for retaining EU laws which have been welcomed.
<u>Spirit Drinks</u>
Defra has engaged with industry throughout the development of the new replacement regulation for 110/2008, and although no formal consultation has taken place with industry or the Devolved Administrations, stakeholders have been kept informed of progress.
<u>Direct Payments</u>
On 25 September 2018, Defra met with the Rural Payments Agency’s ‘Industry Partnership Group’ to update farming and land management stakeholders on the Government’s plans for EU Exit. At the meeting, stakeholders were informed of plans to make both retained EU CAP

legislation and existing domestic CAP regulations fully operable at the point of EU Exit, to enable Defra and the Devolved Administrations to continue to deliver ongoing CAP Pillar 1 and Pillar 2 commitments to the agriculture sector in 2019 in the event of non-negotiated Exit. No concerns were raised. Stakeholders present were:

- Tenant Farmers Association;
- Countryside Land and Business Association;
- Farming Community Network;
- Institute of Agricultural Secretaries and Agents;
- British Institute of Agricultural Consultants;
- National Farmers Union.