



Schedule of Delegated Authority

This Schedule of Delegated Authority establishes the decision-making framework within the Ulster Farmers' Union (the Union), ensuring clarity regarding responsibilities across its governance structures. The Council is the supreme authority of the Union, while the Executive, Board, Office Bearers, County Committees, Groups, and Policy Committees operate within delegated powers.

Council shall delegate the management of its affairs to the following committees and individuals in the following manner, who shall have full authority to act on its behalf in relation to the matters so delegated.

1. Council - Supreme Authority

The Council is the highest decision-making body of the Union and has ultimate responsibility for governing the affairs of the organisation. It:

- Elects the Office Bearers (a President and two Deputy Presidents).
- Receives and adopts reports from the Executive, Sectoral, Central, and Specialist Policy Committees.
- Formally adopts the financial statements of the Union.
- Considers and approves or rejects proposed rule changes to the Constitution and Rules.

The Council meets annually at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) and can convene additional meetings as necessary.

2. Executive - Strategic and Policy Authority

The Executive operates under the authority of the Council and is responsible for strategic oversight and policy implementation. It:

- Determines, defines and interprets Union policy.
- Maintains financial oversight, including approving membership subscription rates proposed by the Board.
- Appoints sub-Committees as are deemed necessary to carry out its powers and functions.
- Makes such additional Standing orders as it may consider necessary.
- Reviews the work of Policy Committees and ensures alignment with Union strategy.
- Discusses, considers and responds to matters raised by County Committees.
- Approves recommendations from the Board regarding Union nominations or appointments to outside bodies.
- Oversees disciplinary matters and rule enforcement through the Ethics and Standards committee.

3. Board - Operational Oversight

The Board is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day running of the Union, reporting to the Executive. It:

- Manages the Union's income, expenditure, and financial resources.
- Implements policy decisions set by the Executive and ensures organisational efficiency.
- Oversees staffing, HR, and internal operational matters.
- Nominates individuals for appointment to external bodies (subject to Executive approval).
- Oversees housekeeping issues.
- Ensures the effective functioning of Union administrative structures.
- Initiates a review of the Constitution and Rules at least once every five years, in accordance with Rule 56.1 of the Constitution and Rules.
- Exercises oversight and governance of subsidiaries owned by the Union (directly or indirectly), ensuring they operate in alignment with the Union's interests.
- Maintains a risk register to identify, assess, and manage potential risks to the organisation.

4. Office Bearers - Leadership and Representation

The Office Bearers (President and Deputy Presidents) provide leadership and representation for the Union. Their key responsibilities include:

- Representing the Union externally and advocating for members' interests.
- Providing strategic guidance to the Council, Executive, and Board.
- Acting as spokespersons on key agricultural and industry issues.
- Chairing meetings and ensuring governance structures function effectively.

5. County Committees and Groups - Member Representation

County Committees and Groups serve as the key link between Union members and governance structures. Their responsibilities include:

- Representing local members' interests at Union level.
- Providing input into Union policy discussions.
- Organising local meetings and events to engage members.
- Nominating candidates for Office Bearer elections (County Committees).

- Recommending full members for Honorary Life Membership to the Executive, in accordance with Rule 4.3 of the Constitution and Rules. Recommendations must be based on distinguished service to the Union and must be submitted to the Executive from the County Committee for endorsement before consideration by the Council at an Annual General Meeting.

County Committee and Groups are chaired by elected representatives and meet to discuss Union affairs at the regional level.

6. Policy Committees - Specialist Advisory Role

Policy Committees (Sectoral, Central, and Specialist) are standing sub-committees of the Executive. They:

- Develop and review policies within their specialist areas.
- Provide expert recommendations to the Executive.
- Ensure that policy decisions align with the needs of Union members.
- Can be overruled by the Executive if their recommendations conflict with broader Union interests.

7. Review and Amendments

This Schedule of Delegated Authority shall be reviewed by the Board at least once every five years and presented to the Executive for approval. Any amendments must be formally approved by the Council to ensure alignment with Union governance structures and operational needs.

Approved by the Council on 30th April 2025